



MISSION RESOURCING NEWSLETTER

Children and Youth sharing worship and celebration @ Conference 2011

DON'T MISS OUT! *Your children and Youth groups have an opportunity to be part of a time of worship and celebration at Conference this year.*

We have been given time on Sunday 6 November 2011 from 1:30 – 3:30pm to lead a time of worship and celebration and we would love to have your groups take part.

If you have a group that would like to be part of our conference presentation please let TeRito or Esmé know by 30 May 2011.

TeRito & Esmé

All Mission Resourcing staff have new email addresses. Please update your records.

Nehu Te Pou:

nehu@missionresourcing.org.nz

Esme Cole:

esme@missionresourcing.org.nz

TeRitoPeyroux:

terito@missionresourcing.org.nz

Nigel Hanscamp:

nigel@missionresourcing.org.nz

Aso Samoa Saleupolu:

aso@missionresourcing.org.nz

Coming up for your information and prayers

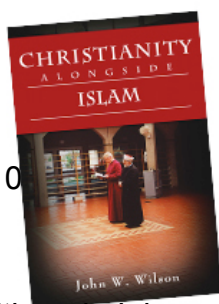
- 2 June: Mission Resourcing Board Meeting
- 3 June: Mission Resourcing Multi-cultural workshop
- 29 June: Orientation for new ministers

Book Review:

Christianity alongside Islam

by John W Wilson

Acorn Press, Vic Australia, 2010



This important book by John Wilson will have broad appeal deserves a wide readership. Although John was a bishop of the Anglican Church of Australia, this analysis of the world's two largest faith communities is written in an objective manner. It is a book that will be of interest to enquiring minds quite outside both faith communities as well as to insiders

John's easy to read style gives a clear outline of the basic beliefs and histories of Christianity and Islam and doesn't gloss over the

difficulties. He helpfully raises issues such as the clash of cultures, the place of the Bible and Qur'an, human rights, the role of women as well as the hot topics of violence, jihad and radical Islam. All of this is done with an informative, balanced and conciliatory approach.

Those seeking to be equipped to engage with a multi-cultural society will find this an invaluable resource. The book is beautifully illustrated with photographs and diagrams. It was completed last year while the author was in an on-going battle with cancer, a battle that took his life earlier this year.

Andrew Gamman

Mission Resourcing is a ministry of The Methodist Church of New Zealand

Contact us: Phone: (09) 525 4179

www.missionresourcing.methodist.org.nz

Email: mradmin@methodist.org.nz

Blog: <http://missionresourcingcentre.blogspot.com>

Children's Ministries Hui

The Children's Ministries Hui was held on 14 May at Crossroads Methodist.

Our guest speaker, Jill Kayser from the Presbyterians Kids Friendly, presented a session on "How do we make our church a place where children and young families want to come".

This led to lively discussions on what we are doing in our churches. For many of us it raised the awareness that our church/congregation does not reflect our children. While we have various ministries involving children on our premises during the week, Sundays become "adult time" and while our children may be there and involved we need to ensure that they are fully included and what we do reflects our children.

We need to know our children as people - not just know their names.

We had an awesome day on Saturday with fantastic ideas. It was thought provoking and it touches me when I was sitting at the back of church last Sunday watching the young children sitting quietly - some of the little ones were just wondering. I thought its time for change, its time for the church to step up. We need to keep the future generations of the church in ways that we both cater for their needs as well as their Spiritual lives.

Foifua Tauofaga

The afternoon session emphasized that while we are a church with many cultures we are also a church with a common passion to help our children know the love of Christ and grow them in their faith journey. The first part of afternoon session spent listening to the stories of our respective ministries, discovering shared struggles and even more important, shared vision for the future was uplifting.

After the time we spent together on Saturday I

can say with total confidence that there is a passion and energy for our children's ministries. There is a recognition that we need to keep being proactive in growing this ministry and making it relevant to the children we are teaching. There is also awareness that we need to support our children's ministry workers and together with the church provide them with the support and resources they need. We need to continue meeting with each other, sharing our stories, our struggles and working together to grow this ministry for the sake of our children and the gospel.

The Children's Ministry Hui was very enjoyable and motivating. I was inspired by the sharing of ideas by other participants and the presentation by chief guest, Jill Kaiser. For me personally, it was something I have long waited for, a workshop for teachers and leaders in the children's ministry. Jill quoted from Gordon Bale "...we are in critical missionary situation...". This to me was a reality check that we are missionaries to our own children. The workshop confirmed that our children must feel that they "belong" in our church, in God's ministry. I wish to thank the organisers and those involved in this wonderful ministry and I look forward to more workshops for teachers and leaders in the Children's ministries.

Kula Bower

We are currently working on a report that will be distributed through the church sharing the ideas, dreams and goals as identified at the Hui. This is the first step in continuing to build our Children's Ministry and identify how we do this.

Thank you to everyone who attended the Hui and contributed to the success of the day.

Esmé