

13 May 2020
Number 7

Waikato-Waiariki on Wednesdays

Kia tūpato tonu tātou.

*Let us still be careful and
cautious.*

*“Kemuni ni Kalou na
noqu i vunivuni, na
yanuyanu ka tawasei
keimami mai na vere
vuni ni ca, ni sa coriti e
domoqu na salusalu ni
veisereki ena vuku ni
nomu yalodina*

*God my island hideaway,
keep danger far from
shore, throw garlands of
hosannas around my
neck”*

(Psalm 32.7)

Kia ora e te whānau! He rongō pai! This week New Zealand is moving into Alert Level 2. However the restriction on social gatherings to 10 people means that our Sunday services cannot yet take place.

While this is disappointing it does give us more time to prepare and make our churches safe spaces. Many of our congregations have vulnerable members who need our care. It also gives us an opportunity to meet, share fellowship and worship together as small groups.

Alert Level 2

The Methodist Church of New Zealand’s most recent Pandemic Plan can be found at www.methodist.org.nz We have also received excellent advice from the Kaimai Presbytery and the Diocese of Waikato and Taranaki. Important things to note include:

- **Sunday services** continue to be suspended until larger gatherings are permitted. The Government will next review the size of gatherings on 25th May.
- However **small groups (10 people or less)** may now meet in homes and churches for worship, study, fellowship and pastoral support. Is this a chance to do something new and hopeful in your community of faith?
- **Small hire groups (10 people or less)** can now return to our church properties. You are responsible for ensuring that the building is safe to use (clean and hygienic and with room for physical distancing). They are responsible for their tenancy area, staff, operations and contact tracing.
- Keep a **contact tracing register** for all church gatherings wherever they are held. Sample registers can be found on the MCNZ website at www.methodist.org.nz
- If you are reopening your building, prepare a **Covid 19 Safety Plan** to set out the steps you’re taking to keep people safe. This

is a good way of meeting your Health and Safety obligations.
Display this where it can be seen by everybody.

- **Pastoral visiting** is now possible. Phone first and be sensitive to people's wishes. Maintain physical distancing and high standards of hygiene. Remember rest homes and villages may not yet be able to receive visitors. Keep in touch with residents.

Notices

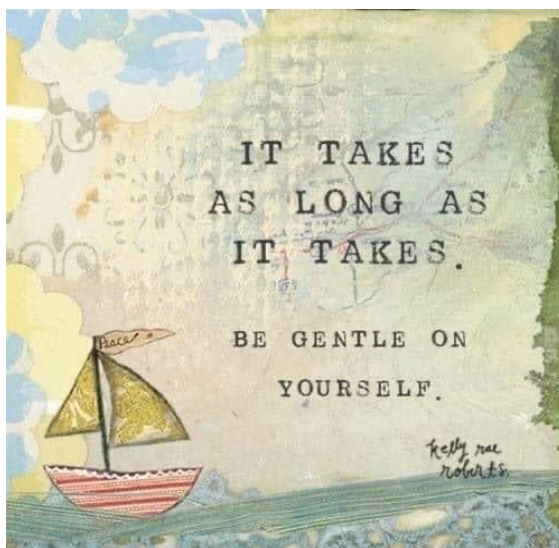
Synod Executive is seeking people interested in being part of a team which might act together to fulfil the role of Synod Property Convenor. Is there anyone in your congregation with the skills to offer to this significant task? If so, please contact Susan or Jenny.

Prayers

"Jesus ... [you] showed how a small space, faithfully inhabited

Is unable to limit either love or life.

Help us to learn how to inhabit our own smallnesses ... in ways which are rich, generous and expansive"



Contact details

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