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The Methodist Church of New Zealand
 Te Haahi Weteriana O Aotearoa
New Zealand Methodist Women's Fellowship

**President's Letter****April / May / June 2011****Issue 2**

Greetings in the Almighty name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

A number of events have been celebrated this past month but one Christians all over the world remember is Easter. A day of remembrance and thanksgiving – Christ's blood shed that we may gain salvation. How great is His love for us. Let us remember this in our daily lives.

Since I last wrote devastating things have happened. As you are all aware Christchurch was hit bad with the earthquake in February claiming lives of many – our heart and prayers go out to all our sisters and their families in Canterbury. Countries around the world continue to experience natural disasters and violence so let us keep them all in our prayers.

At the Executive end, so much has happened and we continue to Praise God for the opportunity to serve in this calling. I would like to share a couple of highlights with you.

- It was a great privilege attending my first District visit to Wellington in late February. Two of the executive joined me and had a marvellous time. Thank you Avis, Nelma, Marie and your coordinating team for a wonderful weekend. We will treasure our time together.
- I had the opportunity to visit Isobel Burns (past-president) at the Tainui Resthome. We had a special time together with Chaplain Kerry Upson. She also celebrated her 90th birthday so we were blessed to have time with her.

I pray all is well with each District. This year is gearing up to be an eventful one so I look forward to sharing my journey with you each time.

May God's blessings be upon each and every one of you.
 Love and Prayers,

Mataiva Robertson
NZMWF President

DON'T GIVE UP - ENGAGE!

There are a few things I would like to bring to your attention.

- **Special Project 2011/2012**

The Missions teams (APW/MWF) have decided on the next special projects for 2011/2012. Due to the change in our financial year dates the Missions Convenors are working toward having all project packs out to Districts by early June. The formal introduction will still be at Council and Convention as has been done in the past. I am pleased to announce the next projects

International: Maternal and Child health in Palestine

National: Children's Ministry (*Kids Loving Church / Kids Friendly*)

- In August, the Trinity Theological College students travel to the Holy Land as part of their studies. Principal David Bell has advised that they are currently fundraising toward this trip. It is rather expensive for each student so a monetary donation would be kindly accepted toward this. The Executive have decided that NZMWF show our support toward this important life experience by donating both the **Education and Medical Fund** and **Stamp & Coupons Fund** towards this cause. We thank you for your generous support.

- The 12th World Assembly is to be held in Johannesburg, South Africa in August 2011. The theme for the World Assembly is
“BAMBELELA – (Never give up) Christ is our hope”.

You can also access all assembly information via the website

www.wfmucw.org.

To date we have 13 members attending the World Assembly. We look forward to this experience and pray for God's Spirit to guide us leading up to this special gathering.

- **Books for sale:** We now have copies of the 'Monthly meeting' manual for sale. A complimentary copy has been supplied for each District. If you are interested in purchasing more copies, please send payment of \$5.00 per book to the Treasurer.
- **SMETHURST update:** Nominations are still open so please forward your District nominee to Rev. Gloria Zanders, Convenor. A friendly reminder that a representative is required from both the North and South Island.

- **Touchstone:** We have been blessed with an opportunity to profile NZMWF through the Touchstone paper. Each edition will have an update of each role within the Executive. We thank Paul Titus for offering his assistance in this Ministry.

- **National Council of Women:** The national office has relocated to 26 Brandon Street (Central House) - Level 4, Wellington. Thank you to members of the Wellington District who witnessed the opening of the new premises.

- National Council will be **Friday 30th September to Sunday 2nd October 2011** in New Plymouth.

Belt Road Holiday Campsite

New Plymouth

Registration \$160.00

We look forward to hosting National Council soon. As a friendly reminder there are a few topics that I encourage Districts and Fellowships to discuss at your upcoming meetings please:

- **Nominations for NZMWF President** - Please ensure that your District's nomination for President has been agreed by the nominee and that a profile is prepared and submitted to the National Executive by the **31st July 2011**.
- **Recommendations** - Please forward District recommendations to the Executive by the **30th May 2011** so a report can be compiled and sent to Districts to discuss before National Council.
- **President's visits:** - Thank you to the Districts who have organised time with the President as it has allowed forward planning for the 2011 calendar of events. A reminder to please contact Jeanne on jmisikei@gmail.com to make arrangements for future visits – Thank you.

In light of the recent tragic events, I humbly ask that we continue to pray for families and friends affected by the Christchurch earthquake and many social issues within our country and abroad. I ask also that you uphold in your prayers Margaret Gordon and many other members who are not well or going through life changes.

"I know that my redeemer lives and that in the end He will stand upon the earth"

Job 19:25