



Nominations for President Elect for 2010-2012

Names to be through to National Secretary via e-mail or letter by 31st August 2009 would be much appreciated.

Reports from Districts and Trusts before 31st August 2009.

Please can you ensure you have reports in for Districts to be included in the programme for National Council.

Remits and Recommendations:

We have only received 2 that have been attached to the Presidents Letter please ensure that you read and be ready to respond at National Council on behalf of your Districts.

NZMWF Pink Forms due in by District Secretaries by the 31st August 2009 to collate updated information for our Register.



Tribute to Irene Girven (nee Iddeson) –

May we give thanks to our Heavenly Father above for giving us a remarkable women that many got to know and love – on the 16th June 2009 in her 82nd year at Fergusson’s Rest Home in Upper Hutt our Father called his Angel to his Kingdom after serving well here on earth. Irene was very active in the ecumenical movement and also the Methodist Women’s Fellowship and served as a Vice President for the National Executive. Our thoughts and prayers are with Irene’s family and those that knew her well.

To each and everyone who has suffered bereavement over recent months, may the Lord give you a special measure of His strength and peace. May your precious memories of loved ones sustain and comfort you.

Acknowledgement of thanks from the family of the Late Rev John Hall

On the 20th June 2009 Jenny Bush (John’s daughter) sent a thank you card on behalf of the Hall family for our expression of sympathies and would like the Executive to pass this on to all members of the NZMWF.

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*The Methodist Church of New Zealand
Te Haahi Weteriana O Aotearoa*

Women’s Fellowship

President’s Letter – April / May / June 2009

Talofa lava, Kia ora, Malo e lelei, Ni sa bula vinaka, Noa’ia e mauri, Taloha ni, Namaste, Mabuhay, Kia Orana & Kia Ora.

Warm Greetings to all sisters and friends in Christ wherever you may be. How lovely is the Lord, who has done great things! Praise His Holy Name Always. I hope the cold winter season has not affected any of our women. In awareness of the Swine flu’s arrival into the country we must be cautious with extra care for our protection and safety. It may not terrify us but it strengthens our faith in our Creator God, our Provider and our Protector.

Many months have passed by so quickly since Convention in October 2008, but more new discoveries and new learning’s have taken place in our Executive’s journey. Being involved in a variety of activities makes the time passed by so quickly that was almost unnoticeable.

After Easter, the Mafutaga Tamaitai Sinoti Samoa (Samoan District) gathered at St Patrick’s College at Silverstream, Hutt Valley, Wellington, from the 16th - 19th April 2009, for its annual meeting with the theme of: “E toatele ua ia Keriso, ae tasi lava le tino”- “We are many parts in Christ but yet One Body” Most of the National Executives attended this function as they are all members. Bible studies and prayer meetings toke place; dramas and singing from various regional women’s groups it was exciting and inspiring. It was a booster for their spiritual life and faith journey. Fundraising was another significant part of the Samoan Women’s activities to accumulate funds towards their Proposed Multipurpose Hall Project. Congratulations to you the Samoan Women’s Fellowship for your wonderful effort and commitment!!! “Where there is the Spirit, the fire is burning.” Keep it up and keep the fire burning.

It was a privilege to attend the **EQUIPT ’09 NEW ZEALAND EVANGELISM SEMINAR** hosted by the World Methodist Evangelism Institute of the World Methodist Council and the Churches of the Methodist and Wesleyan heritage in New Zealand. The Seminar was held at the Christian Youth Camp, Ngaruawahia from April 28th to May 1st 2009. The Conference was very inspiring and challenging. The theme was “**THAT THE WORLD MAY KNOW JESUS CHRIST**”

There were many inspiring speakers and also about more than 40 workshops targeting us to do our part in Connecting Communities with Christ and evangelizing the Gospel in our various contexts and to the billion people who have yet to hear the Name of Christ.

As I reflected on the Equipt'09 theme, it is parallel to our WFMUCW's motto "**TO KNOW CHRIST AND TO MAKE HIM KNOWN**" So let us do likewise. On the 9th May 2009, Tuituivao Salevao(National Secretary), Lautalie Aumua (Distributing Secretary) and me as National President, visited the Wellington and Wairarapa Districts combined. It was an uplifting experience as it was our first official visit as NZMWF National Executive and especially the presence of our two young women companions. The presence of some very senior members 80 +years at this gathering was very much appreciated and treasured in our hearts as it reflected the importance of the women's fellowship's mission. As Executive visiting team, we have been blessed through fellowship and sharing with the experienced women who were leading the way before us.

On behalf of the Executive and our visiting team, I would like to express our sincere, heart-felt thanks to the Wellington and Wairarapa Districts for your love, friendship and your generous hospitality to us. May God's richly blessings be upon you always. During the past months, many of us have mourned the loss of our loved ones, our families and our friends. Our Lord Jesus Christ had assured us that he will be with us till the end of time therefore, we are not alone. He abides with us. **HE IS OUR UNSEEN GUEST, ALWAYS PRESENT** wherever we are and in whatever capacity we encounter. He walks with us and talks with us and even experience with us in our suffering and pain.

I pray that the Comforting Spirit of God continues to be with you always, to restore your physical, mental, emotional and spiritual strength to overcome any challenges that may come your way. Be steadfast to your faith forever. Shalom!!!

Your servant and sister in Christ,

Vaotane Unasa SamoaSaleupolu

*******What's happening out there*******

Huge Cut in Community Education

The proposed cuts will reduce the funding from \$16 million to just \$3 million. If enough people are angry and let their local MPs know then the Government hopefully will reinstate this funding. The current system of night classes through schools works well and should not be tampered with. Our membership should be encouraged to protest! If you don't do it for yourself, make a call to your MP or send a letter on behalf of your friends, family and neighbours who may be learning new skills on any number of topics. These cuts are irresponsible. People can also write to Anne Tolley, Minister of Education, or Trevor Mallard, Opposition Spokesman for Education.

The more letters etc. the greater the pressure! Let's make a Difference and voice our opinions regarding these cuts.

THE ANGLICAN METHODIST COVENANT - On Sunday May the 24th 2009, the day of the Warmed Heart Anniversary, the Covenant was signed by the Leaders of the two Churches.

The Methodist Church of New Zealand (Te Hahi Weteriana o Aotearoa) and The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia (Te Hahi Mihinare ki Aotearoa ki Niu Tireni, Ki Nga Moutere o te Moana Nui a Kiwa), on the basis of our shared history, our agreement on the apostolic faith, our shared theological understandings of the nature and mission of the church and of its ministry and oversight, and our agreed vision of a greater practical expression of the unity in Christ of our two churches, hereby make the following covenant."

We are bonded with our Anglican sisters and brothers by this Covenant, so be it.

Referendum on the Non Smacking Bill is something that we as women should be thinking deeply and seriously about before casting our votes as it will affect both of us as parents and our children, grandchildren. Above all, the children are our precious gift from God that we adore and love them

MISSION NEWS:

From the April Mission Newsletter, Pacific women speak out on critical issues such as climate change and global economic crisis. Some Pacific countries faces particular risks

in terms of rising sea levels and temperatures, floods and droughts, tropical cyclones which could have serious impacts on Pacific's agriculture, forestry and fisheries which provide food security and economic growth. These burdens are expected to have a disproportionate impact on women in the context of caregiving. The Pacific group

Reminders Regarding MWF National Council: Held on 2nd to 4th October 2009

Registrations To be sent into National Secretary to collate information

If not yet received it is posted on the church website: www.methodist.org.nz

Live-in Accommodation and costs also include meals and bedding.

Costs: \$250.00 per person for 2 days
Transport: \$10 each way from Airport or Bus Stop.

Live-Out costs also includes meals

Administration	\$ 40.00
Facilities Full Day Charges	\$ 10.00
Food (6 Meals)	\$100.00
Total Payable:	\$150.00