

I encourage Districts and Fellowships to please discuss at your upcoming meetings the following:

- **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 **31<sup>st</sup> July 2011**.
- **Recommendations** - Please forward District recommendations to the Executive by the **30<sup>th</sup> May 2011** so a report can be compiled and sent to Districts to discuss before National Council.
- The **Smethurst** Committee will be writing to you seeking nominations from Districts for two representatives for the committee, to replace Leah Taylor [Dunedin] and Gloria Zanders [Hamilton] at the end of 2011. Please give this your prayerful consideration. Also note that the applications for the first round of grants will be received up until the **20th of March 2011**.
- **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](mailto: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 Pike River tragedy, Christchurch and Taupo earthquakes, floods in Australia and the ever increasing rate of domestic violence. Please keep in prayer also all of our NZMWF members who are going through life changes and challenges.

We wish you all the very best for the coming year.

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



## **President's Letter**

### **January / February / March 2011**

Greetings in the wonderful name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Happy New Year! It is a new year and one filled with exciting ventures for many and another year of witnessing the greatness of our Heavenly Father. Over the Christmas holiday period we have shared both happiness and sadness as some members celebrated occasions with family and others experienced great loss. My deepest sympathy to our members who experienced the latter.

It has been 3 months now since the new Executive have been in office and what a journey it has been. I wish to share about a few events that have occurred during our short term thus far:

- The Anglican Mothers Union group invited the Executive to attend their Rally in New Plymouth with a special attendance by the Mothers Union World President. Three of the Executive were present at this gathering and thoroughly enjoyed the fellowship.
- I had the privilege of speaking at the Sinoti Samoa Youth Camp held at the El Rancho Christian Campsite, Waikanae. It was a great gathering with a time to share about what the NZMWF is all about and to share with many young women the vision of the NZMWF and our mission work at both international and national level.
- Two of the Executive will be travelling with me to the Wellington District. We look forward to this gathering and meeting our sisters from the capital.

On behalf of the National Executive, I thank you for your love, support and prayers – it is very much appreciated. I would like to wish you all the very best as we commence this new journey into 2011 – a year that looks like it's shaping up to be very eventful. Let us pray that our plans are brought to fruition in accordance with His will. May God's blessings be upon each and every one of you.

Shalom,

Mataiva Robertson

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

- At the 2010 Methodist Church Conference (in Palmerston North) Mrs Olive Tanielu was appointed as the vice president-elect of the church. Olive will take up her new role as the Vice President of the Methodist Church in November 2011. We wish her the very best as she prepares for this very important role.
- In August, the Trinity Theological Students travel to Israel 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 should show our support toward this important life experience by making a donation toward this via your District. We hope to present the College with our combined donation in late June. If you would like to contribute please ensure your District Treasurer makes the deposit reference (District & Theological trip) e.g. North Canterbury – Trinity Trip.
- The 12<sup>th</sup> 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”.**  
The Executive have put together a package to help cut costs, there will be a slight increase if members decide to book after March.

Flights & accommodation for the period 8<sup>th</sup> August to 16<sup>th</sup> August 2011.

Airfares (Akl to Jo'burg return)	NZ\$2399.00	(inclusive of taxes)
Accommodation (Indaba Hotel)	NZ\$710.00	(7 days)

The initial deposit of NZ\$540.00 covers Assembly registration US\$125 (NZ\$170) and deposit for accommodation and flights. After the deposit is made you have up until Friday 8<sup>th</sup> July to pay off the remaining balance. Meal costs are not included yet as the World Office are to finalise these costs. All confirmed travellers will be contacted shortly with an update. You can also access all assembly information via the website [www.wfmucw.org](http://www.wfmucw.org). The NZ Unit will hold a sales booth so if you have any items you would like to donate please contact our World Link or National Secretary – Thank you.

- It is with great pleasure that I announce the Helen Kim Scholars for the next quinquennium, **Lise Jubilee Malaeimi (NZ) and Denny Vasily Iilo (Solomon Islands)**. **Congratulations Lise** – May the Lord guide you on this new and exciting journey. We wish you well at the Assembly! As most are aware the Helen Kim Scholarship programme enables two young women from each of the 9 Areas of the World (aged 18 to 30 years), to attend the World Assembly. It is a great opportunity to learn about the work within the World Federation of Methodist & Uniting Church Women. I would like to acknowledge all of our NZ applicants. In a recent email World President Chita Milan expressed how pleased she was with the calibre of our applicants. Chita writes **“I would also like to thank all our young women from New Zealand who applied for the scholarship, showing interest and enthusiasm in our work. The potentials they have are a great encouragement. They show that we have strong witnesses and disciples for the work of our Women's Federation in our region, not only for the present but also for the future.”** So my heartfelt thanks to all the young women who applied, you are all future leaders within our fellowship.
- Mrs Leu Pupulu is our nomination for the World Treasurer and Mrs Lynne Scott is our nomination for the Area President. We wish both Leu and Lynne the very best as they put their names forward for office.
- The updated Constitution will be distributed with the latest changes as passed at Convention 2010. This will be circulated in February.
- Special Project – with 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 launch will still be at Council and Convention as has been done in the past. We encourage all Districts to continue with their local fundraisers as this goes towards a worthy cause.
- National Council will be **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September to Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2011** in New Plymouth. Registration and all Council specifics will be in our next bulletin however I have supplied the National Council dates so you have plenty of time to make travel arrangements.