

Noa'ia e Mauri, Ni sa Bula Vinaka, Talofa Lava, Namaste,
Malo e Lelei Kia Orana, Tina Kotou Katoa Leana
Best wishes to you all for a happy and fulfilling New Year.

After 2 weeks of refreshing happy holidays in the Nelson region I am needing to exercise a little self-discipline to settle down to the little mundane tasks of home and everyday life! However many of the "little things" are very important and must be done. On reading a column in a local newspaper recently my attention was drawn to the importance of some of the little words of our language e.g. "Whether doctors and nurses work in or on hospital wards" and how "people work in newspaper offices but on newspapers".And "people who crew a ship are referred to as in it and the passengers are referred to as on it"! To add one of my own - there's a difference between having things "on hand" and "in hand". **Little things matter!**

If you buy Hubbards cereals you may have read in a recent " Newsboard" insert the challenge to look over our fences and be concerned for our neighbour's well-being. We're reminded that " often today we are so busy with our daily lives that we only ever get to see what is going on in our own backyards. It used to be commonplace for neighbours to bring in each other's washing when it was about to rain or the others' rubbish bin or mail.

These little good deeds have been lost in the hurly-burly of our busy lives. We sometimes need a reminder that it is people who really matter and people who make the difference in the long run." Customers are invited to get involved in a new project they are launching called Take a Minute -inviting people to contemplate how they might make a difference to someone else through a small action of their own. Hubbards are working with the Robin Hood Foundation to help people make a difference, inspiring them with easy individual ideas and actions - steps towards social responsibility to enable people to really make a difference and feel good in the process. Good on you Hubbards!!!

Many of you will have been travelling in recent weeks, so here is a Bible Puzzle based on this theme.

Travel Theme

Went, how?

- 1) David _____ before the Lord (2Sm 6:14)
- 2) will you go _____ with two opinions (1Kg 18:21)
- 3) though I _____ through the valley (Ps 23:4)
- 4) then _____ one of the seraphim to me (Is 6:6)
- 5) a swimmer spreads out his hands to _____ (Is 25:11)
- 6) his father _____ and embraced him (Lk 15:20)
- 7) as he _____ along, they spread their garments (Lk 19:36)
- 8) took Mark with him and _____ to Cyprus (Ac 15:39)

Possibles: danced, flew, glide, hopping, limping, marched, ran, rode, rowed, sailed, skipped, swim, walk.

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Connect two names to each mode of transport

		...travelled by...		
(Jo 1:3)	Jonah	foot	Abraham's servant	(Gn 24:10)
(Gn 21:14)	Hagar	donkey	Paul	(Ac 27:1)

(Es 6:11)	Mordecai	camel	kings couriers	(Es 8:14)
(2Kg 9:16)	Jehu	horse	Abigail	(1Sm 25:23)
(Gn 24:61)	Rebekah	chariot	Angels	(Lk 2:15)
(2Kg 2:11)	Elijah	boat	Ahab	(1Kg 18:44)
(Nm 22:21)	Balaam	air	the Israelites	(Ex 14:29)

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Congratulations to National Exec. Missions Person, Lyn Price and husband, Neville who recently celebrated their Ruby Wedding Anniversary. We hope the next 40 years will be even happier!

A PRAYER FOR NEW YEAR

Our Father and our God,
 Creator of life and Lord of time,
 as we stand at the beginning of this new year
 we pray that we may stand with you.

You have always been there: going before us to prepare the way,
 standing behind us, urging us on towards new hopes and a new creation,
 being with us in the company of your people and the life of your Spirit.

You have always been there Lord,
 calling us again to follow you.

Help us today to see this moment of New Year as you see it.
 Help us to walk quietly and thankfully away from the old year:

We thank you for its joys and achievements, and all the days of growth and love;
 We thank you too, for strength given amidst suffering, and hope arising out of fear.

We are sorry for our mistakes,
 for the wrong we could have avoided, the hurt we have caused.
 We confess our pride, our greed and our failure to love.

Lord, grant us we pray,
 your judgment of mercy, your forgiving grace,
 even as we forgive one another.

Let us know your healing power that we may again be ourselves.

Help us today to see this moment of New Year as you see it.
 Help us to walk quietly and firmly toward its opportunities and demands:

We dare to believe that this is a new day,
 and not a repeat of the year now gone.

Your grace gives us courage, your peace gives us hope.

Your presence is the promise of new life.

In Christ we can make a new beginning,

In your Spirit we can be a new creation.

Lord, we are willing to go with you,
 to live the good news of forgiveness in freedom and joy;
 to share the gospel of justice and peace with courage and love;
 to pray with hope and share in faith:

So that all people everywhere may know your name, sing your praise,
 and share in the joy of your kingdom
 in eternal New Year.

Amen

from *Be Our Freedom Lord*

Thanks.

As I made my Airline booking to Korea I have been overwhelmed with gratitude to you all that you have made my attendance possible by your very generous response to the Love Gift appeal last year.

I appreciate that many of you have given most sacrificially and I feel so privileged to be representing you.

Thank you for showing your love and support for MWF in this way.

On the website of the **World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women** you will see the theme for the World Assembly in July is:

"Women Making a Difference". Now there's a challenge! We are told:

"Only You Can Make a Difference" -

"If everyone in the World Federation decided that it was for someone else to make a difference, then nothing in the world would change. Each of us is called to make our own contribution to God's Kingdom becoming more of a reality in our troubled world." If you have any thoughts or ideas on this theme I invite you to send your contribution in to me.

Reminder: Go to the web and keep up to date with information on Fellowship happenings. Web site for the World Federation is: www.methodistandunitingchurchwomen.org

Remember to check the MWF page on our NZ Methodist Church website.

When I read the Mothers' Union World-wide theme for 2006 - "Answering God's Call" - I thought we could all, personally, use their prayer:

"Lord, take me as I am and make me be what you would have me be.

When there are tasks to be done give me the courage to say,

Here am I Lord, send me." God bless each one of you as you continue to serve him in 2006 .

Nelma J Woodfield

Congratulations to Past President **Susau Strickland** on receiving the award of *The Queen's Service Medal for Community Service. (QSM)*

Also to **Rev Harry Shaw** who was awarded the *ONZM. (Officer of the NZ Order of Merit)* for services to the Boys' Brigade of NZ and the community.

(Harry is the husband of Past Liaison Officer of NZMWF Exec., Joan Shaw)

Best Wishes to **Revs Barbara Miller and Phil Taylor** as they marry next month. *(February.)*