



“We Are God’s Hands Reach Out”

President’s Letter

June 2016

Well we are now in the beginning of the second half of the year; we see leaves falling off the trees, the smell of burning wood in the air and the hot pot of yummy soup steaming up on the table accompanied by hot fresh bread. People are wearing layers of clothing to keep warm and it really tells us that winter is setting in. All these simple things remind us of God’s amazing creation He has created for us and although the weather keeps changing, we as Christians believe that His unconditional love for us never changes. We give thanks to our God for that great LOVE!

“O Lord, you are my God, I will exalt you and praise your name, for in perfect faithfulness you have done marvellous things, things planned long ago.” (Isaiah 25:1)

I pray for the families and loved ones of those who have passed on, our sisters in Christ who served the NZ Methodist Women’s Fellowship with faithfulness through our local fellowships and also through past National Executive Committees. When life’s difficulties come our way, we need comfort. How wonderful to know that the God of all creation is also a God of comfort. He sent His Spirit as our helper, our comforter and our Counsellor. He is able to heal the pain and give us strength when we are weak and console us in our sorrows. You are not alone in your sorrows as the Bible reminds us that He is close to the broken hearted. Allow Him to comfort you as you face the frustrations and challenges of each day or as you walk through the darkest valley. He is always with you.

What’s Up?

Gifts for other Units

Thank you so much for continuing to be God’s Hands in this world through your monetary gifts and donations and especially your prayers for our sisters in other areas of our World Federation of Methodist & Uniting Church Women Fellowship family. In May we sent another US\$756.08 cents to the World Treasurer for our sisters who need financial support for their membership fees. We have been informed by the World Treasurer, Leu Pupulu that the last money remittance was used for our Fijian sisters in Fiji who are struggling as a result of natural disasters that badly affected the Fiji Island in the beginning of this year and before that. May the glory be to God for all the work that you continue to do in reaching out to other Units of our global WFMUCW family.

World Assembly

On the 28th of August, a group of 37 women from NZMWF will be travelling to the World Assembly to represent our NZMWF Unit at the World Assembly including the World Treasurer Leu Pupulu, Lyne Scott the South Pacific Area President and Itamua Mataiva Robertson our nominee for the World Secretary position, she will also be co-facilitating the Helen Kim Scholarship programme (as an ex Helen Kim Scholar) before the Assembly officially opens.

Added to our group are three security guards one from Christchurch and two from Hawkes Bay and two young cameramen from New Plymouth.

For your information our uniform that we will be wearing on the night of the official opening of the WA is a black polo neck shirt with a black straight skirt (medium length) and maybe a white flower. The fern leaf represents Aotearoa New Zealand and the WFMUCW logo, the Tree of Life.

We continue to pray for the WFMUCW Officers as they continue to work in organising the WA.

Please pray for all those who will be travelling to Houston, so they may be prepared in body, mind and

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in spirit so they will have the strength to contribute, learn and share Gods love with other people and fellowship with our extended Methodist family.

To Leu Pupulu, Lyne Scott and Itamua Mataiva Robertson and Tumema Faioso (MCNZ Youth Rep to the World Methodist Youth Conference) do not fear where the Lord is taking you, for He will equip you for the journey. He is your strength and He will give you what you need for the path. He is the one who enables you to take each step and He is the One who gives you the ability to endure. Go well with God's blessings!

Special Projects 2016 / 2017

At present the Mission Convenors are working on our Special Projects packs and we hope to complete and start distribution soon. Please if your District contact people has changed postal and email addresses or phone numbers, can you update these details with our Liaison Link Suega Tanielu or Ruta Faafuata to ensure your District will receive your Special Project packs and all other important correspondence and communication. I strongly suggest that each District must have two contact people with their snail mail addresses, email addresses & phone numbers for better communication.

Special Gift

A monetary gift of \$1000.00 (cheque) was received from Adele Forrester's bequest. According to the letter from the lawyer, Mrs Forrester was a resident of Upper Hutt. A letter has been sent to her family through her lawyer to convey our condolences to her family and acknowledge the receipt of the cheque, and to express our appreciation of Mrs Forrester's service to NZMWF for many years and for this special gift for God's mission through the NZ Methodist Women Fellowship.

Charities Service New Requirements

There have been a lot of enquiries and confusion in regards to our local Fellowships financial situations in relation to their Parishes. The MCNZ main office have been asking a lot questions too in regards to the same issue

With the Charities service requirements, all our local fellowships are asked to give a copy of their annual financial report/statement to their Parish Treasurer to be included in the Parish Financial review at the end of the financial year.

If your fellowship is managing your own finances that is ok, no problem but please remember to send a copy of your annual financial statement/report to your Parish Treasurer at the end of each financial year and make sure to keep your own copy for your records.

The NZMWF financial year is from July 1st to June 30th to align with the church financial year, this was agreed to at our Convention in 2014.

Special Request from our Sisters in the Solomon Islands Unit

I have received a request from our sisters in the Solomon Island Unit through Rev Prince Devanandan the Mission & Ecumenical Secretary, asking for our help to fund a computer and a data projector as they really need these machines to keep up with the new technology especially the communication within our World Federation of Methodist & Uniting Church Women. I spoke with Rev Prince Devanandan and he said that the computer that they have or had was also funded from love donations. We will consider this at our Convention looking at the Medical & Education funds as well as the Stamp & Coupon funds. Recently we responded to the request from the President of the Solomon Island Unit for some financial assistance to enable her to attend the World Assembly, so the NZMWF donated \$2000.00 to help their Unit president.

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Special Prayer Requests

- Earlier this month a prayer request was received from the Area President of Britain Ireland. Please pray for our sisters and all the people who are affected with the turmoil of political power and the recent EU referendum in Britain.
- Please pray for the leaders and members of the National Council of Women of New Zealand who are going through a challenging time finding ways to fund the mission of NCW.
- Pray for all our members/sisters in Christ who are going through different changes within their Fellowships/Districts and Parishes.
- Let's continue to uphold in our prayers all those who are going through treatment, rehabilitation, those who are lonely and those who are struggling with ill health.
- Pray for the President elect Dianne Claughton and her incoming Executive Committee as they prepare for their term in office.

Important Dates: Please take note of the following dates where you are required to submit the following:

- **Stat forms, Financial annual statement - no later than the 30th of July 2016**
- **District and Grants Committees reports and tributes – 12th September 2016**
- **Convention registration forms & fees– 5th August 2016. Please register ASAP**

Bossey Scholarship

In June 2016, two young women, Janine Tuivaiti & Malavai Misikei from the Sinoti Samoa were appointed by the Methodist Church of New Zealand to attend the YATRA (Youth of Asia Training in Religious Amity) programme in Indonesia. One of these two young women was funded by the WFMUCW, which are part of our global family. So thank you for all your contributions to God's mission and making HIM known to the world in so many different ways.

Aotearoa Litany

Green of Fern	<i>refresh us</i>
Feathers of Kereru	<i>warm us</i>
Rocks of Moeraki	<i>encircle us</i>
Wares of Taupo	<i>bathe us</i>
Dive of Gannett	<i>focus us</i>
Arc of Rainbow	<i>protect us</i>
Stars of Southern Cross	<i>guide us</i>

Anne Powell
From Firesong
Aotearoa NZ Steele Roberts, 1999

Keep the faith going God is always with us.

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