



A TIME OF RECOGNITION



Methodist Online Conference 2023

Hastings

Te Hāhi Weteriana o Aotearoa

President:

Rev. Peter Taylor

Vice-President:

Ms. TeRito Peyroux-Semu

Paying Tribute to the following who are retiring and request the recognition this year

Fatu Tafuga

Kathryn Walters

Theme: God, our Source of Hope
(*Te Atua, Mātāpuna o te Tūmanako*)

A Time of Recognition

*To everything there is a season,
and a time to every purpose under the heaven*

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

President: Ko te rā tēnei i hanga e Ihowa.
(*This is the day that the Lord has made.*)

All: **Kia koa tātou i reira.**
(*Let us rejoice and be glad in it*)

Video: Our life has its seasons,
and God has the reasons
why spring follows winter, and new leaves grow,
for there's a connection with our resurrection
that flowers will bud after frost and snow.

Refrain:

*So there's never a time to stop believing,
there's never a time for hope to die,
there's never a time to stop loving,
these three things go on.*

There's a time to be planting,
a time to be plucking,
a time to be laughing, a time to weep,
a time to be building, a time to be breaking,
a time to be waking, a time to sleep.

Refrain

There's a time to be hurting, a time to be healing,
a time to be saving, a time to spend,
a time to be grieving, a time to be dancing,
a time for beginning, a time to end.

Refrain Words/Music: Shirley Irina Murray/Colin Gibson

Tributes to those Retiring

President: The Christian life is a journey;
at times we travel alone,
sometimes in fear,
sometimes with deep longing.
At other times we travel with others,
sharing the wisdom and taonga, the
treasures of our past,
and the hopes and fears for our future.
At times we have travelled with old friends,
talked of shared experiences.
At other times we walk alongside those
new to us, sharing the richness each has
for the other.
There are times of parting, when journeys
take a different course; and in that pain of
separation your Spirit moves among us.
When retirement comes, it brings such
partings. Whether the time of serving has
been lifelong or much shorter, the laying
down of a treasured burden can be hard.

Vice-President: Gracious God, together, we thank you
for the gift of those who now enter
retirement, who have shared their lives
with us.
Now begins a time of transition,
an opportunity both to reflect and learn
from the past, and an opportunity to wait
on you, to discover the new beginnings you
have in store.

A silence is kept

President: For those retiring from active ministry,
All: **we thank you.**

President: For the taonga of a faithful past,
All: **we thank you.**

President: For the promise of a Spirit-guided future,
All: **we thank you.**

Those who retire this Conference

**The following have requested their recognition
to be given next year**

Tevita Finau
Janet Marsh

The following we give the recognition today

Fatu Tafuga
Kathryn Walters

Words for Letting Go & Moving On

President: Loving God,
you call us and walk beside us;
in you we live and move and have our
being.
You are the alpha and omega,
the beginning and the end.
We have been blessed by your presence
on our journeys with you.
We have known your love and guidance.
You call us even today to an unknown
future built on that blessed past.

Vice-President: Help us to continue learning, knowing that the one who has called us, promises life in all its fullness.

Help us enter into all new beginnings with the vision and hope of your Holy Spirit, whom with you and Jesus Christ we give glory this day. **Amen.**

President: Haere i runga i te aroha.
Haere i runga i te rangimārie o te Ariki.
Kia puta ki te wheiao ki te ao mārama.

All: **Ka haere mātou i runga i te ingoa o te Ariki.**

Video: **Te Aroha**