



Celebrating a Legacy of Faithful Service

Hui Tōpu/Methodist Conference 2025

Online/Ōtepoti, Dunedin

President:	Te Aroha Rountree
Vice President:	Rev Peter Norman
General Secretary:	Rev Tara Tautari
Tumuaki:	Rev Dr Arapera Ngaha
Kai Hāpai:	Rev Nicola Grundy
Retirees:	Maurice Patrick McLaughlin Vaikoloa Kilikiti Rev Richard John Gray

Celebrating a Legacy of Faithful Service

Mā mua ka kite a muri, mā muri ka ora a mua

*Those who lead give sight to those who follow,
those who follow give life to those who lead*

Tributes to Faithful Servants Retiring

Maurice Patrick McLaughlin

Vaikoloa Kilikiti

Rev Richard John Gray

President: Ka noho e te Ariki,
hei taura mo te awhina i te ao
(You oh Lord, are a beacon of inspiration
for the world)

Katoa: **Kia kaha ki te tango i ngā wero,
ka pā te rerekētanga**
(Be strong in facing challenges, transformation
will follow)

Theme: *God's Aroha – A Call to Sacred Transformation*

Himene: **"Give Thanks for Life"** #HW8437 55

Give thanks for life,
the measure of our days,
mortal, we pass through beauty that decays,
yet sing to God
our hope, our love, our praise

Alleluia!

Give thanks for those
who made their life a light
caught from the Christ flame,
bursting through the night,
who touched the truth,
who burned for what is right,
Alleluia!

And for our own,
our living and our dead,
thanks for the love
by which our life is fed,
a love not changed
by time or death or dread,
Alleluia!

Give thanks for hope,
that like the wheat, the grain
that lies in darkness
does its life retain
in resurrection
to grow green again,
Alleluia!

Shirley Murray

President: He hōnore, he korōria,

he maungarongo ki tēnei hui.
I tēnei rā, ka whakanuia tātou i ngā Minita,
e mahi ana mō te Hāhi Weteriana o Aotearoa.
Nā koutou, kua whanake te whakapono,
kua nui te manaaki ki te iwi, ki te hāpori.

Greetings and welcome to this special service
as we gather to honour and celebrate those
retiring from active ministry in Te Hāhi
Weteriana o Aotearoa - Methodist Church of
New Zealand. Today, we give thanks for their
years of faithful service, dedication, and the
impact they have had on our communities and
beyond.

Katoa: **We gather in gratitude, rejoicing in the work
of God through our faithful servants.**

President: Let us come together in worship,
celebrating their journey of faith and service.
We are called to remember those who have
laboured among us and to rejoice in the love of
Christ that has sustained them.

Vice President: Gracious God, we thank You for the gift of
life and for those who have served in Your
name. As we gather today, we ask that
Your Spirit surround us, guiding our
thoughts and words. Help us to honour
those who have given so much of
themselves in service to You and to Your
church.
Amen.

A silence is kept

[Retirees pre-recorded messages play]

Vice President: Kua mutu tēnei haerenga mōu

Katoa: **We give you thanks**

Vice President: Ka tau tonu te wairua

Katoa: **We give you thanks**

Vice President: Ka hari tonu te ngakau

Katoa: **We give you thanks**

Vice President: Kua timata tētahi haerenga anō

Katoa: **We give you thanks**

Himene: ***“Our Life has its Season’s”***

Our life has its seasons, and God has the
reasons, why spring follows winter, and new
leaves, 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 to stop loving,
These 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 and music by Shirley Murray and Colin Gibson

Prayer for the Families of Retirees

Vice President: Loving God, we give You thanks
for the lives of your faithful servants and
their families.
We honour the sacrifices of each whanau
in the service of the church.
We ask that you continue to be with them
into their next season.
We acknowledge your aroha for the
families and we ask your care in the
transformation of their continued ministries.
We ask all things in Jesus name.
Amine

Words of Grace to the Retirees

President: Today, we honour you not just for your
past service but for the ongoing journey of
faith you will embark upon. You have been
a leader and a teacher. You have nurtured
many and your legacy continues with us.
We now commend you to continued faith
and service, to be kaitiaki of God's word.

Katoa: **We send you forth with aroha and
gratitude, knowing that your service has
made a difference.**

President: As a people called Methodists, we come

together to celebrate the legacy of your work in God's name. We give thanks and acknowledge with humility and grace your service.

Vice-President: You have fulfilled your sacred oath to serve the Church and in doing so you have served God. We ask that the Spirit continues to surround you, to guide and to keep you in times to come.

Katoa: **We send you forth with aroha and gratitude, knowing that your service has been life-affirming.**

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

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

The Conference Candle is extinguished

Himene: ***“Mā te mārie”*** (sung unaccompanied)

Mā te mārie a te Atua	<i>The peace of God</i>
tātou katoa e tiaki.	<i>keeps us all.</i>
Māna anō e whakaū	<i>He will confirm</i>
ō tātou ngākau ki te pai.	<i>our hearts in goodness.</i>

Mā te Atua Tamaiti ra,	<i>May the Son of God</i>
mā te Wairua Tapu hoki	<i>and the Holy Spirit too,</i>
rātou, Atua kōtahi nei,	<i>one God</i>
tātou katoa e whakapai.	<i>bless us all.</i>
Āmine.	<i>Amen.</i>

Ngā Inoi me Ngā Hīmene a te Hāhi Weteriana
Tune: Old 100th sung unaccompanied

The individual tributes are available in the agenda and on the Methodist website <https://www.methodist.org.nz>