



A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Christmas greeting season to everyone. Trust that everyone is moving with the Spirit of Christmas and all the preparation to welcome the Messiah. I hope that everyone is looking forward to celebrate Christmas festive season with love ones, whanau and Church community as well. Welcome to our first newsletter from the current new executive committee for 2023-2025. I would like to share our Mission Statement "Grow in Christ and be a life giver". "Ka Whakamana Tatou Ia Ihu Karaiti, Ka ora te tangata". This is supported by Luke 10:37 "The one who showed him mercy," replied the expert in the law. Then Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise." And Phillipines 4:19: "And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus". The theological concept behind the theme is the practicality of 'growing in Christ'. The physical sign of grow in Christ is practising what Christ did in this life. He provided life to his friends, followers, community and creation as a whole. Christ was a life provider, and he taught his followers to do the same. The way we show how our faith grows in Christ's love we must follow his framework and do the same. We are life providers to our families, church, communities, young people and women.

Our mission is to provide practical love, hope and life to vulnerabilities seen by women, young people, families and community as well. We deal practically with sociological issues affected us and provides stewardship to our creation for the benefit of generations to come. We provide life to people who lost confidence in themselves in this life; we provide hope for hopeless; we provide love and non-judgemental for young people. For NZMWF we are Methodists. And I believe we have capabilities to develop creative methods on how to share God's love with women around us and everyone in the Church and community. Moreover, God has called us today to act and witness our spiritual growth in Christ by becoming life-providers to share life with others. This is the time of the year that we have shared and celebrated Christmas with our whanau and our Church community, is the birthing of our King Jesus Christ. Remember to pray and remember for those who involved in the war between Gaza and Israel, war between Russia and Ukraine and hope for peace. "And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus". Hope everyone will enjoy the festive seasons together. Merry Christmas and Prosperous New Year

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Incoming and Outgoing NZMWF Executive Committees

UPDATES FROM THE TEAM

We have had such a fulfilling Convention and fun Christmas get together thus far. We also thank you for nominations to the South Pacific Area Young Women's Leadership Training Programme. On behalf of the New Zealand District we sent over 11 young women for SPA's consideration. We also have attended the first SPA online meeting and is looking forward to planning what the New Zealand district will take on their visit to Samoa next September. The team also has been working away on planning for next year, introducing themselves to districts and planning our Christmas party.



Outgoing NZMWF Executive Committee final item

COMING UP...

In the next 3 months, our main focus is to:

- Keep in contact with all the districts
- Update all information and resources required to understand around the Special Projects of 2023.
- We have accepted three visits so far through our Districts Liaison link, please continue to reach out to Ofa for any upcoming events.
- The first NZMWF Executive Team visit is to the Wellington District followed by the Wasewase Fijian District and Tonga districts.



Tonga District members at Christmas Party

IMPORTANT NOTICES

- **Smethurst Applications** closes 20 Mar 2024 please ensure all documents are received via email to the Convenor Tuituivao (Tui) Salevao before the due date
- **Nominations for SPA President** closes 30th January 2024
- **Registration for SPA Seminar** have now closed.



All the attendees of NZMWF at Christmas Party 2023

RECENT EVENTS



Deaconess Workshop at Convention



Southcity Chorus at Christmas Party



Saione Parish at Convention Sunday

CONVENTION

We had so much fun and made great progress reconnecting with all districts at the convention. We thank you to the Outgoing President and committee for all your hard work. We are keen to keep up all the momentum. Please get in touch with us for any clarifications or any more information around the convention and decisions made.

JINGLE AND MINGLE

A successful Christmas happened during December which was great fun. Thank you to Southcity Soundz Chorus for treating us with some barbershop numbers & to the DJ to made the dancefloor busy! It was great to see everyone glammed up in their Christmas outfits! Please keep an eye out from our district link who will continue to keep you updated on our upcoming events!

CONFERENCE

We also reported to the National conference last month. Both our incoming and outgoing president brought forward to the conference our latest updates of the last two years and our vision for the next two years. It was lovely to connect with the wider church online and lovely to see those who participated.

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CHAPLAINS CORNER

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours."

Christmas is near, and I'm sure that everyone is prepared to celebrate the birth of Jesus, the best of all gifts, the Prince of Peace!

We have come to the end of the year 2023. We praise God for all His goodness and grace he offered to all the districts of New Zealand Methodist Women's fellowships.

The last two years, we were given a theme by President Tuituivao Salevao and her Outgoing Committee: "Revive & Unite - Go bear fruit, fruit that will last." If you want to go fast go alone, if you want to go far, go together. Their prayer is, "As we are the branches, we are to remain in Jesus, the true vine so that we bear much and lasting fruit." [John 15 : 16]

The Incoming President, Lesieli Tiulipe Pope and her team comes in with a theme, "Grow in Christ, and be a life giver." It is important to deepen our relationship with Christ. We can focus on getting to know Him better, as well as the plans He has for us. God is the One who gives all physical life. God is the giver of all eternal life. God is a great giver. He gave His Son Jesus Christ , that whoever believes in Him, has eternal life. God's will to all of us, to be a cheerful giver. 2 Peter 3 : 18 But grow in the knowledge of our Lord God and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, God of abundance, our hearts are full of gratitude for all your provisions. We thank those who give willingly and generously. We ask for the richest blessings to be poured upon all women of the New Zealand Methodist Women's Fellowships. Help them to grow in Christ and be life givers.

Amen

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

Rev. Siutaisa Tukutau.



President Lesieli with Wasewase Fijian District



Rev. Siutaisa and Annette with more Christmas party ladies



Lotofale'ia Parish women's fellowship at Christmas Party