



November 2023



Welcome to Connexions!

A place to share special stories, events, achievements and celebrations from around the Connexion.

Please send photos and descriptions to reception@methodist.org.nz



Remember in your Prayers

Connexional Office

It is with much sadness that we inform the Connexion that Rev Ashley Ian Corlett passed away at the age of 82.

Ashley attended the School For Christian Workers at Trinity Theological in 1964 prior to his successful candidature for ministry in 1966. After which he undertook a three month

supply at Te Aroha following the death of Rev Jamieson.

His probationary appointment in 1969 was to the North Hokianga circuit based in Kohukohu, and it was while he was there that he completed his Licentiate of Theology Diploma.

In this Anglican Methodist Community he shared with the vicar Rev Neil Fuge, to prepare the way for a Co-operating Parish which was formalised in 1971. Ashley stayed on to be the first Presbyterian of the combined congregation.

Following ordination Ashley was stationed to Taumaranui with the added responsibility to supervise the Ohura Circuit. During 1973-4 this opened up the Chaplaincy at Ohura Prison, an opportunity that was to change Ashley's direction and ministry.,

Ashley decided to make a career shift: he gained the position of Probation Officer based in Taumaranui. He was thus able to establish a self-supporting ministry, meeting preaching appointments and retaining oversight of the parish. He trained and prepared dedicated lay people to manage the pastoral concerns and the management of the Parish. To assist this process the Parish provided opportunity for theological students to fulfill three-month supply placements.

Ashley continued to work for the Probation Service in the Waikato and in Auckland, and in 2001 after completing 26 years with the service retired from the Justice department.

Ashley's ministry has been one that was community facing. It often took him right outside the normal activities of the Church. It touched many lives with wholeness and vision and was firmly based upon the Christ who lived and worked where the need was greatest and among those who felt most unloved.



Ashley's funeral will be on Friday Nov 24, 1.30pm at the RSA, 28 Belgium St Ostend, Waiheke Island. Contact with Ashley's family can be made through daughter Erica Wright, email bandewright@xtra.co.nz

Ngā manaakitanga

Rev Tara Tautari | General Secretary

Te Taha Māori wish to advise the Connexion of the sudden passing of Elaine Dell, sister of the late Rua Rakena and for many years a stalwart of Te Taha Māori, Ōtautahi Rohe. Born into Methodism with whakapapa links to Mangamuka in the North and Rāpaki in the South, Elaine served the Hāhi in Rohe affairs as well as in connexional committees: Hui Pōari, Council of Elders, Council of Conference, convening Council of Conference and Te Taha Māori Hui Tōpu. Elaine, you have been a good and faithful servant!

Te Taha Māori mourn with Elaine's whānau. God's blessings be upon you Elaine as your wairua ascends to the heavens and your earthly remains return to Paptuanuku, may God's faithful enduring love also enfold your loved ones.

Tū noa ana ngā maunga whakahī i te riu o te whenua i a koutou rā ka ngaro i te ao. Aue! Ko koe tērā e te whaea, tō tātou hoa i te hāhi, Elaine. Takoto mārika koe i te mārietanga o tō marae, i waenganui i tō whānau. Aini ka ngaro atu i te tirohanga kanohi, nā reira e hoa, takoto, moe mārie i raro i ngā parirau atawhai o tō tātou mātua nui i te rangi. Aue! Taukiri e!

Funeral arrangements to be advised.

Ngā mihi

Rev Dr Arapera Ngaha
Tumauki



Share Food this Christmas

Christian World Service

Somawathie is the heart of this year's Christmas Appeal. She speaks for small-scale farmers like herself and other families that used to have enough food most days – but who are now very worried about whether they have enough for even one meal a day – a common occurrence for those facing food shortages. In the northern central plains of Sri Lanka where she lives, there is less

rain and more drought. Climate change is coming to people who have nowhere left to turn.

CWS is currently posting resources you can use through Advent and Christmas, including information on partners like the Movement of Land and Agricultural Reform in Sri Lanka. You can read more about elephants and the clever strategies Somawathie has developed to try to protect her livelihood and that of her community from these beautiful creatures

Please take time to pray and think of others who do not have enough food. Share Food this Christmas . You can order posters and appeal leaflets for your church or call Italy on 0800 74 73 72.





Annual Review

Christian World Service

“Since its beginnings at the end of 1945, Christian World Service has been a vehicle for change. It has sought to meet people’s immediate needs with dignity and compassion, while tackling the causes of poverty and injustice that create them. The impact of Covid-19, enduring conflicts around the globe, and the growing intensity of disasters at the current time have collectively destroyed years of development work and have increased the need for humanitarian support. The Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations reports that current setbacks have pushed 122 million

more people into hunger since 2019. The global challenges we face are many.”
Sally Russell, Former Board Chair

Read the [Annual Review 2022-23](#) to see how our partners are sharing skills and resources so more people have water, food and justice.

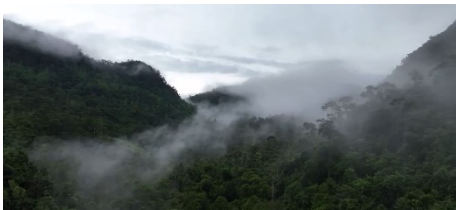


Afghanistan Earthquake

Christian World Service

CWS launched an appeal after major earthquakes in the Herat Province. People have lost family members and their homes. Local ACT members have distributed the first winterised tents but many more are needed. They would like to distribute supplies or cash transfers so the most vulnerable families can buy what they need.

Please pray for those affected by the earthquakes and for the refugees who have been forced to return home by the Pakistan Government.



Supporters’ Council

Christian World Service

Thanks to everybody who attended the annual Supporters’ Council in Ōtepoti Dunedin or by Zoom. The videos of National Director Rev Dr Tim Pratt and Sinharaja, produced by our partner the Movement for Land and Agricultural Reform are available. The presentation by Dr Nicola

Hoggard Creegan from A Rocha on Christians and Climate Change, along with the Annual Review can also be downloaded [here](#).



Gifted

Christian World Service

Gifts of love are an opportunity to buy big gifts and small. From an elephant to some seeds, there is a gift for everyone. Take a look at [Gifted](#) and see how many you can give!

When baby Kawthar was not doing well, her mother Ruqaya took her to a Well Baby Clinic in Jordan. The doctor found she had chronic anaemia – like too many other young refugees. Ruqaya went home with special milk for daughter and will take Kawthar in for regular appointments. Thanks to a gift of [Baby and Mother Health](#) – contributing to the programme run by the

Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees in Jordan, she has a chance to grow.

Please help promote [Gifted](#) in your church and community this festive season. Gifts act as a donation to one of our partners. Choose a beautiful, printed card or ecard to accompany your gift or no cards at all. [Gifted](#) cards work well for Christmas – some churches use it as a fundraising focus for their children’s programme or a sales table after church. Every gift helps!





Gaza Palestine Appeal

Christian World Service

Thank you for the generous response to our [Gaza Palestine Appeal](#). The appeal will fund food, shelter and medical services as soon as possible. The three Primary Health Clinics, Vocational Training Centres and other offices remain closed because it is not safe to run them. Tragically, staff and the people they work with have lost homes and loved ones. Many are displaced.

The need for a ceasefire is overwhelming – CWS [supports](#) the ACT Alliance the World Council of Churches, and the position of the Methodist Church of New Zealand. Please pray for the people of Gaza, Israel and Palestine, and for peace. There are many brave people struggling to provide food, water and medical care in impossible conditions.

We have had news from our partner, the Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees on their work in Gaza and the West Bank where they work closely with the Catholic and Greek Orthodox Churches. Here is an extract from its letter last week:

“We are still able to communicate with some of the staff and volunteers, especially those in the Churches, we try to reach them at least once a day, but not always successful. Every time we hear harder news, most of the staff are displaced, the majority of them and their families have reached southern Gaza.... Cash withdrawal from banks is no longer possible, this makes it difficult to get water, food and other supplies which have also disappeared from the small shops and the storages of the wholesalers. In the churches they are managing the remaining food and water, it’s becoming harder and harder to feed more than 800 in the churches every day. Several families from the neighbourhood of our main building, who lost their homes, have moved to our building and are using it as a shelter.

“Another development is taking place now. In addition to around 10 persons evicted last 10 days, three other Christian families, around 20 members, some of them have foreign passports and others have valid visas to other countries, decided to move to the southern part of Gaza, in the hope that they might leave Gaza and get better chances to stay alive!!! Some others are waiting for the war to stop to leave Gaza for other countries, and many others still believe that no move from Gaza under any circumstances. Extremely difficult atmosphere and painful alternatives to choose from. This is what the churches and all of us warned the world about, that the Christian Presence in Palestine is at stake. **Whoever has ears, let them hear** (Matt. 11:15).

“DSPR is deeply grateful to our longstanding partners for their generous and prompt response to our Urgent Appeal following the Gaza war. We sincerely thank all of them who have pledged their support so far. Additionally, we appreciate the many others who have reached out, expressing their unwavering commitment and outlining plans to address this unprecedented and massive crisis. Your dedication is invaluable, and we are humbled by the solidarity demonstrated by all of you.”



Epworth Retreat and Recreation Centre Celebrations

Epworth Retreat and Recreation Centre

Your invited to the 75th Celebration of Epworth Retreat and Recreation Centre

RSVP to Epworth@xtra.co.nz, more info to come.





Methodist Lay Preachers' Network

Methodist Lay Preachers Network Annual Gathering

Methodist Lay Preachers' Network

The Methodist LP Network Convenors are inviting all Lay Preachers from all Synods and kaikarakia, experienced, in-training or anyone simply interested to the Methodist Lay Preachers Network Annual Gathering by zoom on Monday 4 December 2023 at 19.00 (7:00pm).

Meeting ID: 883 4992 2145

Passcode: 370228

[Viv Whimster](#) (Convenor) and [Ngaire Southon](#) (Co-convenor), Methodist Lay Preachers Network



2:10 the gift of support. This Christmas join us in our reverse advent calendar appeal and help those in need with real support!

Julie Roberts

We are looking for 210 people to give \$2.10 for the 24 days of Advent (\$50) All they asked was that we should continue to remember the poor, the very thing I had been eager to do all along. Galatians 2:10 Are you one of them? Galatians 2:10-living faith.

<https://youtube.com/shorts/sliiedPRdxI?si=qZG0-ml4LWHokqWz>

Methodist Lay Preachers' Network

Lay Preacher Training

Methodist Lay Preachers' Network

At a meeting of the Methodist Lay Preachers Network Convenors with

the Mission Resourcing Directors in October, there was some discussion around basic training being offered in English-speaking parishes for Lay Preacher training.

As decided at Conference 2023, we are exploring **two levels of training**.

1. Basic training through a course such as Lead Worship would offer the study required for leading worship in one's own congregation or parish.
2. Study requirements for national accreditation continue to be offered by Trinity College for NZQA approved courses.

There are various versions of Lead Worship in use and some Presbyters or experienced Lay Preachers have developed other resources.

The Network Convenors, Viv Whimster and Ngaire Southon, would love to hear from **all involved in offering training and those receiving training to become Lay Preachers**.

Below are two feedback forms; one for people offering training, another for people who are in training or have recently received Lay Preacher training.

Please send your feedback by 31 January 2024 to

Viv Whimster (email: vjwhimster@gmail.com or phone 021 137 2349) or

Ngaire Southon (email: ngaire@southon.net or phone 021 0224 5165)

Thank you, we look forward to hearing from you.





L3 – Liturgy Learning & (Purposeful) Life

Philip, Philip Garside Publishing Ltd

We'd like to tell ministers and worship leaders about this new RCL-based worship resource that replaces Seasons of the Spirit.

This quality new material is being written by Mediacom in Australia under the guidance of Susan Burt who edited Seasons of the Spirit for the last 20 years.

L3 provides:

- Worship outlines for whole services
- Sermon seeds, discussion and reflection ideas for personal reflection and group study
- Embodied practice ideas to engage more fully through sensory experiences and stimuli
- Text files for copying, adapting, adding bulletin or slides for projection.

Philip Garside Books is offering annual subscriptions to the digital version of L3 which comprises Word documents for each week and PDFs for each church season. Subscriptions are \$272.00 p.a.

There are four issues per year: Advent, Christmas, Epiphany Lent, Easter

- Pentecost 1
- Season of Creation, Pentecost 2
-

Please visit our website for more information about L3 and to place your order:

www.philipgarsidebooks.com



Warm Greetings, Kia ora koutou, Malo e lelei, Talofa lava, Ni sa Bula,

Feunai Brunt

Auckland Tamaki Makaurau Central District Women Fellowship started in 2018 at Wesley Roskill Methodist Church with 9 members, and with Mt Albert Fellowship in 2019 to early 2020 jointly ran social events, and now in 2023 our group's membership includes women from Mt Eden, Epsom, Kingsland, Waterview and Mt Albert Parishes.

We fundraised in our churches, families and communities as well as funding assistance from the Dream Fund to enable us to attend and participate in the Convention in October. This was a most memorable and successful occasion to meet, build relationships, network, share, learn and grow in our spiritual journeys as women, mothers, sisters, aunties, wives, grandmother's and leaders.

We look forward to continuing to build these connections and working together in God's work and mission with the new President, Executive and our sisters in Christ...

The current Executives are :

- President** - Naomi Pole
- Secretary** - Feunai Brunt
- Treasurer** - Cecilia Tohi
- Special Projects** - Mele Kaufusi
- Social events** - Luseane and Mele

We have speaker events, meetings, community outreach projects with an exciting programme in 2024 so watch this space. To join and or find out more, please email our Secretary Feunai Brunt feunaib@gmail.com





Faith in Action: Margaret Lewis, a beacon of hope for Lifewise's Merge Community

Lifewise

In a humble acceptance of the Kiwi Bank's Local Hero Award, Margaret, the heart and soul of Lifewise's Merge Community initiatives, deflects the spotlight, declaring, "It's not about me, it's a team effort."

Affectionately known as 'whaea', her kind, warm, and understanding approach has cultivated a sense of family within Merge Community, dedicated to supporting those experiencing homelessness, mental health challenges, addiction issues, and heartbreak.

Margaret's selfless dedication was evident in her immediate response to the award. Her team attributes its greatness to her leadership, emphasising the collaborative nature of their achievements. This recognition is not just for Margaret; it's a celebration of the whānau-led approach championed by Merge Community.

A recent triumph for Margaret is the Ringa Wera initiative, which addresses the challenge of access to healthy food. Through her connections, she secured a commercial kitchen, providing chefs a space to practice their skills. Earlier this year, she played a pivotal role in organizing a fundraising dinner, featuring chefs benefiting from the Ringa Wera cooking school.

Margaret's commitment to social justice and community building extends to her advocacy work, notably in the "Stuck in the 80s" campaign. She played a pivotal role in raising the abatement level for people on benefits who aspire to work, embodying the Methodist values of justice and compassion.

Winning the New Zealand Local Hero Award is more than recognition for Margaret; it's validation for the Merge Community's incredible work. This award inspires courage, affirming their mission to make a difference in the lives of those they serve. Congratulations, Margaret — a true hero who proves that not all heroes wear capes, but perhaps they deserve one.

<https://www.lifewise.org.nz/local-hero-2023/>



Climate Justice Calendar for 2024

Climate Justice Working Group

Here it is. What you've all been waiting for! The Climate Justice Working Group is excited to announce the production of another calendar for 2024.

Our previous calendar in 2020 proved very popular as Christmas presents. Each calendar costs \$15 - orders of 10 or more cost \$10 each. A digital copy costs \$5. Place your order now!

Orders

Email Cjwg.calendars@methodist.org.nz

Payment

Internet banking. Credit the Connexional office account 02-0800-0766004-03 and use "calendar" as the reference and your name as the code.

Invoices can be arranged for bulk orders only. Please advise when placing your order if an invoice is needed.





Delivery

This will be by post or by collection from one of two pre-arranged collection points at 409 Great South Road, Penrose, Auckland or at Weteriana House, 50 Langdons Road, Papanui, Christchurch. Digital copies will be emailed.

Enquiries

Phone Siniva Isaia 021 086 13561, or Marion Hines 021 053 2053

USE THIS ORDER FORM

Please supply me/us with the Climate Justice Calendar for 2024. (Indicate the number of copies and complete details below)

Tongan language _____ copies

Samoan language _____ copies

Fijian language _____ copies

English language _____ copies

Digital copy _____ (specify language required)

Delivery method (select one)

By post

Collect from the Connexional Office at Auckland/Christchurch (specify which)

Email for digital copy

Name/Parish

Email address

Postal address (NZ only)

Phone number

Payment method (select one)

Payment in the sum of \$ _____ has been completed by internet banking with the Connexional Office.

I require an invoice for my bulk order (10 or more copies)

SEND THIS ORDER TO Cjwg.calendars@methodist.org.nz



DEC 02, 2023
9:30AM – 12:30PM

Re-thinking Preaching:

How to prepare a message that has interest and application

Rev Andrew Gamman

The gospel has remained the same, but methods of communication have dramatically changed. As a result, the kind of messages that reached the last generation often miss the present one. Do you think of preaching as needed. This workshop will take us step by step through preparing a message that can be heard, understood and applied to how we live. We'll work together on a model that starts with the Scripture passage for the week and finishes with an outline ready for preaching. Bring your ideas, your Bible, a notebook and pen (or laptop).



Andrew Gamman is an ordained minister of the Baptist Church of New Zealand and is full connection with the Methodist Church of New Zealand in NZA. He is currently serving as a pastor at St John's Wesleyan College, Auckland.

The individual and varied ministries have included such diverse activities as being an art teacher, youth, visiting field projects in Papua New Guinea and serving European immigrants with a group of children.

Andrew is married with four children and four grandchildren. On his days off, you can find him at night time Bible Study in the Presbyterian Revival Centre, or at the gym. It has been his life since the weekly testimony meeting. © 2023 Pictorial

An Ecumenical Workshop open to all

Suggested Koha \$10

Please Bring a Plate

Come and be part of this learning opportunity.

VENUE
Wesley Hall
St John's Wesleyan College
210 St John's Road
St John's, Auckland

RSVP
Linda Hall 021 5300
lindahall00@gmail.com

As Soon As Possible

Workshop: Rethinking Preaching

Linda Hall, Correspondence Secretary for NZLPA
How to prepare a message that has interest and practical application

Ecumenical Lay Preachers Workshop

TIME 9.30am to 12.30 pm Saturday 2 December 2023

VENUE Wesley Hall, St John's College, 210 St John's Rd, St John's, Auckland

Please bring a plate, your Bible and a Koha of \$10

Register ASAP by emailing lindajeanhall00@gmail.com





Phone 09 521 5360 or Mobile 02102604698

Correspondence Secretary for NZLPA

PRESENTER Andrew Gamman

Andrew is an Accredited minister of the Baptist Churches of New Zealand and in Full Connexion with the Methodist Church of New Zealand Te Haahi Weteriana O Aotearoa. He is minister at Waitoki Community Church and currently doing a supply at East Coast Bays Methodist Parish.

His colourful and varied ministry has included such diverse activities as being an on-air radio host, visiting field projects in Outer Mongolia with World Vision International, staying in a Hutterite Community and touring European Reformation sites with a group of Schwenckfelders.

Andrew is married with four children and four grandchildren. On his days off he is in his boat, just out of sight from Manly Beach on the Whangaparaoa Peninsula catching snapper for tea. In his spare time he writes the weekly lectionary resource, Taking Flight.



Everil Orr Living Open Days

Yohana Virgoanto- Chief Executive Assistant

Care Suite and Apartment Living Open Days Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th November 2023 10.00am - 2.00pm

Care Suite Open Day - Everyone welcome

Tour times: 10.00am, 11.00am, 12.00pm, 1.00pm, 2.00pm

Everil Orr Living has created a brand-new bespoke care service for residents who need Rest Home or Hospital level of care without the need to move suites if care levels change.

You'll enjoy the superbly-appointed care suites which offer person-centred care tailored to your specific needs.

You'll notice the care suites all boast their own level access ensuites and kitchenettes.

Some specific suites can accommodate a couple comfortably.

Discover Mt Albert's newest and brightest care suites at the Everil Orr Living Open Day.

Apartment Living Open Day - Everyone welcome

Tour times: 10.00am, 11.00am, 12.00pm, 1.00pm, 2.00pm

Everil Orr Living, located in beautiful Mt Albert, has been developed with your health and wellbeing in mind. Every detail has been considered, so you can live in ultimate style and comfort.

This Open Day is your opportunity to experience this friendly boutique community first hand. Appreciate the stylish, spacious apartments and their stunning views, and discover that the communal social, recreational and dining environments have been designed to be an extension of your own home.

Everil Orr Living has been created to meet the needs of active retirees who want to maintain their independence. This Open Day gives you an opportunity to experience it first hand.





Greetings from the Theology Programme at the University of Otago!

Paul Trebilco, Head of Theology Programme

The Theology Programme at the University of Otago offers many opportunities for the study of Christian Theology, both on-campus and to many students across New Zealand through our successful distance study programme.

We are committed to serving Christian communities throughout New Zealand. Enrolments for Semester 1, 2024 are now open. For details of courses go to: www.otago.ac.nz/theology/study

- The subjects on offer include Old Testament and New Testament Studies, Church History, Systematic Theology, Māori Theology, Ethics, Practical Theology and Ministry (including Chaplaincy Studies), and Biblical languages (Hebrew and New Testament Greek). The Theology Programme also has a Centre for Theology and Public Issues, offering papers with a strong social justice focus on contemporary issues.
- You can study toward a qualification, or you can take a single paper (or more) for interest, or as part of another degree. (Most University of Otago students can include up to 5 Theology papers in their degree.)
- We offer many qualification options: Diploma in Theology; Bachelor of Theology; Postgraduate degrees in Theology, Ministry, Chaplaincy, and Faith-Based Leadership and Management; MTheol; and PhD. If you've already got another degree, we offer a Diploma for Graduates, which is 7 papers, 4 at 300-level. (This is the equivalent of one full year's study of Theology, but can be split up across several years.)

Papers on offer in 2024 are in the attached posters and brochures, and a power point.

Further information:

theology@otago.ac.nz

www.otago.ac.nz/theology

www.facebook.com/theologyotago

Ph 03 479 8639

And here's a [video about the Theology Programme at Otago](#). Feel free to share it widely!



Kia Timata Pai

Scarlet Mollan

Kia Timata Pai is a gold-standard research study looking into the impact of self-regulation and oral language interventions for young children in early childcare centres across Aotearoa.

The study is taking place over four years, and is a collaboration between the University of Otago, BestStart and Methodist Mission Southern. The study has an extremely wide reach, involving 140 BestStart centres, over 1,000 tamariki and hundreds of kaiako all over the country.

Kia Timata Pai compares two different interventions; ENGAGE, which supports children's self-regulation skills through playing games, and ENRICH, which supports children's oral language development in the early years. By looking into the outcomes of these two interventions, this research will provide valuable evidence on the most effective ways to support children in the early years, to increase their chances of positive life outcomes. If successful, this could benefit future generations of children to come.





Supporting Oral Language

Intentionally supporting children to develop their oral language skills in the early years leads to an increase in children’s ability to have more positive interactions with other children and adults. Good oral language skills are shown to enable children to better express their thoughts and feelings, which supports a range of positive outcomes including increased empathy for others, communication and mutual understanding, problem solving and later learning to read and write.

Supporting Self-Regulation

Increased self-regulation skills in the early years effectively predict later positive life outcomes, both short-term and long-term. A child with good self-regulation skills can effectively and independently manage their feelings, thoughts and behaviours. As a result, children are able to resist impulsive behaviours, make better choices and manage their intense emotions. Later on this leads to improved success in many facets of life; including improved physical and mental health, successful relationships, better financial success and life satisfaction.

Scarlet Mollan | Kaimatapaki Matua (Rakahau me te Uruhi)
Communications Lead – Research and Implementation



Christian World Service launches Gaza Palestine Emergency Appeal

Rev Dr Tim Pratt, National Director

Christian World Service has launched an emergency appeal to assist people who have been affected by the current conflict in the Middle East, particularly Gaza.

Thousands of people have been killed, injured and displaced. Nearly two hundred people are being held as hostages. Hospitals including the Al Ahli Arab Hospital, schools and homes have been damaged or destroyed. The need for a ceasefire and humanitarian relief is overwhelming.

“The people of Gaza are living in harrowing conditions with limited resources, and we cannot stand idly by while they suffer... Our collective efforts can make a significant difference in the lives of those trapped in this nightmarish situation,” DSPR.

Funds raised will meet some of the urgent needs of people through our long term partner the Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees (DSPR). In Gaza, DSPR is providing shelter, food and support to people who have fled the north and who have lost homes. Some churches are hosting Muslim and Christian families from the community. Together they have secured some food supplies, but more will be needed in the months ahead.

DSPR runs three health clinics, vocational training programmes and provides emergency assistance in Gaza. Tragically staff have lost homes and family members. The main office building in Gaza City was severely damaged. Critical medical supplies were stored at the site. DSPR also runs programmes providing emergency relief, education, livelihood support and medical care in Jordan, Lebanon, Nazareth and the West Bank.

CWS is supporting the call for an immediate ceasefire and access for humanitarian relief.

DSPR is an integral part of the local community. It is preparing to help many more people as soon as it practically can with:

- food
- hygiene kits





- shelter
- medications and medical treatment
- psychosocial support

Donations can be made through CWS:

- Online and by direct deposit to the Gaza Palestine Emergency Appeal
- By Phone with a credit card: 0800 74 73 72
- By Post to: CWS, PO Box 22652, Christchurch 8140

NB: CWS is a member of ACT Alliance a coalition of over 140 churches working together on humanitarian, development in over 120 countries.

For more information, please contact:

Rev Dr Tim Pratt, National Director

tim.pratt@cws.org.nz



Our Bicultural Journey

Carol Barron

I am proud to be a member of a Church that recognises Te Tiriti o Waitangi as a covenant that established our power-sharing relationship and has structures that support and promote this power -sharing.

This is evidenced by the partnership model the Methodist Church Te Hāhi Weteriana uses to make decisions on what is best for the church. Te Taha Maori and Tauwiwi can caucus to see if that will enable a general agreement so a true partnership decision can be made.

We acknowledge and congratulate Rev Dr Arapera Ngaha on her appointment as Tumuaki of Te Taha Māori and we know her knowledge, skill and quiet, courageous leadership will strengthen Weteriana as a whole. We know she will carry on the strong traditions of leadership which started when Rev Rua Rakena was appointed as the first Tumuaki in 1972.

Rev Dr Arapera Ngaha, aka Bella, has been one of the Te Taha Māori representatives on our Steering Group from the beginning of the Methodist Alliance. We appreciate Bella's consistent attendance and commitment to participate in the governance of the Methodist Alliance over the last seven years. Bella is also our link with the Public Issues Network.

Last year, we were honoured when Bella agreed to become one of our Co-Convenors. The appointment of two Co-Convenors - one Convenor representing tangata whenua and the other tauwiwi – who work together in partnership reflects our partnership obligation under Te Tiriti o Waitangi and our commitment to the bi-cultural journey.

The Methodist Alliance is using more Te Reo in our Steering Group agendas, submissions, and our strategic plan which you can read here. Bella has always been willing to check on the Te Reo used in our documents and this year she ensured the Te Reo in our end of year financial statements was correct.

We believe te reo is a taonga – a treasure and that increasing our use of Te Reo is important to connect us with tangata whenua, helps our understanding of te ao Māori – the Maori world, and helps te reo Māori to secure its future as a living, dynamic and rich language in Aotearoa New Zealand.





We encourage our members to undertake growth in becoming kaupapa Tiriti organisations, including Te Reo, tikanga, and Te Tiriti, He Whakaputnga - the Declaration of Independence, and the Methodist understanding of covenant. We are building a database of resources available to the membership to help in this growth.

Our members are all in different places on their bicultural journey as is the Methodist Alliance. We are all in this together as we travel ensuring the principles of Te Tiriti are upheld and underpin our work.

Wesley Community Action (WCA) is working on how to change its model of governance to ensure it honours Te Tiriti. The WCA Board has agreed to a power-sharing arrangement at its governance level - our Methodist expression of co-governance. Modelled on Methodist power-sharing approach this provides Māori connected to WCA (staff and board members and linking with Te Taha Māori) with the ability to signal any concerns or opportunities to the Board and that resolution is only achieved when both parties are in agreement. . WCA sees this as

promoting Te Tiriti and deepening our democracy by utilising the knowledge and insights from across the whole organisation and wider church. This new governance system is founded on three key understandings, one of which is that WCA is a Kaupapa Te Tiriti organisation. The model ensures Māori voices and knowledge have the power to shape the mahi and direction of WCA. The model promotes a whole organisation understanding of governance where Māori located in different parts of the organisation can exercise their power in shaping the direction and mahi of WCA. WCA uses non-colonising models of practice (Te Ara Wēteri) to create opportunities for whānau to move beyond intergenerational trauma and to influence systems that are unjust. It draws on the core elements of Te Tiriti – tino rangatiratanga for Māori in matters that belong to Māori, full and equal engagement by everyone in the governance (kawanatanga) of the organisation, and a deliberate priority on work that will protect and enhance the place of tangata whenua in all that WCA does.

Christchurch Methodist Mission (CMM) employs a cultural lead who ensures the mahi of CMM is consistent with the CMM commitment to the bicultural journey. The principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi underpins all kaupapa and mahi of CMM. CMM marks significant dates on the Māori calendar, including Waitangi Day, Matariki and Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori, and hold organisation-wide hui on local marae as a mark of respect to local hapū and iwi.. In June this year CMM held the Wall Walk – a workshop designed to raise collective awareness of key events in the history of Aotearoa New Zealand, and their impact for Māori and Kiwi society as a whole. You can find out more here. CMM runs Whare Tiaki, a shared supported living home for eight kaumātua, run under kaupapa Māori principles.

If you would like more information about how you can support the Methodist Alliance, the Methodist Missions, please check out their websites or contact me.

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