

Methodist Mission and Ecumenical Newsletter

November - 2018

Special Appeal 2019 Solar Power for Goldie College Computer Lab

During the visit in April 2018, Prince was asked to consider helping Goldie College with its expanding of the computer lab. The Alumni Association donated 32 computers to the school to improve the computer literacy of the students. The number of computers to be doubled to 64 in 2019. The college is unable to do so due to lack of power. The principal Mr Brian Bird asked for Mission and Ecumenical assistance to install a solar power unit to improve the computer literacy programme of Goldie College.

Mission and Ecumenical launched the Annual Appeal 2019 at Conference 2018 in Christchurch. President Setaita and Vice President Nicola opened the donations on the floor of the Conference. Members of the Conference were generous to donate NZ\$ 1500 within the two days. The appeal will run through 2019 till we reach the target of \$ 35,000. Mission and Ecumenical looks forward for the continued support of the Methodist Church members.

The projects launched in the past were successful because of the people called Methodist being so generous in supporting the needs of United Church of Solomon Islands.

Be Bold for Change – Thursdays in Black World Council of Churches calls the worldwide churches to 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence



The 16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence begin on 25 November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women and end on 10 December, Human Rights Day. We have seen many women starting to speak out on their experience of sexual violence. In ecumenical circles, the Pilgrimage of Justice and Peace has created a safe-enough space for such stories to be heard. In social media, the [#MeToo](#) campaign has shed light on the enormous scale of the problem –

and men have taken responsibility through campaigns like [#ipledge](#).

Many faith-based organizations and coalitions work together to advocate for the dignity of girls and women and highlights the crucial work that faith based actors are doing during these 16 Days, and every day, to eliminate gender-based violence. More details available at

<https://www.oikoumene.org/en/press-centre/events/16-days-of-activism-against-gender-based-violence>

Te Haahi Weteriana o Aotearoa's commitment

Methodist Conference 2018 formally committed to observe Thursdays in Black global call for the campaign against rape and violence. Thursdays in Black aims to expose gender based violence. It expresses solidarity with victims of violence and rape and looks to construct a culture of equality and appreciation. You can be a participant in this campaign by

- Wearing black clothes on every Thursday
- Observing Thursdays in black through prayers, study and reflection
- Talk to other about Thursdays in black
- Call women and men to join the campaign

**Let us all strive for a world free of
Rape and Violence**

New Methodist Church Formally Launched in Cambodia



*Fellow Methodist clergy pray over the newly elected President of the Methodist Church in Cambodia, Rev. Lun Sophy. PHOTO: Myungim Kim by Elliott Wright**

The Methodist Church of Cambodia officially came into being in early September at a conference in Phnom Penh. It has 140 congregations, 11 districts, 132 clergypersons, 3,171 full members and average Sunday worship attendance of 6,828.

“This new church is the culmination of many years of collaborative work among five mission agencies, their missionaries and the work of indigenous leaders,” said Bishop Larry M. Goodpaster (retired), the United Methodist bishop assigned to the Cambodia Mission. He represented the denomination at the September 4-7 conference.

The Rev. Lun Sophy, a pastor of two churches at Siam Reap, a city near the ancient temples at Angkor Wat, was elected president of the new church, officially and originally in Methodist parlance called a “provisional annual conference,” but expected to be autonomous or self-governing. “We celebrate the movement of God’s spirit in Cambodia,” Goodpaster said in an interview after his return from Southeast Asia. “We also celebrate mission partnership. Collaboration is the way to do mission in the 21st century.”

Late in the previous century, five mission agencies began to discuss the value of combining their separate outreach efforts in Cambodia, a country then still recovering from oppression and tyranny of the Khmer Rouge. The five are United Methodist Global Ministries, the Korean Methodist Church, the Methodist Church in Singapore, the World Federation of Chinese Methodist Churches and Connexion, the mission agency of United Methodists in France and Switzerland.

“Inauguration of the Methodist Church in Cambodia is an important event in our mission history, coming just at the start of our celebration of the 200th anniversary of the founding of what is now the General Board of Global Ministries,” said Thomas Kemper, chief executive of the United Methodist agency. Of the current clergy, 57 are elders, five deacons, eight members on trial, 26 licensed to preach and 46 lay pastors. While the new church is Cambodian led, the five original sponsoring agencies will continue to supply some support and missionary personnel, according to Kemper. Global Ministries at present has seven missionaries in the country engaged in a range of ministries, including rural economic development.

Formal inauguration took place in a service of worship in Methodist tradition and with indigenous music, the usual practice in Cambodian Sunday services. Bishop Chong Chin Chung of Singapore presided at the service recognizing the provisional annual conference.

**Elliott Wright is a communications consultant to Global Ministries. The Rev. Myungim Kim, Asia area liaison of Global Ministries, contributed to this article.*

This article originally appeared on: umcmmission.org
<http://firstfridayletter.worldmethodistcouncil.org/2018/10/new-methodist-church-formally-launched-in-cambodia/>

A Message from Sasamuqa Hospital

Rev Caleb Kotali, Secretary of the Hospital wrote on 26 October:

Dear Terry,
Greetings from Sasamuqa Hospital. I have just arrived in Honiara and opened my email and read your email sent to me on Aug 31, 2017 that you offered to purchase a new outboard motor for the sea ambulance. My apology that I do not access to email at Sasamunqa and have not been to Honiara since May 2017. Hence I missed your email then, certainly Terry the outboard motor is still an urgently felt need. I am currently in Honiara talking with the Government the post of doctor for Sasamunqa and it has been confirmed in 2019 establishment posting [a doctor in Sasamuqa]. We are still working on doctor's house. Grace and Peace. Caleb.

A new out board motor will cost Solomon Dollars 49,000, approximately NZ \$ 9,750. Prince has asked Rev Kotali to send quotations for the new motor so that Mission and Ecumenical Board can look at the possibility of assisting to buy the new one. Any assistance by way of donations towards the purchase of an out board motor will be appreciated very much.

WCC “receives with joy” verdict which resolves case of Asia Bibi

In a land where freedom of faith is abundant, people pay very little attention to having it as a privilege. In Pakistan Asia Bibi, a Christian was sentenced to death on charges of Blasphemy against Islam. She was in prison for 9 years waiting for the day of her punishment. Pakistan’s supreme court acquitted her in a landmark court case on 31 October 2018.

World Council of Churches (WCC) general secretary Rev. Dr Olav Fykse Tveit “received with joy” the news of the verdict which has resolved the long pending case of Asia Bibi, a Pakistani Christian woman convicted and sentenced to death under Pakistan's blasphemy laws in 2010. “We celebrate her acquittal and release together with her, her family and community,” said Tveit. “The WCC has repeatedly called for justice for Asia Bibi, convicted 8 years ago on charges resulting from a village argument in which she was accused by her neighbours of blasphemy.” <https://www.oikoumene.org/en/press-centre/news/wcc-receives-with-joy-verdict-which-resolves-case-of-asia-bibi>

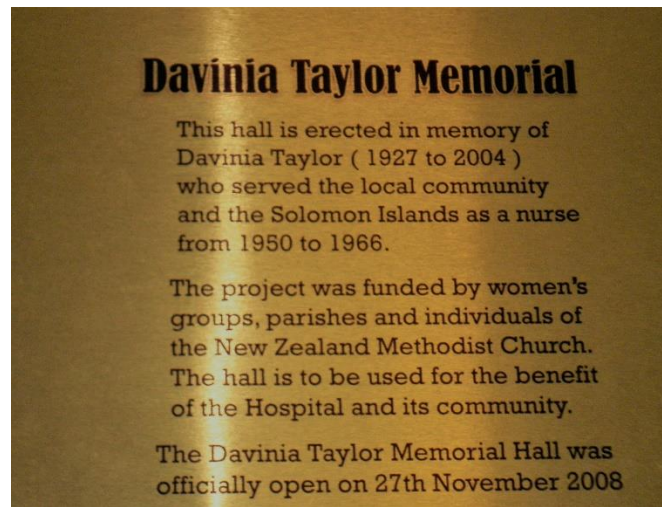
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**Methodist Mission and Ecumenical
Annual Appeal 2018
Classroom Block
For
Helena Goldie College of Nursing**

The Helena Goldie College of Nursing is to be upgraded to a National College in Munda, Solomon Islands. The infra structure needs upgrading. Our contribution to the upgrading will be to build a new classroom block in 2019 at a cost of NZ \$ 50,000.00.

This is possible only with the support of the everyone who contributes through the Methodist Mission and Ecumenical. The building would be built in 2019, but the service from it will be for many years to come.

The last project at the College of Nursing by Methodist Mission and Ecumenical was in 2008.



**Methodist Mission and Ecumenical appeals to all to contribute to the
Helena Goldie College of Nursing
BUILDING FUND
to raise \$ 50,000 in 2018**

Mission is possible only with your participation and contribution to the fund.

Mission and Ecumenical Fund is registered with the **Charities Commission**.

Registration Number CC51048. Receipts will be issued for tax rebate on the donation.

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ANNUAL APPEAL 2018 - HELENA GOLDIE COLLEGE OF NURSING BUILDING FUND

Please send your donation by cheque in favour of

Mission and Ecumenical Fund

to:

Rev Terry Wall (Acting Director)
Methodist Mission and Ecumenical
Private Bag 11 903
Ellerslie
Auckland 1542

You could also make your donation directly into

BNZ Account No. 02-0800-0766004-03

Amount: \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Please remember to send this cover slip for a receipt when you make a deposit.