

Methodist Mission and Ecumenical Newsletter

May - 2019

**Please note the date and be there at the
SERVICE TO PRAY FOR THE UNITY OF ALL
CHRISTIANS**

Anglican, Coptic, Methodist, Orthodox, Presbyterian and Roman Catholic Churches gathering to observe the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in Auckland.



WEEK OF PRAYER
For Christian Unity 2019

Justice and only justice you shall pursue
Deuteronomy 16:18-20

All Are Invited

Ecumenical Prayer Service

Sunday 16th June 2019, 5pm
Holy Trinity Cathedral
446 Parnell Road, Parnell

Refreshments served at the end of the service in the Bishop Monteith Visitor Centre.
Plenty of Car Parks, The Cathedral car park is accessible from either Parnell Road,
behind St Mary's-in-Holy Trinity, or from Brighton Road.

Logos for Saint Mark Coptic Church, Holy Trinity Cathedral Auckland, and other participating churches.

TEAM VIST TO SOLOMON ISLANDS

Mission and Ecumenical Director Prince Devanandan together with Murray Olds, Valmai Horlor, Annette Sharp and Lynne Scott visited Solomon Islands from 29 April to 7 May 2019. It was a visit of many memorable events. Successful completion of projects and fruit of the hard work of Mission and Ecumenical with the support of the Methodist people of New Zealand gave a heart-warming experience. The stories in this newsletter.



**Annual Appeal 2019 - Successfully Completed
Solar Power Unit for Goldie College
Computer Lab**

**IT HAPPENED BECAUSE OF YOUR
HELP
ALL WHO DONATED MADE IT A BLESSING TO
650 CHILDREN OF GOLDIE COLLEGE**



The Power distribution centre of the computer lab

Mission and Ecumenical launched the Annual Appeal 2019 at Conference 2018 in Christchurch to raise \$ 35,000 towards the Goldie College Computer Lab for a Solar Power Unit. By mid-March 2019 over 90% of the funds were received. We got into action immediately. The Solar Power Unit was installed in April 2019 and was commissioned by Prince Devanandan and the team during their visit on 3 May 2019. The computer technology teacher stated that it is the first of its kind in the Solomon Islands. The lab has the latest computer technology with 32 work stations and another 32 work stations to be added upstairs.



The computer education classroom

A REVISIT OF FORMER TEACHERS AT GOLDIE COLLEGE

Tim and Wendy were teachers at Goldie College from 1976 to 1987. They visited the UCSI and the College at the time of our visit. The fellowship dinner included the stories of past students of Goldie College and they acknowledged the contribution of this couple. More importantly how they were part of the formation of the leaders of today. Cliff Bird and Eddie Pratt who work for the United Church Solomon Islands were two of the students of this couple.



Tim & Wendy from UK with us and the staff of United Church and Women's Fellowship

A WARM WELCOME AT GOLDIE COLLEGE



Principal Mrs. Deidre Heke-Piko in her address to the welcome event acknowledged the contribution Methodist Church of New Zealand made to the life of the College. As a token of appreciation a wood carving of a cuttlefish was handed over to Prince to take it to the Methodist Church. Prince in response to the Principal's address asked the teachers and students to work towards making honest and effective leaders not only for the church but also to lead Solomon Islands in the paths of justice and wellbeing of all people. Deidre became principal after former principal Brian Bird was elected

general secretary of the United Church of Solomon Islands in October 2018.

The student numbers have increased now to over 600 at Goldie College. The standard of education is improving year after year.



TABAKA RURAL TRAINING INSTITUTE

Upon our return the principal Joash Law wrote to the director of M&E: We acknowledge you and your team's visit to Tabaka. It was an eye opener for most newly enrolled students this year including the staff which really motivates individuals in their study career. The history of your partnership support to this very church owned institute improves the quality of training at the institute. The trainee numbers had gone to be 284 in roll at present.

A group of volunteers from the Methodist Church of New Zealand built this facility to accommodate 20 students in 1992. The institute is now providing training in Agriculture, Business, Carpentry and Building, Electrical Wiring, Life skill, Mechanical skills and Tourism and Hospitality. In the two year programme 180 boys and 104 girls receive training. The institute is "aiming to equip students with technical and vocational trainings and knowledge that can be useful in industrial and local settings upon their successful completion of their full training."



The diesel generator provided by M&E is in full use



The old dormitory in the front and the new building behind it

The girl's dormitories are in need of a proper ablution block to which Mission and Ecumenical has committed to fund raise and build the facility in 2020. This means, the Annual Appeal 2020 will be launched from July 2019. The M&E Board is waiting to receive the details of estimated costs of constructing toilets and shower rooms for the dormitories.



Mechanical Training Classroom



A training project that grows fast to cater to the needs of Tourism Industry of Solomon Islands

WCC condemns terror attacks in Sri Lanka, calls for end to violence

In a coordinated suicide bombing on Easter Sunday in three churches and three hotels, over 255 innocent people who were at worship and staying in the hotels were killed. Some of them are tourists from Europe and US.



One of the targets of these attacks was the community of St Anthony's Church, Kochikade, a national shrine held

in deep respect and visited by people of many faiths.

WCC general secretary Rev. Dr Olav Fykse Tveit said "While we still await information regarding the perpetrators and their motives, we strongly condemn these attacks on people gathered at worship and on tourists visiting Sri Lanka, and offer our heartfelt prayers for the victims and condolences to all those who have lost loved ones in these appalling acts of violence."

Tveit added "As a global fellowship of churches, we stand in special solidarity with the Christians of Sri Lanka who have been attacked in this vicious way while celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ, the pivotal moment in the faith journey for all Christians."

Tveit said "Such acts of violence undermine the sanctity of life and constitute a sacrilege in many senses. Even as we cry out against this sacrilege, we resolutely affirm that violence must not beget violence. In the spirit of the love of Christ, on this Easter Day, we hold fast to the belief that violence, hatred and death will not have the last word."

"Our thoughts and prayers are with our member churches of the WCC's global fellowship, our ecumenical partners of the Roman Catholic Church, and the Government of the Republic of Sri Lanka which has rightly called upon all Sri Lankans during this tragic time to remain united and strong and is taking steps to contain this situation."

MISSION AND ECUMENICAL BOARD

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