



Caring for Our People

Manaakitia ā tātou tāngata

June 2019

As-salāmu ‘alaykum. Peace be with you.



Escape/Hide/Tell

Sheltering in Place

The attacks on the Al Noor Mosque and the Linwood Islamic Centre resulted in schools, offices and churches across the city, and beyond, going into lockdown. This included our Connexional office and some of our parish churches.

Whilst there are emergency response plans available, there were no plans for “active shooter – lockdown”. During the attacks, the Connexional Office nonchalantly strolled into lockdown with no pre-arranged plans.

Then a few weeks later there was another gunman incident, in Waitakere, that resulted in another of our parishes being locked down. They also lacked a response plan, although the police gave them directions at the time.

Therefore to save you all the pain of discovering what to do, the Connexional office undertook a lockdown drill. It was delightfully abysmal! We didn’t have a clue what to do! In comparison our next drill will look perfect.

Here are some hints and tips for a lockdown drill.

It is not a fire drill! The rules are not the same. While we should all be aware of how to exit a building safely, this drill needs you to find the place inside your building that will make you ‘not a target’.

You need an agreed ‘lockdown’ word. If people know how they are going to be called into action, they are more likely to know, and do what needs doing in a calm and controlled manner.

Learn how to lock the doors quickly. Churches by nature are open and welcoming. However sometimes we will need to shut the doors to help protect the people already inside.

Shelter in Place emergencies have many causes that generate the same response.



Escape/Hide/Tell Shelter in place flip chart is available on our website at

http://www.methodist.org.nz/caring_for_our_people/erp_step_1

Moea tō poi, moea tō taiaha!

Sleep with your poi, sleep with your taiaha, expect the unexpected!

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