



# Methodist Church of New Zealand

## Connexions August 2023



### Welcome to the monthly newsletter of the Methodist Church of New Zealand Te Hāhi Weteriana Aotearoa

Please send your articles to [reception@methodist.org.nz](mailto:reception@methodist.org.nz)

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### Remember in your Prayers

It is with great sadness that I inform you that Rev Ian MacLeod passed away Sunday morning 6 August 2023. Ian retired from ministry in parishes and in chaplaincy for both hospital and aged care at the end of 2018.

Ian served in four parishes over 19 years, before resigning for health reasons in 1990 – Bluff (3 years), Inglewood (6 years), Motueka (5 years) and Waihi/Paeroa/Coromandel (5 years). After a break of three years, he was invited to be part-time presbyter at Waimate Methodist, and his work there indicated that he could resume full-time ministry. He was received back into Full Connexion, and stationed at Wainoni in Christchurch. After a few months of supply ministry in the Dunedin Parish, Ian was appointed to the Rangiora-Woodend Parish.

In 2008 he was appointed to a chaplaincy position in Timaru, where he divided his time equally between the Timaru Hospital and three Presbyterian Support aged care homes. Since 2012 he has not worked full-time but has been available on call and as a locum chaplain at the hospital, and as a volunteer chaplain to aged care homes.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends. His funeral will take place **2pm Friday 11 August at the St Marks Church on the Corner of Somerfield and Barrington Streets.**

Any messages of condolence can be sent to Michelle Blake at [michelleblake77@gmail.com](mailto:michelleblake77@gmail.com)

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It is with great sadness that I inform you that Rev Russell James passed away peacefully to be with his loved Lord Jesus Christ at Chatswood Rest home during the early hours of Wed 2nd August 2023 aged 89. Russell served as minister in Taupo, Greenmeadows in Napier, Gore and for twenty years at Opawa. A memorial service of his life and thanksgiving will be held at Grace Vineyard church in Ferry Road Christchurch on Wednesday 9th August at 1.30pm.

Any messages of condolence can be sent to [andrew.neil.james@gmail.com](mailto:andrew.neil.james@gmail.com)

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Margaret Hornblow, beloved wife of Rev. Max Hornblow, died on Sunday August 6th. Max was with her at the time and is grateful for all the years they've had together.

Rev Paul Tregurtha will be taking the funeral which is to be at **Hills Community Church, Mapua, at 11am this Thursday, August 10th.**

We give thanks for her life.

Rev. Kathryn Walters

Te Haahi Weteriana (Methodist Church) District Superintendent

Central South Island and Nelson, Marlborough, West Coast Synods

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It is with sadness that I write to advise you that on Friday July 7th Rev. Dr. Alifaleti Mone died peacefully at Vaiola Hospital in Tonga. We bid farewell to a remarkable individual, a true servant of God, and a pillar of his community. His commitment to his faith was evident in every aspect of his life, and he continually inspired others through his unwavering belief in the power of God's love and grace.

Rev. Dr. Alifaleti Mone, previously the Director for Evangelism in the Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga, commenced his ministry in 1988 where he was inducted and designated to the Superintendent where he served five years looking after 17 different congregations under the Auckland Manukau Tongan Parish. Under his guidance, the church flourished, and he shepherded his congregation with humility, grace, and compassion. His ministry was not confined to the Tongans only; he shared fully in the life of the whole Connexion and even further afield.

Rev. Dr. Alifaleti Mone returned to Tonga in 1993 to start his new role as the General Secretary of the Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga until 1998 when he was elected the President of Free Wesleyan Church Tonga, a role he held until his retirement in 2009.

Rev. Dr. Alifaleti Mone is survived by his three children Ofa Mone Vaenuku, Rev. Tevita Mone and Nunia Mone Ngauamo. The Service for the Former President of the Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga Rev. Dr. Alifaleti Mone will be held on Tuesday 18th July in Tonga.

“Na’a mou ikuna ‘I he hā?”

Pea nau tali mai,

“KO e ta’ata’a ne tafea

Ko e ivi ‘o e Lami.”

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It is with great sadness that I inform you that Mrs Rhona Smith passed away 5 July 2023, peacefully at Hospice Marlborough aged 81 years. Rhona was the widow of the late Rev Clive Smith who passed away in 2021.

A private cremation will be held with funeral arrangements to follow.

Messages may be addressed to [graemekeith@hotmail.com](mailto:graemekeith@hotmail.com)

We express our love and sympathy to Rhona’s family and friends at this time.



## Sharing Links to Touchstone

Now that we have transitioned from a printed publication to online only, I encourage you to share the links to the latest online edition of Touchstone in synod and / or parish communications.

For the link to the full publication [Click Here](#). Alternatively, for access to the reduced PDF version of *Touchstone*, (intended as a printable option for readers unable to access the online link) [Click Here](#).

We are currently trialling a new format on our online platform. Readers wishing to receive the monthly email link to *Touchstone* can fill in the **Subscribe** option found at the end of the articles.

I welcome your feedback.

Ngā mihi nui

**Ady Shannon, Editor Touchstone**

Email [adys@methodist.org.nz](mailto:adys@methodist.org.nz)

Phone: 021 209 9702



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## Job Opening: Administrative Assistant (parental leave)

CWS [invites](#) applications for the fixed term position of Administrative Assistant, based in Otautahi Christchurch.

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## As our nation continues our journey to the lead up to National Elections, here are some questions, you and all of us need to ask our own local candidates.

Does your party have a 5-year plan on the climate crisis issue? If so, what is it and what are the measurable steps that you will

take towards it?

Encouraging people to use public transport is easy as it gets, so why not make it as cheap as possible?

When your children and grandchildren ask "when did you know and what did you do", how will you answer them?

Do you and your party understand that climate disruption is only one aspect of a wider ecological overshoot which is creating stress on the social, economic, and biophysical fabric of our world? How does Degrowth as a strategy figure into your short, long-term policy strategies across portfolios? Is our current political system and/or politicians up to dealing with issues of this magnitude?

In what ways do your policies reflect a commitment to supporting those communities and regions impacted the most by climate crisis impacts?

If in government how will you support Oceania neighbour states impacted by rising sea levels, and increased storm frequency and intensity? What is your climate refugee policy?



## Global Prayer for Peace on the Korean Peninsula

You are invited to [join](#) in the Global Prayer for Peace and Reconciliation on the Korean Peninsula on August 13, initiated by the National Council of Churches in Korea. [Witness for Peace](#) includes material from Joohong Kim and Richard Lawrence.



## Season of Creation

The ecumenical Season of Creation [runs](#) from September 1 to October 4. The theme for 2023 is "Let Justice and Peace Flow," drawn from the cry of the prophet Amos: "But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!" (Amos 5: 24).



## Farewell to Murray

National Director Murray Overton [finishes](#) his time with Christian World Service today, August 4. CWS is grateful for his significant contribution to the work we do together and wishes him the very best for the future.



## Operation Refugee

In Dunedin the C & Q Youth Group walked almost 11km for [Operation Refugee](#) last month. The team were tired but were pleased to raise more than \$1,000 to provide emergency supplies, education and healthcare for refugees. Brave the cold and organise a Winter Walk in your place. Operation Refugee runs to August 30.

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## Season of Creation – an international ecumenical resources

"Let Justice and Peace Flow" is the theme chosen for Season of Creation 2023, the ecumenical celebration we hold each year from September 1, World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, to October 4th, the feast of St. Francis of Assisi

A mighty river is the symbol for the Season of Creation 2023. We invite you to use the symbol of a mighty river during your events. Prophet Amos cries out "But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!" (Amos 5: 24) and so we are called to join the river of justice and peace, to take up climate and ecological justice, and to speak out with and for communities most impacted by climate injustice and the loss of biodiversity.

Prophet Isaiah proclaims "Listen carefully, I am about to do a new thing, now it will spring forth; will you not be aware of it? I will even put a road in the wilderness, rivers in the desert." (Isaiah 43: 19)

We are invited to join the river of justice and peace on behalf of all Creation and to converge our individual identities, of name, family or faith community, in this greater movement for justice, just like tributaries come together to form a mighty river. As the People of God, we must work together on behalf of all Creation, as part of that mighty river of peace and justice.

For more information, refer to the website: <https://seasonofcreation.org/>

(Activities and resources to celebrate the Season of Creation are supported by an ecumenical steering committee and a coalition of partners from around the world. This includes the World Methodist Council, represented by Rev Tony Franklin-Ross on the Advisory Committee.)

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**AUG 26, 2023**  
**9:30AM – 12:30PM**

**TeRito Peyroux-Semu:**

My Journey as an LP

## Te Rito Peyroux-Semu: My journey as a Lay Preacher

We all need to reflect on where we have come from, who nurtured us and the tales we can tell. It's all tied in with our roots and our upbringing.

TeRito will reflect on how her Vice presidency goes hand in hand with Lay Preaching.

How can we develop and grow in our calling? We are always focused on our congregations but need time to self-reflect.

TeRito Peyroux-Semu is currently the Vice President of Te Hāhi Weteriana o Aotearoa – The Methodist Church of New Zealand. She has a background in education and church youth work and is part of the leadership team at Kingsland Methodist Church. She is of Rotuman, Cook Island and French descent and lives in Auckland with her NZ Samoan husband and their young son.

An Ecumenical workshop open to all. Suggested Koha \$10, please bring a plate. Come and be part of this learning opportunity.

Venue: St Paul's Methodist Church, Saint Vincent Avenue, Remuera, Auckland.

RSVP: Linda Hall 09 521 5360 or email: [lindajeanhall00@gmail.com](mailto:lindajeanhall00@gmail.com) by Aug 19, 2023



## Friendship Scholarship

FOR PACIFIC ISLAND GIRLS RESIDENT IN NEW ZEALAND  
ATTENDING A NEW ZEALAND SECONDARY SCHOOL

**APPLICATIONS MUST TO BE RECEIVED BY 20 November  
2023**

**Student** will be in -

· In Year 12 or 13 during 2024

- Active members of a Methodist or Uniting Parish, within the Connexion of the Methodist Church of New Zealand
- New Zealand Citizens or have New Zealand Residency status

**Information & Application Form** on the Methodist web site

[www.methodist.org.nz](http://www.methodist.org.nz) under – [Organisations](#) – [Methodist Women's Fellowship](#)

1. Completed Application Form- both sides of one page
2. School Report
3. School Reference
4. Reference from the Church Minister are required

References must be on one side of one headed A4 page

**All documents must be sent together to:** [donmariesmith18@gmail.com](mailto:donmariesmith18@gmail.com)

**APPLICATIONS CLOSE: 20 NOVEMBER 2023**

Marie Smith  
pp Friendship Scholarship Committee



## Season of Creation - September

With the urgency of the climate crisis upon us, in September churches might consider following the alternative lectionary themes provided for the Season of Creation.

The observance of a Season of Creation began in the Lutheran Church in Australia in 2000 as a response to the environmental crisis. Since then, this opportunity for the church to examine creation-based themes has spread to many different denominations and around the world. The season follows a 3-year cycle, and this year's theme is "The Spirit in Creation". The whole series looks like this:

3 September - 1st Sunday in Creation – Forest Sunday.

Genesis 2:4b-22, Psalm 139:13-16, Acts 17:22-28, John 3:1-16

10 September - 2nd Sunday in Creation – Land Sunday

Genesis 3:14-19; 4:8-16, Psalm 139:7-12, Romans 5:12-17, Matthew 12:38-40

17 September - 3rd Sunday in Creation – Wilderness/Outback Sunday

Joel 1:8-10, 17-20, Psalm 18:6-19, Romans 8:18-27, Matthew 3:13- 4:2 or Mark 1:9-13

24 September - 4th Sunday in Creation – River Sunday

Genesis 8:20-22; 9:12-17, Psalm 104:27-33, Revelation 22:1-5, Matthew 28:1-10

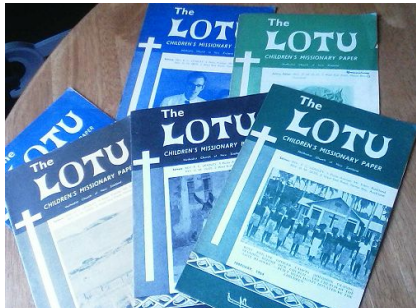
1 October - St Francis of Assisi – Blessing of the Animals

These themes and readings come from the original Australian website [seasonofcreation.com](http://seasonofcreation.com) and are reproduced on [the Vanderbilt lectionary website](http://theVanderbiltlectionarywebsite). While the Australian website has not been updated in the last 2 years, [a new website](http://a new website) which follows the same plan is under construction with up-to-date resources. The large [seasonofcreation.org](http://seasonofcreation.org) website has additional resources but *does not* follow the same cycle of themes and readings.

## Lectionary Resources

The Canadian Seasons of the Spirit resource is being discontinued after almost 41 years of publication. If you are looking for new resources, Rev Andrew Gamman, who previously wrote *10 Minutes on a Tuesday* for Te Hāhi Weteriana o Aotearoa, now writes a weekly subscription-based email resource called *Taking Flight*. You can find this on the [Kereru Publishing website](#). The resource is Kiwi-based, but now international and ecumenical, and provides creative ideas that major on practical applications from the lectionary passages.

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## Does anyone remember LOTU – the Children’s Missionary Paper?

It was a free magazine handed out to NZ Methodist Sunday School children in the 1950s and 60s. Its 15 pages were filled with stories, letters and photos of missionaries working in the Pacific Islands.

The back cover was a page of puzzles originally compiled by Jeanette Grundy wife of Rev Albert Grundy. When “Cousin Jeanette” of the puzzle was expecting her first baby (Peter, now husband of Nicola Teague Grundy) she declared herself too old to be a cousin to kids and asked me, a student at Teachers College to take over the page. It was a fun thing to do but it took up more time than you might expect and a large amount of space on the Deaconess House letter-board (25-65 letters an issue), where I was a boarder. Children had to send their answers by letter that I had to mark and award points for: 3. excellent, 2. very good, 1. good effort. There were two puzzles – 10 years and under, 11 years and over. When a child had accumulated 15 points a book prize was sent to that child.

And that is how I got into compiling Bible puzzles. Since then I've Bible puzzles published in various church magazines including a Temperance magazine in Canada, *Glad Tidings* a Presbyterian women's magazine published in New York and 14 years of the Bible Challenge column in Touchstone.

Having compiled a massive collection of Bible puzzles over the years I am now offering a varied selection of Puzzles Themed to the Church Year to parishes as fillers for parish bulletins and newsletters. These puzzles are also useful for youth groups and Fellowships as quiz competitions or a Bible Study activity. They also work well as activity sheets to occupy older children in church. (Print on A4 sheets, attach to clipboards and offer to older children as they arrive - adding a picture to colour and suppling crayons adds to the experience). Word-searches are ideal for children in church as there is no embarrassment about not knowing (something felt in any age group). Merely finding words that relate to a theme is both fun and educational.

If you or your parish is interested in receiving this monthly selection contact me, at [sugrue.ro@gmail.com](mailto:sugrue.ro@gmail.com) and I will add you to my mail-out list.

Rosalie Sugrue

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## Wesley Broadway Community Radio In partnership with the Manawatu People’s Radio (MPR) August/September 2023

3-Part Series on hymns of Aotearoa Published by the New Zealand Hymnbook Trust

Starting on **Tuesday 15 August** with six hymns from **Alleluia Aotearoa (1994)** the first collection of the NZ Hymnbook Trust

Hymns have been selected by **Roy Tankersley** and **John Thornley** Presbyterian and Methodist NZ hymn enthusiasts

Series will follow with six hymns from *Carol our Christmas* (1996), *Faith Forever Singing* (2000) and *Hope is our Song* (2009)

For a full listing of all hymns shared, send email to John Thornley ([john.gill@inspire.net.nz](mailto:john.gill@inspire.net.nz))

These programmes can be obtained by contacting Hugh Dingwall at Manawatu People's Radio: [hugh@mpr.nz](mailto:hugh@mpr.nz). He will then send the podcast to you by email.

### How to listen to the programmes

**Live:** These can be heard in the Manawatu area at 11 A.M. Tuesdays and Saturdays, Frequency AM999

**Online:** Programmes can be downloaded via the station website: [www.mpr.nz/show/wesley](http://www.mpr.nz/show/wesley).

Programmes stay on for 2 to 3 months, listed by topic and date.

**John Thornley**, Host of the Wesley Broadway show is always interested in hearing from listeners: How was the podcast used in your region?

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## Summary of proposed changes for Accreditation of Lay Preachers in English-speaking Parishes July 2023

These suggestions on changes for accreditation in English-speaking Parishes were circulated by email to all Lay Preachers, in a notification in the Connexional email in July and outlined to some Synod Superintendents at their July retreat.

Here is a summary of the proposed changes:

- There will be two levels of training – further discussion is needed on how we name these.

If agreed, it could be “local worship leaders” and “nationally accredited Lay Preachers”. Further discussion needed.

1. For ministry in that person's own Parish or Congregation.

The study involved would be over a minimum of 2 years through a programme such as *Lead Worship*. Ideally this would be offered in the Parish, but it could be in the Synod or even at national level by zoom.

2. For ministry recognised nationally through accreditation.

The study would be over a minimum of 3 years through a year of *Lead Worship* and 3 papers through Trinity College; these could however be studied concurrently over 2 years. Courses of study through other institutions (eg Laidlaw College, Otago University) may be approved after consultation with Trinity College.

• We would seek to remove the clause in the Law Book which allows those of “mature years” who have been preaching for more than 5 years to be accredited without further study. This was never intended to be a permanent means to accreditation.

- Every trainee would have a mentor, who could be a Presbyter or experienced Lay Preacher.

• The last step for acceptance for leading worship locally or for national accreditation would be through the evaluated service and interview process, as at present. The interviewing team could recommend further study or training; their report would be sent to the Parish Presbyter for final endorsement by the Parish Council and also to the Synod Executive. The Synod is responsible for following up any recommendations for further study or training. The Synod Secretary retains a copy of the report.

There will now be discussion with Tauwi Strategy, Mission Resourcing and Trinity College before bringing the ideas to Conference.

A more detailed document is available on the Lay Preachers section of the MCNZ website:

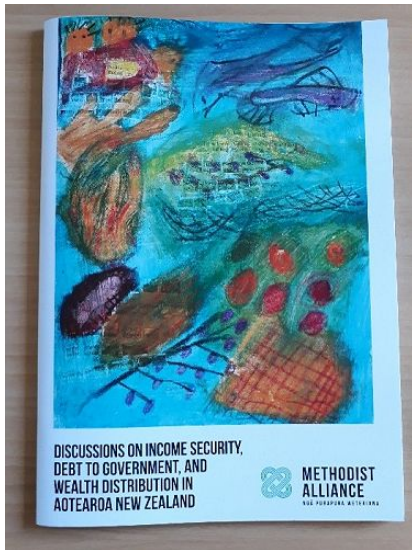
<https://www.methodist.org.nz/tangata/ministers-lay-and-ordained/methodist-lay-preachers-network/>

You are invited to give further feedback to the Network Convenors:

Viv Whimster - [vjwhimster@gmail.com](mailto:vjwhimster@gmail.com)

Ngairie Southon - [ngairie@southon.net](mailto:ngairie@southon.net)

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## Why Equality Matters

I hope that you have seen a copy of the resource that the Methodist Alliance working group campaigning to increase benefit levels and abatement thresholds have created.

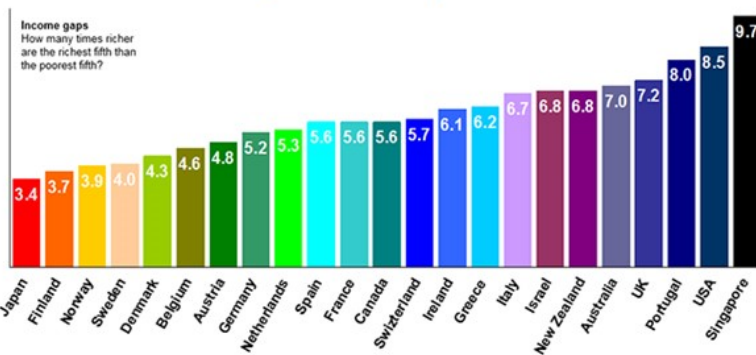
It looks like this and has been sent to Synods so there should be one in your Parish, or you can get a digital copy [here](#). I encourage you read it, use it and share it. We believe it could be used to create a series of services or reflections over several weeks, or as a series of discussion topics for a study group. We also hope the resource will be useful in assisting framing questions that are particular to your community to ask candidates in any meetings leading to the general election. And this is why...

Research has shown that inequality affects everyone. Inequality creates mindsets of superiority and inferiority, and affects how we interact and treat each other. It increases

levels of anxiety especially around self-worth as we worry about how we are seen and judged. The five graphs below illustrate the effects of inequality:

### Inequality...

How much richer are the richest 20% in each country than the poorest 20%?



Wilkinson & Pickett, *The Spirit Level*

[www.equalitytrust.org.uk](http://www.equalitytrust.org.uk) Equality Trust

Source: <https://www.marketwatch.com/story/these-5-charts-show-inequality-is-bad-for-your-health-even-if-you-are-rich-2019-02-20>

The relationship between wellbeing and equality is significant - wellbeing declines as income inequality increases.

### Wellbeing declines as income inequality increases



De Neve E, Powdthavee N. As the richest get richer, everyone else gets less happy. *LSE Business Review*. 2016 Feb 18.

Source: <https://www.marketwatch.com/story/these-5-charts-show-inequality-is-bad-for-your-health-even-if-you-are-rich-2019-02-20>



### People in more unequal countries trust each other less

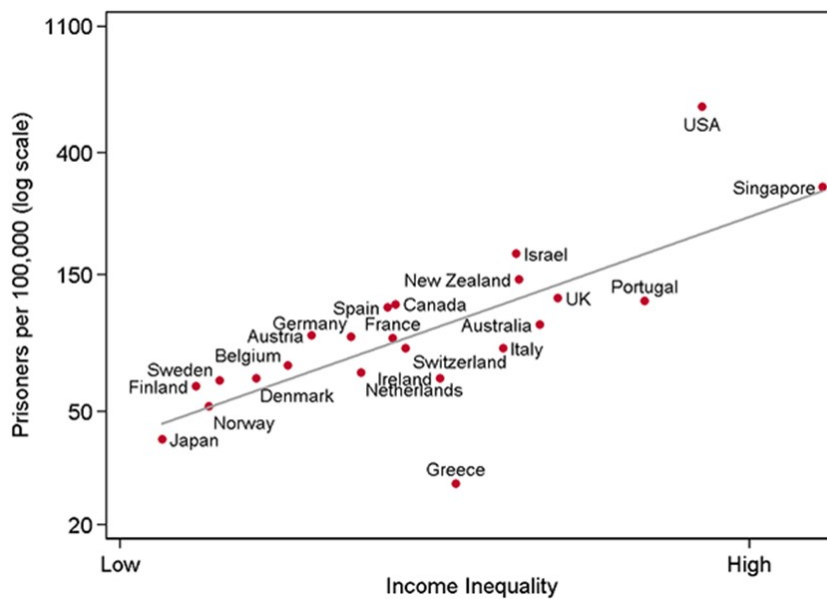


Wilkinson & Pickcott, *The Spirit Level*

www.equalitytrust.org.uk Equality Trust

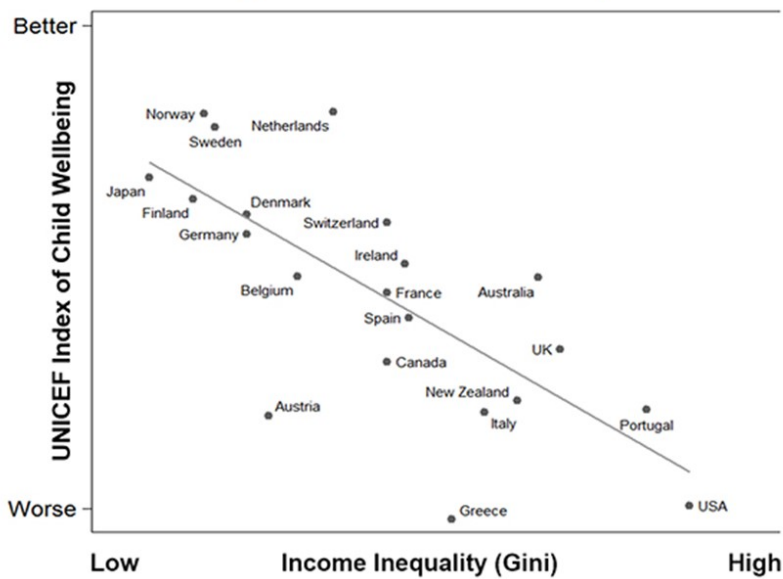
Source: <https://www.marketwatch.com/story/these-5-charts-show-inequality-is-bad-for-your-health-even-if-you-are-rich-2019-02-20>

### Prison populations are much higher in unequal nations



Source: <https://www.marketwatch.com/story/these-5-charts-show-inequality-is-bad-for-your-health-even-if-you-are-rich-2019-02-20>

## Child Wellbeing is lower in more unequal countries



Pickett & Wilkinson, *Pediatrics* 2015; 135 (1): S39-S47

Source: <https://www.marketwatch.com/story/these-5-charts-show-inequality-is-bad-for-your-health-even-if-you-are-rich-2019-02-20>

If you want to read more about this issue, you may like to read Bernard Hickey's article in The Spinoff: <https://thespinoff.co.nz/politics/13-07-2023/so-this-is-how-the-story-ends>

If you would like more information about how you join the campaign workgroup, please contact me.

Carol Barron, National Coordinator

03 375 0512 | 027 561 9164 | [Carol@MethodistAlliance.org.nz](mailto:Carol@MethodistAlliance.org.nz)

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## Nurturing Faith, Empowering Women, and Serving the Community.

The Mornington Methodist Women's Fellowship (MWF) in Dunedin is a vibrant and devoted group of women who have played a pivotal role in the life of the Mornington church and the wider community since the Women's Fellowship establishment in the early 20th century.

This strong fellowship not only provides care and support for its members but also actively engages in supporting the congregation and serving the surrounding community. Their dedication and enthusiasm are exemplified through their involvement in various community and mission-based projects.

At the heart of the Mornington Methodist Women's Fellowship lies a deep sense of community and sisterhood. The fellowship serves as a safe space where women can express their talents, abilities, and special interests, fostering a support network that is instrumental in strengthening the bonds among its members and cultivating a sense of belonging within the church.

The MWF's involvement in church affairs extends beyond their own members, as they actively participate in various activities that contribute to the life of the Mornington church. Their pivotal role in organizing and presenting this year's Mother's Day service reflects their commitment to enriching the spiritual experiences of the congregation.

Beyond the church walls, the Mornington Methodist Women's Fellowship take their mission into the wider community, demonstrating their compassion and commitment to making a positive impact. Over the years, the fellowship has been involved in a diverse range of community and mission-based projects. These initiatives have been met with enthusiastic support, both in terms of financial contributions and practical involvement.

Recognizing the power of their reflections and the potential to inspire women beyond their immediate community, the MWF decided to compile and print a small booklet based on this year's inspirational Mother's Day service reflection by Trish Patrick. We hope this booklet will serve as a means of shared faith, wisdom, and values with women across Aotearoa.

We invite interested readers to join in this inspirational journey, if you are interested in receiving a copy please contact Andrea [mosleyrehab@xtra.co.nz](mailto:mosleyrehab@xtra.co.nz) or Julie [the.julieroberts@gmail.com](mailto:the.julieroberts@gmail.com)

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## Building a Solid Foundation for the Future.

Matthew 7:24 "Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock."

The Methodist Mission has been steadfast in its commitment to supporting tamariki and rangatahi in their journey towards independent and fulfilling lives. Through our diverse programs and initiatives, we provide a strong foundation akin to building

a house on solid rock, ensuring that these young individuals have the tools and support they need to flourish.

Amongst our Matariki festivities there has been another celebration at our Young Mum's House. After many weeks of hard work, two of the mums and their whānau have found sustainable accommodation in the community. Needless to say, there has been much rejoicing. It is exciting for everyone to see these very capable and independent young wāhine establish themselves in their own homes and (re)build their own futures upon a stable foundation.

When our Youth Transition House rangatahi fly the nest to sustainable housing, they start from scratch. We are deeply grateful for the opportunity to extend our support by furnishing their new homes with essential household items through kind donations. This not only equips them practically but we are continuing to make a positive impact in their lives. To be able to help set them up in their new home with donations of household items, makes the support we provide go so much further to help them in that transition.

Some rangatahi return home when they leave the transition house, they (re) settle back with whānau after weeks of preparation and support. During their time at the Transition House, they are supported and valued to develop skill sets and growth. The transition house environment fosters collegiality and empathy, with fellow residents encouraging and supporting one another, even during health challenges. The shared journey and experiences of life within the transition house(s) lay the groundwork for building a strong sense of community and resilience, characteristics that will continue to serve them well as they navigate through life.

Unsurprisingly many rangatahi find they actually enjoy their studies when the home environment is consistent, supportive and respectful. The support provided by the Mission goes beyond just material possessions; it instils a sense of belonging and empowerment, allowing the rangatahi to flourish and "build upon the rock" of the rangatahi's own purpose, vision and values.

The significance of connections to whakapapa (ancestral heritage) cannot be overstated. In alignment with this year's Matariki theme, "Matariki Kāinga Hokia," (Matariki Calls You Home), the Methodist Mission recognizes the importance of fostering these connections for the youth. Encouraging young people to journey back home and spend time with whānau and friends is a powerful way to nurture their cultural identity and sense of belonging. For the tamariki at Little Citizens' early childcare, this meant learning about the cultural heritage of their own, or others through learning a new welcome waiata in Samoan, for Samoan language week and an enormously successful Matariki dinner with over one hundred whānau attending.

The Methodist Mission's unwavering support to tamariki and rangatahi is reflective in our purpose, vision and values. By providing essential resources, encouragement, and a strong sense of community, we lay the groundwork for these young individuals to flourish and "build upon the rock" of their lives. The success stories of young mothers finding independence, rangatahi finding their way back home, and tamariki embracing their cultural heritage reflect the positive impact of the Mission's work. As we continue to extend a helping hand to the youth of today, the Methodist Mission ensures that these wise citizens of tomorrow will have a solid foundation to stand upon, as they navigate life's journey with resilience and determination.

Did you know you can read our *Kōrero Kete* directly in your inbox through our monthly newsletters? You can sign up on our website/Facebook or contact Julie [julier@mmsouth.org.nz](mailto:julier@mmsouth.org.nz)

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## An invitation to attend

Zines and beyond for doing theology Workshop With David Bell and Lavinia Elder

This includes information on the following:

- Dates and information on the two Zoom Meetings plus the hands-on day Workshop
- Registration
- Definition of a ZINE

- Hopes for workshop members
- Potential Zine Audiences
- About the tutors
- What to bring: an ideas mind map and the materials to make a zines

**NOTE:** More information will be sent out prior to the Pre-Workshop Zoom meeting.

Pre-Workshop Zoom Meeting Monday 18 September 7.30 pm for explanations and discussion to support your preparation and bringing your fresh ideas to the workshop.

WORKSHOP Saturday 30 September 2023 9.00am - 3.30pm

St Marks Methodist Church, 11 Grey Street, Feilding

Follow-up Zoom Meeting February (Date to be set) for the opportunity to reconnect and share the response to our work and how we can learn more about doing zines.

For more information contact: [David trinitybells@gmail.com](mailto:David.trinitybells@gmail.com) or [Lavinia elder@inspire.net.nz](mailto:Lavinia.elder@inspire.net.nz)

REGISTRATIONS DUE to [secretary.inis@Methodist.org.nz](mailto:secretary.inis@Methodist.org.nz) 13 September 2023

(Limited to 15 people)

A ZINE is a very cool 21st century publication genre. A whole under-50's subculture exists in Aotearoa with annual Zine Fests in cities and libraries. This is potentially a brilliant contemporary means of communicating everyday theology that as Christians we really should be tapping into. Zines can be made by and for: pre-schoolers, children's church programmes, youth groups and beyond... They are cheap, accessible and can take many forms.

Hopes for workshop members

That you will be:

- Delighted and intrigued
- Open to new ways of thinking about doing theology
- Be able to take away at least one inspiring idea, technique or process with creative potential to enhance your approach to theology and life

Potential Zine Audiences

From this workshop, distribution could be family, friends, churches, congregations, specific themed worship services, children's church and Youth programmes, rest homes, charity shops, Libraries, and beyond - even a ZINE FESTIVAL!!!

Introducing your Tutors

### **Lavinia Elder Methodist Lay preacher.**

I love fibre and yarns. I am a spinner, dyer, weaver as well as crochet and machine knit. My background is in art teaching so I am also an art historian, a painter, mixed media artist, photographer and designer. I have taught from pre-school all the way to tertiary. Zine making fits wonderfully with all of these! Creative Zine Making Workshop This workshop is an introduction to zine making, their genre and some creative 'tricks' to get you started. I will share easy processes and strategies that I use to creatively develop ideas, get started and produce a sharable zine.

CREATIVE AREAS that are great for zine making are (but not limited to): Music, sewing, cooking and baking, weaving, gardening, the beach, sport, nature, men's sheds stuff, puzzles, cars, family and friends..... NOTE: No formal arty skills required!

### **David Bell Supernumerary Methodist minister**

My hobbies include AIM Publishing for resourcing the Methodist community; and learning the art and craft of printmaking for book and zine design.

Mine would be exploring a theology of Providence using insights from literature, art and science. And bringing my zine tangentials to use, which can be a springboard for further study for the preaching, doing theology side of things. Providence is experienced and found in everyday making, here, in the materials



## **The Whakaari trial and questions we be asking**

It has been almost four years since Whakaari erupted and claimed so many lives, and irrevocably affected so many more. The judge-alone trial is currently underway for the remaining WorkSafe prosecutions, and we should take notice.

It has been seven years since the new health and safety legislation came into force.; triggered by the Pike River mine disaster, which also claimed many lives. This tragedy triggered

recommendations applicable to any industry or activity, that\*\*:

- The statutory responsibilities of directors (parish councils, board or trust members) for health and safety in the workplace (or sphere of influence) should be reviewed to better reflect their governance responsibilities.
- Directors (parish councils, board or trust members) should rigorously review and monitor their organisation's compliance with health and safety law and best practice.
- Current regulations imposing general health and safety duties on the management organisation should be extended to include detailed responsibilities for overseeing critical features of the organisation's health and safety management systems.

What does this mean for the Church?

Simple. All our leadership teams need to:

- Reflect on their health and safety governance responsibilities
- Rigorously review and monitor their compliance with health and safety law and best practice.
- Take a detailed responsibility to oversee critical features of their health and safety management system.

So why is the Whakaari trial important now?

WorkSafe has been in place now for almost ten years. The Whakaari trial is the most significant example of WorkSafe having moved firmly away from its start point of encouragement and education and more fully into enforcement.

The Whakaari trial is testing legislation against the supply chain of everyone involved with tours and access to Whakaari when the tragedy struck, particularly around the three recommendations I mentioned above and how the parties coordinated and communicated with each other. It will set a precedent for all future prosecutions.

So what does this mean for our Connexional Church now?

Our Connexion is made up of many supply chains. For example:

- Methodist parish to synod to Conference
- CV parish to synod/diocese/presbytery to Conference/Assembly
- Mission to mission trusts to Conference

Also, consider our preschools, camps and tenancies. If there were to be a tragedy within the Connexion, then there is a likelihood that our 'supply chain' will become involved, just like the Whakaari trial.

What should we be concentrating on then?

Get some relevant plans in place, make sure they are robust and review them by practising them and discussing the results. Keep the plans up to date and modify them if they are no longer fit for purpose.

I recommend starting with an [Emergency Response Plan](#).

Contact me if you would like assistance, I am here to help.

Aroha nui ki ngā whānaunga o ngā ika a Whakaari.

E kore rātou e ngaro, ētahi kākano i ruia mai i Rangaiātea

*My sympathies for the families and friends of the Whakaari victims, who will never be lost for they are seeds sown from Rangaiātea, returning from whence they were sown.*

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa

**Nā Trudy Downes**

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*\*\*These recommendations have been amended so they read more applicable to our situation. The full set of recommendations is linked below if you want to read them.*

Read more on the Whakaari trial. [02 Aug 2023](#) [11 July 2023](#)

[Read the Pike River Royal Commission recommendations](#)

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