



Methodist Church of New Zealand Connexions June 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



Remember in your Prayers

It is with sadness that we advise you that Rev. Mary Joyce Petersen died at home after a long illness and a brave battle, on Saturday 6 May 2023. Both as a lay person and then a locally ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church, Mary was very active in the life of the Waikato/Waiariki Synod from February 2004 until 2015 through her work with the Mercury

Bay Cooperating Parish; then as a stated supply with the Te Aroha Cooperating Parish from 2020 to 2022. Mary continued to act as interim-moderator to the Te Aroha Parish until April this year. Mary's transitional ministry and resourcing skills were shared widely through her passion for CV's, and her encouragement and mentoring of smaller parishes to develop models of shared lay ministry. Her gifts will be missed. Our love and prayers go to Catherine, David and Andrew. Funeral Service details will be in the NZ Herald on Saturday 13 May 2023. Messages can be sent to cathwrightman@xtra.co.nz



We made the front page!!

Reverend 'Aunty Lyn's' Ordination was a joyous celebration.

The service was held at Trinity Church, Darfield on Sunday, May 28th 2023. The celebration made the front page news in the Malvern News.



Video: Plants Give Joy and Security

Wilson came out of his retirement to grow food to help his family in the Philippines. Watch the video, and if you can, please donate to our Family Food Gardens Autumn Appeal.



Refugee Sunday

Sharing Love with People who have been Displaced

Parishes are encouraged to mark Refugee Sunday on June 25 in the Methodist and Presbyterian calendar or July 2 with the Anglicans. It is an opportunity to invite a former refugee to speak in services, share one of the stories or videos from Operation Refugee or hold a special offering to assist refugees. Prayer and worship resources will be [available](#)

shortly.



Operation Refugee

World Refugee Day on June 20 is an opportunity to show support for all those who have sought refuge in communities and countries far from home.

CWS invites you to join us in a 12-hour challenge. Make a team for double the fun and pick your challenge: [a winter walk](#), [food for life](#) or a [shelter challenge](#). Raise funds for people who have fled Afghanistan, Palestine, Syria and Ukraine and need food, education and medical care. Find out more at [Operation Refugee 2023](#). Please pray for people displaced by conflict and war, and our partners providing practical help. Donations can

also be made [online](#).



National Director

CWS is looking for a visionary, strategic leader to fill the position of National Director. Applications close on Thursday, June 15.

Are you passionate about pursuing a world without poverty and injustice. Are you committed to building peaceful, inclusive partnerships and the delivery of effective, life changing international development?

Christian World Service (CWS) is seeking an energetic, strategic, National Director to lead their small, dynamic organisation. This role is critical as we work with, and on behalf of, our partner churches to challenge and address poverty and injustice, enable development work overseas (particularly in the Pacific), respond to natural disasters and build movements for positive change.

We are seeking a visionary leader with a strong commitment to global issues, proven experience in organisational leadership, and skills in the management of people, fund raising, and finances. An ability to relate the Christian gospel to the work of CWS is essential, as is the ability to communicate and engage with a wide range of audiences.

If you are seeking an opportunity to make a lasting difference for some of the poorest and most marginalised people of our world, this could be the role for you! CWS is an inclusive workplace, and we welcome applications from people from all sections of the community. This position is currently based in Christchurch and is full time 1.0 FTE, 37.5 hours per week.

A job description and further information can be obtained from Kate Boardman, CWS Board Member, via: cwsboard@cws.org.nz. Applications are due by 5pm on Thursday June 15, 2023.



E tū te mana o Te Ao: Building a Climate of Hope

Webinar Series Wednesdays 14 June – 5 July, 7.30-8.30pm NZST

Aotearoa New Zealand can play a key role in efforts to address the climate crisis globally. Like all countries our top priority must be to cut our emissions quickly because they are the key driver of climate change. Given our abundance of nature, though, our most distinctive role is to help nature restore itself, which in turn brings climate and many other benefits. How fast and well we do in this role helps to give hope to the peoples of other countries.

This four-part webinar series features inspiring speakers and respondents, including: **Dr Jane Goodall** DBE, Founder of the Jane Goodall Institute & UN Messenger of Peace, **Rabbi Dean Shapiro**, **Mary Moeono-Kolio**, Climate Activist, Pacific Climate Warriors, and the **Rt Hon Helen Clark**, Former PM of NZ, Former Administrator to the UNDP. Webinars 1, 3 and 4 will be moderated by Rod Oram, respected journalist and RDC Climate Action Group member.

Together they will discuss the shorter- and longer-term effects of climate change in Aotearoa New Zealand, the Pacific Region, and the World, and most importantly help build a climate of hope by sharing suggestions for climate action with us.

[Register today](#) for all or any of the series.

Bricks and Mortar 2nd Edition!

Is here now!

The 1st Edition of Bricks and Mortar was released in May 2019, so we are well due for the [next Edition](#).

Key updates include:

- Compliance – using the Board of Administration’s property lawyer for all property transactions
- Thresholds – up from \$25,000 to \$50,000
- Including the new Section 8 - Kōrero Paptupu Whenua *Land Stories*, as introduced at Conference 2022
- Including the (semi) new Section 6 – Asbestos Management, released in August 2021.

Bricks and Mortar moving to an online model helps offset increasing production and distribution costs. It is available as [web and PDF versions](#) (viewable section by section), allowing for quicker future updates. Going online is an excellent response to the impact of global warming and reduces our waste footprint created by out-of-date documents.

Please email info@methodist.org.nz if you have any queries.



Leases and Tenancies

Thurs 15 June 5pm - 6pm

Register Now!
Wendy Anderson and Trudy Downes discuss the responsibilities of leases and tenancies. Two sides of the same coin.

For more information, visit:
www.methodist.org.nz/tangata/connexional-resources/webinars/
or email:
trudyd@methodist.org.nz

Leases and Tenancies Webinar - NEW DATE

Wendy Anderson and Trudy Downes discuss the responsibilities of leases and tenancies. Two sides of the same coin.

POSTPONED DUE TO ILLNESS – NEW DATE

Thursday 15th June 2023 5-6pm

[Register now!](#)

Ideal Audience: This webinar would be suitable for property stewards and property teams, parish councils and other boards' members.



The Property Strategy

The Property Strategy Discussion Starter was presented at Conference 2022 for the Thematic Plenary. Following the plenary, Conference made the decision:

“Conference asks Methodist Church Property Committee to establish a skilled National Committee to develop a property strategy for the Methodist Church of New Zealand. This

Committee to include members of both Partners.”

The Property Strategy Group has been working on the strategy for the 2023 Conference. The group will be sending out the property strategy document to Synods, Rohe, Alliance and Hui Poari on 14 July. We ask that Synods, Rohe, Alliance and Hui Poari discuss the paper and send their comments to the Connexional Office by 11 August. Synods, please include the paper in your Synod July meeting Agenda.

PAC MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS FUNDS APPLICATIONS 2023

Make sure you read the instruction sheet carefully, ensure you have filled out the correct forms and obtained all required information and signatures before sending in your application.

Applications for the PAC Media and Communications Fund need to be received the Convenor no later than **5:00pm 30 June 2023**.

Please click on this [link](#) to go to the Media & Communications Endowment Fund application form for 2023.

You can email applications to Patricia Moseley patriciamoseley44@gmail.com or post it to **The Convenor, Trish Moseley, PAC Media and Communications Fund, PO Box 125194, St Heliers, Auckland 1740**

Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted.

PLEASE NOTE: Media & Communication Endowment Fund is a subsidiary of PAC. Use this fund if your application is for media or communication equipment, e.g. sound systems, data projectors, publishing costs for media etc.

PAC DISTRIBUTION GROUP APPLICATIONS 2023

Make sure you read the instruction sheet carefully before making any preparations for your application and ensure that you provide all information requested by the due date

[Click here](#) to find the Cover Sheet and Application Information for the PAC Distribution Group funding requests 2023. Funding applications close on 30 June 2023.

Therefore, as long as your application is either emailed or post-marked on or before the due date, your application will be accepted for consideration by the group.

You can email applications to lucilleh@methodist.org.nz or post it to **Lucille Havenga, Methodist Church of NZ, 50 Langdons Rd, Papanui, Christchurch 8053**

PLEASE NOTE: Late applications or any additional information in support of your application that are received after the closing date will NOT be considered.

Church Life Survey

"As a former convener of the Church Life Survey in New Zealand (Professor Peter Lineham is the current secretary of the committee) I would like to strongly encourage all our parishes to take up the opportunity to share in the 2023 survey.

The survey will provide presbyters and local church leaders with a picture of the life of their congregation including the following:

1. What people most value in this congregation.
2. The strength of attenders sense of belonging to this congregation.
3. Whether people feel a sense of God's presence in worship.
4. Whether people are being challenged to take action (ie. living out their faith)
5. How satisfied attenders are with what the church offers for children, youth and young adults.
6. Whether people feel they are growing in their faith
7. Whether they are willing to share their faith
8. Whether they see their church as inclusive of different kinds of people
9. Whether they believe that Christians should actively care for the environment
10. Whether they think their church has a vision and sets goals for the future

The above is a brief sample of the questions asked. The collated and anonymous answers which the Church Life Survey team will provide to each participating congregation will give **a snapshot that can help the leaders shape the future direction of the congregation.** The survey results can also provide important information for parishes and Synods with regard to stationing.

This year the survey can be filled in on people's smart phones, tablets, computers. Paper copies of the survey form can also be run off in local church offices and made available for those who prefer paper and pen. The survey form has also been translated and will be available in Maori, Samoan, Tongan, Korean, and some other languages.

It is great that the Connexion is willing to pay for your congregations participation. The Methodist Church's "Group Code" is 111885. The full instructions for participation were sent out by email on the 22nd May from the Connexional Office to all parishes.

[Methodist Parish Instructions](#)

Norman E Brookes (the Methodist member of the CLSNZ committee)"

BUILDING WARRANT OF FITNESS	
Form 12, Section 108, Building Act 2004 Compliance Schedule Number:	
The Building Building Name: Street Address of Building: Level/Unit Number: Legal Description of land where building is located: Location of Building within Site Block/No:	BWOF Expiry Date: Year first constructed: Current, Lawfully, Established, Use: Highest Fire Hazard Category: Intended Life of building if 50 years or less: Maximum Number of Occupants that can safely use this building is:
The Owner Name of Owner: Contact Person: Mailing Address: Street Address: Email Address: Website: Contact Number: Landline: Mobile: Fax Number:	Agent Name of Agent: Contact Person: Mailing Address: Street Address: Email Address: Relationship to Owner: Fax Number: Contact Number: Daytime: After Hours:
Compliance <small>The inspection, maintenance and reporting procedures of the compliance schedule have been fully complied with during the 12 months prior to the date stated below in relation to the following specified systems.</small>	

BwoFs – Building Warrants of Fitness

Work has begun on checking the status of our building warrants of fitness.

Let me first try and explain what a BWoF is.

“A building warrant of fitness (BWoF) is a building owner’s annual statement confirming the specified systems in the

compliance schedule for their building have been maintained and checked for the previous 12 months, in accordance with the compliance schedule.”

Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment – [Guides for building officials](#)

A compliance schedule of specified systems includes (but is not limited to) things like sprinkler systems, fire alarms, security doors, fire doors, exit signs, and heat detectors.

Buildings likely to have specified systems will be churches, halls, hospitals, offices and boarding houses. Buildings with a number of specified systems often fit the criteria – such as those with fire alarms, emergency power systems, sprinkler systems, passenger-carrying lifts, automatic sliding doors, mechanical ventilation, and air conditioning systems.

The compliance schedule will also outline the frequency of checks that must be carried out each year and who should do the checking. Some items can be checked off by the building stewards, but other items will require specialists to do the checking – Independent Qualified People (IQPs). All councils provide a list of IQPs that operate in their region – check out your [council's website](#).

The councils and I have checked our systems, and two out-of-date BWoFs have been discovered so far, but we still have Auckland to check, where most of our buildings are.

Of the two out-of-date one of them didn’t pass inspection as a new IQP interpreted the rules differently than the previous IQP. This led to the council coming to audit the building and overturning the new IQP interpretation. The new BWoF has been issued.

The second BWoF has just been neglected and the building steward has been informed to bring it up to date. In the meantime, the council will be booking an appointment to audit the building.

My queries have also prompted one council to arrange an audit of non-BWoF buildings. This means that they may request passive options be installed in the buildings such as exit signs and clearways of final exit points.

Remember too, that the Insurance Fund provides a subsidy for the installation of a monitored alarm system of \$2,000 or 80% of the cost, whichever is the lesser amount. These systems may be incorporated with items from the compliance schedule.

While I apologise for stirring up the councils to look at our buildings, I am not sorry if our buildings become safer.

[Remembrance service for Loafers Lodge victims](#)

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa

Nā Trudy Downes

trudyd@methodist.org.nz

027 457 4196

Methodist Lay Preachers Network

How many of the amazing Lay Preachers across our Parishes can we tell about these two invitations:

1. Mid year Zoom

The Network is inviting all accredited, in training, de facto, aspiring, retired or vaguely interested Lay Preachers or Worship Leaders to join us for a mid-year zoom on Monday 19 June at 7.00pm.

Here is the link:

Topic: Methodist Lay Preachers Network zoom
Time: Monday June 19, 2023 07:00 PM Auckland, Wellington
[Join Zoom Meeting](#)
Meeting ID: 875 7573 7836
Passcode: 319702

We will be hearing updates on training, raising issues of concern, sharing good news stories and canvassing for prospective Network Convenors.
More information from Viv Whimster vjwhimster@gmail.com or Ngaire Southon ngaire@southon.net

2. Annual Update Form

The Network is hoping for a great return rate this year of annual Update Form (July 2022 – June 2023). The first reminder went out this month with the Parish Annual Statistics information; on the MCNZ website, there is now a [Word version](#) (preferred) or [a pdf](#) for completion.

Please return between the end of June and the end of September.

You may feel you have only just sent us one – but that's time going quickly! Thank you to those who have already sent yours in this month – you can cross it off your to-do list until next year. 😊

Full URLs

Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87575737836?pwd=NWFlejNtbnZDT2FhQWw5a1Iwa3UzZz09>

Word Version <https://www.methodist.org.nz/assets/DownloadsFiles/Update-Form-2023-for-Lay-Preachers.doc>

PDF Version <https://www.methodist.org.nz/assets/DownloadsFiles/Update-Form-2023-for-Lay-Preachers.pdf>



AUG 26, 2023
9:30AM – 12:30PM

TeRito Peyroux-Semu:
My Journey as an LP

Te Rito Peyroux-Semu: My journey as an LP

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 by Aug 19, 2023



Methodist Mission Southern: Support Networks & Community

“And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him—a threefold cord is not quickly broken.” Ecclesiastes 4:12

We celebrated the Methodist Mission Southern's 133rd birthday with a joyful gathering of kai and kōrero. Coming together we were reminded of how our interconnectedness creates our community. We received tiny Kahikatea tree seeds to plant, and the analogy of how this specific tree's roots grow wide, not deep, and that they intertwine with each other to support the enormous height of each individual tree (New Zealand's tallest indigenous tree) whilst creating a community with connected strength at the roots. Planting tree seeds is certainly faith in the future.

The Reverend Donald Phillipps describes MMS's beginnings “By the 1880's in England many of the denominations had become deeply concerned about the plight of the urban poor, in particular. The title of a book written at that time – *The Bitter Cry of Outcast London* - encapsulates the acute sense of responsibility that many Christians felt. Urban missions in the main cities of England were established, and this example was followed in Australia, and then in New Zealand, all within a decade. The founder of the Dunedin Methodist Central Mission in 1890, William Ready, was himself the product of the London slums but was one of the lucky boys saved from its squalor and hopelessness by an act of charity. He became a minister of the Bible Christian Church (a smaller offshoot of Wesleyan Methodism) and was sent to New Zealand in 1887. When he came south in May 1890, charged to do similar work, he began in the way he believed was most appropriate – he stood on a soap box, sang a hymn, gathered a crowd, and invited them to worship the next day.”

The Mission's kaupapa, centered around providing and creating support networks, is one of the many strengths of our Youth Transition Houses. Recently, a resident decided to convene a meeting with all their supports to develop a plan for addressing current issues they are facing. This gathering presented a valuable opportunity for them to visually see the size of their support network, with everyone in the same room discussing important matters. The presence of their supporters reinforced the interconnectedness and width of support, instilling confidence about the future.

Just like the roots of the kahikatea tree establish vital connections, these supports intricately weave the Mission into the fabric of the wider communities of Otago and Southland, connecting the Mission's kaupapa with others and fostering a symbiotic relationship that nurtures growth and vitality. More evidence of the Mission's network support can be seen at our Early Childhood Education (ECE) center, Little Citizens, where the families of the attending children are supported by our Taituarā a Hapori, facilitating agency and advocacy for those in need. Sustaining Tenancy clients are connected with budgeting services and offered physical assistance when required.

Community represents the interconnectedness that binds us together, and in times of adversity, it is through this connection that we find solace, support, and attainable solutions.

“The minute we become an integrated whole, we look through the same eyes and we see a whole different world together.” Azizah Al-Hibri

With faith we continue to create community, we will plant our seeds and invest in solid foundations, living in the embrace of others with wide, interconnected roots that allow us to cultivate resilience and thrive in the community we serve.

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



Economic Justice - Building a Methodist Response

Recently MCNZ President Peter wrote to our Prime Minister about the issue of economic justice and received a long

response from Hon. Carmel Sepuloni, Minister for Social Development and Employment, as the matters raised fell within her portfolio.

In her letter, Minister Sepuloni sets out what the Government has done and states that the welfare system may not be meeting the needs of all New Zealanders. She goes on to say that the Government is committed to overhauling the welfare system, provides a link to the progress they have achieved to date on the recommendations of the Welfare Expert Advisory Group^[1] and acknowledged there is more work to be done.

Minister Sepuloni describes the Inland Revenue's research on how much tax high-wealth individuals pay as "an important basis for future discussions about tax policy."

Minister Sepuloni acknowledged in her letter that MSD and IRD treat debtors and debt differently. She advised that the Government is moving towards "a more unified, cross-agency approach to the way in which debts and debtors are treated." Some members of the Methodist Alliance Working Group campaigning to increase benefit levels and abatement thresholds attended the consultation on a proposed debt to government framework earlier this year.

This same Working Group has produced a resource for Parishes to facilitate robust discussions on the topics of income security, wealth distribution and debt to Government. The Working Group also partnered with ActionStation's Fairer Futures network, a collaboration of anti-poverty groups calling for Government to wipe debt to the Ministry of Social Development to lift the weight off families and whanau. Fairer Futures is also campaigning for liveable incomes in Aotearoa New Zealand with seven steps for a fairer future. The resource includes some of the stories from the Lifting the Weight Report to illustrate what life is actually like.

We hope to have the resource available for distribution at the August Synods, and we encourage everyone to use this resource to deepen your understandings of the issues. We hope the resource will also be useful in assisting you to frame questions to ask candidates in any meet the candidates meetings you hold.

We are open to hearing feedback, suggestions, and thoughts from across the connexion about what more Weteriana can do to help shift Aotearoa New Zealand to a more just economy and society where everyone can flourish.

Carol Barron, National Coordinator

03 375 0512 | 027 561 9164 | Carol@MethodistAlliance.org.nz

[1] <https://www.msd.govt.nz/documents/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/information-releases/cabinet-papers/2021/welfare-overhaul-work-programme-update/appendix-three-weag-recommendations-and-progress-to-date.pdf>



Malo e lelei, Kia Ora and greeting from FALELOTU KOSIPELI (Christchurch South Tongan Methodist Church).

Sunday 28th May 2023, the church celebrates the annual Children Tongan Faka-me, or while Sunday for our children and youth. This special occasion normally held on the first Sunday of May, but due to number of our children and youth

were being sick with covid, the leaders decided to move our faka-me, to the last Sunday of May.

We are happy to say, it was a successful celebration for the church, with the day lead by our children and youth, who read hymns and bible scriptures, follow by a short sermon from our Parish minister rev Finau Halaleva. Performing items was also done by our children to end the special occasion. We want to thank you everyone, who have contributed to the success of this special occasion. 'Ofa atu moe Lotu hufia. Attached are some of the photos from the day. Reporting, Paeahelotu fifita (church spoke person and media tech group)