



NZMWF Executive Committee 2023-2025 with General Secretary and South Island Synod Superintendent

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Malo e lelei, warm Pacific greetings and welcome to our June newsletter.

It is a blessing to greet you all in the Name of the Almighty God who is our provider and life giver. NZMWF has been busy! We have been meeting monthly supporting each other's roles and tasks, preparing our delegates for South Pacific Area seminar in September and the upcoming Council meeting in October this year.

I am pleased to announce that one of the main tasks from last year's convention, which was to review all Job Descriptions for the executive committee, has been successfully completed. The working group has managed to review each Job Description, ensuring that the roles, relevant skills, and tasks align with the context of today's women's fellowship. This work will be presented for endorsement at the Council meeting in October. I would like to extend my gratitude to all District representatives, our current national secretary, Vice President, past President, and past national secretary for their hard work. We are now addressing tasks minuted from the last convention: the review of the NZMWF Constitution.

It was a blessing for some of our National team members to join me when we visited the Wellington area in April and attended the Wasewase annual meeting in Christchurch in early June. The hospitality from the Wellington area was wonderful, and it provided an opportunity to address their concerns and clarify communication issues. At the Wasewase women's fellowship, it was encouraging to see young mothers participating and supporting the program. Both meetings gave us valuable insights into their women's fellowship activities and how they support the NZMWF's vision, especially in working towards the two special projects each year.

With the current National team, we are doing our best to keep all districts informed about our upcoming event in Samoa with SPA in early September. So far, we have about 72-75 participants registered. However, some participants have yet to pay their registration and accommodation fees, which are needed to confirm the final numbers.

Let us encourage each other to care for one another and be a life-giver through your actions and practices.

Many blessings

Lesieli Tiulipe Pope

NZMWF President 2023-2025



RECENT EVENTS



Zoom hui with the ladies of task working group

TASK WORKING GROUP

We have progressed in reviewing all job descriptions for the executive committee as well as updating all relevant tasks. We now look towards completing tasks held from the last Cnnvention. This was no small job and we thank all the leaders who put alot of effort in completing this task.



Wellington District Ladies

WELLINGTON GET TOGETHER

We were grateful for the ladies of the Wellington district to invite us for their first get together. It was fantastic to see the collaboration across regions, synods and cultures. Thank you for inviting us and for also reminding us how far and wide our fellowships are. We look forward to seeing you again soon.



Wasewase AGM held in Christchurch

WASEWASE WOMENS AGM

We were well looked after at the Wasewase ko viti kei Rotuma Niusiladi Soqosoqo ni marama AGM 2024. We had great fellowship with the Wasewase ladies, prayed, worked and had lots of fun. Thank you to the Wasewase District President Sera and the wonderful Fijian Community of Moriah Christchurch for the hospitality.

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Ladies of Wellington Districts



NZMWF Exec Prayer breakfast & planning tasks



Kava ceremony at Wasewase Women's AGM

IMPORTANT NOTICES

- **Smethurst Applications** closes 20 June 2024 please ensure all documents are received via email to the Convenor Tuituivao (Tui) Salevao before the due date
- **Nomination for NZMWF President for 2025 - 2027**, closes on 30th June 2024
- **World Assembly 2026** has started its initial conversations. The Executive committee are working closely with the South Pacific President and her team to see what this will look like for our units. At the moment, we are still in its beginning stages and we will send out more information once it is confirmed.

UPDATES FOR SPA SEMINAR SAMOA 2024

SPA Registrations:

- Registrations are now closed. All members must complete a registration form for health and safety reasons.
- For those that have not paid their Registration and at least 50% of their Accommodation will now be taken off the registration list.
- Please Pay your accommodation by the 19th June.

Flight bookings:

The registrations open on Wednesday 4th September at 10am at Tanoa Tusitala Hotel. Most people will be departing Monday 9th September which makes up the 5 nights. Check out time of the hotel is at 11am.

Uniforms:

The uniform set for our delegation has been prepared and ready for orders. Please email Simulata on the email below.

Further SPA Enquiries:

If you are unsure of any information needed for the Seminar, please email direct to simulatapo@gmail.com.

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REFLECTION CORNER

We were very inspired hearing the keynote from our General Secretary Tara Tautari at our visit to the Wasewase Women's Fellowship AGM. We had requested our Madam Secretary's key note and would like to share parts of her message as this edition's reflection column.

"Jesus set a profound example of what it means to lead with faith, compassion, and selflessness. The work of women in the Church and broader community further illustrates this faith-filled leadership. Women in the scriptures, like Deborah and Priscilla. Women who are committed to God's calling. Deborah, a prophetess and judge, led Israel with wisdom and courage, demonstrating that leadership grounded in faith and righteousness can bring about transformative change. Priscilla, alongside her husband, was a key figure in the early Christian church, teaching, and mentoring others. Her dedication to spreading the gospel and nurturing the faith of others highlights the essential role women play in the spiritual and communal life of the Church. In our contemporary context, women continue to lead with faith and resilience, often under challenging circumstances. They have diverse expressions of ministry and serve as presbyters, educators, caregivers, and advocates, embodying the teachings of Jesus through their actions. Their leadership is characterised by a deep sense of empathy, a commitment to justice, and an unwavering dedication to the well-being of their communities. By nurturing and empowering others, they help to build strong inclusive and compassionate communities of faith. But that wasn't always the case. Throughout history, the Church has often perpetuated and even reinforced patriarchal norms, inadvertently sidelining women from positions of authority and influence. Despite the teachings of equality and justice within Christianity, women have frequently been excluded from leadership roles, with their voices marginalised or ignored. This failure to uphold gender equality not only contradicts the principles of love and inclusion espoused by the Church but also hinders its ability to fully reflect the diversity and richness of God's creation. By recognising and openly addressing these past shortcomings, we can begin to dismantle the barriers that have inhibited women's leadership within the church, paving the way for a more equitable and inclusive future."



Tongan Ladies of Wellington Districts Avalon, Tawa & Wesley



Fellowship at Moriah Wasewase Christchurch Parish



Fellowship at Wesley Taranaki Wellington Methodist