



September 2024



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

The Connexional Office

Please send your articles to reception@methodist.org.nz



Remember in your Prayers

The Connexional Office

It is with sadness that we inform the Connexion that Rev Eunshin Park, a member of the Seoul Conference, passed away suddenly on Thursday 13 June 2024. About 14 years ago, Rev Eunshin established a Korean fellowship at Trinity Waiake and was also a member of the East Coast Bays Methodist Parish Council. Rev Eunshin attended Sunday

morning services with his wife, Eunice, an accomplished pianist who is part of the music team at Trinity Waiake.

The funeral for Rev Eunshin Park will take place today, **Saturday, June 15, at 2:30 p.m., at Trinity Waiake**

Ngā manaakitanga

Rev Tara Tautari General Secretary

It is with deep sadness that we advise the Synod and Connexion of the death of Deacon June Higham on Monday 1 July 2024.

June was ordained Deacon in 1985 and served the church faithfully in Te Awamutu and the surrounding districts. She was also a funeral celebrant, a ministry she was passionate about, becoming a member of the National Association for Loss and Grief.

June was Secretary for Waikato-Bay of Plenty (now Waiariki) Synod for 7 years, and was part of the District Superintendency team over 4 years (the first woman to do so).

At Connexional level June was a member of the Committee on Ministry, and also a founding member and convenor of the Deacon Task Group (now known as the Diaconate Task Group) which was formed in 1990. She was on the General Purposes and Stationing committees for 4 years, and a member of the Conference Local Arrangements committee.

She was a member of the Tamahere Eventide Home Board for several years, and on retiring from that position in 1998 served as Chaplain until 2005.



She continued to serve the church with her outstanding musical abilities, playing the organ and piano first at Papakura Methodist Church, then after her marriage to Murray in 1955, at Te Awamutu Methodist Church - over 75 years in all, as well as leading the choir - most recently for the Synod Wesley Day service in May this year.

A celebration of June's life will be held at Te Awamutu Methodist Church on **Monday 8 July at 1.30pm.**

Messages may be sent to the [Higham family](#).

Ngā manaakitanga
Rev Dale Peach | Acting General Secretary

It is with deep sadness that we advise the Synod and Connexion of the death of Barbara Halliwell on Saturday 6 July 2024.

Barbara was the first lay woman to be Co-Superintendent in the Wellington Synod. She served for a period of four years in this role from 1997 - 2000. She also represented the Methodist Church of New Zealand at CCANZ meetings. As well as her church activities she was also very involved in community agencies including Victim Support.

She was a member of Trinity Union Parish, where she was involved in various leadership roles, including taking Sunday School.

Barabara always was caring and compassionate putting others before herself. Our heartfelt condolences and prayers go out to Thiers, their children and grandchildren. A celebration of Barbara's life will be held at Trinity Union Church, Hall Avenue, Newtown on Friday July 12 at 11.00am. Click here for the [link for the live stream](#).

Ngā manaakitanga
Rev Dale Peach | Acting General Secretary

It is with deep sadness that we advise the Connexion of the death of the Reverend Roger Hey, loved husband of Kathy, father of Graham and Cate, grandfather to Kayin and Molly. Roger who bravely battled Parkinson's disease for more than twenty years died peacefully in the early hours of Monday 15th July at the Edmund Hillary Retirement Village in Auckland.

Roger trained at Trinity College in the 1960s and went on to serve the Church in parish ministry at Waipawa-Waipukerau; Greenmeadows in Napier; the Glenfield Cooperating parish in Auckland, and the Avondale Presbyterian Church, before transitioning to hospital chaplaincy. It was as a hospital chaplain that Roger gave twelve years of dedicated service to both patients and staff in the challenging environment of Carrington Psychiatric Hospital. Roger concluded his period of full-time ministry serving four churches in the Conisborough area of Doncaster in England. Wherever Roger served his thoughtful and compassionate ministry was appreciated by many.

In retirement Roger and Kathy spent some eleven years in Tauranga where he delighted in tending a fine garden, hosting friends, sharing produce particularly avocados, and being part of the Wesley, Tauranga, congregation. One of Roger's many gifts was his fine musical talent. His piano playing delighted many.

For the last nine years Roger and Kathy have lived at Edmund Hillary, shared in the life of St Lukes Presbyterian Church, and enjoyed contact with family and friends.

The Service of Thanksgiving for Roger's life will be held at **St Luke's Church, 130 Remuera Rd, at 2.00pm on Thursday 18th July.**





Messages to the family can be sent to [Kathy](#). For those unable to attend the Service will be live [streamed on](#).

Ngā manaakitanga
Rev Tara Tautari | General Secretary

It is with great sadness we advise the Connexion that Rev. Brian Eagle passed away peacefully on Thursday 25th July 2024 at Cantabria Rest Home in Rotorua. Brian was beloved husband of Judith, proud father of Tania, Paul, Aaron and Rua and loving Poppa of his grandchildren.

His extensive ministry included Tokoroa, Durham St Christchurch, Balmoral/Roskill. Chaplain Wellington Hospital, Rotorua, and Te Puke/Mt Maunganui, as well as a time in the UK. He was also a member of the Enabling ministry team for Te Taha Māori and CCANZ.

Brian has requested to celebrate his life with a memorial service, which will be held on 7th August 2.30pm at Rotorua Methodist Church 187 Old Taupo Road, Rotorua.

We express our love and sympathy to Brian's family and friends at this time.

Ngā manaakitanga
Rev Tara Tautari | General Secretary

Very recently Martin Phillipps, the son of Donald Phillipps died, Martin was well known as a singer songwriter with the Dunedin band The Chills. Messages of condolence can be sent to Donald at his home address;

46 Bryant St, Bradford, Dunedin, 9011

It is with sadness that we advise the Connexion that Rev Henry Kitchingman passed away on Saturday 3rd August 2024 at Bruce McLaren Rest Home in Auckland. He was the dearly loved husband of Lexi, fondly loved father and father-in-law to Anne, Rex and Yvonne. Henry was a loyal and dedicated servant of His God and the Church.

Family, close friends and Clergy are welcome to join us to celebrate his life on **Thursday 8th August 11am at Crossroads Methodist Church, Papakura.**

In respect of his wife Lexi who is not in good health this will be a very short service open to the family, members of the clergy and close friends only. There will be no refreshments after the service.

Memories and condolences can be sent to the family through Henry's daughter [Anne](#).

Ngā manaakitanga
Rev Tara Tautari | General Secretary

It is with sadness that we share the news of the passing of Margaret Hammond on August 5th 2024.

Margaret was the wife of the late Rev. George Hammond.

In recent weeks Margaret was cared for at Atawhai Assisi Hospital and Home Matangi. Margaret had enjoyed living at Tamahere Eventide until she became unwell.





The service to celebrate the life of Margaret will be held on **Tuesday 13th August** at the **Cherry Blossom café, Tamahere Eventide village**. The service will be livestreamed (details to follow)

Messages can be sent to Mrs Cherith Buckland
c/o Pellows Funeral Home,
138 Grey Street
Hamilton East
Hamilton 3216

Ngā manaakitanga
Rev Tara Tautari | General Secretary

It is with sadness that we advise you that Jan Leman-Christiansen of Orakei parish passed away.

Jan was a member of St Paul's Remuera from 1978, where she offered significant leadership over the years.

Jan was a member of the Board of Studies at Trinity Theological College from 1994 and a member for Trinity College Council from 1996. She served as the chairperson of the Ministry Committee of Trinity College until she resigned at the 2021 Conference. Jan was also one of the longest serving members of the Trinity College Board of Studies and Ministry. Being an experienced Barrister and Solicitor meant that Jan was also able to lend her legal expertise to several Connexional committees.

Jan's funeral will take place at **1.30pm Friday 23 August at Davis Funeral Home, 400 Dominion Road, Mt Eden, Auckland.**

Noho ora mai rā, Dale.

Rev Dale Peach (she/her)
Acting General Secretary

It is with sadness we advise the Connexion that Rev Peter Stead died on Sunday 18 August 2024, at the age of 101 years old. Peter had been the father of Conference since March 2023.

Having candidated for ministry from Invercargill, Peter first served in the Lincoln Road/Sockburn Church in the Riccarton Circuit, and then Edgeware Road Church in the St Alban's Circuit, during which time he established Aldred Memorial Church. For four years of his time as the minister of St. Paul's, Palmerston North, Peter was also the Chairman of the Hawkes Bay Manawatu District, and during this time established the Milson Methodist Church. After two years of ministry in Great Britain, at the Manchester Methodist Mission, St. Annes-on-Sea, and Blackpool Central, Peter return to serve as minister of St. Paul's Hamilton and Superintendent of the Hamilton Circuit, and during this time established St. David's Co-operating Parish Dinsdale. He served the Church as President of Conference 1976-77. His last appointment was in the South Kaipara Co-operating Parish.

Peter was closely identified with social service work in Palmerston North, and chaired a Steering Committee to set up a Chair of Religious Studies at Massey University. Ecumenism was also a significant feature of Peter's ministry.

We express our love and sympathy to Peter's family and friends at this time.

Funeral arrangements to follow.

Noho ora mai rā, Dale.
Rev Dale Peach (she/her)
Acting General Secretary





Heather Mace died Christchurch Hospital early on Friday morning 16th August.

She gave more than 20 years as Secretary to The North Canterbury Joint Regional Committee, later known as Canterbury Regional Forum for Co-operating Ventures, who met monthly to arrange Union Parish inductions for new ministers and parish reviews, working with Anglican, Churches of Christ, Methodist, Presbyterian and Baptist churches. Her secretarial work was careful, thorough and pastoral. She spent days, weeks, months as JRC secretary working at her home computer, preparing agendas, writing minutes, sending letters, making phone calls and keeping everyone accountable.

As well Heather became Secretary for The New Zealand Choral Federation in Canterbury and the West Coast being involved with planning and organizing the regional Secondary Schools annual "Big Sing" competitions and assisted extensively with the National Big Sing of Secondary School Choirs when it was held in the Christchurch town Hall.

Her parish link was for many years with The St Albans Uniting Parish in Christchurch as a member of the Parish Council and as a careful stewardship recorder. For the last few years Heather linked with the Christchurch North Methodist Parish.

The funeral for Heather will be held in the **Christchurch North Methodist Church, Chapel St. at 2.00pm tomorrow, Friday 23rd August.**

Noho ora mai rā, Dale.

Rev Dale Peach (she/her)
Acting General Secretary

It is with a real sense of sadness that I advise the death of Sir Harold Marshall, KNZM, FRSNZ, on 31 August 2024. Sir Harold's active membership of the Mt Albert Methodist Choir for 75 years was recently acknowledged with the presentation of the Royal Schools of Church Music (RSCM) medal. The funeral service to celebrate his full life will be held at Mt Albert Methodist Church, 831 New North Rd., Mt Albert, at 1pm on Thursday 5 September. The service will be livestreamed and available via the following [link](#).

Regards,
Ian Faulkner
Presbyter
Mt Albert Methodist Parish

It is with deep sadness that I inform you of the passing of Rev. Siosifa Pole, who died peacefully on Sunday, 25 August 2024. Our thoughts and prayers are with his whānau, friends, and all who knew him during this time of great loss.

Rev. Siosifa was a remarkable leader throughout the Connexion, serving with dedication and compassion in various roles. As a former Director of Mission Resourcing, he played an important role in guiding our mission efforts, ensuring that our resources were aligned with the Church's vision and values. His leadership extended beyond administration; he was a gentle visionary who inspired many to live out their faith in practical and transformative ways.

In addition to his work in Mission Resourcing, Rev. Siosifa also chaired the Climate Justice Working Group. Under his guidance, the group made significant strides in raising awareness and advocating for the Climate Justice Decade "Rekindle the Vā of Papatūānuku", reminding us all of our responsibility to care for God's creation. His passion for justice and sustainability will leave a lasting legacy within our Church and beyond.





At the time of his passing, Rev. Pole was ministering faithfully at Lotofale'ia Mangere Tongan Methodist Parish. His presence will be deeply missed by his congregation and all who had the privilege of working alongside him.

The family has kindly shared the following details regarding the services for Rev. Siosifa:

- Wake Service: Sunday Evening, 1st September 2024, at Lotofale'ia Parish (32 Orly St, Mangere).
- Funeral Service: Monday Morning, 2nd September 2024, at 10:00 AM, at Lotofale'ia Parish.

For those who wish to offer messages of support or condolences, please send them to [Mrs. Naomi Pole](#).

Let us continue to hold the Pole whānau in our prayers, asking for God's comfort and peace to be with them during this difficult time.

Yours in Christ,

Rev Tara Tautari | General Secretary

Aue te mamae, Aue te aroha, i te ngarotanga o Kingi Tūheitia Potatau Te Wherowhero te Tuawhitu, Aue taukiri e!

Nā reira, haere mai, haere, haere atu koutou ngā mate huhua o te ao, haere!

Ko koe tērā e Kingi Tūheitia Potatau Te Wherowhero Te Tuawhitu, Te Mana nui o te motu, takoto mārika i runga i te mahau o tō whare a Mahinarangi, takoto, takoto, takoto!

It is with deepest sadness that Te Taha Māori advise the Connexion of the passing of King Tūheitia Potatau Te Wherowhero Te Tuawhitu, the sixth Māori King and seventh Māori Monarch.

The iwi are coming together to pay respects to Kingi Tūheitia as he lays in state upon his marae Turangawaewae in Ngaruawāhia and we, the church, join with them to mourn his loss.

This year he was instrumental in bringing Māori together to present a unified presence, building the skills and talents of our people into a presence that signifies kotahitanga and denies the forces who set about undermining Māori. His legacy and message of kotahitanga will live on and grow.

Members of Te Hāhi Weteriana will, with President Peter Taylor, enter onto Turangawaewae Marae on Sunday September 1st to pay our respects. Those who wish to join us, please meet with us at the gates to Turangawaewae, River Road, at 1pm.

Koutou e hiahia ana ki te tuku aroha, nau mai, nau mai, haere mai.

*Rev. Dr Arapera Ngaha
Tumuaki, Te Taha Māori, Methodist Church of New Zealand
Te Hāhi Weteriana o Aotearoa*



New Zealand Methodist Women's Fellowship Friendship Scholarship

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

Student will be in –

- In Year 12 or 13 during 2025
- 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



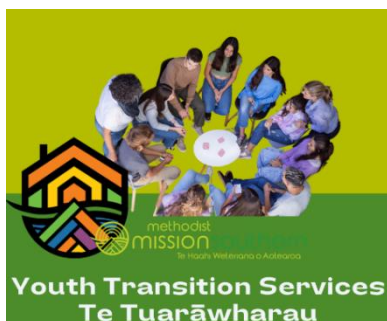


Information & Application Form [click here.](#)

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 complete and sent together to: [Marie Smith](#)

APPLICATIONS CLOSE: 20 NOVEMBER 2024



Methodist Mission Southern

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Jer 29:11

Our Youth Transition House and Young Mums Transition House residents have been creating Wellbeing plans which underpin what they want to do with their lives, their hopes for their future and how they are going to get there.

The dreams and aspirations of our rakatahi are no different from any other teenager; they simply have not had the opportunities and support to realise they are capable of achieving a better life. As Luke 17:21 says, "The kingdom of God is within you."

This month, we have been discussing with residents their ideas for enhancing their wellbeing while living at the whare. Their suggestions have been inspiring and diverse. One resident expressed a desire for guitar and singing lessons, another wished to return to playing netball, some were interested in cooking classes, and many talked about going to the gym but are hindered by the cost of membership. All were enthusiastic about creating a wellbeing plan that aligns with their house plans. These wishes are small, doable everyday life and the norm for most families, contrasting sharply with the dysfunctional situations our teens have often found themselves in.

One of the house supervisors is a qualified chef, so they will be offering cooking classes during their shifts at the house, much to the delight of the residents. There has been much discussion on menus and what everyone would like to learn to cook. We have engaged our resident's attention with support that has no strings attached, only a focus on the future and people around them that believe in them. Surely, we all need that belief to feel validated and worthy.

A couple of past residents have already found their feet. One has applied to attend the Limited Service Volunteer (LSV) course, a free six week training programme for confidence and skills, run through MSD and the New Zealand army to get work ready and make a fresh start in life. Another has graduated from a course through Southern Institute of Technology (SIT). They have put in the hard mahi to achieve this goal and now are set to look for employment with this awesome qualification behind them.

As we help these young people to envision and work towards a better future, we are not just addressing their immediate needs but also revealing hope and a sense of purpose. By providing the support and opportunities they have been lacking, we are helping them realise that they, too, can have dreams and plans that lead to a prosperous and fulfilling life. This is our mission, inspired by faith and the belief that everyone deserves a chance to thrive.





Be part of our story, our work, and our community.

Is there a specific programme we do that your group would be interested in learning more about? Would you like to read more about MMS' work in Otago and Southland?

Please contact [Julie](#) to receive our monthly e-newsletters and connect with us on our various social media channels. [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#).

Bradley Trust:

Applications for a research grant of up to \$10,000 are invited by **31 October 2024**. All details and an application form can be found on the church website. All communications to the Secretary of the Professional Grants Committee, [Sonia Faulkner](#).

Durham Street Methodist

160th Anniversary Celebration
Information Sheet
Saturday & Sunday 26-27 October 2024

Celebration Dinner in Aldersgate Auditorium: 6.30pm Saturday 26 October

A sumptuous three-course buffet meal catered by Who's The Caterer. People with special dietary needs *should indicate this* at the time of Registration.

There will be opportunity for greetings to be shared, reminiscences and entertainment, and an Updated History of Durham Street Methodist Church between 1989 and 2024, *Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors*, which contains more than 60 coloured photographs, will be launched and available for purchase for just \$20. Over the weekend *cash sales only*.

Service of Thanksgiving in Aldersgate Chapel: 10am Sunday 27 October

The Service will be led by Rev Philomeno Kinera with Guest Speaker, Rev Peter Taylor, President of the Methodist Church of New Zealand / Te Hāhi Weteriana o Aotearoa. Augmented Choir and Instrumentalists will be directed by Organist, Wallace Woodley. Morning Tea will follow.

At about **12 noon**, a light informal **Luncheon** will be provided for those wishing to remain for the afternoon.

At **2.00pm**, a **Festival of Music** will be held in the **Aldersgate Auditorium**, involving the Augmented Choir, various instrumental and vocal soloists.

Throughout the weekend, included in special presentations, there will be a **Children's Creative Art Exhibition**, and an **Historical Display** where a range of CDs (for a koha) and the updated history book (for \$20) will be available for purchase.

Some **car parking** will be available on site, as well as metred parking in adjacent streets.

Friends and former church members unable to attend the Celebration Weekend who would like to send a **Message of Greeting** should send these to Durham Street Methodist Church, 309 Durham Street North, Christchurch 8013, or by [email](#) doing so well in advance of the events.





Through generous subsidies, costs have been kept low to enable as many as possible to participate. Any additional donations will be gratefully received. **The official Registration Form, obtainable from [email](#), is due by 15 October 2024.**

*Wallace Woodley
Registrar*



Spray Can Mural Painted in Three Days

In June 2024, the Birkenhead Parish Council was approached with a proposal for an exciting community project. Kae Condon of the Birkenhead Village Association asked us: "Would we be open to the painting of a community mural on our wall, as part of a beautifying the community environment?" "Yes, we would!"

The Birkenhead Methodist Church has a prominent position on the summit of Zion Hill in Birkenhead. With its illuminated cross it stands as a beacon on the hilltop at the entrance way to the Birkenhead Village precinct. The church is supported by a long concrete retaining wall that borders the traffic lights at the intersection of Birkenhead Ave and Onewa Rd.

Conversations were held and a concept was developed of a mural depicting the local bush and birds, with the sun rising on one side and the evening sky at the other end. It was painted in three days by Dunedin artist Claire Rye, assisted by Holly Rock from Auckland. They used spray cans in many colours to bring the mural to life. The mural was funded by the Birkenhead Village Association and the Kaipatiki Local Board, with manual labour to clear the wall and garden area coming from members of the combined Birkenhead English Speaking and Samoan Language Methodist Parishes.

The Meaning of the Mural - The mural depicts the new walking bridge erected in nearby Kauri Glen, a sign of bridges that bring people together. The golden sunrise is a sign of hope as each new day dawns. The flying kereru symbolises the presence of the Holy Spirit, hovering over our church and community. The tui (parson birds) eating berries is a sign of faith and sharing good news, and the ruru (owl) is a sign of wisdom and guidance in times of darkness. The waters of the stream and waterfall are for washing away of tears and burdens, emerging refreshed and renewed to love and serve others, under the leading of the starry Southern Cross. Further along, the piwakawaka, (fantails) play in the trees, symbolising people coming together in community and friendship. Finally, the kingfisher flies over the waters of fish, signifying the hope that the people in our community may have the resources they need to prosper and be fed.

The mural has created a lot of interest in the community, from passers-by in cars and on foot. It is a sign of new life and beauty to all who see it, and the Birkenhead parish are very proud to being able to share it with our community.





Wesley Historical Society

Associated with the Conference, the Wesley Historical Society will be holding its AGM and dinner on Friday 8th November 2024, at 5:30pm at Trinity Union Church, 14 Hall Avenue, Newtown, Wellington. Our speaker will be the Rev Armstrong Pitakaji, Moderator of the United Church of Solomon Islands, He has been asked to reflect on the historical relationship between the UCSI and MCNZ and how this may develop in the future. The cost is \$25 (including GST).

You are warmly invited to attend by registering your intention with [Lucille](#) no later than Friday 18th October. Please include "WHS AGM & dinner," the number of people attending, and your bank account details to enable a direct debit by the accounts team at the Connexional Office who will forward an invoice to you to advise details.



Lifewise Seeks Support for World Homeless Day Event and Campaign

As you may be aware, Lifewise is a charity dedicated to supporting individuals experiencing homelessness, mental health issues, and addiction in Rotorua and Auckland.

On 10 October 2024, we will be observing World Homeless Day to raise awareness and advocate for improved policies and funding to eradicate homelessness. In collaboration with other social service providers, including Sunday Blessings, Auckland City Mission, Orange Sky, and many others, we are

organising an event from 10 am to 2 pm on World Homeless Day at St. Patrick's Square / Federal Square at the Auckland CBD.

In the meantime, you can contribute by making a donation via this link: [Lifewise Donation](#). Your donation will support Auckland's most vulnerable by providing essential housing, food, and wrap-around services necessary to help them turn their lives around for good.

We are also planning to launch an advertising campaign to highlight that homeless individuals are not hopeless cases, and with the right support, they can achieve their full potential. Although a generous donor has created this campaign for us, we need your assistance to disseminate it widely. We are seeking free advertising space for our campaign posters, whether on billboards, online articles, radio, or in-store. Even spreading the word within your own network would be greatly appreciated. Any support you can offer would be immensely valuable to help us reach a broader audience, educate the public about homelessness, and inspire more people to support our cause. Additionally, you will be demonstrating your commitment to social responsibility and contributing to a more just and inclusive society.

Please contact: Karen Coleman, Group Manager, Fundraising, Marketing & Communications [Email](#) or T: 021 241 1839



Coast Youth Community Trust is running a Golf Fundraiser to support the work we do on the Hibiscus Coast.

We are at the stage of advertising for teams to register and we would love the support of local churches.

I have attached the flyer for the fundraiser, we would really appreciate if you added this into your newsletter or advertised it in a way that is appropriate for your church.

If you would like to register directly, here is the [link](#).

If you would like to know more information about the work we do, you can visit our website for more information click [here](#).