

FIRST CHURCH OF OTAGO - WHAT'S ON DURING JULY

SUNDAY JULY 3

10.00am -Morning Worship The Reverend Tokerau Joseph
10am DUTIES: Foalima Lemalu (453 4210), Toga Solofa, Gifford Brown, Loraine Denniston, La Faatoese Finance: Nan Rickard.
TEA/COFFEE: John Takacs and Isobel Napper

12noon - Cook Islands ` The Reverend Tokerau Joseph
 2.00pm - Samoan Service The Reverend Anne Thomson

SUNDAY JULY 10

10.00am -Morning Worship The Reverend Anne Thomson
10am DUTIES: Brian Willisroft. Noeleen Willisroft, Isobel Napper, Finance: Brian Willisroft
TEA/COFFEE: Lily McDonald and June Evans

12noon - Cook Islands ` - The Reverend Tokerau Joseph
 2.00pm - Samoan Service The Reverend Anne Thomson

SUNDAY JULY 17

10.00am -Morning Worship The Reverend Anne Thomson
10am DUTIES: Stan Catchpole (471 0633), Ian Mitchell, Margaret Mitchell, June Evans. Finance: Stan Catchpole
TEA/COFFEE: Gifford and Shirley Brown

12noon - Cook Islands Tanetini
 2.00pm - Samoan Service The Reverend Anne Thomson

SUNDAY JULY 24

10.00am -Youth Service
10am DUTIES: Ian Robertson (454 4513) Jenni Elmes, Julie Savage, Finance: Tony Stevely.
TEA/COFFEE: Margaret and Ian Mitchell

12noon - Cook Islands `Youth Service

SUNDAY JULY 31

10.00am -Morning Worship Arts - Rev Anne Thomson
This service will explore the conversation between art and Christian faith in the context of worship. We gather in a work of art when we come to worship at First Church – how else might art encourage our worship, helping us to attend to God?

10am DUTIES: Russell Duff (476 3494) Selina Mulder
Finance: Russell Duff
TEA/COFFEE: Loraine Denniston and June Hastie

12noon - Cook Islands ` T Brydon
 2.00pm - Samoan Service S Faatoese

Myanmar January 2012: A pilgrimage of pain and hope

See firsthand the difference we are making in the lives of our friends in Myanmar; feel God's love working in this nation. Hear some amazing stories and be privileged to share and serve with them. Experience a friendship that is transforming lives and communities both in Myanmar and New Zealand. Be blessed, encouraged, challenged and inspired by these amazing people. To express an interest in being a part of the January team, please contact Myanmar Partnership Coordinator, Angela, phone 021 357 708 or email myanmar@stcolumba.org.nz



Sunday Quiz answers:- 1. Dr. Burns. 2. Bell Hill. 3. Tuning fork. 4. Paraphrase. 5. Crimmond. 7. Font.

SENIOR MINISTER: The Reverend Tokerau Joseph, phone 477 7792 cell 027 371 4733
PART TIME ASSISTANT MINISTER: The Reverend Anne Thomson 477 7150 cell 027 467 5488
PART TIME PASTORAL ASSISTANT MINISTER : The Rev John Sinclair (473 9950 or 027 436 9204)
FIRST CHURCH BELL RINGERS - Practice 7.30pm Monday and Thursday nights;

WEEKLY EVENTS
 Mondays 1.30pm Mah Jong - McLean Room
 Mon & Thurs 7.30pm Bells Practice
 Fridays 6pm Youth Group Burns Hall
OASIS IN THE CITY –
MIDWEEK PRAYER AT FIRST CHURCH
Tuesdays and Thursdays: 12.15-12.30

WHAT'S ON DURING JULY

Thurs 7 Craft Group meets
 TUES 12 4.30pm Property Committee
WED 13 6.00pm SESSION
 Mon 18 4.00pm Finance Committee
WED 20 7.30pm DEACONS COURT
 Thurs 21 Craft Group meets



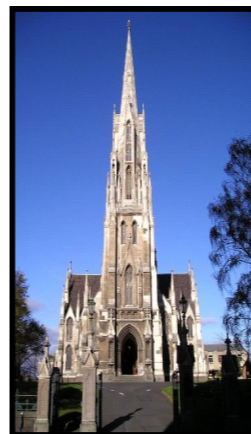
OASIS IN THE CITY –
MIDWEEK PRAYER AT
FIRST CHURCH
Tuesdays and Thursdays:
12.15-12.30 -

Time to pause in the middle of the day, to be still, to pray, to worship. For 15 minutes, we stop and wait on God, remembering God's presence with us throughout the day, listening to God's word for us, responding in prayer.
All are welcome, particularly those who work and live in the inner city.

PRESBYTERIAN SUPPORT FOOD BANK –

Each Sunday morning, our offering includes goods for the Food Bank which operates from Presbyterian Support Otago, our next door neighbours.

This month there is a particular need for sugar and tea and coffee (and maybe some Milo too!). The food bank operators also say that toilet paper is always in demand.
Thank you for your support of the Food Bank, helping those in need in our city.



FIRST CHURCH OF OTAGO

415 Moray Place, Dunedin

NEWSLETTER - JULY 2011

FIRST CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT

"We are striving to become a truly multi-cultural community, providing a warm, creative and affirming home base, enabling us to reach out with the Good News to those working and living in the inner-city and beyond."

Message from The Reverend Tokerau Joseph

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Special Services in July

The youth group will be leading our worship at **10 am and 12 noon on Sunday 24 July.** They will bring their enthusiasm, their creativity and their music to our services. Supporting our youth at these services is a great encouragement to them.

Also on **Sunday 24 July, the 2pm service** will be led by Rev. Karima Fai'ai. Karima will shortly be leaving St Andrews, Gore, where he has been minister for a number of year, to take up ministry in Auckland. The Samoan community of First Church have invited Karima to lead worship at First Church before he leaves, and then to honour him with a farewell feast. All are welcome to this service.

On **Sunday 31 July at 10 am** we will be focusing on the way that art interacts with Christian faith and worship.

At this time of the year we can feel the pinch in more ways than just the cold weather. Attendance to worship is usually down and power bills are usually higher. Although the Rugby World Cup seems just around the corner, the hardships upon people's lives seem to drag on and on. This is especially so for the people of Christchurch as they endeavour to find ways to cope with the effects of earthquakes and aftershocks. The media coverage continually gives us glimpses of some very desperate and disheartening experiences of what people there are going through. Please take time to read the latest issue (June) of SPANZ to get an insight into how some of our sister churches are responding to the situation there. Although some distance away from it all, we will carry on praying for them and offering help where and when needed.



We have our share of struggles here as well. It was with regret that we learned that our funding applications to the Otago/Southland Synod for the Burns Hall foyer roof and youth ministry were declined. Meetings arranged with Synod personnel to clarify our financial situation and funding criteria was very beneficial to ensure that future applications have a higher chance of success. I'd like to thank Les Green and Tony Stevely for their leadership and professionalism in this matter. We've submitted applications again for the next funding round so please keep this in prayer.

People's health and wellbeing are also important. Pastoral visits to homes and the hospital have shown me that folk need a little bit more support during these winter months. Keeping warm and dry is essential, but just as important is company (particularly good company). Being confined indoors due to the cold and icy conditions can also be isolating in some ways; especially for those living on their own and who cannot get out and about as often as they'd like. If you know of someone in our parish or in your neighbourhood that might appreciate good company, then I encourage you, who are able, to arrange and make a visit. If you know of someone that you would like our pastoral team to visit, please do not hesitate to let us know.

In talking about good company, it was a privilege for us to have had the Moderator of General Assembly PCANZ, the Rt. Rev. Peter Cheyne join us and preach during the Columba College service on the 22nd May. It was also an opportunity for the previous Moderator and current principal of the Knox Centre for Ministry and Leadership, the Very Rev. Dr. Graham Redding to lead the dedication prayer for the new chaplains of the school. It was an honour to receive such positive feedback from people about the service, particularly from the principal Miss Elizabeth Wilson.

Developing good relationships with educational institutions in our city is important. I was invited to be part of a Pacific advisory group to the Health Sciences Division of the University of Otago to look at ways in which it could support the Division's Pacific Strategic Framework. This is a significant step forward in enhancing the relationship between the university and community; particularly the Pacific community in Dunedin. It's great that the University has continued to recognise and value First Church of Otago as an important contributor to educational excellence in our city, province and country.

Without meaning to end on a sad note, last week Anne and I supported our youth group who visited the family of a friend of theirs who took his own life. As a promising rugby star and very popular person, his passing was a huge shock to many and has deeply affected some. I want to encourage our own young people or anyone reading this that it is important to talk with someone about problems no matter how big or bad they may seem. You don't have to face or struggle with a problem on your own. Talk to someone so that you can get the support that you need. I want to acknowledge the great work that Ron and Tara Muliau have done and continue to do with our youth group.

God Bless and keep safe. Tokerau

MESSAGE FROM THE REVEREND ANNE THOMSON

Dear First Church folk

It is three years this month since I joined you at First Church – and I continue to enjoy myself here, sharing in the ministry of this unique and diverse congregation.

One of the ways that the Presbyterian Church encourages ministers to continue to grow in their ministry is through the Ministry Development Programme. Over the next two months I will be undertaking a Ministry Review as part of that programme. Rev. Rose Luxford from Oamaru will conduct the review. The focus is on “mission vision, mission capacity and mission achievement” - and if I can't give you a very clear account of exactly what that means now, I hope that I will be able to by the time we are finished. Certainly the review is intended to give me an opportunity to reflect on my ministry and to help me grow in ministry.



Alongside that, over the next 18 months I will be taking part, with eight other local ministers, in a Mission-Shaped Leadership course being run through the Knox Centre for Ministry and Leadership. This course recognises the major changes that are occurring in society and in the church, which make the context in which we do ministry very different from the past. We live in turbulent times. when the winds of change blow everywhere. “Things aren't like they used to be” - and doing what we used to do no longer produces the same results. But amidst the winds of change, the wind of the Spirit is also blowing. In this environment, leadership is about “discerning the holy gusts of the Spirit and learning to sail into the wind where the Spirit might be leading”.

Both the review and the leadership course are part of my ongoing ministry development. But ministry is what we do together, as we worship and serve and pray together here at First Church. The work of ministry belongs to us all, in the places where we live and work, among the friends and neighbours that we meet, in the activities that we are involved in. God is already at work in those places. The call to us is to recognise God's presence and to join in God's mission of love and healing and justice and peace.

Thank you for your encouragement and support over three years.

I look forward to our ongoing ministry together. Anne

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Kia Orana, Talofa Lava & Wassup!



Our first Youth Service of the year was held on the **29th of May** with the Samoan congregation attending the 10am service which shortened our day with only two services. We thought we'd try something different with the readings by having the English scriptures on screen & the youth reading out loud the Cook Islands & Samoan readings.

On the **5th of June** the Youth Band played a couple of songs at the 10am service.

On the **12th of June**, a small group of the Youth participated in the ecumenical Service held at St Josephs Cathedral at 7pm. We performed the 'My Redeemer Lives' creative dance which received great feedback.

On a sad note, a well-known Dunedin Pacific Island High School student Makisua Tanuvasa Tili passed away on the 10th of June. The whole Youth group visited his body at his family home on Wednesday the 15th June. Devotion was lead by Rev. Anne Thomson & Rev. Tokerau Joseph, & the Youth singing a few songs & sharing a few stories. On the 16th & 17th June, the family service & funeral was held & a few of the Youth attended.

On the 1st-3rd of July, the Connect Youth Leadership Conference will be held in Christchurch. Tara & myself will be attending with 2 other youth members, Mata Samuela & Teira Dean.

Upcoming events:

1st-3rd July Connect Youth Leadership Conference
8th July Wedding of Manu & Angel
21st-22nd July Pacific Trust Otago Sports (netball & touch)

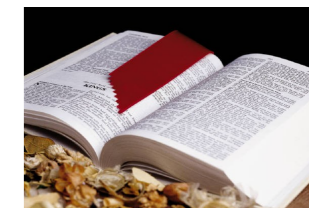
'Til next time... Ron and Tara

LECTIONAYR READINGS for JULY

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR JULY

During July, the Revised Common Lectionary readings will be used at the 10 am and 2 pm service, and Te Tia at the 12 noon service.

	Revised Common Lectionary	Te Tia
July 3 Pentecost 3	Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67 Psalm 45:10-17 Romans 7:15-25a Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30	Mataio 10:32-42
July 10 Pentecost 4	Genesis 25:19-34 Psalm 119:105-112 Romans 8:1-11 Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23	Mataio 12:22-37
July 17 Pentecost 5	Genesis 28:10-19a Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24 Romans 8:12-25 Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43	2 Samuela 6:1-11
July 24 Pentecost 6	Genesis 29:15-28 Psalm 105:1-11, 45b or Psalm 128 Romans 8:26-39 Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52	Mataio 13:24-30, 36-43
July 31 Pentecost 7	Genesis 32:22-31 Psalm 17:1-7, 15 Romans 9:1-5 Matthew 14:13-21	Mataio 15:10-20



Would you or someone you know like to help a family in the worst quake-affected suburbs of Christchurch?



Please contribute to a grocery voucher. Martin Stewart writes:

My little project of having people from St Stephen's, St Giles, and St Mark's delivering \$200 supermarket vouchers to the homes of people in the Avonside/Dallington area is chugging along nicely. My target of raising \$50,000 is now up to \$33,000 thanks to two large donations from a Wellington trust and an Auckland parish, along with quite a few \$1000 donations from supportive folk. Once I get the \$50,000 I will be approaching several supermarkets on this side of the city to buy the vouchers and invite them to match us dollar for dollar.

To be part of this, send donations to the Rev Martin Stewart, St Stephen's Presbyterian Church, PO Box 29-346, Fendalton, Christchurch. Include your details if you would like a receipt. Or donate directly to the bank account - BNZ 020800 0849993 26

To read more about this project, see Martin's blog - <http://marttherev.wordpress.com/2011/06/03>

A Sunday Quiz

1. Who was the first Presbyterian Minister in Dunedin?
2. What was the name given to the hill on which First Church stands ?
3. What was the musical instrument used by the first congregation ?
4. What is the name given to a portion of Scripture set to music ?
5. What is the name of the most familiar tune for Psm 23 ?
6. What title is given to the person who carries the Bible ?
7. What is the name of the place where children are baptised?



NOTICES

BECOMING PEACEMAKERS

- an Introduction to Active Non-Violence and Non-Violent Communication

Jesus said to his disciples, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God." And yet, while this is an attractive idea, being makers of peace often seems like an impossible task. Whether we are responding to violence and injustice at the global, national, local or personal level, how are we able to be more effective agents for bringing justice, healing and reconciliation?

This workshop is an introduction to the principles and practice of Active Non-Violence and Compassionate Communication. Through interactive exercises, we will examine the subtle way violence operates in our world, and in our own hearts, and the ways in which we often unintentionally reinforce violence.

In response, we will consider how the concept of Active Non-Violence helps us live creatively and proactively as 'people of peace' amidst places of conflict. We will also explore how miscommunication leads to unintended (and unwanted) conflict, and look at modes of communication that enhance our understanding and compassion for others, while still allowing us to express ourselves with confidence.

The facilitators are Steve Tripp and Kristin Jack, both New Zealand workers with the missional community, Servants (www.servantsasia.org). Between them, Kristin and Steve have more than twenty years experience living in Cambodia among the poor, where they have been involved in discipleship, justice and development initiatives.

WORKSHOP DETAILS:

Saturday 2 July - 9.00am - 4.00pm (with coffee from 8.30am) -
Salvation Army Hall, 45 North Road, North East Valley

SOUTHERN PRESBYTERY – DUNEDIN RESOURCE GROUP

Tuesday 5 July – Kaikorai Church, Taieri Road

Learning from Christchurch

Hear stories from Suburban Squad Resource Team
Presbyterian Support Otago camps at Kurow for Christchurch families

Pray for Christchurch

Our response - how do we support Christchurch dealing with ongoing quakes?
how prepared are we for local emergencies?

6pm Dinner (\$10); 7.00-8.30 pm Programme

Please book in with the Kaikorai Church office by Thursday 30 June Ph. (03) 476-2967 or email:
admin@kaikoraichurch.co.nz



To Mend the World - a conference on theology and art

The traditions of artistic expression and of Christian faith are richly intertwined. Artists help us to see differently. They draw attention to the order of things, and to their disorder. They help us to see the world's beauty; they present us with its simplicity, and confront us with its tragedy. Now and again the work of artists becomes something more. Like all human gestures toward the truth of things, the work of artists can become an instrument through which

God calls for our attention.

Attentiveness to God is also the task of Christian theology. Theology is a mode of attentiveness to the self-disclosure of God, and a striving to see the truth of things in light of that self-disclosure.

The keynote speaker will be Professor Bill Dyrness from Fuller Theological Seminary in the United States.

The conference will include an exhibition on the Conference theme at the Temple Gallery and a special screening of 'The Insatiable Moon' followed by discussion with the writer Mike Riddell.

Dates & Place 29-30 July 2011 at Knox Centre for Ministry and Leadership, Knox College, Arden Street, Dunedin
For further details see, <http://tomendtheworld.wordpress.com/>

Associated with the conference, the 10 am service at First Church on 31 July

will explore the conversation between art and Christian faith in the context of worship. We gather in a work of art when we come to worship at First Church – how else might art encourage our worship, helping us to attend to God?

NEWS FROM FIRST CHURCH SESSION

Greetings

Who reports to the Session? Well at most meetings we have written reports from Rev T Joseph and Rev A Thomson, Youth Leader, Cook Island and Samoan committees, Deacons' Court, Christian Education, APW and Fellowship. Quite a bit to get through, but it is easier if the reports go out with the Agenda and then everyone has time to read them before the meeting. We are working on this. A good deal of time at our June meeting was spent approving changes to the Book of Order.



The figures are now almost finalised for the Car Boot Sale and it appears that we cleared \$2200.00. Considering the weather, this was a very good result, and sincere thanks are due to those who worked so hard before the event and on the day. It has been suggested that we hold a car boot sale more frequently, say every month. - What do you think?

Nan Rickard, Session Clerk

*“Where are the boundaries between darkness and light,
lie and gospel, unfaith and bold faith?*

*God, my Saviour, allow me neither to spurn your world,
nor to be seduced by its tempting deceits dressed up as truth,*

*Save me and guide me, that it may not be said of my life,
Surely the Lord was in this place, but you didn't know it.*

(Bruce Prewer)

APW NEWS



APW JUNE MEETING, Tuesday 21 June

We were privileged to have as our speaker Kay Murray from “Connections Education and Development Trust” a support centre for people with severe intellectual disabilities.

Kay spoke of their focus for a meaningful and active participation in community life, ensuring people have the opportunity to extend their life skills and interests, especially through art. Studio 2 is a small art studio situated in Moray Place for people with disabilities.

A poster with a poem by Avis Hunter illustrated by Graham Preston is currently on display on the Burns Hall notice board and is a fine example of people exploring their creativity through art.



A story. “Charley the K-Mart Greeter”

Charley, a new retiree-greeter at K Mart, just couldn't seem to get to work on time. Every day he was 5, 10, 15 minutes late. But he was a good worker, really very tidy, clean=shaven, sharp minded and a real credit to the Company and obviously demonstrating their “Older Person Friendly” policies.

One day the boss called him into the office for a talk. “Charley, I have to tell you, I like your work ethic, you do a great job, but your being late is often is quite bothersome”.

“Yes, I know boss, and I'm working on it.”

“Well good, (said the boss), you are a team player. That's what I like to hear. It's odd though you coming in late. I know you're retired from the Armed Forces. What did they say if you came in late there?”

*Charley replied They said “Good morning, Admiral, can I get you coffee, sir!!”
(Never judge a book by its cover!)*



COOK ISLANDS COMMUNITY NEWS

Our sincere condolence goes out to the family of Mike (Miea) Poaiti who passed away on May 27th. The funeral service was held at Hope and Sons lead by Rev Anne Thompson and was well attended by our Cook Islands Congregation.

Second condolence, goes out to the families of a very popular young man by the name of Makisua Tanuvasa Tili who passed away on June 10th. Makisua was a very popular 1st 1V rugby player for Otago Boys High School. He was well known through out the High Schools and especially with the Pacific Island students of Otago. His funeral has got to be one of the biggest I have ever witnessed in Dunedin. Its amazing how sudden death in young people brings all the young people together regardless of their race or culture. Makisuas family reached out to the young people who are, or maybe having personal problems to talk to an adult, teacher, principal, rugby coach, and not to keep all their problems bottled up inside of them. They even provided telephone numbers for a number of organisations who are all trained in the area of problems with young people.

Kua manako te au diakono i roto ita ratou uipaanga kia akaputupu te au ngutuare tangata e \$50 i te ngutuare. Kua tuku ia mai teia manako kite Ekalesia ite sabati ra 19 Tiunu e kua ariki te Ekalesia. No te mea kare e maata ana tatou tei tae mai ite tauturu ite Car Boot sale no te tai other commitments, no reira te au Diakono i manako mai ei e ko ta tatou manga tauturu tera ite nga Youth Coordinators, note mea kare e funding no te tutaki ia raua no te angaanga maata ta raua e rave nei no ta tatou au mapu. Ka akamata te ekalesia ite akaputupu kai (foodbank) no te tauturu atu ite Papa Orometua e te kainga tangata i roto ite marama July ra 23. Ka riro teia ei manga tauturu ite kainga Orometua note mea ka kave aia i tona leave i roto ite marama July, Aug, Sep & Oct. Kare aia e tutaki ia me kave aia i tona leave e toru marama. Ka announce iatu rai e aea te akaputupu no te au marama e toru i muri ake ia Tiurai. We fellowshiped for the first time with the Northeast Valley PIC Church and our own Samoan Congregation friends to mark Pentecost Sunday. The Womens Fellowship took the Service that Sunday lead by Mama Orometua Tangi Joseph with the help of Tai Metuatai, Tere Emille and Mama Pepe Henry. We had a Uapou in the Burns Hall and a Cook Island cup of tea afterwards. It was a good turnout of about 103 adults and children. Thank you to the Women's Fellowship for inviting our guests to join with us and celebrate Pentecost Sunday.

CONGRATULATIONS!!! CONGRATULATIONS!!! CONGRATULATIONS!!!



Happy Birthday to all those whose birthdays falls in June. They are Anahera McGregor in June, Boy Tangiia 47yrs on 14th June, Teinakitama 10yrs, Bernard Tairea, Patu Tairea & Margaret Tangiia all on 19th June, Nana Metua and Mamateinaki Tangiia 20th of June, Ngari Tangiia 25th June and finally Papa Ioaba Dean who will be half a century on June 28th. Happy birthday to you all. Happy Birthday also to all those whose birthdays fall in the month of July. Pokoina Henry and Ariana Knox 9th July, Alice Brydon, 8th of July, Emma Henry 13th July, Tera Henry 14th July and finally Angel Joseph who will turn 21 on the 8th of July. Congratulations!!! If I have missed anyones birthday in June or July, Happy bornz day to you all.

Finally congratulations to Angel Joseph and Manu Matapo who will be tying the knot on July the 8th 2011, Angel's 21st birthday. We are all so happy for you two and we wish you both every happiness imaginable. We also wish that you will always find your dearest friend, your deepest love and your greatest joy in each other. Once again Congratulations Manu and Angel. On that note Angel and Manus beautiful daughter 8month old Ananiah will be christened on July 10th at First Church at the 12pm Service.

Finally our hearts and prayers goes out to ALL who are affected again in the recent earthquake and liquefaction damage last week in Christchurch, and especially at this time of the year. No doubt there will be hundreds of people who will be feeling the cold this year and they will have lots on their plate to consider for their future.

*Go well all till next month
Tere Taana*

SAMOAN COMMUNITY NEWS

.Talofa Lava, Kia Orana and greetings in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

On June the 5th (during the Queen's Birthday weekend) the **Samoan Community celebrated 49th year of their Independent State**. This was organised by the Samoan Advisory Council in Dunedin and was held at the Samoan Catholic Church in Corstephine.

The day began with a Service led by Reverend Numia Aiono and a Sermon presented by Reverend Ieriko Sopoaga. The event was well attended, not just by the Samoan community but also by invited guests, such as, the Labour MP for South Dunedin and a Representative from the Internal Affairs as well as members from the Advisory Council in Invergaricill. Following the Service, a lunch was held in the Samoan Catholic Hall, where a fiafia was also held. Following this, we said our Goodbyes until next year.

Farewell to Mrs Sina Muliau

On the 19th of June, with sadness, we bid farewell to one of the longest serving members of the First Church Congregation; **Mrs Sina Muliau**, who will be moving to Auckland due to health issues. On behalf of the Samoan Community, I would encourage all members of the First Church Community in wishing Mrs Muliau all the best in the future and to express her place at First Church always, where she will be dearly missed and always welcome.



God Bless Tolealoa F Vaitupu

Global Mission

Opportunities to serve in mission - partnership with the Uniting Church in Australia
This month we have negotiated an exciting extension to a long-standing partnership with the Uniting Church in Australia (UCA). Global Mission will partner with Uniting World, the international mission department of the UCA (Uniting World's current national director is the Rev Kerry Enright, our former Assembly Executive Secretary). Uniting World has 35 international partnerships throughout the Pacific and in Asia, mostly with churches our Church is in partnership with.
We have agreed to open our opportunities for service and experience to each other's members and church communities and in the next year we will explore ways of grounding the agreement in practical ways.
Uniting World has four programs:
Church Solidarity – working with partner churches in areas such as advocacy, ministry, evangelism, theological education and welfare
Experience - enabling people and groups to serve with partner churches
Relief and development - accredited with AusAid, so it is well funded by the Australian Government
Young Ambassadors for Peace – opportunities for young people to engage in peace making in conflicted communities in Asia and the Pacific
We will begin this valuable cooperation by working with their Experience Program.
- At any one time they have about 100 positions for supported volunteers, and in June we will publicise a new list and receive applications. For more information contact Global Mission at pamela@presbyterian.org.nz. Applications for New Zealanders will be made through Global Mission.
- Uniting World Experience has produced some excellent on-line training resources for those wishing to participate in mission, for use by individuals and groups. They have graciously given us access to these resources. Contact pamela@presbyterian.org.nz to participate and enrol in a course.

Uniting World aims "to connect communities for life". Like us, they aim to engage in God's mission and establish transformative relationships between local church communities and overseas churches, working with justice, compassion and in faith. It will be great to join together.

Pamela Tankersley
Global Mission Coordinator

