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## Meet the Links



Following on from  
ter where Eric Fair-  
all to be more ready



last month's newslet-  
ter brother challenged us  
to recognise women



amongst us and their call in order to encourage those among us for leadership roles, we are taking this opportunity to introduce each of the women who have been chosen by your Diocese/Hui Amorangi to be your Link Representative to the Anglican Women's Studies Centre.



From the early stages of our existence the Council recognised the need to have a direct communication links with women in ministry throughout the Diocese/Hui Amorangi. It is to this end that we called upon Bishops and Standing Committee's to nominate a Link Representative and for the first time we have Links in every region. The Executive Councillors, Amy Chambers and Brenda Sio fulfil this role for Tikanga Polynesia as Mere Wallace does for Te Waipounamu.



As you know, the Women's Studies Centre was a General Synod initiative set up to serve and to advance the interests and needs of the women of this Church, particularly those undertaking theological training.



The Link Representative from each Diocese and Hui Amorangi plays an integral part in the success of this initiative by acting as a direct 'link' in assisting with the various projects initiated by the Council. Link Rep's are chosen for their leadership ability to identify, gather, facilitate, resource and encourage women in their educational preparation for ministry, whether lay or ordained within each of their Diocese/Hui Amorangi. They are expected to take a proactive stance in advancing the numbers of women in representative positions across the councils and committees of the Church and mentor and/or actively encourage up and coming women to more senior and responsibility filled roles.



Our hope is that in the near future these Links will play a vital role in forming discussion groups to begin now to think about women who may be good candidates for future leadership positions. As Eric says, "Don't wait until there is another resignation and electoral process. Begin now to think about women; talk to them, talk about them, make them visible in your hui amorangi and dioceses. Invite them to preach at significant moments in your church life. Invite them to come and lead a retreat, a study for your church community, put them forward for places on boards, councils, synods and any other governance roles that are relevant. And as in all things, pray! Let us all become persistent widows, and give God no peace for a bit. Remember Hannah in the Hebrew Scriptures".



NB: Apologies for not  
te Wheke Link Repre-  
Toki but no profile  
publishing deadline.



featuring Manawa o  
sentative, Revd Lyn  
was received by the





## From Te Upoko o te Ika Hui Amorangi Revd Leonie Joseph

Whai Kororia ki te Atua  
He maungarongo ki te whenua  
He whakaaro pai ki nga tangata  
katoa

I'm Revd Leonie Joseph and I'm based at St Saviour's Vicarage in Waitara. My aim in ministry is to baptise and nurture new believers and be available to meet the needs of the new believers, whanau whanui, hapu and iwi.

I was born in 1949 to Whareiti Daisy Patuwairua and Leo Te Ika of Ngati Maru, raised by Whare Maeke Edwin of Te Atiawa nui tonu. Married to Te Rua Joseph of Maniapoto Iwi, we had 4 children one son and three daughters. Sadly our son died in 1989.

In 1996, I became the secretary for Ngati Maru Iwi, Te Upoko o te Whenua Marae, Tarata. I then entered Te Ataarangi Kura ki Ngamotu, New Plymouth and became Pouako at Ngapekanga Te Kohanga Reo, Waitara. In the year 2000, I joined the family of Christ at St Saviour's Church, Waitara becoming actively involved with the Vestry.

In 2004, I started Practical Ministry Training under the guidance of Revd Albie Martin and was commissioned in 2006 to Kai-karakia at St Saviour's Church, Waitara. In 2008 I entered Te

Whare Wananga O Te Pihopatanga O Aotearoa, ordained to Deaconate. The Right Revd Muru Walters ordained me into the Priesthood in 2010 at St Mary's Anglican Church, Hawera. I graduated with Poumanawa (Bachelors) in 2012, completing the course "Palestine of Jesus" at St George's College, Jerusalem, Israel. In 2013 Bishop Muru presented Poumanawa Certificate at St Saviour's Church.

Today my current roles with the Hui Amorangi is to assist Arch-deacon Hera Epae at Hui, Practical Ministry Training, Kahui Wahine, Pastoral Care, Hospital Visits, Special Prayers; Blessings within family homes, land, farms; organise roster for Sunday Services, support all clergy, those to be commissioned to Kai-karakia and Kai-karakia to be ordained to Deacon in 2014; Management of St Saviour's Complex consists of the Church, the Vicarage and the Community Mission; once a month support Te Koti Rangatahi which is held at Owae Marae, Waitara. When not ministering, quiet time in prayer, reading the Bible, waiting on the Word prepares me for God's plan.

My hope for the future is to integrate more with women from Tikanga Pakeha and Tikanga Maori through combined services, fellowship and shared activities. Kahui Wahine are collecting life stories of their Journey with Christ, a record of yesterday, today's events for the future generations of tomorrow and are currently interviewing women in their rohe for their life stories while others are in the process of writing. Progress of this project will be evaluated at our next Kahui Wahine hui.

Ma te Atua tatou e manaaki, e tiaki i nga wa katoa, kororia ki te Atua

## From Diocese of Christchurch Revd Jenni Carter

I'm the vicar of Hororata, a large rural parish situated in the foothills west of Christchurch. I am passionate about nurturing the faith of small rural communities, helping them discover God within themselves within their neighbours and in the world they live and work in. I believe it is vital to be active in the community where you are the priest.

I am a volunteer fire fighter with the local brigade and coordinator for Civil Defence. I serve on several local committees which foster community wellbeing and activities.

I believe it is important to identify with those who have no voice and find ways in which they can be seen and heard which is why I believe networking with other women is critical in our journey to discovering God and living the faith we called too.





## From Diocese of Dunedin Jenny Campbell

en holding nearly all the leadership roles. Being a member of the Lay Ministry planning group is another networking opportunity and way of being part of women's ministry in our Diocese, ensuring on-going educational opportunities are available for lay women in particular.

Women are the carers, those who carry the hope in spite of huge setbacks and loss of support, along with a determination to carry on in spite of huge losses and heartaches. Women here like to hear and tell the stories about challenges other women have overcome, good news stories of women in ministry and how they carry the stories for present and future generations, particularly through family, grandchildren and friends.

The needs of the women in the Dunedin Diocese are for theological education relevant to ministry in their situation eg rural, isolated small town, small numbers, elderly, financial constraints. Their concerns include providing pastoral care, health, social justice issues eg gambling, illegal drugs, environmental concerns especially around climate change and the effect on future generations of every living thing, and the absence of young people being actively involved in church activities.

My Diocesan commitment and passion is for Local Shared Ministry and I am the lay enabler in the Parish of Fiordland with wom-

My role in affirming women is taking photos and writing good news stories of women in ministry action, writing stories for a local community newspaper, being a member of 'Desert Air', an ecumenical women's group in Southland and working on justice issues affecting women in particular. This includes 'Saying No to Violence' campaign, White

Ribbon breakfast with woman speaker, International Women's day event and advocating for families who are supporting people coping with mental health issues through my work as a support worker for Supporting Families for Mental Wellness. My passion for our Anglican Consultative Council 'Care of Creation' principle sees me committing to the Invercargill Environment Centre, Wastebusters Trust, Forest and Bird and working towards seeing us move away from reliance on fossil fuels and move to renewables. Being a member of Coal Action Network Aotearoa and Coal Action Murihiku committees is another way to ensure my beliefs can be put into action, looking forward with other very concerned women, particularly in the Social Justice groups in Dunedin Diocese.

He iti, he pounamu. It may be small but it is precious.

Ko Takitimu taku maunga, ko Takitimu taku waka, ko Oreti taku awa, ko Ngaitahu taku iwi, ko Te Rau Aroha taku marae, No Mossburn taku kainga, Ko Jenny Campbell ahau.



## From Tai Rawhiti Hui Amorangi Ruihana Paenga

My name is Ruihana Paenga I am 33 years old, I have a dog called Oprah and we live in a small East Coast community called Tikitiki the home of the beautiful St Marys church. I am employed as youth enabler by Te Hui Amorangi ki Te Tairawhiti within Tikanga Maori. I have a number of roles within our Hui Amorangi and wider church these include; Tikanga Toru commissioner for Tikanga Maori, Kahui Rangatahi Board Member and Runanga Whaiti (Tikanga Maori Standing Committee) Youth Representative I also have a passion for Iwi Hapu Development and an interest in creative writing.

My aspiration for women in our region is that they courageously walk in the roles God has commissioned them for. Despite the many callings, obligations, talents and differences we live with that we can support each other, across

culture and community through genuine relationship and love firstly for God and also for each other.

## From Tai Tokerau Hui Amorangi

### Revd Jenny Quince

I feel very privileged to be the Link Representative for Tai Tokerau to the Anglican Women's Studies Centre as I did not attend St John's Theological College nor do I have any formal training in Theology or Divinity only practical. I have been an active supporter of this General Synod initiative since its inception.

I have been ordained since 2000. I was Deaconed by Bishop Waiohau Rui Te Haara and Priested by Bishop Te Kitohi Pikaahu. As an ordained priest of Te Pihopatanga O Aotearoa I serve at Te Mihana Maori O Tamaki Makaurau and am based at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Khyber Pass Auckland.

I am a Representative for Kahui Wahine o Te Tai Tokerau, serving on Stipends and Pension Board, Vaughan Park Trust Board, Kahui Wahine Executive, Treasurer of Kahui Wahine o Te Tai Tokerau, Treasurer of Tamaki Makaurau Kahui Wahine, Co-Chair of the Hostel of the Holy Name and Assistant Chaplain at Auckland Hospital. I have also served on numerous other boards and have learned to share whatever relevant information that I glean because it is not mine but God's to share.

Having travelled through 28 countries, I enjoy meeting with women worldwide, hearing their stories and finding a way to help them in any way I can, which is why I like having women's networks available. Karena and the Executive have done a wonderful job coordinating these networks for our use and I am truly grateful.

My passion is to see the healing ministry brought back fully alongside every other ministry available. As the Northern Area Chaplain for the Order of St Luke the Physician I introduce Jesus as the Healer as well as the Teacher. The John Wimber principle "What do you want Jesus to do for you?" and "What do you want me to do for you?" are always leading questions in my ministry. God Bless you all.



## From Diocese of Wellington

### Revd Jenny Chalmers

Jenny Chalmers is the Wellington Link Representative for the Anglican Women's Studies Centre. She's the Vicar of Carterton and married to John Reid, an IT consultant. Jenny holds a number of positions within the Diocese, chairing the Ministry Group Committee and the Communications Revue Committee. She's the Christian co chair of the Wellington Council of Christians and Jews; her academic interest is how Christians perceive 'the other' and recently gave a paper critiquing the process by which 'Psalms for Worship' in NZPB were edited to the Australasian Council for Christians and Jews conference at the Australian Catholic University in Brisbane.

## From Diocese of Nelson

### Revd Dr Sue Patterson

I was born in Christchurch in 1948 and was baptised and grew up in the Methodist Church there. I married John in 1972, the same year that I was confirmed in the Anglican Church. I was ordained in Dunedin in 1988 and served as a curate there in North East Valley parish while completing my PhD in Theology at Otago, after which I became an Associate Priest in Waipawa Parish, Waiapu Diocese. In 1993 I was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship for postdoctoral study at the Center of Theological Inquiry in Princeton, USA. In 1996 I became Lecturer in Ethics and Applied Theology at Trinity College, Bristol, UK. Following that, in 2000 I went back to pastoral ministry, this time in the Church of Ireland where I served as rector of two parish groups for five years each, the first in Kilmore Diocese on the border with Northern Ireland, the second in Killala Diocese on the west coast, where I was also Dean of Killala Cathedral. In 2010 I came back to New Zealand to my present job here in Nelson as Senior Lecturer and Academic Registrar at Bishopdale Theological College. John and I worship at Nelson Cathedral. We have two daughters and two small grand-daughters.

My job at the college involves forming people for ministry. This includes mentoring and pastoral care as well as teaching. In the Diocese my role as Link Representative involves encouraging women in theological education and supporting them through



I am currently Vicar of the New Plymouth Parish of Holy Trinity Fitzroy, where I have been based since February this year. I am married to Craig, who is a gardener at the fabulous Pukeiti Gardens here in

Taranaki. I have a dog, and two cats, along with two adult sons. Prior to New Plymouth I spent 11 years as a Priest in the Diocese of Christchurch, most recently as Vicar of Ashburton and Archdeacon of Mid-Canterbury.

Every diocese is so unique - it certainly takes time to discover how best to be part of a new cultural context... so it is with trepidation I claim to represent women from a region I have been part of for such a short time!

the ministry discernment process and beyond that through into post-ordination training. I am in a position to act as a go-between and this has led to my taking on an advocacy role on more than one occasion. I believe the women in this Diocese, as anywhere, want to have the opportunity to use their gifts in fulfilling ministry situations. We have strong capable woman vicars in a number of parishes, but at present these are all in rural situations. As a region with just one smallish city and few large towns, we have a shortage of urban and suburban parishes and so not many opportunities for women to serve as vicars in non-rural situations. And there is not much available in the way of chaplaincies as an alternative. The diocesan trend is to team ministries in urban and suburban parishes. As this is for quality of ministry reasons rather than financially compelled, this should promote opportunities for women to use their ministry gifts so long as it does not place a ceiling on their leadership opportunities.



## From Diocese of Waikato & Taranaki

### Revd Jacqui Paterson

Personally, I am interested in encouraging women to discover and nurture their unique gifts in a way that enables both ourselves as individuals and our Church to grow in depth and functionality. I am interested in the development of flourishing Christian communities where we are all enabled to prayerfully consider the creative possibilities rather than engage in perennial problem solving and plugging the gaps- in other words, simply re-creating what did not work thirty years ago.

To do this requires integrity, honesty and courage. It requires the ability to trust one another, to listen to one another, to engage in robust discernment and accept that not every opportunity has our particular name on it- but to have confidence that some just may have!

I am also interested in scintillating conversations, usually accompanied with good coffee or wine, reading, great movies and the beach- which is within walking distance of my home. I look forward to developing relationships over time with the women in this fascinating and complex Diocese of Waikato/Taranaki ....

## From Diocese of Auckland

# Revd Nyasha Gumbeze

Nyasha is an ordained priest in the Diocese of Auckland. She is the minister of Lynfield Community Church and she also serves in the Diocesan Council. She is married and has two children 12 and 7 years old. Nyasha and her family came from Zimbabwe nearly 10 years ago. She attended Laidlaw College, St Johns College and is a graduate of the University of Auckland. She has a background in Missions and Youth Ministries local and abroad. She loves singing and dancing in Church and enjoys having a good laugh with friends.

Some of the needs that our women have:

The Diocese of Auckland is one of the biggest Tikanga Pakeha dioceses. This means that we are such a diverse bunch of women and it would be a challenge to narrow down our needs. We have different needs depending on our context.

- However, here are a few that I can highlight: Networking and resource sharing – needs different but we can share the diverse resources that we have.
- Opportunity and resources to meet up in a local context, to support one another and to know that we are not alone.
- The need to meet and chill out with other women without focusing on any particular topic.



## From Diocese of Waiapu

# Revd Oenone Woodhams

I am currently the Diocesan Ministry Educator for Waiapu. It took me a long time to recognise God's call on my life to ordained ministry. I had a fulfilling career as a primary teacher, deputy principal, principal and Education Review Office reviewer before I was ordained deacon in 2005 at Napier

Cathedral and priest in 2006 at All Saints, Taradale. In 2007 I spent a year in residence at St John's Theological College so that I could experience community life, take Anglican Studies papers and continue my B Theol from Otago. It was a very happy and productive time. At the end of 2007 I went to St Luke's Havelock North as priest assistant, and became priest associate in 2009. I took up the Ministry Educator's role in February 2010, it seemed a good fit.

As part of my Diocesan role I work with those who are exploring their call to ministry, whether lay or ordained; those who are invited to discernment; people post discernment, regardless of the result of the selection panel outcome; ordinands; those in residential college; clergy post ordination for 5 years, the first two years in the Deacon2Priest programme facilitated by me and the Reverend Erice Fairbrother; clergy seeking continuing educa-

tion and mid ministry development; licensed lay ministers. I also run the Diocesan library, and co-ordinate and train the Diocesan Review Group which reviews parishes on a 5 yearly cycle.

Nationally I am a member of Tikanga Pakeha Ministry Council, Anglican Ministry Educators Network, TP Scholarship Review Group, Anglican Studies Board of Studies. It is a full and challenging, though very exciting, role and a real privilege to walk with people as they explore God's call and grow into ministry.

As part of my Women's Studies link role I listen carefully to women's aspirations in the Diocese and I keep a data base for passing on newsletters and information. I get many positive comments about the quality of the Women's Studies newsletters and responses to interesting news snippets. I believe for the health of our church it is crucial that women from our largely rural diocese are able to easily access study opportunities. Up until now that has been largely through EFM, EIDTs and Otago. There is also a Bishopdale outpost at Holy Trinity Tauranga providing face to face education. These options don't suit everyone however, and EIDTs is closing at the end of 2014. So I'm delighted that Waiapu and the Diocese of Waikato and Taranaki are joining together with St John's Theological College to offer the Diploma in Anglican Studies regionally from 2014. There will be online delivery as well as three residential weekends in Taupo per semester, for a modest cost. We are hoping that both lay and ordained will take up this opportunity to receive a NZQA recognised qualification, specifically tailored to our Anglican context.

## Dandelion Communion

I saw a dandelion  
up close today  
fragile connections  
but still held together  
like the communion  
like a diocese  
like a church.

I wonder  
whose breath  
will breathe upon it  
and send it  
flying into the sky,  
yours  
mine  
maybe ours?

Or perhaps  
the same Spirit  
who brooded  
over the chaos  
breathed life into us?  
Can it possibly  
be telling us  
the centre  
cannot hold  
what it was  
never intended to hold?

Is it possible  
we are trying to preserve  
something  
that has taken the place of God?  
Our unity,  
our belonging

is it not in our 'in Christ'-ness  
a mystical union  
we try so desperately  
to domesticate?  
Perhaps it lies not,  
in the way  
we have shaped  
this version of church  
to keep us together.

I wonder  
how it might be  
if we were to stop  
being afraid of flying?  
What new thing  
might emerge  
if we were to  
put our trust  
in the creative  
brooding,  
blowing of the Spirit?  
If 'control' for the life  
and mission of God  
was placed back  
in the hands  
of the one we proclaim,  
Christ, crucified and risen?

I wonder,  
if we really are as fragile  
as we appear to be?  
And as we are told we are.

*Dandelion Communion by Gayanne Frater, 4 Sept 2011*

*Photograph: Megan Ede*

## The Centre for Anglican Women's Studies (WSC)

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The Centre for Anglican Women's Studies, commonly known as the **Women's Studies Centre** was set up to serve and to advance the interests and needs of the women of this Church particularly those undertaking Theological training.

The Link Representatives from each Diocese and Hui Amorangi have been chosen for their leadership ability to identify, gather, facilitate, resource and encourage women in their educational preparation for ministry whether lay or ordained. It is hoped that the Women's Studies Centre can continue to enjoy the support of each Diocese and Hui Amorangi in this endeavour.



The issue of increasing numbers of women in representative positions across the councils and committees of the Church is seen as a high priority and the practice of intentional mentoring by those already in national and international representative roles is seen as a good way to expose women of this church to fulfill their potential as leaders.

Ensuring that women's voices and stories are heard now and in the future is also one of our continued aims whether it be by traditional methods of publication or using more contemporary technologies like website publication. We remain optimistic that through continued support, the needs of women throughout this Province will be valued and recognized.



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**EDITORIAL DISCLAIMER:** The Women's Studies Centre is committed to encouraging and enabling women's voices and perspectives from across the diversity of the Church to be shared more widely. We acknowledge that women's experiences of church differ considerably and that resultant theological perspectives also differ considerably. In general the WSC does not exercise editorial control, rather we welcome as many voices as are willing to contribute.