

KETE KUPU

WORD BASKET

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New Zealand Council Of
Christian Social Services

Have We Given Up on Our Children and Young People?

The Growing Divide: A State of the Nation Report From The Salvation Army 2012

"We have two clear choices here: one is to continue the path we have been on more or less continuously for the past three decades, concentrating wealth and influence, and driving the marginalised further into the shadows, with yet more restrictive welfare entitlements and a yet more punitive criminal justice system.

The other is to act more inclusively and to work consciously and deliberately at ways of ensuring that the most marginalised New Zealanders, and in particular, many poor families and unemployed young people, feel as though they are valued and valuable members of our society." (Campbell Roberts, The Salvation Army)

The Salvation Army's fifth annual State of the Nation report tracks an increasing marginalisation of a growing proportion of New Zealand society. Director of the Salvation Army's policy unit, Campbell Roberts expressed his deep concern that we have "all but given up on any serious efforts to relieve child poverty, youth marginalisation or address the causes of crime."

Child Poverty

"Children's vulnerability does not start with poor policies or poor parenting, but in the social and economic environments we create for children to grow up in". Child poverty rates remain consistently high. The initial progress that was made in reducing child poverty in the mid-2000s has stalled and a quarter of children live in households with incomes below the 60% median income that is the internationally recognized poverty line. The Army points out that more two-parent families are now living with dire material need and this trend has been sorely evident at Salvation Army welfare centres for the past two years.

Youth Unemployment

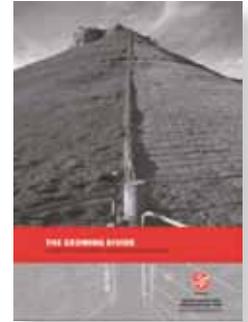
The report shows that the number of 15-19 year olds in employment dropped by an incredible 28% in the five years between 2006 and 2011. Around 40,000 young people have "disappeared" from the labour market and less than of third of them appear to have been staying at school. Yet government expenditure on youth employment training has dropped by nearly a quarter (from \$106million 2008 to \$81million 2011) while funding for tertiary education has continued to increase. Yet the most accessible "hand up" in education for the most marginalized young people is youth employment training. Investment in tertiary education is fine but not at the expense of the most vulnerable young people.

Housing – no Game Breaker in sight

The report continues to track the lack of progress in addressing critical housing issues. Shortage of housing in Auckland and continuing affordability issues will not be addressed by the approach to investment in housing

in current policies. There is no "game breaker" policy in sight and Government and local councils seem unwilling and/or unable to acknowledge the extent of the problem.

Read the full report at
www.salvationarmy.org.nz



Submissions on wellbeing of tamariki Māori needed

KIA HIWA RA! KIA HIWA RA! KIA HIWA RA!

Submissions to the Māori Affairs Select Committee Inquiry into the Social Determinants of Wellbeing close on 16 March 2012.

This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to advocate for high level changes in favour of Māori children and young people. Details about the inquiry and how to make submissions can be found at:

www.parliament.nz

Every Child Counts has developed guidelines for organisations making submissions. Key messages are:

- We need as many submissions as possible!
- The inquiry gives us an opportunity to advocate for legislative and policy change;
- We need strategies to deal with Māori whanau who are at risk;
- In the long term we need to lift Māori children out of poverty;
- Current measures are inadequate – we need new Maori measurements of wellbeing;
- Solutions must be kaupapa Māori-based.

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Nuku Tahi – Hikoi Tahi – Maranga Tahi Moving Forward Together

NZCCSS Services for Older People Conference, 29–30 March 2012
Te Raukura – Te Wharewaka o Poneke

REGISTER NOW!
WWW.NZCCSSCONFERENCE2012.ORG

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION CLOSING 9TH MARCH – IT'S NOT TOO LATE...

The final conference programme makes for a two great days of speakers, workshops, exhibits, networking and socialising...

Since our last Kete Kupu newsletter more exciting presenters have been confirmed.

A NEW MINISTER...

Minister Jo Goodhew – Associate Minister of Health and Minister for Senior Citizens Jo Goodhew has taken over responsibility for the aged care aspects of the Health portfolio and in this capacity as well as her role as Senior Citizens that she will be addressing our conference. We look forward to having time with her for questions and answers when she joins us on the second afternoon of the conference. She has been a driver of National Party policy for older people but she is not a member of Cabinet and ranked number 23 in the new Government's Ministerial list. Does this mean that the policy and funding for services for older people has been dropped down the priority list of the government? How will the needed investment in new models of care and support or more equitable approaches to funding services be achieved in competition with other areas represented at the Cabinet table?

LEARN FROM OTHERS' SUCCESS

Prof Chad Boulton – we are really fortunate to have Professor Boulton join us during his visit to NZ sponsored by the Otago Medical School. He is an internationally recognised expert on developing systems of care and support for older people. We have asked him to share some of the things he has learnt through years of research and implementation

TĀNGATA WHENUA O TE WHANGANUI Ā TARA – WELLINGTON TENTHS TRUST

The story of the Wellington Tenth Trust is the story of how the European settlement of Aotearoa New Zealand played out in Wellington. The Trust holds the mana whenua in Wellington City. Kaumātua and kuia play a vital role in leading the ceremonies for powhiri, tangihanga and other events. They are mentors, and offer spiritual guidance and advice for younger people. The Trust owns two retirement villages which help both house older people and also provide employment opportunities for iwi members and income to the Trust. While the Trust has traditionally not seen itself as a social service provider, the need for specialised programmes for kaumātua, social support and transport as well as affordable housing are all areas where the Trust has some role to play in meeting those needs. **Dr Catherine Love** will help provide signposts for social service providers in working with and supporting kaumātua.

FUTURE MĀORI MANAGERS AND LEADERS

We have asked award-winning manager **Alayna Watene**, Kaiwhakahaere Matua, Chief Executive, of Te Taiwhenua o Heretaunga, one of Hawke's Bay largest NGOs, to speak about ways our agencies can do better in promoting Māori into leadership roles in our organisations and networks. A fast-growing share of the present and future workforce, it is vital that we ask the question of our staff training and development – does this work for Māori?

Another outstanding Māori leader is **Rangimahora Reddy** from Hamilton's Rauawaawa Trust. She will be sharing from a wealth of experience in running support services for kaumātua and kuia in the community that really work. This is the kind of session that anyone involved with older people can benefit from.

RISING UP OUT OF DISASTER

It is just over a year since the huge aftershocks in Christchurch which lost lives and caused massive damage and disruption to the city. Keynote speaker **Bishop Victoria Matthews** will be leading a workshop to help further share and discuss what she, the services and organisations she is involved with and the city and its people have learned about themselves and their systems. The *Canterbury DHB launched the CREST* programme under urgency in response to the earthquake to help reduce pressure on need for hospital and aged care beds. Team member **Helen Lloyd** will share reflections on this first year of its operation.

OPPORTUNITIES TO INVEST IN NEW HOUSING MODELS FOR OLDER PEOPLE

We are delighted that the Director of the Social Housing Unit, **Michael Peard**, will lead a workshop aimed at exploring together with social service providers ways they can invest in delivering better housing outcomes for older people. The SHU has \$44 million to invest in funding social housing and future years will see more funding going into this area and this is a chance to discuss with the person leading this process how government can better partner the sector.

VITAMIN SUPPLEMENTS THAT REALLY MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Vitamin D deficiency has in recent years been identified as a problem, particularly among older people and there has been a major initiative to increase the intake by older people in residential care. Leading researcher and expert **Professor Ngaire Kerse** will give us the latest on the impact of dietary supplement Vitamin D in improving older people's wellbeing.

HOSPICES OF THE FUTURE

More and more people will be living & dying in aged residential care facilities in the future and we have invited **Dr Brian Ensor** from Mary Potter Hospice to speak about how aged care can work better with hospice services to use expertise from both traditions to do the best we can in palliative care.

SPIRITUALITY IS AT THE HEART OF WELLBEING – GETTING BEYOND "TICKING THE SPIRITUALITY BOX"

Dr Richard Egan from Otago Medical School is an expert in the field of healthcare and spirituality and his workshop will be one exploration of the practical ways that service providers can recognise and incorporate the spiritual dimension into their work. **Rev Clare Brockett** from Presbyterian Support Central will reflect on her experience of working with a number of aged care facilities and invite service providers to get beyond "ticking the spirituality box" and really explore the potential of chaplaincy work in aged care.



THE CHALLENGES OF DEMENTIA

While keynote Speaker **Jean-Paul Bell** will be helping us and our clients to learn more about the medicine of laughter, practitioner **Grace O'Sullivan** will be sharing her very practical experiences in changing the way aged care is done to make it a better place to live with dementia. Many small and often quite simple changes have been shown to make large differences. There are special challenges emerging as the impact of substance abuse and other mental health problems combine with ageing to mean a 'new' group of older people living with different forms of dementia. Dementia specialist **Dr Chris Perkins** will help offer some insights and information on working with these new challenges.

A FUTURE-FOCUS WORKFORCE

Sector ITO Careerforce has now merged with the Social Services ITO and **Ray Lind** new CEO of the combined ITO will open day two of the conference with an address about empowering high performance with training and development. Ray knows the many challenges of workforce development from his own experience leading healthcare agencies and we look to him to show us how the newly merged ITO will be moving forward together with the wider sector.

REGISTRATION FEES (excluding gst)

2 Day Early bird Registration before March 9 th 2012:	\$395.00
2 Day Standard Registration after March 9 th 2012:	\$445.00
1 Day Early bird Registration before March 9 th 2012:	\$200.00
1 Day Standard Registration after March 9 th 2012:	\$250.00
Conference Dinner (per person)	\$70.00

Go to the website now www.nzccssconference2012.org to register and secure your place.

SOCIAL EVENTS - WHAKAWHANAUNGATANGA - MANAAKITANGA

"Your Time to Shine" – NZ Wine, Cheese and Fruit soiree with sponsors and exhibitors followed by...

Conference Dinner featuring an exceptional menu, distinctive NZ flavour's, award winning wines, and great entertainment from the Musical Island Boys and Brannigan Kaa.

We are pleased to thank our sponsors, exhibitors, supporters and presenters who have agreed to come on board our waka:

Bupa, Wellington City Council, Careerforce ITO, Social Justice Commission of the Anglican Church, Mercy Healthcare Group, The Selwyn Foundation, Presbyterian Support New Zealand, Eden in Oz & NZ Ltd, Ebos Healthcare, Time Target NZ Ltd, Bunzl Australasia, CSC Buying Group, Pharmacia and Kono.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Jean-Paul Bell has been described as one of Australia's great "humour-manitarians." His keynote and workshops feature "Laughter really is the best medicine. One of his recent projects has been the Smile Study, visiting 18 aged care homes delivering fun and laughter to elderly people suffering with dementia.



Victoria Matthews Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of Christchurch and Board member of Anglican Care. Her reflections on the challenges and opportunities for governance and leadership of churches and aged care organisations faced with massive damage and disruption can inspire us all and prepare us to manage challenges for our organisations, communities and the wider sector.



Professor Biggs from the Brotherhood of St Laurence in Australia. He is also Professor at the Gerontology & Social Policy School of Social & Political Sciences, Melbourne University his keynote address looks at "Re-framing the debate about present & future wellbeing for older people: what we might do differently".



Professor Cunningham is Director, Research Centre for Māori Health & Development, Massey University. He has a leading role in researching what works for older Māori in promoting their health and wellbeing. He is ideally positioned to offer insights into how "mainstream" and "Māori" services can interact to do the best for kaumātua across all parts of sector.



Charles Waldegrave QSO is the Coordinator of the Family Centre Pākehā Section and leader of the Family Centre Social Policy Research Unit, Lower Hutt. He is currently one of the principal investigators in the NZ Longitudinal Study on Ageing (NZLSA) that is following 3,317 New Zealanders between the ages of 50 – 84 years.

The Good News Issue

Social services will always talk about the desperate need of those they work with. This is because there is a desperate need and the painful stories are powerful.

But if we are constantly highlighting the problems and failures we are doing our clients and our work a disservice – especially if we are always showing the "before" and never the after... so here are some Good News stories from Methodist Mission Dunedin's "Mission Message" newsletter www.dmm.org.nz

Helping Growing Up

Ross was referred to Arahina at 8 years old. After a disruptive move to Mosgiel he was having behaviour difficulties and had been banned from outside-school activities.

He recently left us to join after-school team sports and other clubs. At his exit interview we asked him what had changed his life. Ross replied that Arahina had helped him change; he wasn't so angry all the time, and kids' taunts didn't affect him anymore. He knows he can walk away from bullies and tell someone. He now enjoys his school and he has many friends.

Building Self-belief

One of the younger Approach Community Learning students, who previously had gang connections arrived at course with an ankle (home detention) bracelet on, she said to her tutor 'You know, people always told me I was dumb and couldn't do anything, but now I am here with people who believe in me.'





NZCCSS Future Wellbeing Conference 2012

Social Services for New Zealand's Future

18-19 April at the University of Auckland

Government wants social service organisations to deliver more results from less funding. It's time to *Review, Rethink, Respond* and *Renew* at the NZCCSS Future Wellbeing Conference.

Government has signalled it will be making major changes in the way it works with vulnerable people and the social services organisations that support them. This Conference is essential for Governance, CEOs, senior managers and others who need to *Review* the Government's plans. It provides an opportunity to *Rethink* and *Respond* to these plans and to consider other perspectives and directions that will help to strengthen vulnerable people and their communities. Come and *Renew* your networks and your commitment to making a real difference!

Keynote Speakers:



Hon Bill English – *Minister of Finance*

The Minister will provide an in-depth look at the changing landscape of national economy, the social welfare reforms and improved ways of delivering of government services. What does this mean for social services organisations and what are the government's expectations?

Kate Frykberg – *Philanthropy NZ*

From her perspective as Chair of Philanthropy NZ and her Executive Director's role in The Todd Foundation, Kate will discuss current and emerging thinking in 'best practice' philanthropy. What are the trends that are impacting on some of our major philanthropic organisations and how should social service organisations respond?



Hon Tariana Turia – *Minister of Whānau Ora*

The Minister is committed to seeing real and long term change for Māori, for whānau to become strong and self-determining. She will discuss why establishing Whānau Ora was necessary and share her thinking about whether mainstream processes of delivering social services lead to strong and capable whānau or to ongoing cycles of dependence.

Professor Paul Smyth – *Brotherhood of St Laurence*

In many developed nations there is a growing division of those who benefit from economic reforms and those who don't. Economic reforms can lead to social unrest unless its benefits are more obviously shared. If growth has not been good for the poor, what are the social policy systems that can support social sustainability, maximize social inclusion and provide for higher economic productivity?



NZCCSS Future Wellbeing Conference 2012

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Nic Frances – *Cool NRG*

Nic is an internationally recognised social entrepreneur, author and passionate advocate for new ways of supporting vulnerable people. His book *The End of Charity* provides for alternatives to the traditional charity models of support. He will be discussing whether the increasing drive towards social entrepreneurship means the end of charity and the international trends and learnings that we need to be aware of as this way of supporting social services becomes increasingly focused on.

Professor Tim Hazledine – *University of Auckland*

Tim will discuss achieving economic and social “wellness” in New Zealand by enabling stable households to better fend for themselves through being able to get well-paid work, rather than relying on fixing or alleviating social problems after they have arisen. The evidence is that good jobs make for happy and healthy families – the difficult question is: where do good jobs come from, in this age of increased income disparities in an over-globalised world?



Hon Paula Bennett – *Minister of Social Development*

Paula Bennett is passionate about children and young people and is determined to make positive changes for their future wellbeing. How will organisations be supported to provide critical services to help achieve these positive changes? What is the Minister's vision for the role and place of community based social services organisations in the changing economic and contracting environments – including the roll-out of the Welfare Reforms and the potential impacts of the Green Paper on Vulnerable Children recommendations?



Manu Caddie – *Te Ora Hou*

Manu is a dynamic Councillor on the Gisborne District Council, a founding member of Te Ora Hou, an experienced researcher and great communicator. Manu will be discussing the results of his organisations' recent research on the traditional transitions from child to adult in Māori society and how the lack of these may be impacting on rangatahi. What this may mean for how we work alongside Māori transitioning to adulthood.



New Zealand Council of
Christian Social Services

Auckland Futures - April 20 2012

With a single local authority and a population of 1.5 million Auckland has come of age. By April 20 the Auckland Plan will be released. The Auckland Futures mini-conference provides an opportunity to take the learnings from the Future Wellbeing Conference and engage directly with key Auckland Council members, staff along with social services organisations and community development advocates on how to implement the new Plan. The Auckland Futures mini-conference includes interactive, facilitated workshops and informative and exciting speakers.

Register on the website www.socialservicesconf.org.nz

Housing Affordability

Invest in Social Housing to Prevent Social Deficit

Hamilton church leaders got together recently to call for a stop to the sale of Hamilton's social housing stock. The combined media release on behalf of the leaders of the six NZCCSS member churches in Hamilton together with Poverty Action Waikato called on their networks to make a commitment to ensure social housing stock remains in Hamilton City.

Hamilton City Council is proposing to sell 51 Units it currently owns and rents to means tested elderly people to try and make up for budget shortfalls. The 51 Units are currently tenanted but will be sold as "vacant possession". Hamilton City Council hopes to raise 3 million dollars through this sale and the money will go towards the council's economic deficit.

Karen Morrison-Hume, spokesperson for the Hamilton Council of Christian Social Services, points out: "While the poverty in our city has increased over the last 30 years, so has the wealth. We are calling on the people who have financial investments to consider also making social investments in housing for the sake of our most vulnerable". She called on investors in the church networks to consider partnering with the council to at least maintain the Hamilton's current social housing stock. As she pointed out the "overall stock of council owned flats require a very small investment of ratepayers' dollars each year to make up for the gap between income and expenditure."

Housing NZ Policy Changes

This regional initiative in Hamilton highlights the housing pressures that exist in various ways throughout the country. Housing NZ is working its way through a programme of change that means it is offering fewer support and services to its residents and reducing their security of tenure through renewable tenancies. HNZ has no plans to increase its housing stocks and the Hamilton Council is a classic example of the pressures on local councils that are looking at selling off social housing assets to balance their budgets.

Productivity Commission on Housing Affordability

NZCCSS was among about 80 others who commented on the Productivity Commission draft report on housing affordability. In that submission we emphasised the need to increase social housing through investment by both government and the third sector. Local authorities such as Hamilton are part of that government investment and it is disappointing councils seeking to balance their budgets at the cost of the most vulnerable renters.

Read the submissions to the Productivity Commission Housing Affordability Inquiry online at www.productivity.govt.nz

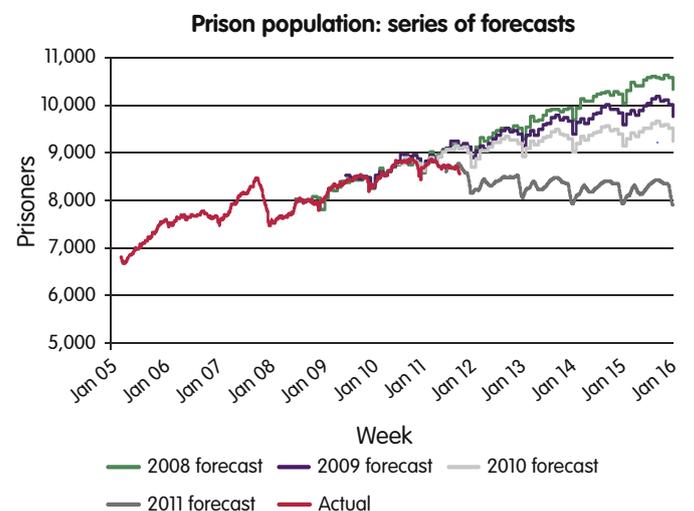
Overcoming the issues of the criminal justice sector-by faith

By Robin Gunston, National Director, Prison Fellowship

It is coming up for 3 years that I have been involved in ministry to the criminal justice sector, particularly focussing on prisoners, ex-prisoners, victims and their families. In this time the needs of these people have changed considerably and so has the environment in which we work. This has necessitated a very fluid response which has been difficult for both our Board and our key supporters to fully comprehend.

As a Christian Social Service provider within the sector the issue that strikes me most is the lack of other partners with whom to collaborate and plan for the future. Christian prison ministry has a long pedigree with the Chaplaincy movement starting in the 1850s and Prisoners' Aid Rehabilitation Society from the late 1880s. Prison Fellowship NZ only entered the scene in the 1980s. The Salvation Army were behind the creation of the first form of probation officers in the country but eventually that role got taken over by the State, nowadays they mainly work in the Courts and prisoner accommodation field. PFNZ now very much holds the responsibility, on behalf of the Church, for holding the State responsible for its work with prisoners, victims and their families on a national basis, although many groups do good work for such people at a regional or community level.

The numbers of people affected by criminal justice activities continues to inexorably climb, despite the fall in the overall crime rate for the last 15 years. However as a result of sentencing and police diversion policies we are finally seeing a projected decline in both court hearings and prison numbers as the latest forecast below indicates:



This is good news indeed and something that not only needs to be positively encouraged within our sector, but needs to make us think about how to transfer activities to the prevention of crime, and to assist those who get sentenced to community orders, or to home detention instead.

There are some 18,000 people at any one time who are starting a community detention order which may involve community work, and/or some form of rehabilitative course. These are real community needs if we are to ever lower crime and punishment to what might be considered to be acceptable in decent societies.

Our experience has shown that there is real social benefit to both parties to having those on a sentence encounter



caring Christians whether actively involved in a course or on a work party e.g. in building a Habitat house, painting a kindergarten or tending church grounds. Does your social service need unpaid help that Corrections community work gangs may be able to assist with?

Despite a complete restructuring of the Dept of Corrections during the past two years or so little impact has been made in reducing recidivism. This is of continuing concern to us as it represents the most economic and socially responsible way of reducing the prison muster. Corrections is still progressing to be the largest Government Department and was until recently proposing to still build a new 1000 bed prison at Wiri, which after strong representation by ourselves and the Salvation Army is hopefully going to be denied by Cabinet. It is in this arena of reducing recidivism that the Christian social service sector could collaborate with all churches to show the greatest impact. If we were to combine our resources and be able to offer halfway housing, alcohol, drug, violence prevention and parenting programmes, in every local community, together with

active support groups for ex-prisoners and their whanau/families, the evidence shows that recidivism will reduce. Prison Fellowship's Target Communities scheme is now being gradually extended nationwide to help churches pick up this kind of responsibility.

In prisoner health areas some progress has been made since the Government received the "Health in Justice Report" in 2010. There is now a concerted effort to get better mental health care for prisoners during their sentence, with an external tender currently in the market, and better external support for Corrections medical staff working in prisons. UnitedFuture as part of their supply agreement with the Government have also got agreement that a comprehensive drug and alcohol report on each prisoner will be available to the Parole Board for consideration at their hearings, something advocated in "Flying Blind" by Roger Brooking last year.

We have many new opportunities to work together to make a difference by faith in New Zealand society and our desire is to see the Church once again be the lead agency in "releasing the captives".

Victims Centre – Improving services for victims of crime through the development of a Victims Code

The Victims Centre was established in July 2011 to provide an oversight of victims' rights and the new services and entitlements available for victims. One of the key objectives for the Victims Centre is to strengthen inter-agency collaboration and coordination to improve services for victims and develop a Victims Code.

The aim of the Code is to make information available to victims about their rights, the services provided to victims by government agencies and other organisations, and the duties and responsibilities of agencies when dealing with victims. To ensure victims of crime and service providers were involved in the development of the Code, numerous engagements were held throughout New Zealand between October and December 2011. Findings from these engagements together with submissions received on the Enhancing Victims Rights Review 2010 were drawn on for

the document 'A Proposed Structure and Content for New Zealand's Victims Code'. This document was distributed in early February and an opportunity to comment on this report was provided until 24 February 2012.

Further opportunity to participate in the discussion on the Victims Code will be available from mid to late 2012 when formal public consultation takes place. When this opportunity arises it will be announced on the VictimsInfo website.

To learn more about the Victims Centre and documents concerning the Victims Code, please visit www.victimsinfo.govt.nz/developing-a-victims-code

The Victims Centre circulates a monthly newsletter to keep everyone informed about work current work and progress being made. Please email victimscentre@justice.govt.nz if you would like to receive this newsletter.

Walk the Paths of Justice

To state the obvious, social justice is about people changing and structures that we create for ourselves being good for everyone, and when they can't be good for everyone, favoring the poor and marginalized over the rest.

Many denominations will encourage their members to take time to reflect in the period before Easter. Lent is like a forty day spiritual detox, a time for reflection on our faith journey, and a time to make a change or two to our lives. We can all get a bit lost on our journey of faith from time to time – Lent is a time to get back on track. To walk the talk in our daily life – a walk that leads to the cross.

The Anglican Social Justice Commission think it's a good chance to do what the writer of Proverb's suggested and "Walk the paths of justice". So we have produced some wristbands as a visual reminder and statement of solidarity with others, which can be accompanied with daily reflections from our friend Mark Pierson from World Vision using lentenreflections.org

Justice has many paths, but it's the journey of faith which demonstrates the Christian life and faith we profess. Let's walk together.

But wait, there's more. They have been so popular we are going to produce them with different reflections throughout the year, using the different liturgical colours. So, not only will we be able to show our solidarity, we will also have a focal point as we get on with our daily life all year long. We think they are also a great visible sign of encouragement for each other – none of us should have to feel alone.

Of course, they are just a small step. But every journey begins with a small step.

If you would like some, please contact justice@anglican.org.nz or phone 021 529 587 / 04 472 2713. There is no charge.



He tohu mō ngā tamariki

Tau ana ko te noho tahitanga
o ngā whānau, o ngā tuākana,
me ngā tēina i roto i te whāriki ngahere.
Arā, ka puāwai ngā tamariki a Matariki.
Mahia ngā mahi o ngā tamariki
hei āpōpō ka tū
hei rangatira.

The symbol for Children's Day

Peaceful earthy colours from the forest
weave a mat for the koru frond to rest upon,
smaller koru are securely nestled.
From this embrace stars burst forth
to realise their potential.
Fulfil the needs of our children and
tomorrow they stand strong.

Children's Day – Sunday 4th March

Treasure our children

Children are born pure and with mana. They are a gift,
and as grown-ups, we have the job of nurturing our kids to
be strong and well.

The amazing role of parenting

Mātua are doing the most important job there is. It's
rewarding, but sometimes it's tough. This Children's Day we
encourage families everywhere to treasure their children.
When you're a parent that might mean:

- Making sure your kids have the things they need.
- Look after yourself so you can be there for them.
It's good to take time out to be you.
- If you're a dad, there's so much you can do to make
your child feel like a taonga.
- Learn about positive discipline. This job never came
with a manual and knowing some tricks of the trade
can make life a whole lot easier.
- Listen to what kids say on facebook. They fill us with
inspiration every day.

Whānau and friends supporting parents

We all have a role to play in treasuring our children. No
one needs to do the big job of being a parent by themselves.
Friends and family are the best people to lend a helping hand.

Ageing and Spirituality Workshops

Spirituality is an element of holistic care that is often neglected.
These workshops provide an introduction to the understanding
of what spirituality is and how it is expressed. We discuss the
changes and challenges associated with ageing and practise
how we might listen to our older clients or patients about the
aspects of life that really matter.

Workshops in:

Auckland 8-9 March
Wellington 12-13 March
New Plymouth 15-16 March

Selwyn Centre for Ageing and Spirituality – contact
chrisp@selwyncare.org.nz

www.selwyncare.org.nz/10/the-selwyn-centre-for-ageing-and-spirituality

Prayer for Christchurch

Rev Mary Caygill offered this prayer on
the anniversary of the February 22nd
earthquake in Christchurch.

*When I die give what's left of me away
to children and old men that wait to die.
And if you need to cry,
cry for your brother walking the street beside you.
And when you need me, put your arms around anyone
and give them what you need to give me.*

*I want to leave you something,
something better than words or sounds.
Look for me in the people I've known or loved,
and if you cannot give me away,
at least let me live in your eyes and not in your mind.*

*You can love me best by letting hands touch hands,
and by letting go of children that need to be free.
Love doesn't die, people do.
So, when all that's left of me is love,
give me away.*

From: *Mishhkan T'Filah, A Reform Siddur-Shabbat*, ed.
By Elyse D. Frishman, Central Conference of American
Rabbis, 2007, 139 [257], 288 [592]

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