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Dorothy & Friends Step Back Onto the Yellow Brick Road ...

By Revd Numia Tomoana

One of the main roles for the Anglican Women's Studies Centre is to encourage and support women furthering their theological studies. Numia Tomoana invited the women of Tai Rawhiti who are currently participating in the Regional Delivery of the Anglican Studies Programme, to share why they are doing ASP and how they balance the demands of busy lives while studying which is often one of the barriers for women deciding on whether to further their studies.



The Anglican Studies Programme participants with Archbishop Brown Turei and Lecturer, Revd Don Tamihere and Mihi Turei (Photo: Revd Brenda Parker)

Dorothy Smith writes ...

Tena koutou katoa

My name is Dorothy Smith from Te Matau a Maui and I am going to share a brief account of my history and present situation.

I lived out of NZ for a few years and during that time had very little to do with the Anglican Church, my wider whanau and the marae so

after returning home and settling down I made the decision to come back to church in our small village of Waimarama when Ramai Southon Broadman was our residing minister. After she passed away, my village (I grew up in Waipatu) sister, Numia became our resident minister at Waimarama. In resuming and strengthening our relationship, a step forward was made & I was commissioned as Kaikarakia alongside our Kautua, Togi Waitoa at the re-consecration of St Matthew's Church at Waipatu by Archbishop Brown Turei on February 6th 2011.

I travel daily to work in Hastings as a Case Manager at Work & Income. I leave home around 7.15am each morning and arrive home at the earliest at 6.00pm so my time away from our home is long, and organisation and time management are the keys to making my life and relationships work. Thank goodness I have an awesome partner who takes care of the home front for us. I usually leave home maintenance until the weekend.

As soon as I saw the Anglican Studies programme I wondered if it was the door opening for me to go back to school to revise what I knew as a younger Dorothy and to learn more to assist me on my journey today as Kaikarakia. And it is exactly that. In a class of 12 passionate women of various ages and a young

ers who are in need will be inspired to take on similar commitments

Nga manaakitanga—Dorothy

“Naku te rourou nau te rourou ka ora ai te iwi”

Revd Jackie Te Amo, Wairoa writes ...

After studying hard at Taapapa for Masters of Theology I never thought I would study again. It didn't take long and I got bored. I just like to keep learning, learning, learning and learning. It's not just about degrees, but keeping my head focussed, I started getting fidgety.



Photo: Revd Brenda Parker

I have more questions than answers; the more I learn, I realise the less I know. Doing the Anglican Studies Programme is for me, completely different than what I have been studying. Previously, I have been learning concepts of the Bible and looking through a tikanga Māori lens and Māori values. Now, we are studying the Old

gentleman, we are continually soaking up the knowledge and wisdom of Reverend/Tutor Don Tamihere at Te Rau College in Gisborne and Reverend Katene Eruera who travels from St John's Theological College in Auckland. We also have the pleasure of our Archbishop Brown and his lovely wife Mihi, who attend some of our sessions.

We all travel from our homes on Fridays, taking annual leave from work to check into our motel and after dinner, which is prepared at Te Rau College by our awesome Master Chef team, we begin class until 9ish then return to our motel. In the morning after breakfast at the motel it's back to class to fill our minds with information old and new, sharing ideas, questioning and reliving those times and teachings of the Bible and it's structure. So far it has been a mind blowing experience which has gone way ahead of my expectations and I look forward to my next weekend in Tairāwhiti. I feel blessed to have the chance to travel this road with all those involved and hope oth-

er Testament and looking at the different covenants. It is exciting and I'm loving it!

Revd Piri McKenzie, Wairoa writes ...

ASP enables me to learn more about the Bible and Old Testament theology, therefore to improve my ministry and feed our people better. There is always the challenge to our people that causes me to answer and seek that only the Gospel can provide. I find that studying the bible and theology IS my balance, it is part of oneself and feeding that need from within. It is the essence of who we are.

Merekaraka Te Whitu writes ...

As a rangatahi, I want to gain a deeper understanding and appreciation of the Anglican Church. At the end of the course, I want a deeper understanding of God's word and how I can use it in my ministry. I balance my time with prayer fellowship and

If you wish to explore the possibility of furthering your theological studies with the Regional Delivery of the Anglican Studies Programme please contact your Diocesan Ministry Educator or Hui Amorangi Kaiwhakaako or direct any queries to Revd Sue Burns, Director of the Anglican Studies Programme at St John's Theological College.

having fun outside the Church with friends. I usually study after work (teacher aid at our Kura Kaupapa) and on weekends unless there is a meeting or tangihana etc... I'm learning so much.

Revd Brenda Parker writes ...

My ministry is quite simple, I was raised in the Anglican Church on the pakeha side but my ministry calling was to my father's people. My father is Ngapuhi, his Great-Great-Grandfather was

Chief Te Uriti Te Whareumu who sign the first draft of the Treaty and was a great friend of William Williams and one of the first Maapri Anglicans. My ministry has been blessed by the older people in our local marae, teaching and supporting me, working for God is a pleasure and I just find time around my full-time work to service the people around me. I study each night from 8-10pm, 6 days a week. There's a saying 'give a busy person a job to do and it will be done'.

What is 'doing' Church anyway?

By Revd Jacynthia Murphy

For this aging theological student, endeavouring to balance physical and spiritual wellbeing, life has been all but academic! Having left behind many years in Local Government, to continue theological studies, I naïvely assumed that fulltime study in a residential college would automatically default my regime to educational books only. That once familiar work-life balance is seemingly more elusive than ever before. Attempts to juggle multiple portfolios as well as fulltime tertiary study, whilst still serving a pastorate, seems more conducive to a breakdown rather than building one's capacity! Some might agree that the fortitude of a mountaineer is the pivotal qualification needed

to *do church* in our society today. Others might inquire, "what is *doing church* anyway?" So, what exactly is this phenomena that has now consumed me? What derailed my once sedate and ordered life? Now, in my final study year, I have come to realise that the challenge to remain motivated, in what often feels like the whistling pressure cooker, can only be attained with God's grace and mercy.

Having acquainted myself with Athanasius of the 4th century to Karl Barth in the 20th, I ponder how I might contextualise their theology into my community. Having frequented the debate stadiums of Christian thought and ethics, I contemplate how I



Photo Montage supplied by Revd Jacynthia Murphy

might translate the theological vernacular, that has become a conversational norm, into the domestic language. Whilst accepting the historical paths of Judea, Islam and Christianity, I wonder if I have inadvertently assimilated my indigeness into a montage of colonial doctrines. Where once I might profusely object to worldviews that oppress others, I feel I may have mitigated my thinking with academic theological reason. These are just some of the quandaries that confront me on the eve of my departure from college. Do not misunderstand me, theological study has a great deal to offer many, however, is intellectual knowledge actually the best tool to *do church*? For me, it is about finding a balance between studying, sitting in meeting rooms, serving in the community, and self-preservation. Note to self; God never promised an easy route!

The recent Oxfam Trailwalker 100kms, where I witnessed much suffering for the sake of others, is but one way of emulating Christ-like empathy. The Feed-the-Kids campaign, where nourishing food parcels are distributed in our streets, echoes gospel imperatives. Relocating displaced Housing NZ residents where the love of their neighbour ensures a roof over their heads, mirrors Jesus' parables. Walk-a-thons, marathons and other events, where much needed funds are raised to alleviate disease and disaster, beckons us to walk that extra mile. These models are not necessarily Church initiated, yet, they are what I consider as seriously *doing church*, without the academics!

We may spend years pursuing a rigorous comprehension of theological doctrines and we might even accept that this methodology is enough to equip our ministry toolboxes. We might run around offering ourselves to a myriad of community projects that fulfil an outward expression of Christian acts. We may even offer philosophical contributions, to the decision-making tables of our church, that could have a profound effect on our fellow Christians. The challenge for me in the near future will be discovering the middle axioms of intellectual knowledge, *grass-root* ministry, community projects and board room meetings. All this, I pray, in the name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

“What good is it if someone says he has faith but does not have works? If a person is poorly clothed and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and filled,” without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.” James 2:14-17.



The Anglican Women's Studies Centre present the
2014 Women in Ministry Provincial Hui

“Church, Women & Leading?”

For Lay & Ordained Anglican Women in Ministry

St John's Theological College, Auckland, New Zealand

Monday, 29th September—Wednesday, 1st October 2014

Mark in your diaries now—More details to follow

CHRIST IS RISEN

An Easter Panui

A Message to the People of Aotearoa

On the 1st April 1945, a message was given to the Maori people by the Bishop of Aotearoa Wiremu Netana Panapa (Uncle Barney). The following is a snippets of his sermon:

“We have now reached one of the greatest days in our church year the day of our Lords resurrection from the dead. As evidence of the importance of this day in the estimation of the church, there is a rubric at the end of the High Church service which states ‘Every parishioner should communicate at least three times in the year, of which Easter is one of these times’. Hold firmly to the spiritual things that have followed us in the wake of the resurrection. May God bless you all and give to you the real joy that has come down to us as a result of our Lords resurrection”.

On the 11th April 2014, some 69 years later I asked my Grand-daughter, who is the Great-Great-Great-Grand-daughter of Bishop Panapa, what Easter was to her? She said it's when God gives us chocolate Easter eggs and invites us to Jesus birthday so we can eat his presents.

As a child growing up, our Great Grandmother Ngapeka Mereana Maihi, always insisted that we go to church at Easter to celebrate the resurrection of Christ and she used to give us a painted boiled eggs.

May the blessing of this Easter be upon each and every one of us.



Revd Canon Mere Wallace,

Te Waipounamu— WSC Tikanga Maori Councillor
(Photo: Revd Carole Hughes—from the Closing Eucharist of the Leaders Like Lydia Hui)

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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.