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Introducing our Provincial Link to the IAWN

By The Venerable Carole Hughes



As the new International Anglican Women's Network Link Representative for this Province, Carole Hughes was invited to introduce herself to other member representatives of the Network. This is what she wrote...

the Episcopal team in the Diocese of Auckland, New Zealand, as the full time Archdeacon of the central Auckland region. I have been in this role for only 6 weeks and so far I am excited and positive about the many opportunities I have had to experience ministry and worship in different contexts across the city. My major focus is to support ministry development and to enable more effective ministry and mission in Auckland, as well as offer advice and pastoral support of those in licensed ministry. I have spent 13 years in parish ministry and I am keen to now support others in their local context. Resource sharing is one of my priorities, including encouraging others to do so. My latest book, 'A time in Lent', is a collation of some Lenten Studies programmes, and the main intention of this publication is to encourage resource sharing. This initiative is with much thanks to the General Synod Centre for Anglican Women's Studies, of which I am the Convenor. This Centre is a General Synod initiative set up to serve and to advance the interests and needs of the women of our Church, particularly those undertaking theological training. Our projects include mentoring programmes for newly ordained women, networking and regular newsletters and communication to women of our church, encouraging women to publish and share resources, and organising a hui (gathering)

It is with delight that I introduce myself as a representative of the Church of Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia on the IAWN. I am an Anglican Priest, who has recently taken up a role in

for ordained women across Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia. It is a privilege to work with wonderful, inspirational women. What I value the most is our ability to laugh and cry with one another, to pray for and deeply value each other's contribution, and to support and care for one another.

I think that the biggest challenge for women in our church is to continue to remind the wider church about our mission to respond to the poor, the alienated and all those who struggle. Often women are the ones who do the actual work in the midst of those in pain, and to tell and value their stories as part of the wider story is vital. There is also a need for good women role models in leadership, and we seem to be struggling in our church for women to be nurtured and elected into leadership positions. For example, New Zealand is known for having the first Diocesan woman bishop, but we still continue to only have one woman bishop two decades on. There is still work to be done in terms of attitudes toward women in leadership, as well as support and valuing our contribution.

For the past four years I have been a guest lecturer in liturgy at St John's Theological College, and I am also part of the Bishop's Ministry Advisory team, who interview and recommend candidates for ministry selection, as well as working on the Post Ordination Training facilitation team in the Diocese of Auckland. These roles provide opportunities for me to encourage, support and celebrate with women, as well as men, in all that they contribute to the church and wider society. It is also about realising dreams and responding to the call to love and nurture others.

May our journey together be full of hope and inspiration as we experience Christ amongst us in love, compassion and restoration.

What is the International Anglican Women's Network and how can I be part of it in this Province?



The IAWN is the global voice of Anglican women and is responsible for reporting women's concerns to the Anglican Consultative Council (ACC). The purpose of IAWN as an official network of ACC is to enable and empower all women of the Anglican Communion to work cooperatively at national, provincial and communion-wide levels to strengthen the ministries of women in God's world and to ensure women are influential and equal participants throughout the entire Anglican Communion. The Network's main role is advocating for women and women's concerns in the church; promoting equal participation of women in decision making throughout the church; facilitating networking among women and women's organisations within the church and beyond, especially in responding to women's needs and issues. In 2007, the Joint Standing Committee of ACC asked IAWN to ensure that the study of the place and role of women in the structures of the Anglican Communion, called for in the resolution, be carried out. IAWN have begun to gather statistics of women in decision-making roles; information thus far obtained is available in the IAWN document, "**Progress Report on the Implementation of Resolution ACC 13-31**".

The challenge for each tikanga of this Province is to ask itself "In the past five years since the beginning of this task, has the number and variety of women in decision making and governance roles increased or decreased?"

If you would like to know more about the work of IAWN or find out how you could support our Provincial Link, please contact Carole Hughes on carole@auckanglican.org.nz.

By the Editor

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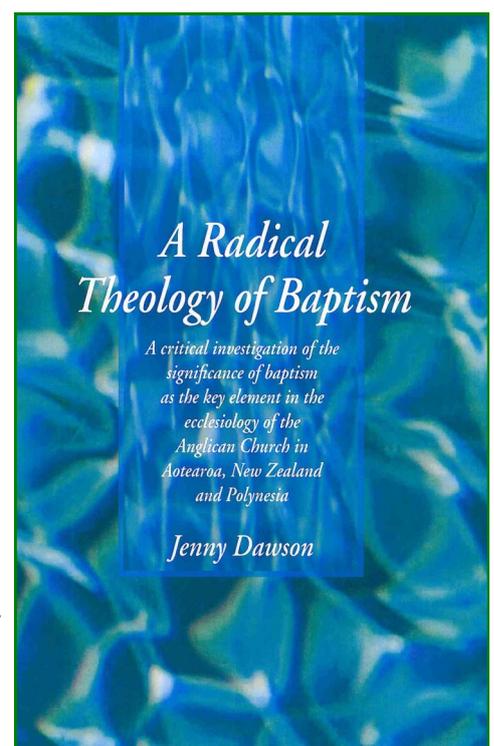
jenniferdawson@xtra.co.nz

Or contact the Anglican Resource Centre in Wellington on

resources@wn.ang.org.nz

"Reflection through her own experience brings to life the intricacies of what baptism means in people's lives, impacting in their local faith community, Whanau, society or international settings. Jenny recognises its implications and power for living the Gospel to right injustices and empower both lay and ordained, especially through Local Shared Ministry's emphasis on team relationship, grounded in local concerns, and working together being at the heart of God."

Jenny Campbell, LSM Enabler for Te Anau, member of Anglican Social Justice Commission and WSC Link Representative for the Diocese of Dunedin



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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.

PASTOR & PROPHET HUI
Women in Ordained Ministry
27-29 October 2011

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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Hui Amorangi o te Waipounamu

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