



PressGo ANNUAL REPORT 2015-2016



**PressGo**



Presbyterian Church  
of Aotearoa New Zealand

## Who is on the PressGo Board?

**Rt Rev Andrew Norton**  
Chair

**Very Rev Ray Coster**  
*(completed his term in 2016)*

**Rev Sharon Ross Ensor**

**Prof Gregor Coster**

**Mrs Jenny Flett**

**Mr Simon Bilton**

**Mrs Anne Edgar**  
(Associate, COA Resource subcommittee)

**Rev Wayne Matheson**  
(Associate, Assembly Executive Secretary)

**Mrs Lisa Wells**  
PressGo Catalyst

To contact PressGo and  
discuss your initiative:



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of Aotearoa New Zealand

PressGo Chair  
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The PressGo Board was established by General Assembly 2008 to support the growth of the church by facilitating a process to support new and innovative mission and outreach in New Zealand. We administer a number of mission funds which enable this to happen.

At General Assembly 2014, the Mission Enterprise Fund\* was instituted and we are now able to make grants from that fund for new and innovative mission. In addition, 20% of the MEF will be available for ministry with those who are vulnerable and socially disadvantaged. Such applications are considered in partnership with Te Aka Puaho and involve the relevant regional Presbyterian Support organisation.

PressGo has three strands to its work: capacity building, new mission initiatives and seed funding. In each of these areas we work closely with local congregations and in partnership with the Presbyteries.

## Inspiring Mission

Over the last year PressGo participated in the many Inspiring Mission events that were offered across the country, hosted by the regional Presbyteries. In addition, the Chair and the PressGo Catalyst were invited to present workshops and speak at Presbytery gatherings and the UCANZ Forum.

\*See page 12 of this booklet for more about the Mission Enterprise Fund



In April the first Inspiring Mission Network gathering was held in Wellington.

Thirty-three people who are involved in mission advising, strategic planning and other congregational resourcing from throughout the PCANZ attended. The intent of the gathering was to ensure that people are not working in isolation but are aware of what is being done in other parts of the country. In sharing resources and encouraging each other it became clear that we are entering a time when many different forms and models of church are emerging and our priorities must be with the “new sparks” to give space and fuel for growth.

## Capacity Building

Although nurturing bright “sparks” are a priority for PressGo, we work with a fair number of congregations that are more “waning flames” as they face hard questions about their future. Many of these congregations look back to their best years in mission and grieve that things have changed and the church is no longer full on Sunday morning. We want to encourage them to discern where God is working in their communities and “go out” to reignite their missional imagination and action.

PressGo and the PressGo Catalyst have worked with more than fifty congregations and presbyteries over the past twelve months. As well as directly listening, challenging, motivating, encouraging and facilitating; we can access professional skills in the areas of finance, planning, project management and fundraising to help build up the church team and enable a congregation’s mission.



*“It’s a process that’s well worth it, not just because Lisa and the team are saying something new, so much as asking pertinent questions that help us see what the future could look like. They’re a valuable outside perspective.”*

Gene Lawrence, St David’s Presbyterian Church, Palmerston North, commenting on an organisational audit carried out by PressGo.

PressGo’s investment in capacity building is primarily in the provision of the PressGo Catalyst to resource the church. We have received a grant of \$150,000, payable over three years, from the Council of World Mission, to assist with these activities.

PressGo sponsored a pilot team of PCANZ ministers attending 3dm Learning Community workshops and implementing their learnings in the local context. This pilot is now coming to an end, but the results are there in terms of progress within the churches involved. Moving congregations from being passive consumers to engaged

disciples is not easy, but the mentoring model and support offered by 3dm has provided a tool that can be applied in many different church contexts.

*“We wanted to be effective evangelists but didn’t know how to get to where we wanted to be. PressGo’s support gave us confidence and also the legitimacy to tap into additional funding sources”,*

Paul Prestidge, Miramar Uniting Church, commenting on their involvement with 3dm training. Neighbours’ Day pictured above was an opportunity for them to put their confidence into action!

## Seed Funding

PressGo administers a number of funds from which it can make grants for projects that achieve objectives of growth, congregational vitality, community, compassion and generosity. Over the last twelve months we have made seven new grants totaling \$174,166.

- St John's Presbyterian Church, Hastings – establishment and development of youth, community and fresh expressions ministry.
- Mahurangi Presbyterian Church, Warkworth – fundraising feasibility and planning study contribution for new worship and community centre.
- Rev Mary Petersen – on behalf of Transition Ministry training group – contribution to costs of training for PCANZ ministers.
- Nawton Presbyterian Church, Hamilton – development of community ministry in culturally relevant way.
- St Barnabas' Presbyterian Church, Plimmerton – contribution to fundraising costs and new missional engagement.
- Clevedon Community Church, Auckland – establishment and development of community and fresh expressions ministry.
- Knox Presbyterian Church, Parnell – establishment and development of "Village church" small missional expressions.

We have honoured past commitments to Hope, Crossroads Community and Knox Dannevirke Presbyterian churches and KCML for the Music Enabler role with a further \$44,092 granted.

We have made commitments to parishes, totaling \$59,575, in the 2016/17 year ahead.

*"PressGo partnered with us and was instrumental in engaging PSDS. They gave us the vision to step out in faith and the surety of guidance and involvement."*

Troy Gerbich, Knox Presbyterian Church Dannevirke.  
A big event – opening of Knox Presbyterian Church's foyer and hall redevelopment project.

Since its inception, the Mission Enterprise Fund has received \$543,159 in contributions and interest and we are sincerely grateful to those parishes that have contributed to the PCANZ in this way.

This year the projects we supported and the congregations we have been working with have reinforced the importance of





PressGo helped St John's establish a community family pastor position which will build on the great community fresh expressions. Food always seems to be an essential part of intentional mission within our communities. John Crook, St John's Presbyterian Church, Hastings commented

*"We give thanks to God for answers to prayer – and especially to you for your help in making this possible, and to the PressGo Board in sharing our vision....Our whole congregation is really excited about the possibilities that the Lord is opening up before us, though we know that there will be more challenges to make this initiative a success for the people of Mahora and the surrounding area."*

engaging face to face, so that PressGo is perceived not merely as a funding provider but a partner in mission discernment and action. In March the Council of Assembly approved new Terms of Reference for the PressGo Board, thus reinforcing the Board's leadership in this area.

## The Future

At a national level the PressGo Board has identified a number of strategic partners and has recently been working with COA's Leadership subcommittee and Knox Centre for Ministry and Leadership on their mission "seedlings" concept. This is a very exciting and creative development impacting on leadership training, fostering new missional communities and exploring a local and regional framework which helps innovation thrive.

For the 2016/17 financial year we are re-instituting a PressGo application form for all grants. Applications are open at any time and the face to face engagement that has been a mark of PressGo's work to date will continue to be part of the application process.

Small grants are available through the Presbyterian Foundation's annual funding round later this year. We have worked closely with the Presbyterian Foundation grants panel over the last year and believe

*“On behalf of our growing congregation we are truly appreciative and blessed by the generosity of PressGo. We believe this [grant] will be the necessary catalyst for the big step of successfully raising the necessary capital funds to start building.”*

Brian Dangerfield,  
Mahurangi Presbyterian Church

that moving from one annual round to “open anytime” will enable more effective and intentional use of this fund. This streamlining has been anticipated in our up to date Terms of Reference and a recommendation for General Assembly’s approval to include the administration and oversight of the Presbyterian Foundation in the work stream of PressGo has been included in the Resource sub-committee report to General Assembly 2016.

*Food is never far from community at Clevedon Church either, “our thanks to the Board for their support of our new mission venture. We thought things were settling into around 60-70 per night but this Sunday we are heading over 100 people to eat and drink with and bless with our welcome and care. A huge thank you to all of you for the blessing and support you provide our community through your help – I love being part of such a generous and supportive church!”*

Martin Baker, Clevedon Community Presbyterian Church

We are looking forward to assisting more congregations in the coming year and helping you discover the wonderful ways that God is present in your community.

It is a huge responsibility and privilege to be entrusted with this task and we are excited to be part of the vital work of mission throughout the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand.

My thanks to the hard working PressGo Board members for their contribution this year. I would especially like to acknowledge the Very Rev Ray Coster who was the inaugural Chair of PressGo and has made a significant gift to the PCANZ in his leadership of this initiative. Thank you.

Together we are making a difference.  
Nga mihi nui,



**Andrew Norton**  
Chair PressGo Board



## NAWTON CHURCH

You've probably never heard of Nawton Community Presbyterian Church or know where it is but it is a real treasure in West Hamilton. The parish hasn't had a minister in years and the church council resolved in 2006 to put mission to the community ahead of ministering to the congregation. This decision enabled many in the congregation to discover gifts they never knew they had – preaching, worship leading, music ministries, pastoral care and serving on youth and children's ministries.

Over time the mission activities for children and families – after school Café, Kids Club, Youth Group and Impact Holiday Programmes – became a real focus and source of pride for the congregation. Relationships with the school across the road grew, but there was a feeling that there was something else God was calling the congregation to notice.

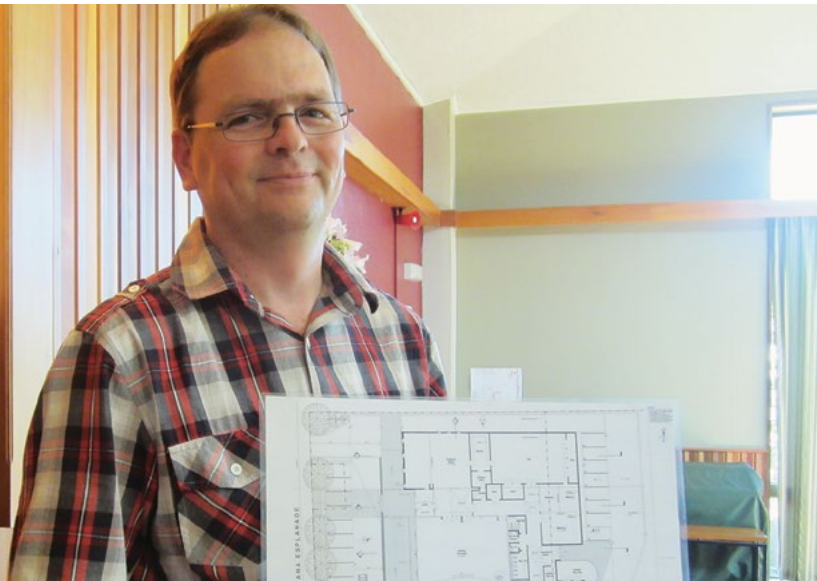
Although culturally diverse, the community surrounding the church and school is 74% Maori and many families are struggling with

the basics of life. In response to this one thing the school did was employ a kaumatua, PCANZ Amorangi minister Rev Hone Te Rire. One thing led to another and soon the conversation had expanded. Could Hone also be a community minister for Nawton? Were the church and school concerned about the same things in their community?

PressGo was asked to consider making a contribution to this new role, but on paper it didn't seem any different than the usual applications for a children and family worker. So the PressGo Catalyst visited and listened and observed the relationships of trust being formed between the church and local families.

*“PressGo is a great innovation in the life of the church. Having Lisa available to walk alongside us also helps us not to forget the mission, the real reason for this project.”*

Richard McLean, St Barnabas Presbyterian Church, Plimmerton.







Nawton Church has a real vision and commitment to reaching their community with the gospel. As a Community Minister, Hone would not be replacing the hundreds of volunteer hours put in by the congregation, but adding to them in focus and effectiveness.

The importance of PressGo's personal approach can't be underestimated. We understand mission to be about relationships so that is the way we must work too. This visit was greatly encouraging for Nawton leaders and helped them see that the wider PCANZ was interested in what they were doing and wanted to add their support in a

community that is often neglected. The PressGo Board made a grant towards this position late in 2016.

*You're never too old to serve! Nawton Church Emeritus Elder Leen Lokum and Hone Te Rire prepare to welcome children to Café activity programme. "Thank you so much for your advocacy. The news is a great Christmas blessing for us at Nawton, Church and Community as we establish this new ministry."*

Bill Featherstone, Nawton Community Presbyterian Church

## WAKATIPU PRESBYTERIAN PARISH

Wakatipu parish has a vision so bold it almost seems unattainable. And that is just where PressGo got involved.

The parish has three main preaching places: St Andrew's in Queenstown housing a number of thriving multi-cultural congregations and hospitality ministries, St Margaret's in Frankton which is fast outgrowing its site and St John's in Arrowtown which has not long been updated to meet church and community needs.

The challenge of being in mission in a rapidly growing tourist town drives the vision and with vast housing subdivisions at the north end of town the potential mission-field grew. At the same time land became available right in the middle of the new area, at a price that was hard to refuse. The church successfully approached

the Synod of Otago and Southland for a grant towards purchase of the land and then made contact with PressGo to see what we could do.

PressGo provided the encouragement and tools to take a really big faith step. In a project like this the congregation must be the first givers and as the vision had not yet been fully developed with respect to what would be built on the land, what design, configuration and cost; it was too early to test and run a fundraising campaign. So we recommended that a few key congregational members be asked to make a loan or a pledge to secure the land in the first instance. Following our model, the \$1,000,000 required funds were secured in a matter of days. This is a great platform for successful fundraising in the future when the whole congregation will be able to participate and construct a worship and community facility in line with the bold vision. We look forward to being involved at this stage too!





## What is PressGo?

PressGo was established as a Board at General Assembly 2008 and was tasked with ensuring that parishes and presbyteries with a growth project received the assistance and resourcing they needed to make it happen. Between then and the period this report covers, PressGo provided assistance and support to 30 parishes and funded 14 projects, totaling \$1,505,168.

Projects funded 2008 to year end 2015 were:

- Asian Advisory Group – establish Asian Congregation Advisor role
- Knox Presbyterian Church, Waitara – development of community and worship centre
- St Peter's Presbyterian Church, Tauranga – for Lighthouse church plant, Welcome Bay
- South Kaipara Church, Helensville – establishment of new initiatives
- Hope Presbyterian Church, Christchurch – establishment of new initiatives and church plant
- St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Central Hawkes Bay – establishment and development of youth ministry
- Te Anau Presbyterian Church – contribution to building and new missional engagement
- Wadestown Presbyterian Church – support Community Mission role
- Taranaki Presbytery – development of Micro Church in rural areas
- Crossroads Presbyterian Church, Pokeno – contribution to building and new missional engagement
- Rev Hamish Galloway – contribution to attendance at Urban Renewal Conference
- Anglican Diocese of Wellington – PCANZ involvement in 3dm discipleship training as PressGo pilot initiative
- Rev Malcolm Gordon – contribution to development of PCANZ Music Enabler role
- Knox Presbyterian Church, Dannevirke – contribution to building and new missional engagement

Current grants and other work are described in the body of this Annual Report.

# What is the Mission Enterprise Fund?

In establishing the Mission Enterprise Fund (MEF) in accordance with the decision of General Assembly 2014, and following consultation with presbyteries and other parties, the following was agreed:

## **The purpose of the Mission Enterprise Fund is:**

To fund mission and growth initiatives within the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand.

## **The Vision for the MEF is:**

A church that grows by helping people discover, trust and love Jesus Christ.

A church committed to growing community and relationships.

A church that cares for and acts with the people Jesus cared for – the vulnerable and lonely.

## **The Objectives of the fund are:**

1. That the number of those participating in the worshipping life of our Church increases. This includes the variety of church expressions, not just the Sunday service.

2. That churches show amongst their members such qualitative measures as a deeper faith, strengthened commitment to Christ, and increased willingness to be involved in serving others and advocating for those who do not have a voice.

3. That vulnerable and socially disadvantaged groups, families or people receive the support they need to be a valued part of our church communities.

4. That we as a church may have an avenue to share with each other for the advancement of God's Kingdom on earth and to show an attitude of generosity in keeping with our Christian faith.

PressGo is tasked with administering this fund, in addition to the PressGo Fund and others.

In many respects the Mission Enterprise Fund enables churches to share a legacy of support with other parishes so that we are all helping each other to extend God's mission. We are deeply grateful for the funding that we receive from this source.



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