

EQ Update
the Presbytery Earthquake Steering Committee reports...
Issue 6 1 March 2011

Friends, while we need to be attending to buildings and taking steps for the future, we are mindful that the care and needs of people matter much more. The significant loss of life is very sobering and many people in our Presbyterian family know people who died or are still missing. We remember them in our prayers.

The loss of three people recovering the organ out of the Durham Street Methodist Church has been utterly tragic. We also had workers seeking to restore the St Paul's Trinity Pacific Church diagonally opposite the CTV site. On the Monday before the quake I saw several workers on the roof and wondered how they fared on Tuesday. Fortunately they were on a lunch break and all escaped the site.



St Paul's & St George's



We have lost the St Georges in Linwood church. It will be demolished in the next day or two. This should enable the hall to be safe to use.

Other churches in a dire situation are St John's in Lyttleton, Knox, Berwick Street (likely to be demolished shortly), Mt Pleasant, and St Giles. The Mt Pleasant Church manse has also suffered considerable damage. St Stephen's is moderately damaged and unlikely to be usable for quite some time and the Cashmere Hills Church is also unusable – both of these congregations can use their halls. Other churches awaiting safety inspections in the next few days are Crossways at North Avon, St Ninians and St Martins.



Knox Church



St John's



Mt Pleasant

All of this means that we are back to a new starting point, quite obviously we have been set back much more than in September.

Immediate work for Pesc will be on building safety and opening up what we can as soon as possible. All damage needs to be registered as soon as possible. Here is the contact information:

- **Manses, rental properties & EQC:** It is vital that any *residential* properties under the jurisdiction of parishes be checked for *any* damage and registered with EQC if there is damage. It is better to be in the loop with EQC than miss the deadline for registration and find out later that there will be no cover. *All claims for domestic dwellings* (e.g. manses or residential dwellings administered by the parish) need to be registered under the title of “Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand” and not under the name of your parish. The insurer is Ansvar Insurance Co and you will need to quote the Presbyterian Insurance Group policy number: **0902517987**. Dugald of the PESC team needs to be advised and also given the EQC number of the claim. The **deadline** for claims registration is yet to be declared – but we encourage all parishes to register any damage with the EQC as soon as possible.
- **Church claims:** All claims for *church buildings or church contents* should be referred directly to our insurance advisors AON via their telephone number 0800 50 51 52 and also to Margaret Fawcett from the Presbyterian Insurance Group 04 801 6000. In addition, the PESC should also be notified (our contact details are below). Aon will in turn advise Ansvar (our insurers) and Godfreys (our Assessors). Godfreys will then make contact with the local parish contact person. If there are any totally new losses at Parishes which have not previously reported damage, we will need to have the details of the Parish Contact Person.

Our very best wishes to you in the challenged you face.

Martin & Dugald

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