

# MĀORI LANGUAGE WEEK

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF TE WIKI O TE REO MĀORI

## 14 - 20 SEPT

MESSAGE TO THE CHURCH FROM TE AKA PUAHOU  
ON BEHALF OF THE MODERATOR



### He kupu whakamanawa i te Reo Rangatira, mō te wiki o te Reo Māori

Nā te Rongopai tēnei kupu karaipiture – words from the scriptures

“He rama tāu kupu ki ōku waewae, he marama ki tōku ara.”  
(Ngā Waiata 119:105)

E koro mā, e kui mā, nā te mata o te kāheru nei koutou i tuku ki te kōpū o te whenua, ā, nā te toi o te pene koutou i hahu ake i roto i te wā nei kia mōhio ai, kia whakamīharo ai o koutou mangainga ki tā koutou i mahi ai, ki tā koutou i whai ai, ki tā koutou i awhero ai, ki tā koutou i whakapono ai, ki tā koutou i tohe ai, ki tā koutou i whawhai ai, tēnei rā te mihi atu, te tangi atu ki a koutou, moe mai, moe mai, moe mai rā. E tātou te hunga ora, anei anō rā he kōrero kua puta mō te āhua ki ō tātou tipuna mē te wā ki a rātou. Mei kore ake rātou, kei hea tātou te hunga ora i roto i tēnei ao hurihuri nei?

Ka whai hua tēnei kaupapa o Te Reo Māori, nō reira e hika mā, whaia tonu! Kō wai atu hoki koia ēnei maramara mihi ōku, ngā kupu maioha ki ngā Amorangi o ia whare karakia o Te Aka Puahou, mē ngā Minita katoa o te Hāhi Perehipitiriana puta noa o te motu. E pūmau ana ki te reo tata, ki te reo tawhiti, ki te reo whakahuihui, ki te reo whakamārama o ngā kohinga kōrero kupu karaipiture o tō tātou Āriki a Ihu Karaiti.

Whakawairangi ai ōku nei mahara, he tiro noa atu rā ki te ao tākiri. Maharahara ki a rātou kua riro atu. E kore e wareware ngā mihi ki te hunga kua huri tua i te pae o maumahara, hei pātaka kōrero mō ngā whare whakatipu i te Rongopai, arā, mō te hunga tamariki, mokopuna, ngā rangatira ō āpōpō. Nō reira tātou ngā Pou Ramarama o te ao whakapono, kia kaha tātou ki te kōrero tō tātou reo i ngā wā katoa, i ngā wāhi katoa, kia ora ai te reo.

I roto i te Āriki a Ihu Karaiti  
Amine

### Celebrating Te Reo Māori: A Tribute to Language and Heritage

#### Introduction

Uplifting our chiefly language during the week of Te Reo Māori, these words are drawn from Scripture:  
“Your word is a lamp unto my feet, a light unto my path.” (Psalms 119:105)

#### Honouring Our Ancestors

We acknowledge our elders, who have passed and returned to the womb of Mother Earth. Through the art of capturing memories, we remember and honour what they achieved, pursued, aspired to, believed, argued, and fought for. Today, we express our gratitude and sorrow, as we recall our beloved ancestors of yesteryears – may they rest in peace. As descendants, we carry their memories forward for future generations of children and grandchildren. Without their legacy, we would not be where we are today.



## Celebrating Te Reo Māori: A Tribute to Language and Heritage

### The Enduring Value of Te Reo Māori

Te Reo Māori has a bright future, so hold fast to your convictions and continue its journey. Words of appreciation are extended to the amorangi of Te Aka Puahou and all ministers of the Presbyterian Church throughout Aotearoa, the Land of the Long White Cloud. Te Reo Māori is a language of history, genealogy, and wisdom that guides us into the future. The Good Word, Te Rongopai, is the language of Scripture that illuminates the teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ.

### Remembering and Inspiring Future Generations

Our memories look back to the past and ahead to a changing world. Let us not forget those ancestors and elders who shaped the path of Te Reo for us and generations to come. The Good Word draws us closer to God and serves as a storehouse of hope for the future. To all ministers of faith, let us be strong and spread the Māori language daily and everywhere we share the teachings of Jesus Christ.

### Conclusion

In Christ we pray.  
Amine.

## Resources for Māori Language Week Te Wiki o te Reo Māori

Celebrate the 50th anniversary of Te Wiki o te Reo Māori - Māori Language Week. Born of activism, the week grew from a single 'Māori Language Day' set up in 1972. The seeds of a full week dedicated to te reo Māori were planted in 1974. By 1975 Te Wiki had found its footing and was off! Its growth and gains are what we celebrate 50 years on.

See resources on the PCANZ Church website to help you and your church increase usage of [te reo Māori here](#).

