

In this Issue

- 2018 WE ARE...at the Well
- A new generation of Presbyterian Women
- Executive Report
- Membership
- KEY MESSAGES on why gender matters
- Nicaragua crisis
- Applying the Lord's Prayer

Like us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/presbyterianwomenaotearoanewzealand/>

Bush Fire

Presbyterian Women
Aotearoa NZ

July 2018

2018 WE ARE...at the Well

PWANZ Executive are bringing a series of **regional gatherings** to you over 2018, supported by CWM with a "building capacity" grant.

Reduce your carbon footprint and attend your nearest Gathering...more than 80 from Alpine Presbytery shared our initiative with Rakaia kicking off on a foggy morning "what an inspirational story", "full of truth, faith, action", Cashmere was a starry, starry night with delicious cake and coffee to enjoy. Nelson provided a warm ecumenical welcome and challenging dialogue. Lois of Whakatu, Nelson reporting the next day "There was quite a buzz at Church yesterday and a few disappointed people!"



<p>Administrator Sandra Waldrom PO Box 17427, Karori Wellington 6147 Mobile: 027 702 9386 pwanz2016@gmail.com</p>	<p>Human Rights Convenor Tausala Ioefa Palmerston North Mobile: 021 2080 857 tausala.iosefa@gmail.com</p>	<p>Missions Convenor Sally Russell Havelock North Mobile: 021 129 9608 sallyrussell@xtra.co.nz</p>	<p>United Nations Convenors AnneMarie Tangney Mobile: 021 069 6953 am.tangney@gmail.com Mavis Duncanson Mobile: 022 028 7005 mavisj.duncanson@gmail.com Both Dunedin</p>
---	--	--	---

A new generation of Presbyterian Women. Come meet with us at the well for nourishment, engagement, inspiration and connection. **MAKE A DATE IN YOUR DIARY** at the venue nearest you (see below) and organise to bring others too. Load up the car and join us at:

Central Presbytery Saturday 14th July St Andrew's **Hastings** for a full-day of activities, including presentations with Dr Deborah Bower and Caren Rangī.

Northern Presbytery in August

Forrest Hill on Thursday 9th at 11.30am, Dr Deborah Bower will be joined by Dr Arda Jebejian, born in Aleppo, Syria, and raised in Lebanon. Arda is an accomplished scholar who specialises in applied linguistics and TESOL, visiting from the Gulf and sponsored by the Bible Society.



Somervell, Remuera on Friday 10th starting at 6pm

St David's in the Field, Hillsborough on Saturday 11th from 10am to 12.30pm.

Kaimai and **Southern** in November – details nearer the time.

To assist us with planning and catering please register in advance email: pwanz2016@gmail.com

Presbyterian Women Aotearoa NZ Executive Report

AGM 2018

The PWANZ Executive calls for remits and nominations to fill the two volunteer vacancies: President and Communications Convenor. As required under our Terms of Reference these must be in writing to the Executive (next meeting 25 August 2018). For more information email pwanz2016@gmail.com.

Please note details in your diary and make travel arrangements.

Date: Saturday 15 September

Place: St Alban's, 339 Albert Street Palmerston North

Time: Registration opens from 9am

Meeting close: 1pm for lunch

2pm: workshops celebrating 125th Anniversary of Suffrage, including

the Very Reverend Pamela Tankersley, past Moderator of the General Assembly and Moderator of the Council for World Mission, and Penny Mudford, Chair of Rural Women NZ

Close: 4pm

BushFire Ensure Presbyterian women receive their copy of your monthly newsletter – BushFire, forward email addresses to pwanz2016@gmail.com, or request a hard copy with a postal address. Remember Group Contacts to provide a list of each of your members as we recognise individual membership.

Presbyterian Women – Membership

Do you know a member of your congregation who would like to join Presbyterian Women for just \$10 per year?

Membership includes:

- 11 copies of the BushFire newsletter;
- a vote at the Annual General Meeting;
- participation in PWANZ's submissions to Parliamentary Select Committees;
- a voice advocating for women and women's rights in the wider church;
- joining an organisation with Special Consultative Status at the United Nations and sends an annual delegation to the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW);
- PWANZ can comment directly to the United Nations on Government policy and write alternative or shadow reports.

Membership is still \$10 when costs are rising e.g. postage now \$1.20.

Individual Member

Name _____

Congregation _____

Postal Address _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Membership @ \$10	\$ _____
Special Project	\$ _____
Mission Birthday Gifts	\$ _____
UN Mission	\$ _____
Other (please specify)	\$ _____
TOTAL	\$ _____

Direct Credit: ASB 12 3011 0117101 00

In reference use - name / membership

This year is the year to promote membership – if we all ask one other person to join then we are on the way to becoming a vibrant relevant part of our church.

UN Report

On Wednesday 11 July 2018 we received an email from UN Women advising that the [High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development \(HLPF\)](#), the main UN process for the review of the [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#) and the [Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#), is meeting at UN Headquarters in New York from 9 – 18 July.

Drawing on the messages and findings of "[Turning Promises into Action](#)", the first-ever monitoring report on how the SDGs deliver for women and girls, UN Women has produced publications on the goals under review at this year's High-level Political Forum. This includes a policy brief on [inclusive cities for all](#) and an issue brief on gender-responsive [water and sanitation](#) systems. A stand-alone paper and

an [infographic](#) draw on chapter 3 of the report, showing [why gender equality matters across all 17 SDGs](#). A second short paper, produced by UN Women and the World Bank, puts a [spotlight on Goal 1: Gender differences in poverty and household composition through the life cycle](#). In addition, UN Women has prepared a series of two-pagers with key messages on the six SDGs that are under review at this year's HLPF: [SDG 6](#), [SDG 7](#), [SDG 11](#), [SDG 12](#), [SDG 15](#), [SDG 17](#).

For more information on the High-level Political Forum 2018, please see UN Women's editorial spotlight at <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2018/7/compilation--high-level-political-forum-2018>

Thank you for sharing with your members and networks,

Best regards,
UN Women Civil Society Division



KEY MESSAGES from the report [why gender equality matters across all 17 SDGs](#)

1/

Gender-based discrimination—deeply rooted and present across all countries—threatens to undermine the transformative potential of the 2030 Agenda in real and measurable ways. This goal-by-goal review shows that gender inequalities remain pervasive in each and every dimension of sustainable development.

2/

Globally, women under age 40 are more likely to be poor than men. In 89 countries with available data, there are 4.4 million more women than men living on less than US\$1.90 a day. Unequal access to and control over economic resources lie at the root of women's poverty. Gender inequalities in the labour market persist, largely due to occupational segregation and gender pay gaps.

3/

Despite recent progress, access to quality education is still not universal: 48.1 per cent of adolescent girls in sub-Saharan Africa remain out of school. Women continue to be under-represented in leadership positions, and in other areas, such as maternal

mortality, child marriage and female genital mutilation (FGM), progress is unacceptably slow and uneven.

4/

Available evidence shows that a substantial share of women and girls experience violence, often at the hands of their intimate partners. In situations of unrest, instances of sexual and lethal violence increase and are commonly perpetrated not only by intimate partners but also by police and military personnel

5/

Environmental degradation and natural disasters affect women disproportionately. Droughts, floods, pollution and deforestation all put a significant burden on women, who see their water collection time increased, firewood and fodder collection efforts thwarted and ability to provide for their families and cope with disasters disproportionately impacted.

6/

Unless appropriate action is taken to advance gender equality, the promise of the 2030 Agenda—of a better world, with universal respect for human rights and dignity and full realization of human potential—will go unrealized.

Mission Update

Thank you, thank you, thank you to everyone who has worked so hard raising money for our special projects and our birthday mission gifts.



Our special project last year was with the Council of Protestant Churches (CEPAD) in Nicaragua. Currently Nicaragua is facing a crisis with a prolonged period of political unrest and street violence in many areas in Nicaragua. This has involved the use of tear gas, rubber bullets and live ammunition, causing many serious casualties and fatalities. There is potential for further violence and disorder – marches and demonstrations continue. Major transport routes are frequently blocked, including land borders, and crime has increased significantly since the protests began, resulting in looting and food shortages.

On 18 April 2018, demonstrators in several cities of Nicaragua began protests against President Daniel Ortega's decree of social security reforms that increased taxes and decreased benefits. After five days of unrest in which nearly thirty people were killed, Ortega announced the cancellation of the reforms. However, the opposition has grown to denounce Ortega and demand his resignation and as a result of the unrest, the Nicaraguan public and international governments have called for the next presidential elections to be held two years earlier in 2019.

CWS says: Please join with [CEPAD](#) in praying for peace and the safety of all Nicaraguans. Such conflict rocks everyone and will make life harder for many of the families with whom they work. For decades they have trained local peace mediators and youth facilitators to deal with local peace issues. Once again, Nicaragua needs peace on a national scale.

CEPAD writes on 12 July:

Today marks 84 days since the unrest began in Nicaragua. It is estimated that 320 people have been killed. Yesterday paramilitaries entered a church in Diriamba because people had taken refuge inside who were being threatened. Priests came to protect those who had taken refuge and the paramilitaries entered the church and wounded the priests and others. Please continue your prayers for peace.



2018-07-07 Btn SJWA-FG-Applying the Lord's Prayer

Fellowship Group

Word is getting round that we have our own AGM on Tuesday 24 July 2018. Wondered why to join up? Here is why: Together we apply the Lord's Prayer thus:

1) "Hallowed be Thy name."

We take turns giving our own thoughts on a Bible quote of our choice in a five minutes talk

2). "Thy kingdom come".

We actively support God's ground crew as incorporated in the Christian World Service with our fundraising.

3) "Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

We keep up to date with what needs to be done in our church, city, country and world, to apply Thy will.

4) "Give us this day our daily bread."

We do a replay of the miracle of the loaves and fishes by sharing our lunch contributions every month..

5) Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us."

Indeed we are sinners! We always upset the groups who hire the MacKenzie Room with our loud clatter in the kitchen, but we also do their dishes and clean up after them.

6) "Lead us not into temptation."

Oh, it is tempting to park where we are not supposed too, but we generally respect a Law enforceable by tow truck!

7) "For Thyne is the power and the glory."

There is a lot we learn from each other and from our invited speakers about how people get motivated and inspired by their personal, social and scientific work for the betterment of the world we live in and how knowingly or unknowingly we praise our creator in what we do.