



PressGo
Presbyterian Church
of Aotearoa New Zealand

JUNE 2025

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Resourcing and equipping innovative mission

PressGo resources and equips innovative mission across the Presbyterian Church. It was established by General Assembly 2008 and works alongside presbyteries supporting new mission initiatives.

Since 2008, PressGo has supported 77 projects and invested a total of \$3.5 million in mission. Our role has been facilitative, providing funding to initiatives that meet criteria around

mission and innovation, are well thought out, have sound governance and oversight, a high level of ownership and are ultimately sustainable or replicable.

In doing so, PressGo has entered a range of relationships with partner congregations and presbyteries, including various financial relationships (grants, loans, fundraising

assistance, facilitating other partnerships etc).

PressGo board members and others make themselves available to help build capacity, coach and support presbyteries and congregations pursuing mission initiatives. PressGo's goal is that together the church will share in God's mission, impacting the nation with the good news

About the Board

The Board is made up of a maximum of 6 people, drawn from around the Presbyterian Church, of which one is a representative of Te Aka Puaho. The AES is an Associate (non-voting) member. Appointment is for an initial term of 4 years, with a further term of up to 2 years, subject to Board approval.

The current board is made up of:

Very Rev Hamish Galloway (Chair): Minister at Cashmere Presbyterian Church, Christchurch, former Moderator of PCANZ (2021-2023)

Anne Overton (Deputy Chair): Community Relationship Manager Presbyterian Support Northern

Rev Won Hyuk Joung: minister of UCC (Upper City Community) Auckland.

Hannah North: Youth & Families Pastor, St John's in the City, Wellington

Rev Dr Pennie Otto: Senior Lecturer, Manukau Institute of Technology, School of Education

Rev Mahaki Albert: Te Aka Puaho Representative

Administrative support is provided by Gail Weaver, who works with Hamish at Cashmere

*Whakatane Light
Party was a combined
event, supported by a
Give-it-a-Go grant,
involving local
churches and
community groups*



Give-it-a-Go Grants

Give-it-a-Go grants are for projects which:

- Are a one-off event or activity
- Have a community-facing focus
- Make good use of volunteer enthusiasm
- Are creative, imaginative and fun!

Even better if

- People of all ages are involved
- It reflects the diversity of your community
- It could be a stepping-stone to a larger vision or project

Each grant is \$500, so if your project will cost more, you need to find the extra. Start something new, dip your toes in the water, take your first steps in mission, and Give-it-a-Go!

Recent Projects we have supported

Rotorua District Presbyterian Church

Haerenga – a pilgrimage like journey to explore history, community, culture and environment.

The grant was used towards hiring a bus to travel to Maketu. 38 people participate - the youngest was 4 years old, the eldest was 100 years old!

You can watch a video of their day together:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c8zZ5gCIAHU>

Knox, Whakatane

Light Party, in conjunction with other local church and community groups, providing a safe and fun alternative to Halloween, building unity between churches, and deepening relationships within the community. Not held since 2019, this was previously one of Whakatane's largest children's events, and it is hoped that it can be again.

Grey Lynn Pacific Island Presbyterian Church

Intergenerational Faith Growing in being Pasifika Christians, using media and video to capture powerful testimonies of intergenerational storytelling, providing all generations with a platform to share, connect, and bridge the gap between generations within the church.

How you can help

PressGo is about sharing our resources to support mission innovation. It's about working together to build the Church of the future. It's about generously helping others and being helped in return.

Both congregations and individuals are invited to consider how they can support PressGo. You and your church can get involved by contributing money, prayer, advice or ideas; or through willingness to give support to churches which are involved in a mission initiative.



PressGo Presbyterian Foundation GRANTS

Grants from the Presbyterian Foundation funds are usually under \$10,000 and for new projects such as:

- Community focused projects – people to people mission
- New ministry opportunities
- Research and investigation of opportunities

Applications are accepted from churches and presbyteries for small to medium projects. Grants will be for no more than 50% of the total cost of the project or \$10,000, whichever is the lesser.

The PressGo Board have recently supported initiatives from St Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Geraldine, Otago Pacific Island Church, and Student Soul in Dunedin.

Otago PIPC requested support for a "Women's Worth Weekend", held in February, which was great success, with the funds contributing to all the women attendees receiving conference packs and t-shirts, stationery, refreshments and decorations, as well as travel costs and gifts for the guest speakers.

The event was a first for their women and for their church. Organisers tell us "It was such an amazing time and we all thoroughly enjoyed the fellowship, new learnings, and strengthening our faith in the Lord."



Student Soul in Dunedin have developed "Outside the Box Jesus", a fresh, 6-part, film series and online course and community aimed at 18 – 25 year olds, that's all about shaking up your faith and sparking new ways of seeing life.

The series is engaging, with great ideas, and it quirkily and wisely calls participants to a meaningful adventure, accompanied by Jesus, making our world better.

Find out more at studentsoul.org.nz/outsidetheboxjesus/

Presbyteries may apply to PressGo for a top-up grant from the Mission Enterprise Fund (MEF) for parish new mission initiatives that have already received a Presbytery Mission Fund grant. Presbyteries that do not have a Mission Fund established will make application on behalf of the parish. It is expected that the parish will have already contributed significant funds towards the initiative. All applications for a grant from the Mission Enterprise Fund (MEF) must be made by the applicant's presbytery.

The MEF includes 20% that is reserved for Aroha projects which support ministry and mission among vulnerable and socially disadvantaged communities. Applications for a grant from the Aroha portion of the MEF need to be endorsed by Te Aka Puaho, your local Presbyterian Support organisation and, in some cases, your presbytery.



PressGo Mission Enterprise Fund

Current MEF Projects supported

St John's Mount Roskill

Being a missionally focused project, the Board were able to support St John's with this development. Almost the entire downstairs complex is available for missional/community work and most of upstairs. A large number of groups from the wider community already engage with the parish, and the plan is for this to expand once the facilities are completed.



Iona New Mission Seedling

Alpine Presbytery has developed a number of start-up seedling ministries, one of which was in Aranui in Christchurch - not to prop up the small existing and dying church, but to 'plant' a person to begin to connect meaningfully with people on the margins, especially in the Māori community.

What has emerged, just three years later, is a small but vibrant Māori led mission among Māori and it is a live example of Jesus' words in John 12:24, "...unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain, but if it dies it bears much fruit."

To assist the Presbytery to build on the momentum of the project, an MEF grant was made to help secure a significant amount of the social work and community development roles for the next three years, allowing an organic 'for the people, by the people' ministry and mission to grow and thrive. Further support is being offered to help the Presbytery explore ways of securing ongoing funding from other sources.

Earlier this year the project was renamed Pā Whakaoranga, which means a safe place of healing and revival. The photo below is an example of the new carvings and artwork, produced by members of this community, which feature in the building.



Trinity Presbyterian Church in Temuka sought funding for their project 'A Way Forward'.

Working alongside, but independently from, their existing congregation, they wish to establish a new faith community, acknowledging that they have to do something if the Presbyterian church in Temuka is to still be present in the longer term.

MEF granted funding towards the personnel component of this project, with the Alpine Presbytery being requested to match the funding provided.