

Thank you from World Day of Prayer National Committee

I would like to thank all of you who organised services to mark the 2022 World Day of Prayer on Friday 4 March.

As with last year some services were not held in person because of COVID 19. They may be held at another date when people feel more comfortable about meeting in person. Moreover, the National Committee have heard from someone who watched the Canadian service because there was no in-person local service. Overall, we have had very positive comments about this years' service and in a number of instances the music. Many included the prayer for Ukraine in the service and thank you for making this last minute addition to it.

As mentioned last year the National Committee were committed to having an active and up to date website in time for the 2022 services. I hope you have taken the opportunity to become familiar with it. All the resources are available on the website. Our thanks to Gemma Dixon from 'the [new] black' for creating such an attractive site and we have received many complimentary comments about it.

Moreover, in the future we have decided to live stream the preparation workshop that is held in Christchurch in late January. This means that it will be a national workshop because people can join regardless of location. The workshop is held on the last Saturday in January and we will let you know the details later in the year.

With an active website we are able to post details of services throughout the country so I **implore** you to let us know these so that they can be posted on it. If you have not already sent in your group report form the details can be put on it. If you have returned the form and already know the details of the 2023 services please send these to wdpnz@xtra.co.nz. We are aware that sometimes where and when the service is to be held is not decided till later in the year and therefore we will remind you again. We often get enquires from people about where services are being held and now we have the means to inform them.

Unfortunately, due to the COVID 19 pandemic, the four yearly International Committee meeting will now be a virtual conference. The in-person meeting was to have been held in Edinburgh. The theme is 'New Heart – New Mind – Called to Hope (Eph. 1:18). The 2023 service has been prepared by the Taiwan National Committee and the theme is "I Have Heard About Your Faith".

I would like to remind you to return the yellow forms with the details of your 2022 services and to inform us that you have transferred the offerings to our bank account. The disruption caused by COVID does not seem to have significantly affected this year's offerings.

Once again many thanks for your efforts to make WDP 2022 happening. Keep up the good work, as we support our sisters, who give us each year little insights into their lives' joys and difficulties, so that we can respond with prayerful actions. I would also like to acknowledge those who were unable to attend a service but made a personal donation, thank you for your support.

Pauline McKay
Chair
National World Day of Prayer Committee