



Methodist Church of New Zealand

Connexions - June 2022

Recognition of our Church Members

As a Church we celebrate the achievements of three of our members who were recognised in this year's Queen's New Year and Birthday Honours lists. We extend our warm congratulations to these three and to other Methodists from across the country who have received recognition this year.

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS LIST

AYERS, Mr David Lindsay NZ Member of Order of Merit - MNZM For services to local government and the community.

Mr David Ayers has contributed more than 40 years to his local community and local government in the wider Canterbury region.

Mr Ayers worked in local government for 36 years. He was a councillor for 21 years, Chair of the Rangiora Ward Advisory Board for six years, and Mayor of the Waimakariri District Council from 2010 to 2019. He led Waimakariri's recovery operations and planning after the 2010 and 2011 Christchurch earthquakes. Local Government New Zealand awarded the Council an 'AA' rating during its Excellence Programme assessment, one of only two councils in the country to receive such a grade, largely due to his leadership. He was Deputy Chair of the Greater Christchurch Partnership from 2013 to 2019, with responsibilities that included developing a sub-regional growth strategy. He has served numerous community organisations, including the Waimakariri Community Arts Council, North Canterbury Radio Trust, Rangiora Landmarks, Enterprise North Canterbury, Peer Support Trust of New Zealand, and Chair of the Canterbury Museum Trust Board. He was Chair of the Waimakariri Art Collection Trust and a foundation member of Rangiora Community Watch. Mr Ayers has been active with the Methodist Church of New Zealand, including 40 years with his local parish and membership of the national Board of Administration.

NUKU, Reverend Hiueni. QSM. For services to Tongan and Pacific communities.

Reverend Hiueni Nuku has been Chair of the Wellington Tonga Leaders' Council since 2015 and previously was Treasurer from 2012.

The Council has led Tongan language revitalization in Wellington, undertaking Tongan Language Week activities, and developing bilingual books in Tongan and English for early childhood education. Through the Council Reverend Nuku has been involved with Whānau Ora projects and helped secure a contract with Pacific Futures Limited for five years to deliver health, housing and employment projects with the Tongan community in the Wellington region. He played a key role in establishing the Tongan Educational Expo in 2016. He was previously involved in supporting Laulotaha Study Hub between 2008 and 2015 and was involved in Pacific Awhina Community Cluster Study Hub for Tongan high school students from 2013 to 2015. He had oversight over the first Tonga Youth Awards in 2017, which recognised top Tongan students in academia, sports, and leadership. He initiated the celebration of Tonga Day in Wellington in 2017. He has strong connections to the Pacific community nationwide through his involvement across several organisations and Boards, including Ministerial appointments, the Methodist New Zealand Council of Conference and Tu Ora Compass Health. Reverend Nuku has been Parish Superintendent for Lower Hutt Tongan Parish (Ututa'u) and Tawa Union Church since 2009.

NEW YEAR'S HONOURS LIST

ROBERTSON, Namulau'ulu Taotua Leaoa Joshua James Potoa'e. NZ Member of Order of Merit - MNZM. For services to the Pacific community.

Namulau'ulu Taotua Leaoa Joshua Robertson has been a Pacific leader in the Taranaki region since 2003.

Mr Robertson has been a member of the Sinoti Samoa Methodist Church of New Zealand for more than 20 years, holding various positions including Convenor of Sinoti Samoa property advisory committee and member of the business committee. He is the President of the New Zealand Lay Preachers Association and under his leadership membership numbers have increased significantly, particularly of Pacific lay preachers. In 2009 he helped revive the Taranaki Vaimoana Pasifika Charitable Trust, which has evolved into a community trust supporting Pacific communities in sectors across justice, education, social, health, sports and Pacific language and culture. He helps organise the annual Taranaki Pasifika Day Festival. He was instrumental in organising successful Pacific contracts with Aere Tai Pacific Midland Collective to deliver Whānau Ora assistance for Pacific families. He has coordinated and helped distribute food and hygiene packs to Pasifika households and seasonal workers in the Taranaki region, working with local iwi, government agencies and non-government organisations. He co-created a Pasifika health programme for the community during the COVID-19 pandemic lockdown. Mr Robertson was instrumental in an application to MBIE's Regional Fund for the renovation of the New Plymouth Samoan Methodist Church and worked with the contractors to employ local Pacific workers.



Hāhi Weteriana o Aotearoa.

Let justice roll down like a river

Colin Gibson's hymn Let Justice Roll Down Like a River is based on Amos 5:24:

"But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream."[\[2\]](#)

Colin's hymn reminds us of the work our Missions & Parishes do in the name of the Methodist Church of New Zealand – Te

**Let justice roll down like a river,
let justice flow down to the sea;
let justice roll down like a river
let justice begin through me.**

**Justice for all who go hungry,
crying to God to be fed,
left in a world of abundance
to beg for a morsel of bread.**

Palmerston North Methodist Social Services and Methodist City Action in Hamilton, both operate foodbanks from their offices. Panmure Tonga Parish, and Siaola, also operate food banks that focus on the Auckland Tongan community. Northcote Takapuna Parish works with the local community to provide a series of community meals in the Northshore. And Crossroads Papakura Parish and Manurewa Parish host hospitality drop in centres.

**Justice for those who are homeless,
victims of war or of need,
trapped on the borders of nowhere,
lost in the canyons of greed.**

Housing First supports people who have been homeless long-term, to access housing quickly, and then provide ongoing wrap around supports to enable people to achieve their goals. Lifewise provides this service in Auckland and Christchurch Methodist Mission provides this in Christchurch and Blenheim.

Methodist City Action in Hamilton offer a shower service for people that live on the streets, where they can come and shower for free. They are provided with a clean towel, soap, razor and other toiletries.

Merge Café at 453 Karangahape Road, in Auckland Central welcomes and supports people from all walks of life. Lifewise operates this café which has great food, excellent coffee, and friendly service. In addition, every dollar spent at Merge Café goes towards support for people experiencing homelessness. Merge Café played a crucial role in supporting Auckland's street whānau during lockdown, and continues to do so today. The Merge Community Team provides support and advocacy to people in the homeless community. So if you are in Auckland, pop in to Merge Café where you can eat well, feel good and do good, all at the same time.

**Justice for all who are powerless,
yearning for freedom in vain,
plundered and robbed of their birth-right,
silently bearing their pain.**

The Methodist Alliance working group campaigning to increase benefit and abatement rates continues to give a voice to those who are powerless trapped in poverty and in a system that takes away their dignity.

The Methodist Alliance makes submissions to government on draft legislation, terms of reference, and other matters that align with our vision for a just society in which all people flourish. You can read our submissions on the Methodist Church website - <https://www.methodist.org.nz/mahi/methodist-alliance/submissions/>

**Let justice roll down like a river,
let justice flow down to the sea;
let justice roll down like a river
let justice begin through me.**

Justice begins with all of us. You can join us in advocating for justice by supporting the work of the Methodist Alliance, or the Methodist Missions by contacting me or your local Mission.

Carol Barron, National Coordinator, Methodist Alliance

03 375 0512 | 027 561 9164 | Carol@MethodistAlliance.org.nz

[1] © 1994 Hope Publishing Company, 380 S Main Pl, Carol Stream, IL 60188

[2] Amos 5:24 New International Version

E TŪ TE MANA O TE AO BUILDING A CLIMATE OF HOPE A CALL FOR CLIMATE ACTIONS



Our faith traditions call us to act justly, tread gently on the earth, and care for one another.

A call for climate actions from our local faith communities!
Share your story: www.rdc.org.nz



This poster is the first in a series about our climate crisis for all our faith communities: building awareness, encouraging action and building a climate of hope

Building a Climate of Hope: E tū te mana o Te Ao

The Religious Diversity Centre is pleased to announce the Programme: 'E tū te mana o Te Ao: Building a Climate of Hope'. This is the RDC Climate Action Workgroup's 2022 programme.

The RDC is a national centre that was established to foster understanding and respect for the religious diversity in our country. The Centre hosts an annual forum of religious leaders from across the diverse religions. One of the shared concerns the leaders named at their first meeting five years ago was the care of the environment.

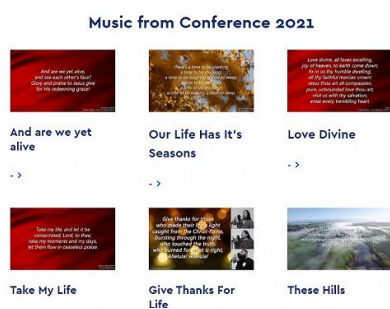
The 2022 Programme fully supports the programmes already active in the religious communities. 'E tū te mana o Te Ao: Building a Climate of Hope' is a call to each local religious community in Aotearoa New Zealand to share the story of an action they have taken in the face of the climate crisis.

Extreme weather events have become more frequent. The threat to our shoreline is greater than we had thought. People in our neighbouring Pacific nations already experience serious impacts of rising sea levels. Recent research shows that much of coastal New Zealand will also be under threat within the next few years.

As people of faith seeking to respond to the climate challenge we draw comfort and insight from the rich traditions and teachings of our religious communities. They call us to act justly, tread gently on the Earth, and care for one another. The Programme invites each local community to take some action together and to send their story to admin@rdc.org.nz so it can be shared with other Climate Stories on the website www.rdc.org.nz.

Planting trees, cleaning a stream, building a bicycle rack - every action - large or small - matters. Sharing our stories will encourage each other. Together we will make a difference. Together we will 'Build a Climate of Hope: E tū te mana o Te Ao'.

From Mission & Ecumenical
Methodist Church of New Zealand
Te Hāhi Weteriana o Aotearoa



Online Resources have grown

The worship resources on the Mission Resourcing website have been copied across to the Connexional website. All are downloadable MP4's that can be inserted into service PowerPoints.

Worship Songs and **Organ Instrumentals** are now available under Whakapono/Online Resources, you can [click here](#) to find them.

In addition the music from Conference 2021 can be found on our Conference pages by [clicking here](#).

Employment Claim Process and Personal Safety

Thursday 14 July 2022
5pm – 6pm

Register now!
Learn about the Church's employment insurance claim process and managing your day with regards to personal safety, with Wendy Anderson and Trudy Downes.

For more information, visit:
www.methodist.org.nz/tangata/connexional-resources/webinars/
or email
trudyd@methodist.org.nz

Employment Claim Process & Personal Safety

Webinar - Register Now!

Thursday 14 July 2022. 5pm - 6pm

Learn about the church's employment insurance claim process and managing your day with regards to personal safety, with Wendy Anderson and Trudy Downes.

For more information visit:

[Webinars » The Methodist Church of New Zealand](#)

or email

trudyd@methodist.org.nz



Where do those Gifts Go?

Did you buy A Market Stall as part of CWS's Gifted programme? Under the scheme for internally displaced mothers in South Sudan, they have learnt business skills, received start-up capital and some mentoring.

If so, you have helped 48 women set up and run new businesses selling food or cups of tea near their home or in the main market. Our partner the Mission for Sustainable Development is planning on helping them establish a saving scheme.

The women use the income they earn to send their children to school and provide healthcare. Please consider buying [A](#)

[Market Stall](#) for displaced mothers needing to provide for their families – or ask friends and family to buy you a [Gift that grows Hope](#).



Methodist Mission Southern: Sustaining Tenancies

How much do the small acts of faith add up to enlarging God's kingdom?

We know that there are significant housing issues across Aotearoa, and those problems are here in the lower South too. You already know about our Youth Transition Houses. But we have another way of helping: our Sustaining Tenancies programme.

For too many people, their low incomes, the difficulties they have faced and continue to deal with, family problems, and the burdens of sometimes unreasonable expectations from landlords can combine, triggering homelessness.

The Mission provides support to individuals and whānau who need help to sustain their tenancy and address any issues which put their tenancy at risk.

Funded by government, the objective is that 'homelessness is prevented where possible, or is rare, brief and nonrecurring'.

Sustaining Tenancies develop whānau-led plans and offer services wrapped around the individual or whānau. This could involve life skills coaching, advocacy, and support to navigate services, referral to budgeting advice and advocacy with landlords.

What does it look like in practice? Recently, a single mother of two from Little Citizens, the Methodist Mission's early childcare centre in Dunedin, was required to leave her rental property with little notice. MMS's **Taituarā a Hāpori** supported her in working through her WINZ entitlements and to work through this situation to find the best solution for her and her children. The family moved into emergency housing, and whilst seeking out support from agencies, the mum searched for suitable accommodation. A positive outcome resulted as she was successful in securing a new rental property.

Kaupapa Māori principles underpin Sustaining Tenancies services

- TeMauri o te whānau: enabling the life force, an essence for revival and fulfilment, to be sustained in wellbeing
- Tikanga: doing things right, being in the right place at the right time
- Whanaungatanga: delivering services for Māori through a whakapapa lens
- Manaakitanga: key mechanisms of engaging and building relationships
- Whakamana: empowering whānau intergenerationally
- Tino Rangatiratanga: self-determination of self-sufficiency through creating your own sense of belonging

Challenging social justice and giving sustainable support, the Methodist Mission Southern's programmes offer local action for change that works.

If you would like to support the Mission's work, please get in touch. Contact Julie julier@mmsouth.org.nz to hear more stories of the Mission's impact via our e-news or sign-up [Methodist Mission Southern | Facebook](#)



East Africa Appeal

CWS is appealing for people facing famine in East Africa. ACT Alliance is distributing emergency cash, food, fast growing seeds, animal feed, water and sanitation and other assistance.

Your [donation](#) will help families survive. Please keep families throughout the world facing hunger in your prayers.

Families in Somalia, Ethiopia, and Kenya are in urgent need of food and water after the failure of three and sometimes four rainy seasons. The drought is compounded by the Covid-19 pandemic, conflict, desert locusts, and now a further surge in food and commodity prices due to the conflict in Ukraine. As many as 17 million people [are](#) going hungry.

“The cost of a typical food basket has risen by 66 percent in Ethiopia and 36 percent in Somalia. In the worst-affected parts of Kenya, the emergency sale of livestock means prices are at their lowest since 2011. In all three countries, women are bearing the brunt of the crisis – they are the last to eat in each household, and the first to be displaced.” Obi Anyadike, [The New Humanitarian](#).

By Christian World Service



PAC Distribution Group

Share your dream or story

Grant requests close 30 June 2022

For more information visit our [website](#).

or email [Wendy Keir](#)



Climate Justice Working Group

Thank you to all synods who have responded to our recent planning update. We are delighted with the enthusiasm shown by Te Haahi for the initiatives suggested.

Planning continues, but this is a quick update to advise of a change of date for **GREEN SUNDAY**. Several synods pointed out that the first Sunday in September is Father's Day so we are changing the date to the last Sunday of September (25 September in 2022) which is still within the Season of Creation. We will be supplying resources to help parishes observe this special day.

You are encouraged to check out the Climate Justice information on the MCNZ website. Go to <https://methodist.org.nz/climate-justice>

And, stand by for further information coming to August synods including a Conference recommendation about a 10 year focus on Climate Justice from 2023.

Climate Justice Working Group

Secretary, Marion Hines marionhines@xtra.co.nz



Passionate about Quality Christian Education?

The EfM (Education for Ministry) NZ Trust Board is seeking to broaden its membership.

Education for Ministry is an ecumenical adult learning programme designed to link Christian faith with daily life, and to deepen Christian discipleship. It combines scholarly and systematic Bible study and education in theology and church history, with small group worship, prayer and fellowship. An international programme, we have been active for 40+ years in Aotearoa New Zealand, with a major revision of material in 2014 including a local church history module.

EfM NZ is established as a Charitable Trust, and the board is seeking new members to provide governance and to support our Executive Officer and our network of trainers and mentors. The current board members are all experienced clergy and we would love to be joined by volunteer ecumenical partners with skills in governance, HR, fundraising or marketing. We meet quarterly, mainly by Zoom.

More information about EfM can be found at <http://www.efm.org.nz/>, or to express interest in board membership, please contact our chair the Rev'd Leanne Munro at leannemunro55@gmail.com



Update on Afghanistan

The situation remains very challenging in Afghanistan.

Close to half the population (18.9 million people) [are](#) facing acute food security. Local partner Community World Service Asia is appealing for much needed funding to provide emergency assistance for displaced people in Afghanistan and refugees sheltering in Pakistan. Donations to the [Afghanistan Appeal](#) are providing cash transfers for three months supporting vulnerable families like [Fouzia's](#) (pictured) that have fled to Pakistan.

The New Zealand Government [reported](#) that 1,681 people including 1,431 visa holders have arrived in the country from Afghanistan. Visa holders are classified as evacuees and will not be able to bring family members under the refugee family reunification scheme, nor can they access refugee support services. The Government allocated only 200 places in

its refugee quota for 2022/23 for Afghan refugees.



Ukraine Appeal

Thank you to everyone who has given so generously to the Ukraine Appeal.

ACT Alliance is running 19 shelters and 27 information centres, often with local churches. It has reached hundreds of thousands of people with food, cash assistance, fuel vouchers, medical and psychosocial care, clothing and hygiene supplies, and water and sanitation. More than 6.8 million people are sheltering in neighbouring countries and continue to need

support.

Please continue to pray for an end to the war and the safety of all people. Together we work for peace.

by Christian World Service



Operation Refugee

"I was a Stranger and you Welcomed Me" Jesus, Matthew 25:35

On June 20, [World Refugee Day](#), CWS will launch [Operation Refugee](#). Pray, walk, eat - stand with refugees. Join us as an individual, a church or group. In the cool winter months you might like to host a warm, cosy gathering around shared food or a brisk afternoon walk. Your donations mean our local partners can organise emergency assistance, education and healthcare for refugees. Check out the [Kete](#) and other [resources](#).

Pray for refugees and others displaced by war and conflict – a staggering 100 million people [according](#) to the United Nations.

The needs are very great.

For Jesus, hospitality was important. He liked to share a meal with people who he may have only just met and talk to strangers. For many decades, our partner churches have welcomed refugees and new migrants, helping them to settle and learning from their stories and experiences.

Refugee Sunday on June 26 is the day set aside in the Methodist and Presbyterian Calendar to pray for refugees and celebrate their contribution to our lives together. The Anglican Calendar designates July 3. [Welcome](#) includes worship resources for you to use in your church or group. If you can, please consider organising a special collection to support Operation refugee.

By Christian World Service



Refugee Sunday Resources

Refugee Week is observed ecumenically and internationally.

With a focus on Ukrainian refugees in Europe, The European Methodist Council has created a set of liturgy and slides in order to make it easy to conduct a service marking World Refugee Day on June 20th. You can find them here <https://www.methodist.eu/resources> along with other useful

resources.

From Mission & Ecumenical
Methodist Church of New Zealand
Te Hāhi Weteriana o Aotearoa
[Acting] Director: Rev. Tony Franklin-Ross
E-mail: mm-e@methodist.org.nz
www.methodist.org.nz/mahi/mme

Yearbook Updates

Names & Addresses (page 23)

Details that have changed are in italics.

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[E] beejaynz05@gmail.com

Griffiths, Anne
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Te Awamutu 3800

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[E] robanne@xtra.co.nz

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[E] donaldphillipps@gmail.com



Children, Youth & Family Facilitator

Chartwell Cooperating Church is situated in the growing city of Hamilton - Kirikiriroa in the community of Chartwell. Our mission is 'to know and share God's love' and our vision is 'to be the hands, feet and body of Christ in the community.'

We are a diverse and inclusive parish which unites people from various Christian backgrounds. The Parish enjoys close

relationships with our Anglican, Methodist and Presbyterian partners.

We are looking for a Children, Youth & Family Facilitator with good interpersonal skills and experience to support and resource the work of Chartwell Cooperating Parish through the priorities agreed for our future in our three-year strategic plan. The Facilitator will work in collaboration with the minister and the ministry team.

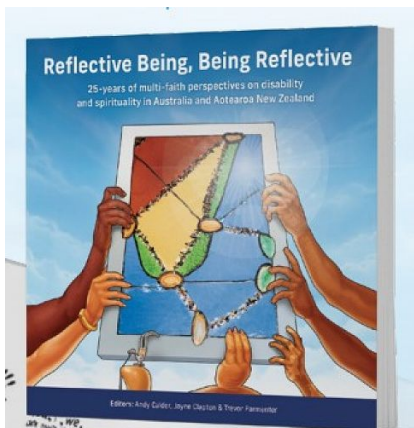
We need someone with a lively and deepening personal Christian faith with the passion, flexibility and energy for supporting, organizing and developing programmes focusing on the children, youth & families within the congregation and in the wider community. This includes developing relationships and fostering the concepts of manaakitanga and aroha.

The role is 30 hours a week with flexible hours

For application information, a full job description, our Parish Profile and our three-year Parish Strategic Plan and our Youth & Family Strategic Plan, all available on request, please email the church office.
office@chartwellchurch.org.nz

Letters of application along with a curriculum vitae should be addressed to the Parish Council Chairperson and sent via email to the church office at the above address.

Closing date for applications - Friday 10th June 2022



Book Launch Tuesday June 14, 2pm

Reflective Being, Being Reflective. 25 years of multi-faith perspectives on disability and spirituality in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand

This is on zoom 4pm NZ Time.

Speakers Meredith Allan

World President, 2018-2020 International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication. Member of Uniting Church in Australia.

Rev Vicki Terrell

Disability Ministry Educator: Resource and Development facilitator. Anglican Church of Aotearoa, NZ and Polynesia.

Welcome to Country Uncle John Baxter

Aboriginal Partnership Coordinator, Brotherhood of St Laurence.

[Register here](#)

Chartwell Church is a member of Eco Church NZ network

Chartwell Cooperating Parish of St Alban's has joined the Eco Church NZ Network. Our membership of the network is a statement of our intention to care for God's earth. We look forward to the support, sharing of resources, and networking that joining Eco Church NZ will bring.

We look forward to celebrating our membership of the network in due course when Kristel van Houte, the National Director of A Rocha (the umbrella organisation of Eco Church NZ) comes to speak to us at Chartwell.

Of note is that the Presbyterian Church agreed at its Special Assembly at the end of April to become a denominational partner of Eco Church NZ and that the local Anglican Diocese is looking to set up a network of eco-church congregations.

If you would like to know more about Eco Church NZ you can visit their website www.ecochurch.org.nz

By Chartwell Church

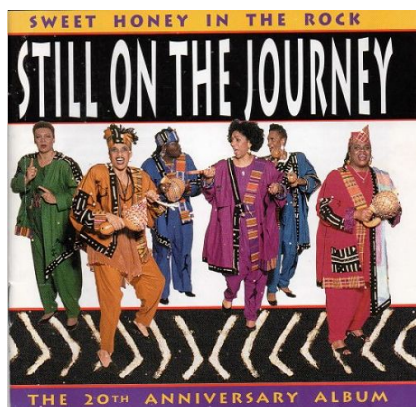
Drama Christi – 75 years

In 1947, Rev WH Greenslade asked two stalwarts of Wellington theatre to organise a Christmas production for Wesley Church, Taranaki St. Don and Tim (Allona) Priestley had recently rejoined the Church. The First Crib played in Wesley Church on 7 December, 1947. Congregation members involved in this continued to provide dramatic contributions to worship services. The name Drama Christi was adopted for the group which continued under the guidance of Don and Tim.

Don died in 1979. At the 40th Anniversary in 1987, Tim retired from directing productions but continued to be involved until her death in 1998. Arthur Olsson, a member of the original cast, remained actively involved until moving to the Kapiti Coast in 2015. He died in 2019. Since Tim's retirement, the group has continued as a cooperative with various members directing plays.

Drama Christi is based at Wesley Church but has performed in many places. The group has helped to celebrate the opening and anniversaries of many churches, not just Methodist.

Plans are being finalised to celebrate 75 years on the weekend of 5/6 November. Many people who attended Wesley Church over the years became part of Drama Christi and would be very welcome to be there. For more information email info@dramachristi.org.nz.



Music Programmes offered by Wesley Broadway Community Radio

- in partnership with Manawatu People's Radio (MPR)

The following 3 programmes are the late May/June offerings from Wesley Broadway:

May 31: 6 songs from US acappella choir Sweet Honey in the Rock.

June 7: Four Instrumental Jazz Songs in the Pentecost Spirit, including Monte Alexander's cover of 'What a Friend we Have in Jesus' and Dave Dobbyn's 'Slice of Heaven' arranged for the Rodger Fox Big Band.

June 21: Mavis Staples, gospel/soul singer from USA, still performing in her early eighties.

Each programme is repeated in the following week.

How to listen to the programmes

Live: These can be heard live in the Manawatu area at 11 A.M. each Tuesday and Saturday, on Frequency AM999.

Online: Programmes can be downloaded via the station website: www.mpr.nz/show/wesley. Programmes stay for 2 to 3 months, and are listed by topic and date.

Programmes during July and August: While the station programmes continue (one will feature songs by Johnny Cash), there are no listings in Connexions.

They will resume in September, when songs for the Pentecost church season will be played.

Wesley Broadway Radio Hosts:

John and Gillian Thornley welcome responses/enquiries: Email Johngill@inspire.net.nz
