



AFFIRM

## Christmas Greetings to All



Dear Friends,

**2020.** Despite the challenges, AFFIRM and the Anglican Community of St. Mark have had an amazing year. While continuing with other work the main task of the AFFIRM Staff team has been to establish the new Anglican Community of St. Mark. The ACM was launched in November 2019 in Auckland at a special celebratory Dinner. The first Convocation held on the same day, voted for the following Standing Committee to work on its behalf: Fraser McDermott (Chair) Thomas Brauer, Shashi Christian, Paul Williamson (Chair of AFFIRM but offered to be Treasurer), Joan Watson, Alan Bickers, Penny Field and Peter Lloyd. Lorraine was asked to be Secretary.

Under Fraser McDermott's excellent leadership, we noted recently that the ACM Standing Committee put 19 things in place in the past year to establish and keep things moving (including the name and logo graphics). The team is to be congratulated. There was a lot of work done behind the scenes despite having to meet via Zoom.

**AFFIRM completes its task-** AFFIRM had committed its staff and finance for 18 months to setting up the ACM. On the 6<sup>th</sup> of November at a celebratory dinner in Christchurch AFFIRM formally completed this work and the ACM was released to "fly solo". It was great to see so many of you there. For a full report check out Anglican Taonga online under the heading of "St. Mark's Community sets out." There are some great photo shots of Archbishop Philip, Paul and Fraser as the Anglican Community of St. Mark was officially released and blessed on its way. The Archbishop encouraged the ACM to 'keep the main thing the main thing.' He also offered his support in our undertakings. The ACM Constitution makes a formal commitment to the three Tikanga nature of This Church, so it was a special delight to have Pihopa Richard from Te Waipounamu present and offering his greetings to the ACM.

**2021. ACM new team** – Fraser McDermott (Chair- North Island Rep.) Dale Williamson, Thomas Brauer (South Island Rep), Joan Watson, Penny Field, John Binns, Peter Lloyd. Paul Williamson, Treasurer. Lorraine Lloyd, Secretary.

**ACM website** will soon be online. Check it out at **[www.acm.net.nz](http://www.acm.net.nz)**. In the coming year there will be a regular **Enews** to keep you up to date with all that is happening.

### **What is the difference between the ACM and AFFIRM many ask?**

AFFIRM is perhaps best seen as an umbrella network of a diocese, a theological college, voluntary societies, parishes, individuals, regional groups. Our aim is to strengthen the ECCO (Evangelical, Charismatic, Catholic, Orthodox) stream of the church. In the network are ACM, Bishopdale Theological College, CMS, Church Army, Latimer, Nelson Diocese, SOMA, Regional Groups and individuals). As you will see ACM is the most recent addition.

**Gear up for an exciting new adventure.** This year the AFFIRM partners are offering training opportunities for individuals and parishes. Attached is the info for your reference. See the brochure attached to this email.



Have a wonderful Christmas- Lorraine and Peter Lloyd, AFFIRM N.Z.