

Our mission: to promote Christian faith and values in the communities of the Kāpiti Coast

Kāpiti Uniting Parish

Annual reports for the year to June 2025 prepared for the Parish Annual General Meeting held at Raumati on Sunday 22 September 2025





Community Garden - volunteers, visitors, and produce

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2025 AGM Ministers Report

No two years are the same in parish life, even though outsiders might think we do the same old thing year after year. It is the variety that keeps us interested and engaged. It is the openness to change which keeps us growing. You only have to glance through the year's 'Together' magazines to see the vitality of our many and varied expressions of church life. There is always something being celebrated, some aspect of church activities being highlighted, new food for thought and different stories being told.

From my house I have a view of swans sailing with an aura of calm across the lake at the bottom of the garden. What you don't see is their feet, paddling strongly under the water, propelling them across the shining surface.

In the same way the churches maintain their functions relatively smoothly, but only thanks to the constant hard work of our members. I speak of all our members and not just those who do the jobs of property and finance, worship and music, leadership and outreach, social activities and pastoral care, Thrifty Place, Community Garden, running Women's Fellowships, helping at Playgroup and leading discussions.

Each one of you keeps us sailing through the still waters (and rough waters!) by your involvement in our churches, your commitment, your presence, your interest and your concern for our people, even when prayer may be all you are able to offer. We recreate each other, you and I, by the strength of the faith which binds us, by our diverse and our shared experiences, and by our calling to embody Christ in the way we live our lives.

May God bless you, each one of you. *Rev Anna Gilkison*

2025 Parish Council Report for AGM

Kapiti Uniting Parish Council has had a busy year. We are committed to both modelling and promoting a way of working as a council which reflects Kingdom values:—

- Maintaining harmonious relationships
- Grounding our work in love for our church and our community
- Keeping the parish safe and healthy
- Exercising responsible stewardship
- Thinking positively
- Trusting God
- Recognizing Christ's presence in the church and in the community

Most of what we have achieved this year is included in the committee reports. Some significant aspects of our work are the great improvement in our advertising, thanks to Kate

Foley, organizing many occasions for members to get to know one another better, coping with two major repair projects – special thanks to Marie Smith for her expertise in dealing with insurance claims.

This year Marg Lees has taken on the role of overseeing staff appraisals and staff support on behalf of Parish Council. With her help we have brought our staff wages into line with the Living Wage and are now providing better support for our employees.

We farewelled two people from Parish Council and an additional one from Property and Finance Committee – Mary White, Ken Milne and Syd Mepham. All three have been and, in some cases, continue to be pillars of Kapiti Uniting Parish. We thank them wholeheartedly for their service to our church.

Parish Council oversees both the Waikanae and Raumati Churches Having said that, I would like to acknowledge and thank the Waikanae Committee for taking responsibility for keeping the Waikanae Church ministry strong, well-organised and caring of its members, as well as its grounds and building in good order.

I would also like to thank all the members of Parish Council. They are:

Marie Smith Property and Finance Cttee
Carole Rudings Social Opportunities Cttee
Barrie Woods Raumati Church Co-ordinator

Kate Foley Advertising Officer

Erice Carley Pastoral Cttee

Maureen Calheim Community Outreach Cttee Evan Ireland Waikanae Representative

Cathy Drummond Treasurer

Jan Rae Parish Council Secretary

On behalf of Parish Council I record our sincere gratitude for Fiona Bell's services as our Office Administrator.

Our sincere thanks also to Monica Simpson for her work as Playgroup Co-ordinator, and Jack Gardiner who does various caretaking jobs.

Rev Anna Gilkison

Parish Council Chairperson

Waikanae Church and Waikanae Women's Fellowship Report 2025

The Waikanae Congregation continues to flourish with their services, activities, caring, and outreach. We appreciate the oversite given by Rev Anna Gilkison to the congregation and thoughtful church services which she brings.

Thank you to the others from Raumati who lead worship services. We acknowledge Maureen Calhaem and her 25 years of Lay Preaching. Within the Waikanae congregation there is a group who have led several services with a variety of themes. Special services during the year have included the Christmas Day service led by Rev John and Diana

Roberts. Easter Services, Bible Sunday, with a variety of family bibles to share their history. Spring Flower service, our gratitude for nature. A new presentation on Palm Sunday was much appreciated. Harvest Festival acknowledging the fruits of the land. The weekly contributions to the Kapiti Food bank are appreciated.

4 August 2024 the United@9 Congregation came to Waikanae and led the service. 10 August 2025 members of the Waikanae congregation joined the United@9 Service.

Women's Fellowship and the Soup Group meet on alternate months. The Women's Fellowship church service, in May, informing us about the Special Project, Ronald McDonald Houses in NZ and Refugee Camps in Jordan was followed by a Soup & Rolls lunch. This was very well supported by the congregation and raised \$405

Both of these groups enable us to have discussions on a variety of topics. The Soup group has a specific topic each time led by one of the participants.

The World Day of Prayer Service 8th March, held in the Waikanae Baptist Church was attended by members of the congregation.

Saturday 22 March, the Parish Market Day. Waikanae had oversight of the Sausage Sizzle, which had a steady stream of customers.

Parish Advent Studies held at Waikanae and the Easter Studies, led by Sister Catherine held at Raumati have been attended by members of the congregation.

Several attended the UCANZ gathering held in Rongotea. An opportunity to meet members of other Uniting Churches.

Methodist Church Conference held in Wellington was attended by some members.

Pat Souness shifted to Greytown, sorry to see her go, but glad that she is settled. Several members reached their 80th Birthday this year. Joan Barnard was 101 years and Monica Olsson 102 years Thank to Rev John and Diana Roberts for their weekly visits to those unable to come to services. Thanks to others for their caring contacts.

A big Thank You goes to all who help in so many ways to make things flow by being on the rosters, compiled by Evan Ireland and also those not on rosters, who just do things. Setting up the lounge for morning tea, washing the dishes after morning tea, gardening, replenishing kitchen supplies, setting the heating in the church. The building and grounds have been well maintained, thanks to Desmond Corrigan. Parish employs a student, Mia, for one hour a week to vacuum the church and lounge and clean the toilets. A rehearsal of having an Emergency Evacuation of the building has been held.

Together as a congregation we move forward in to this next year with courage, faith, the warmth of Friendship and the Assurance of the Love of God.

Marie Smith

2025 Worship and Music Committee Report

The Committee would like to express the whole church's gratitude to Bruce Johnston who has led the Music and Worship Committee for many years. Bruce is now sharing the chairperson role with Rev Anna Gilkison. Noeline Cuzens has stepped down from the Committee, we thank her for her years of service.

The current committee members - Rev Anna Gilkison, Bruce Johnston, Carole Rudings, Maureen Calhaem, Cathy Drummond, and Diane Ammundsen have continued to meet regularly to plan services and rosters.

Worship highlights and new initiatives of the last year include:

- Men's Breakfast with speaker Kevin Boyce
- An Afternoon Tea for all our musicians, organised by the Committee
- The Children's Christmas Service and tea
- Prayer Vigils
- Simple Services at all our congregations
- Services celebrating our Lay Preachers

We continue to enjoy the talents of our musicians: Marie Smith, Elizabeth Kerr, Merle Stevenson, Ellen Barrett, Erice Carley, Noeline Cuzens and Janet Milne, at our services and thank them all for their talents and hard work. Their playing enriches our worship and we appreciate their time and their skills.

We were fortunate to be awarded funding by the Methodist Church Media & Communication Endowment Fund which has enabled us to purchase a speaker and cordless microphone now in use at Waikanae Church and will also go towards the purchase of a new laptop to run the sound system at the Raumati Church. We are very grateful for this gift.

If you are interested in joining our roster of musicians, or joining the Worship and Music Committee, please let the Parish Office know, you would be very welcome.

Rev Anna Gilkison

2025 Social Opportunities Report

The small group of Board gamers continued to met 2nd and 4th Mondays moving from the original venue at Beachaven Place to the Raumati church lounge room, in the hopes of more interest from the Raumati church community. Sadly this did not generate any great interest so the group of three (two from KUP and 1 from Beach Church) went into recess in June with an option to restart in September. Little interest seems to indicate that those who were originally keen have moved on to other places or interests.

The after Service Lunches remain popular with lunch visits made to Rosetta Café, Vista club, Fishermans Table etc occurring in the past year. Although numbers dropped down quite a bit we were pleased to welcome 6 of the newest members of the congregation to a lunch which means numbers now rising again.

We are well covered in the Parish with social opportunities through Women's Fellowship and events that fit into the overall church programme including one big event earlier in the year for the Men's group. Trying to fit into the church year while keeping social events fresh is no easy feat but any suggestions would be welcomed.

Carole Rudings, Social Opportunities Convenor

Annual Property & Finance Report 2024-25

Members of the Property and Finance committee from July 2024 – June 2025 were Ken Milne (Chairperson), Cathy Drummond (Treasurer), Marie Smith. Syd Mepham and Carole Rudings (Secretary).

We thank Ken Milne and Syd Mepham for their work on the committee during the past year. Thank you, Ken, for your work on the many large projects at the Raumati Church you attended to during your time on the committee.

The current members of the Property and Finance Committee are Cathy Drummond (Treasurer), Marie Smith and Carole Rudings (Secretary). Kate Foley has joined the committee as of July 2025.

The committee has functioned well and attended to many maintenance and repair projects. We are a small committee with many tasks to complete on both of our church properties and the manse. We also attend to any reported health and safety issues.

We unfortunately experienced two floods at the Raumati Church, which were unwelcome after the previous one, in May 2024, in the church kitchen. In September 2024, a pin hole leak in a pipe in the ceiling of the vestry, meant the replacement of the wall between the vestry and kitchen, new vinyl in the kitchen and carpet tiles in the vestry. In February 2025, the cold-water expansion valve failed in the hot water cylinder in the hall kitchen. A replacement cylinder, modified cupboards and new vinyl were required. Thanks to Cathy Drummond and Marie Smith for the hours and hours of work involved with contractors and the insurance company.

The window frames at the Waikanae Church were painted, and a grant for part payment of this was received from the Kapiti Coast District Council Heritage Fund. An old leak in the roof, has been repaired. Desmond Corrigan spends many hours maintaining the Waikanae Church and the manse, and we are extremely grateful for his service. Thank you to Don and

Marie Smith and Desmond for all their work keeping the Waikanae Church well maintained.

The cleaning of the Raumati Church has been an ongoing issue for many years, due to the unsatisfactory service provided by the commercial cleaners. Work has been done this year to ensure the cleaning of the Raumati Church is at a very good standard and we look forward to reporting on this improvement.

The parish employs two students, a cleaner in Waikanae and Jack in Raumati. Jack replenishes all the kitchen and toilet supplies, sweeps the church driveway, washes all the tea towels and hand towels, empties the bins, and removes all the unsellable clothes and cardboard from Thrifty Place. Thank you very much for all your work, it is so important to keep our churches clean and ready for hire by our hirers and parish members.

Despite the big projects that are untaken each year, many weekly and monthly tasks are quietly worked away at. Thank you, Robin and Heather List and Liz Sutherland, for your work maintaining the large garden at Raumati Church. You are always quietly working away keeping the garden tidy. We were also blessed with another visit from Ernesto from Chile this year, who gave the garden huge tidy up.

Thank you, Robin, for also ensuring we meet our fire compliance requirements. This involves monthly and yearly checking of fire extinguishers, fire hose reels and emergency lighting. Very important work to keep us all safe.

Thank you to Michael Foley for doing any job he is asked! Mostly checking and replacing lightbulbs, removing and disposing of unsellable items from Thrifty Place, appliance testing all electrical goods to be sold at Thrifty Place and weed spraying the Raumati Church driveway.

We would like to thank all parish members who assist us in keeping our churches clean and well maintained. We know we all play a part in this, whether it is vacuuming the floor after morning tea, removing rubbish, cleaning the kitchens and fridges, helping with inventories, painting and window cleaning. Thank you and sorry if we have not mentioned you, you are appreciated.

Finally, we would like to thank our current committee members, Marie, Cathy and Carole. Many hours are spent on finances and attending to property matters. And finally, a thank you to Fiona Bell, our Parish Administrator who handles all the day-to-day property needs and reporting. Fiona has offered many times to get out her screwdriver and get to work! *Kate Foley*

Property and Finance Committee

Raumati Women's Fellowship Report 2025

I have pleasure in presenting the Raumati Women's Fellowship Annual Report for the 2024-2025 year.

We have enjoyed the fellowship of our meetings which have been reasonably well attended.

At last year's AGM in June, we brought along our family treasures to show and share with the group. Over the last 12 months we have heard from a variety of speakers.

Last August, Erice Carley spoke of their life living in Papua New Guinea in the 1970's. In October Mary Manderson gave us an informative talk about her involvement at Kapiti CAB.

In November, Louise Waterworth spoke about her job as Manager of The Women's Centre and Women's Refuge.

In April, Judy Binning gave us an interesting talk abou the work of Diversional Therapists.

In May, Cathy Fisher and Ange came from Palmerston North to speak to us as Coordinators of Blind Low Vision and The Deaf and Blind.

We enjoyed listening to Travel Talks from Kay McIntosh who spoke about her and Jim's trip to France and Scotland; and Dianne Boyce with her and Kevin's trip around the UK.

At our December meeting, Florence Hodder gave us a short reading, and Pam Newey led us in a game. After morning tea, the Committee presented a devotional reading 'The Spirit of Christmas'. We also brought along gifts for the Women's Refuge which were put under the Christmas Tree.

Last July our members enjoyed a well-attended luncheon at Infinite Café in Raumati.

In February, after our meeting, we had a shared lunch and enjoyed social time together.

In March this year the World Day of Prayer Service was held at St Mark's Anglican Church which our members took part in.

On May 18th Rev Anna Gilkison led our Special Project Service.

The overseas project was from CWS supporting the Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees. Slides and commentary were shown.

For the New Zealand part, Gemma Sando from Ronald McDonald House Charities, spoke of her involvement with the organisation. Thank you to those of you who provided plates for the morning tea, which raised \$387.

During the year we paid our Fees to MWF of \$117. We have also given donations of \$50 to: Life Flight Trust, Wellington Free Ambulance, Blind Low Vision, and the Presbyterian Family Works Programme.

On a sad note, we lost our Treasurer, Alison Johnston, on the 11th August. Alison had been a long-standing member of our group and had also been a Convenor.

We also remember other members of our group who have passed away over the last twelve months, namely: Pauline Thomson, Joy Mepham and June Jarvis.

We farewelled Mary Francis who moved to Auckland to be near family and Mary White who has moved to Upper Hutt. We also welcomed Marilyn Williamson as a new member.

Thank you for all your support during the last 12 months and also to the Committee. Special thanks to our Secretary Merrill Baker for all her hard work, and also to our Treasurer Pam Newey.

Our members are involved in many aspects of our church life and we look forward to another year of friendship and fellowship.

Lyn Martin Convenor

Thrifty Place – Op Shop Annual Report 2024-2025

With the support of our church and community donors, plus our enthusiastic volunteers, Thrifty continues to be successful. Cathy Drummond is always positive about how much we earn. Some days are more busy than others, but mostly it's busy. Cold, wet days seem to attract buyers, coming in to browse, buy and chat. It's noticeable, that on Saturday mornings we get a few people from the sports park across the road, so they're also very welcome.

Kate continues to be very supportive in her Co manager role, and she's excellent at promoting Thrifty on social media platforms where Thrifty is advertised as a place to shop at, as well as to donate good quality items.

There are always lots of positive things happening at Thrifty, so please call in and see us anytime.

Kay McIntosh, Manager

Report on E-Prayer

Since Mary White moved to Upper Hutt at the end of last year, Merrill Baker and I have been writing the E-Prayer requests each week. We rely on people telling us who needs prayer. Sometimes this comes from the pastoral group but often just from individual parish members who see a need, or want prayer for themselves.

Then we have a group in Kapiti and beyond who pray to God each week for these concerns.

Anyone can join the E-Prayer group, just ask Merrill or me if you would like to be part of it. Whatever our circumstances all of us can make a difference with prayer. *With God's blessing, Maureen Calhaem*

Pastoral Care Group Report 2025

This group has continued to meet on a Tuesday morning each month and there are now nine belonging to the group.

Rev Anna Gilkison, Merrill Baker, Lyn Martin Co-Convenors, Diane Ammundsen, Diana Roberts (Waikanae Representative,) Erice Carley, Representative to Parish Council, and Bastiana Snyders. We were very pleased to welcome back to this group Carole Rudings and are very grateful to have Dianne Boyce who offered to join us.

Early November 2024 we arranged a lunch for the Men in the parish. A very pleasant time was held chatting, eating and listening to a very interesting travel talk by Kevin Boyce.

At the June Parish Anniversary Service newcomers to the Parish were warmly welcomed by Rev Anna.

At the end of August 2025 Parish council arranged a very heart warming and connecting afternoon tea for the new people in the parish in which the pastoral group participated.

We are very grateful to Rev Anna for her support in attending our meetings, visiting those who are in hospital as well as making pastoral visits, where there is a need, to those at home.

As a team we have continued to make many visits and telephone calls to parishioners, and cards are sent to those in hospital and to family members who have recently been bereaved. Special birthdays and anniversaries are also remembered.

We were sorry to farewell Mary White who has moved to Upper Hutt, and Beverley McNeill to Petone

Sadly we record the deaths in our Parish since 6 September 2024.

Murray Patchett, Joy Mepham, Pamela Hellier, Diana Gilberd, Barbara Bolton, Margaret Craig, June Jarvis, Margaret Thomson, Barbara Niccol and George Forster.

We remember them with love.

Merrill Baker, Lyn Martin Co Convenors.

Report -Play Group 2025

Every Thursday morning during term time we run a playgroup at the Raumati uniting church. This playgroup is run for preschool aged children. At this playgroup we have music, toys and often we do craft activities. We have several volunteers who dedicate their own spare time to ensure that Playgroup can run to its fullest potential. *Monica Simpson*

I just want to add to what Monica has said. How lucky we are to have Monica and her family and church volunteers who help her set up equipment each week. The playgroup has a lovely atmosphere and Monica keeps it interesting and lively with new ideas. Thank you everyone.

Maureen Calhaem

The Raumati Village Community Garden Report

Each year when I write this report I check our Facebook page to see what has been happening in the garden. I post regular(ish) updates and photos and it has become a valuable record of the history of the garden which turns seven years old this year. You can view our Facebook page here www.facebook.com/raumativillagecommunitygarden

The past year has been a beautiful year at the garden, and we have been blessed with the help of David and Sarah Webb, members of the Kāpiti Horticultural Society. David and Sarah have done so many jobs that needed doing, such as adding in new hose connectors, fixing our rainwater system, adding new borders and gardens, tidying up our passionfruit vine (which is now thriving!), lots of tree trimming and mulching, building new structures to protect our seedlings, installing new bird proof covers, creating new signage for plants, planting an apple tree, and on top of all of that, so much wedding and planting. Our garden has never felt so well loved and it shows. Thank you David and Sarah!

David and Sarah also ran a stall on behalf of the Horticultural Society at our Market Day in March, they sold cupcakes and donated the money to the parish.

We have grown the garden by installing a new apple tree (as mentioned above), a new rhubarb patch and planted three donated citrus trees.

We were also joined at the beginning of the year with Ernesto from Chile who trimmed back all the vine growing on our fence.

Predator Free Raumati donated two traps for our community garden, and we are delighted to support this initiative of backyard trapping.

The Kāpiti Horticultural Society made a \$500 donation to the community garden. We receive no funding from other sources and this donation means we can purchase Zoo Do for the upcoming spring/summer growing season. It will also enable to us to buy seedlings when growing from seeds is slow in winter.

So, as you can see it has been a busy year in the garden! Our most exciting yet! Thank you to all of those who donate seedlings, seeds and plants to our garden, visit the garden and enjoy the garden. Once again, we are looking forward to another year of gardening for the community.

Photos of the garden are on the front page of this Annual Report

Kate Foley

Agenda for the Kāpiti Uniting Parish Annual General Meeting to be held at Raumati on 21 September 2025

Welcome

Apologies

Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting held on Sunday 22 September 2024

Matters Arising

Reports:

Reports as per the Annual Report Financial Reports

Confirmation of Parish Council representatives:

Evan Ireland (Waikanae Church Representative)
Barrie Woods (Raumati Church Representative),
Maureen Calhaem (Parish Development and Outreach),
Carole Rudings (Social Opportunities),
Marie Smith and Ken Milne (Property and Finance)
Kate Foley (Advertising and media representative).

Nominations for Parish Council representatives:

Appointment of Parish Council Officers for the coming year:

Chairperson

Treasurer

Secretary

Acknowledgements

Retiring Parish Councillors

Merrill Baker (Pastoral representative) Bruce Johnston (Worship and Music)

General Business

Prayer for the Parish Council for the coming year

Closing prayer and blessings

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Kāpiti Uniting Parish

Held on Sunday September 22, 2024 after the 10am service at Raumati Church

Held on Sunday September 22, 2024 after the 10am service at Raumati Church

Chairperson: Rev Anna Gilkison

Secretary : Jan Rae Present : 47 members

Rev Anna Gilkison welcomed everybody to the Annual meeting

Apologies were received from Bruce Johnston, Diane Amunsden, June Jarvis, Pam Newey, Tralee Sugrue, Bill McKeitch, Lyn and Ralph Martin, Bronwyn Mill, Nancy Lilly, Jennie Dickens, Tina Ireland, Syd Mepham, Desmond Corrigan

As the minutes of the 2023 AGM had been distributed, these were taken as read. Rev Anna Gilkison moved that these be accepted as a true and correct record of the meeting. Carried.

Addition to the Agenda - Changes to Parish Council

Those who had passed away in the previous year were acknowledged - Olive Allen, Billie Young, Patricia Murray, Betty Morrison, Hilda Widdup, Betty Moss, Betty Logan, Joy

Nalder, Tom Nalder, Shirley Nalder, Cliff Couch, Jim Souness, Murray Jensen, Bruce Craig, Alison Stirrat, Pauline Thomson, Alison Johnston, Joy Mepham and Murray Patchett

Reports

All reports except the financial reports will be considered in one block. Rev Anna Gilkison moved that the reports from Worship and Music, Social Opportunities, Property, Pastoral Care, Mission and Outreach and the congregational reports from Waikanae and Raumati be accepted. Carried

Financial Report

The Treasurer, Cathy Drummond reported that the financial statement is still in draft form. The reviewed accounts will be made available to the congregations at Waikanae and to a combined United at 9 and the 10am Raumati congregation for their discussion and approval before they need to be submitted to other bodies.

It was noted that

- income from direct credit is dropping and at present income from Thrifty Place and hiring of facilities contribute a significant amount to church finances.
- the cost of installing heat pumps in the church, meeting room and hall at Raumati and the replacing of the carpet in Thrifty Place did not come from the operating account but from funds raised from the sale of the church building at Paekakariki

Insurance costs were \$ 37,000 (incl GST) As this amount is not sustainable the decision has been made to change the insurance policy for the Raumati complex from a full replacement to indemnity. This will reduce the insurance premium to \$17,000.

It was moved by Ken Milne and seconded by Marie Smith that the draft financial report be received. Carried

Cathy Drummond thanked Mike Binkhorst for the work he has done reviewing the finances.

Confirmation of Parish Council Representatives for coming year.

The following were confirmed as members of Kapiti Uniting Parish Council for 2023/2024 with the addition of Erice Carley representing the Pastoral Care Group.

Merrill Baker (Pastoral Group)

Evan Ireland (Waikanae Church Representative)

Barrie Woods (Raumati Church Representative)

Maureen Calhaem (Parish development and Outreach)

Carole Rudings (Social opportunities)

Bruce Johnston(Worship and Music)

Ken Milne (Property and Finance)

Marie Smith (Property and Finance)

Mary White (Parish Development and Outreach)

Appointment of Parish Council Officers for 2024/2025

Chairperson - To be confirmed

Secretary - Jan Rae

Treasurer - Cathy Drummond

Acknowledgements -

Merrill Baker who is stepping down as the Pastoral Care representative was thanked and presented with flowers

Bruce Johnston was thanked for his leadership of the Music and Worship Commttee (in absentia)

General Business -

1. Proposed changes to Parish Council.

Rev Anna Gilkison outlined the present situation pointing out that there don't appear to be clear terms of membership either in the election to the council or the length of tenure of councillors. Some proceedings of Parish Council need a stamp of legality.

The Rev Roger Wiig and Sydney Mepham have both showed their concern and further suggestions are needed. The present Parish Council are committed to making a decision within the next 6 months, hopefully sooner.

2. Inclusion of Fijian congregation.

Ken Milne expressed concern that we haven't done a satisfactory job in absorbing the Fijian congregation into the parish. They've been willing to help us when needed eg moving tables and setting up for events but have we reciprocated?

Rev Anna Gilkison replied that while we had originally planned to have them affiliated to the parish and establish a closer relationship with them, this has not happened. The Fijian congregation exist because they are affiliated to the Wesley Church in Taranaki St, Wellington. The leaders of this church are happy for them to meet in our parish but not for us to establish a closer relationship with them as a group as there are concerns that this would contravene the rules of the Methodist Church of Aotearoa New Zealand.

The Rev John Roberts (a retired Methodist minister and former president of the Methodist Convention) explained that the Fijian, Samoan and Tongan congregations have a structure of their own within the Methodist Church. The Fijian congregation have their own Wasi Wasi Minister who is responsible for the congregation.

Rev Anna Gilkison thanked everyone for the work done in the pathway Christ is calling us .

The Rev Roger Wiig thanked Anna for the great job she is doing

The meeting closed at 11.40am with prayer