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Kia ora tātou katoa,

Against the backdrop of a growing omicron surge in New Zealand, the war in Ukraine (all wars are tragic and brutal), and the very messy end of the mandate protest camp at Parliament, we want to bring to your attention a number of insightful and/or encouraging resources – and a good news story from a provincial New Zealand city.

Mā te Atua koutou e tiaki e manaaki i nga wa katoa,
May the Lord bless and keep you at all times,

Dr Stuart Lange
National Director

Gayann Phillips
General Manager

and the NZCN team

P.S. If you haven't yet caught up with the postponements of the Forum and Congress, see [here](#).

Out the other side of the omicron surge & Covid restrictions

We all look forward to the end of the omicron surge, and the lifting of current mandates and restrictions. An article from the Evangelical Alliance in Britain indicates the sort of situation that might soon apply to churches in New Zealand. 'Living with Covid? What's changed around the UK and how should churches respond?'

[Read it here](#)



A very constructive resource, from Hope Together (UK)...

Christians sharing wellbeing, in the midst of societal brokenness

[HOPE Together](#)

[Wellbeing Journey](#)

[Preview](#)

Praying for Ukraine and its Christian churches

From the **World Evangelical Alliance** (WEA)...



[WEA and European Evangelical Alliance Call for Immediate Ceasefire and Withdrawal of Russian Forces from Ukraine, Urge Prayers for Peace](#)

[How to Pray for Ukraine Today? – A Request from a Ukrainian Evangelical Church Leader](#)

[Evangelical Platforms in Europe Start to Mobilise Aid for Ukraine](#)



The Church in Need

WEA Ukraine Crisis Response

Enemy aircraft overhead. Heavily armed paratroopers. Tanks in the streets. Bombs exploding nearby. Women and children killed. Husbands and fathers directed to the front lines. Escape routes cut-off. The horror of war has come to our Christian brothers and sisters in Ukraine. But they are remaining faithful, courageously keeping churches open for refuge and comfort, feeding, calling for prayer and helping those forced to flee their homes.

We are working through trusted ministry partners in Ukraine for internally displaced people and with national church alliances in bordering countries to provide emergency relief for refugees crossing borders. Shelter, food, medicines, fuel – all are needed urgently.

[Donate through the WEA here](#)

From **Christianity Today** (CT)

[As Russia Invades Ukraine, Pastors Stay to Serve, Pray ... and Resist](#)

From **The Gospel Coalition** (TGC)

[To Stay and Serve: Why We Didn't Flee Ukraine](#)

From the **International Brethren Conference of Mission** (ICBM)

[Ukraine prayer request Lutsk, Ukraine](#)



Auckland Church Leaders and Rhema Ministries

A very short devotional talk from 'The Daily', a pre-Easter video series

This series is a daily 2.5 minutes talk by a very wide range of church leaders, giving witness to both the Christian message and to our unity in Christ.

Watch yesterday's devotional with Jodi Tolley of Church Unlimited

Sign up to receive them in your inbox



Jonathan Dove, Chair of Auckland Church Leaders, will be sharing with us on

Pray As One NZ at 8pm on Monday 7 March about 'The Daily' and how it is helping to bring churches together in the city while blessing the nation.

Join Pray As One NZ on Zoom 8–9pm Mondays

God is on the waka:

CHURCH IN THE PARK

WHANGANUI

In Whanganui, Te Puna O Wai Ora Māori fellowship has over the summer been running a flourishing open-air church gathering in a park – with the permission and support of local iwi and marae, the City Council and Police.

Pastor Marama Dey has written to NZCN that she 'felt prompted by the Lord to share what our church is doing in Whanganui as maybe churches in other cities can do the same'. She explains that 'we are a Māori fellowship, run by a mixture of pākehā and Māori ministers of whom I am only one, and a congregation of many cultures', and that 'in Māori mission no one gets paid as we are called to serve the King and trust him for the rest. We walk by faith not wages'.

Here's what she wrote (also slightly edited):

'When summer came, along with the Covid restrictions, 'the Lord showed us to go to a large park in the city, so we are free to gather and praise him... We commenced with this and every Sunday take all our gear for our band and worship team and gazebos and lots of free food and run a service there.

All is legal and up front as we do not want to discredit our Lord and Saviour. We are abiding by all the rules and the people all sit in their own bubbles or in groups of 25 spread around the park.

We are Pentecostal so we have prayers and worship and enjoy the presence of the Lord and the Holy Spirit. God has moved powerfully in the park, and people from all over are now coming: many non-believers and many who have left their churches are coming to salvation and we are baptising people nearly every week. We have our different pastors preaching each week. The Lord is busy healing people and it is all just an outpouring of the Holy Spirit, and all we are doing is praising the Lord.

The youth area has grown to over 50 children preschool to High school and it takes 10 leaders of whom we give training to each week to grow them stronger as they minister to the children. Through the week we are every day now at the

church running teaching and discipleship classes to care for everyone just small groups at a time. This keeps people fed and praising the Lord.

We get people to sign in and this is organised by our pastors and prayer teams. This also gives us the names of people attending so that we can follow up through the week to get them into our house groups to attend Bible study.

We run zoom prayer meeting every day and night. Jesus is showing us that it is the harvest season now.

So bless you all. I hope this will inspire churches to look at new ways of leading people to the Lord his way and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

May the Lord bless you all in your mahi.

God is on the waka now more than ever.'

Would you like to have your organisation featured in our newsletter, post employment opportunities on our job board, or list events on our calendar?

You can! These are benefits we make available to NZCN member churches and Christian organisations.

[Click here to learn more about memberships](#)

Events

Listed on our [Event Calendar](#) by our Church and Christian Organisation members



AFFIRM

Crossroads: When World & Gospel Meet

An AFFIRM Zoom series on Mission in today's world.

LENT SERIES

by Andrew Burgess, Dean of
Bishopdale Theological College

**Every good thing in Christ:
The complete Kingdom in
the complete King**

SESSION 1 ~ 7pm, 9 March

Old story new: God's kingdom
is the best and oldest story of all

SESSION 2 ~ 7pm, 23 March

The beauty of the kingdom
in the birth of the King

SESSION 3 ~ 7pm, 6 April

Every good thing in Christ

Register by email to
lorraineandpete@gmail.com
We will then send the ZOOM
link for the series.

Employment Opportunities

Listed on our [Job Board](#) by our Church and Christian Organisation members



Communications Manager - full-time & part-time
Wellington preferred, other locations considered

Staff Workers - full-time & part-time
Auckland, Christchurch, Dunedin, with vacancies
across the country

Partnerships & Fundraising Manager

Anywhere - full-time & part-time

Office Administrator and Receptionist - part-time
Wellington



New Projects Manager - full-time
Penrose, Auckland

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Help spread the news...

New Zealand society is in a period of significant change, much of it away from the Christian faith and values. Christian voices in society are either ignored or scorned.

We need Christian voices which are positive, sensible, reasoned, well-informed, and clear.

Forward to a friend



NZ Christian Network

PO Box 16004, Sandringham, Auckland 1351

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