

## **Ministry Resource Committee**

### **Annual Report 2013**

The Ministry Resource Committee meets twice a year. This year the meeting date for the Committee has changed. It was decided it would be more effective to meet before the Ecclesiastical and Mission and Evangelism Committees, because the information we share from around the Presbytery area is helpful for both Committees. It has been exciting to hear of what is happening in our region and how Synod funding has supported and encouraged innovative and successful mission in different areas. We also, of course, share our struggles. This is a pastoral Committee and sharing one another's burdens and listening to one another is always helpful. At our last meeting a number from the Presbytery Council attended, and the information shared drew a larger picture of what is happening around the Southern Area.

Having Presbytery represented on our Committee is also useful as the Synod's employees report to this committee. Synod is the employing body but Bruce, Cheryl and Stephanie serve the Presbytery. It is with regret that we farewell Stephanie Redhead who has tendered her resignation due to family commitments. Stephanie has been an extremely valuable employee, sharing her expertise and experience with Youth Workers in our area. We wish her well ; we are sure she will continue to share herself and her experience in the future.

We also thank both Bruce and Cheryl for their contributions. Bruce - your work with churches seeking to fulfil their mission is invaluable and we are looking forward to your Elders Training DVD being completed. Cheryl - we love your passion, energy and belief in Children's Ministry. We encourage you in your involvement with the Children's Ministry Network seeking ecumenical partnerships and encouraging each other in God's Kingdom work for the sake of children and families in Otago and Southland. Thank you both for another fantastic year of service to the Synod and Presbytery. The Ministry Resource Committee is grateful for the calibre of the Synod employees - we endeavour to encourage and support them.

This Committee should also be a connection point for the Knox Centre for Ministry and Leadership and the Synod but reports have not been received during this past year. Jason Goroncy is now a member of the Committee, so we hope to be able to encourage and support the Knox Centre more in the coming year.

The Ministry Resource Committee also has the task of supporting innovative and new mission within the Synod area. We have a budget of \$20,000 given to us by the Mission and Evangelism Committee. Annually we support the Men's and Women's Camps organised by Bruce Fraser and his team. These are always very successful and worthwhile events, and we are pleased to be able to offer funding. We believe these camps make a valuable contribution to the health of those in ministry in the South. We also received a request from Cheryl Harray for funding training in Children's Ministry, but their Children's Day was cancelled due to leadership being unavailable, and the funding for training will be used when the "Cool Bananas" Team come to the South this year.

As we look into the future we will continue to encourage one another in our different areas offering support, prayer and understanding. These are not easy days for many rural parishes as we face concern over our buildings and the movement of population from the rural areas. It is also important for us to continue discussion of future initiatives in mission and ministry. I enjoy the privilege, as Convenor of this Committee, to be able to offer pastoral concern, as well as to encourage forward thinking as we show God's love in Christ in our communities.

My grateful thanks to all committee members for their support. We appreciate the reports brought from the different former Presbytery areas and endeavour to offer support wherever we can. We also value the time taken by Synod Employees to report to the Committee; we value who you are and all that you do in our area.

Again Stephanie we wish you God's best. Remember also that this committee is here to help in a pastoral capacity; if you require resources or support for innovative mission, please contact us.

Rev Nancy Parker  
Convenor