

## **Report: Educational Fund**

Matthew 25:40 New International Version

40 "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

The committee members feel very privileged that they can be the conduit through which funds can be allocated to those groups working in the mission fields in Otago and Southland, assisting their outreach services into their communities.

The Educational Fund Committee acknowledges the foresight of those pioneers who prudently husbanded the resources of the early Presbyterian Church in Otago and also the on-going diligence of the Otago Foundation Trust Board which manages those investments.

It was noted that the total amount applied for this round was lower than last year but the amount available to disperse was a little higher. Cuts still had to be made but the challenge was less than that of last year.

Three new applicants joined the traditional list and recommendations include assistance for them.

In reading the pile of applications, this year's was six centimetres thick, it became increasingly clear that funding for wages and salaries was difficult to obtain. The committee was pleased that its guidelines allowed the covering of that sort of need.

When considering the applications, guideline B2 is particularly useful where it says:

*As a general rule, allocations of income shall be made by way of subsidies, so that institutions receiving such allocation will be stimulated to raise finances and develop their schemes.*

The collective wisdom and experience on the committee was complemented this year by the presence of Moderator Designate Chris Burgin, Raewyn Devlin from Clutha Presbytery and Philip Cullen representing the Polytechnics of Otago and Southland.

I wish to acknowledge the support and encouragement of our Executive Officer, Fergus Sime whose knowledge, both historic and present and attention to detail are invaluable.

Margaret G Cook  
Convenor