

Report: Knox Centre for Ministry and Leadership

The Knox Centre for Ministry and Leadership: Working with the Church in ministry formation for worship, mission and leadership

The Knox Centre for Ministry and Leadership currently has fifteen ordinands on its books, five of whom are doing their internships in the Synod area, one in Queenstown, one in Oamaru, and the other three in Dunedin. We are very grateful to the Synod for the funding assistance available to parishes that host interns. The internship programme, now in its seventh year, is going well.

In addition to the training of Ministers, the Knox Centre provides training opportunities for other forms of ministry and leadership in the Church. We regularly run workshops in the Synod area. We have produced an Elders' Handbook, a Leadership Handbook, a Pastoral Care Handbook and, most recently, a Worship Handbook for use at both parish and presbytery levels. All of these resources can be downloaded from our web site.

The Knox Centre is heavily involved in continuing ministry formation for ministers. We are responsible for the training of Ministry Development Reviewers, as well as overseeing and moderating the process on behalf of the Leadership Subcommittee. Kevin Ward is a key person in this regard. Kevin (in the Synod area) and Mark Johnston (Auckland area) have been running cohorts for mentoring and learning together as missional leadership groups, using the material developed by Alan Roxburgh's Missional Church group.

The Knox Centre has, over the last few years, launched a variety of initiatives targeting young people in the 18-30 year-old age bracket. These include annual music and worship workshops for recipients of our annual music scholarships, several of whom have come from within the Synod area. We would encourage churches to make the music scholarships known to their young people. More details can be found on our web site. We also offer theology scholarships to Presbyterians studying theology at tertiary level, including the University of Otago. In February, we ran our fifth national *Going Further* event in partnership with Presbyterian Youth Ministries. This event focuses on deepening the participants' understanding of, and commitment to Christian discipleship. The feedback from the participants is always very positive.

It is important to remember that, while the Knox Centre serves a national function for the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand, it also has a strong regional focus and recognises the significance of the Synod of Otago and Southland's input. The Synod is a vitally important stakeholder in the future of the Knox Centre and its ancillary services and resources. Please let us know if you think we can serve the Synod in new ways.

For more information about the Knox Centre please visit our website:

www.knoxcentre.ac.nz

Finally, please note that, due to the generosity of earlier generations, the Knox Centre is able to support study leave and ministry formation projects for NOMs and LOMs.

Applications are called for in March and September each year, but may be discussed with us and submitted at any time.

Graham Redding

Principal,

Knox Centre for Ministry and Leadership