



AN EMAIL NEWSLETTER FROM THE UNITING CONGREGATIONS OF AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND

ANGLICAN > CHRISTIAN CHURCHES > CONGREGATIONAL UNION > METHODIST > PRESBYTERIAN >

June 2009

**From the UCANZ Office:**

- Peter has had time on the West Coast visiting people and parishes - also attending the annual meeting of Christian World Service in Christchurch.
- Robyn has completed the 2009 Directory - copies are available from the office for \$10.
- A reminder that the Partner Support Fund closes for the year on 30 June - any payments for 2008-09 will need to be in to the UCANZ office by then.
- The statistics forms are due in at the end of July. We know that they are more complex than previous forms, but this will help when it comes to filling out the Charities Commission forms. There is no need for exact numbers - but try to paint an accurate picture of your parish. Any questions can be asked of the office.

**Standing Committee:**

- Met from June 9-11 in Johnsonville.
- A reminder to people that contributions to the Executive Officer support fund are still being collected - and any ideas for grants/funds to apply for would be gratefully received.
- Plans are well under way for the Forum to be held in early October - details on the next page.
- Nominations for Standing Committee are now being received by the UCANZ office. Please see the nomination forms on the website and think of people who could serve in this role. There are normally three two-day meetings each year.

**Church Leaders Meeting:**

Leaders from the partner churches met in Johnsonville on 10 June to talk about the life of the co-operative venture movement. There was a clear assurance from all the partners that there is no plan to dissolve union parishes. While a variety of issues arose in the discussion, it was felt that a central concept that needs clarification is that of parish oversight. This will be considered over the next few months and the leaders will meet again in early September.

WEBSITE: [www.UCANZ.org.nz](http://www.UCANZ.org.nz)

**UCANZ Survey**

Peter has collated a report based on the survey of congregations in March. Thanks to the over 1000 people who responded - representing about 70% of the parishes. The data was used in discussion with the church leaders and gives a picture of where parishes are at this point of the journey of co-operating ventures.

There were no startling answers from the survey - it was clear that each parish has formed its own ecumenical path and UCANZ has a breadth of understanding in theology and practice.

One salient point has been the reality that communication still remains the key ingredient for developing church communities. There is an overload of information in today's society and we need to be careful of what and how we present our stories.

A full report is available on the UCANZ website: [www.UCANZ.org.nz](http://www.UCANZ.org.nz)

The **New Zealand Hymn Book Trust** are holding a conference over Labour Weekend in Palmerston North. A variety of speakers and workshops will be available. Information can be obtained from [www.hymns.org.nz](http://www.hymns.org.nz)

**Worship Resources:**

There is a need for good resources to be available for parishes seeking to provide quality worship each Sunday. While it is not possible for UCANZ to develop a range of resources itself, we hope to have a place on the web-site to direct people to quality sources - if you know of some great sites that we could link to, please let the office know.

**PLEASE PRINT AND DISPLAY uNETy**

uNETy enquiries to the office  
P O Box 6469, Wellington 6141  
(4) 384 3587 [office@ucanz.org.nz](mailto:office@ucanz.org.nz)

# Weaving



1 - 4 October 2009

**Wanganui Girls High School**  
**Jones Street,**  
**Wanganui**

---

Details of Forum 2009 (Pamphlets and Registration forms) will be mailed from the UCANZ office on Tuesday 30 June. Please encourage people from your parish to attend – this will be an uplifting event for people and parishes.

We have speakers from a wide range of backgrounds and will provide interesting and practical ideas for people to bring back to their parishes.