

NZFCNA Newsletter

April 2011

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Chairperson's Report

Dear colleagues,

Since our last newsletter momentous events have shaken our world, both in New Zealand and abroad. Nearby the January floods and cyclone in Australia have tested the communities of Queensland and Victoria; Christchurch's second major quake in 6 months, much more devastating than the September event, has brought forth courage and strength in the people of Canterbury and generous responses from all over New Zealand and around the world. The earthquake, tsunami and nuclear events in Japan, with the high death toll, leave us feeling overwhelmed for our not-so-far neighbours. We are all touched in some way by these events, and we have all responded with prayer, with money and with countless actions.

The question that non-believers ask at these times 'where is your God in all this?' needs to be answered with a resounding 'everywhere – in all those who risk their safety to rescue; in those who bake for the rescuers; in those who get services back on; in those who keep families going with reduced resources; in the children who have muffin stalls outside their homes; in those who listen, who pray, who give of themselves or out of their own resources'. We who know God have a duty to make God known. We do so through our lives, our work our faith. In time non-believers may recognise that God is in love shown, love given, love received. We are proud of our Canterbury FCNs and their work in and around the devastation.

As 1 Kings 19 tells us, God is not in the rocks that crumble, the earthquake or fire, but is 'the still small voice' that follows. Let our work be the space in which the Word can be heard.

Therefore due to such severe disruptions in people's lives, the board has decided to forgo our annual conference this year yet we are aware that the fellowship of other FCNs is very important to us all. Thus we have decided to support regional study days/gatherings – whatever is best for each area. We'll be emailing you in due course about this.

Blessings to you all.

Elizabeth Niven

Then He said, "Go out, and stand on the mountain before the LORD." And behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind tore into the mountains and broke the rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice.

1 Kings 19:11-12 NKJ

www.faithnursing.co.nz

New Zealand Faith Community Nurses Association

Regional Reports

North Island

Auckland

On March 12th we held a seminar at Selwyn Village titled "What is Faith Community Nursing?" Around 20 nurses attended and we had a very informative and enjoyable day. Our patron the Very Revd Charles Tyrrell opened and closed the day with prayer, and he also explained his history with the NZFCNA and his role as patron.



Hot Hawaiian Hula!

Three FCNs, (Isabel Mordecai from St. John's Anglican Church, East Coast Bays, Jo Little from Windsor Park Baptist Church, East Coast Bays, and Joan McManus from Te Awamutu Baptist Church), each spoke about their own journey into FCN, and issues such as funding, their individual practices and how their ministry fits within their churches. This engendered a lot of discussion within the whole group, and we all found it very helpful.

Hilda Fa'asalele spoke about the Parish Nurse role in the Healthy Village Action Zone programme, and what is happening in the Pacific Island Churches in the Auckland region. This was very inspiring. Her daughter led us in a short session of Hot Hawaiian Hula! An exercise programme run for women in some of the HVAZ churches.



Elizabeth Niven explained the education modules and pathway for FCN's. She also talked about other resources available to us, e.g. Kinder Library, online journals etc. Over lunch there was a lot of animated discussion and networking. The day was very successful and we hope to make this an annual event.

Our next meeting is the 16th July

Isabel Mordecai

Waikato

No FCN meetings recently as I have been overseas for months.

Then I went to Vietnam as part of the Australian delivery team for the charity called The Samaritan's Purse (aka Operation Christmas Child)...We went to the very north of Vietnam which borders with China and did three box deliveries, one kindergarten and two schools.

It was an amazing experience and we also got to view parts of the beautiful country and find out how many projects are running under this charity and meet the most amazing Vietnamese Christians working under very difficult situations with love and passion.

Numbers of FCN fluctuate and we have 3 at present in the Waikato. We will be meeting again in 2 weeks.



Joan delivering Samaritan's Purse boxes in Vietnam

Joan MacManus

Wellington

At the moment there are 3 FCN's in Wellington. Margaret Arnold from the Salvation Army has retired, and there is a new nurse replacing her. We wish Margaret well in her retirement. Paula Baynes and I meet and speak often and include each other in Parish events e.g. Men's Health Session, First Aid session etc... Apart from that we are both working hard in our Parishes promoting parish Nursing and later this year I will be going to UK to meet with several FCN's there as part of a private visit.

Hilary Black

South Island

Nelson

Charles and I together with Jane Wulff (the Parish Nurse at Nelson Cathedral) and her husband Alan, travelled to Epiphany Church, Takaka in Golden Bay for the commissioning of Phil Preece as Parish Nurse in that parish which extends from as far west as Collingwood.



She completed her basic training using the modules last October. She was presented with the Bishop of Nelson's letter of authority from Charles and commissioned by him. Her Vicar, Revd Ian Thatcher and churchwarden presented her. It was a joyous occasion with hymns chosen by Phil.

Elaine Tyrrell



Canterbury / Westland

A Regional Meeting was held at Ronnie Ellis' home starting with a pot luck dinner. Twelve nurses attended.

Sharing of Stories was heard from several members.

Lynne shared her journey towards faith nursing with the recent appointment as faith nurse for a community of catholic nuns in Christchurch.

Rosemary Brady updated us on her recent commissioning as a faith community nurse in the Anglican parish of Templeton-Rakiaia. Sarah Walker, Ruth Harwood and Kathryn Starky shared about the Aging, Spirituality and Dementia workshop run by Elizabeth McKinley. A summarised handout was circulated to members by Ruth. They highlighted the awareness and importance of dementia people needing to find meaning in their life, allowing them to tell and hear their own story. The question being heard through their experience of continual 'loss', "Am I going to lose God?"

Emotional Overload was highlighted from hearing the post earthquake stories.

Carol Renouf shared her recent teachings, post earthquake on 'Winning Ways of Wellbeing, Building emotional and mental resilience' based on 4 components: Connect; Be Active; Take Notice; Learn; Give.

Lesley Askin shared a resource booklet from the Bible Society which consists of reflections on post trauma experiences. Noreen Wright shared how she phoned all her foot clinic clients to check on their wellbeing as many are living alone. Joy Coster emailed about how the foot clinic has become more of a place of hear the stories. The earthquake has become a catalyst for people especially the elderly to express similar trauma experience.

Many positives have surfaced post earthquake through the wider community care by churches, individuals, neighbourhoods; the integrating of churches during to lose of worship centres; the workshops on stress management etc; archiving of stories within church groups.

Lesley expressed the need to formulate a specific job description template for Canterbury FCNs, in light of Christchurch District Health Boards mission statement and health critiques for post earthquake. A pool of funding will be available to churches to meet some of these critiques. A group of members will meet early June to brainstorm this.

Spiritual Reflections was given by Lesley from Jeremiah 29. How does God show His love in a time like this, through His people. So what am I to do to help this city to prosper? "My Plans are to give you a future and a hope". Corporate prayer was expressed for the city and faith nursing by all.

The Next Regional Meeting will be held on the 22nd May at the Fendalton Anglican Church Hall.

Diane Webster

For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.

Jeremiah 29:11-13 NKJ

INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT FOLLOWING THE CHRISTCHURCH EARTHQUAKE.

From IPNRC newsletter February 28th,

A Prayer for New Zealand

Many of you remember our good parish nurse colleagues from New Zealand who presented at the Westberg Symposium a few years ago. Some of you may have met members and leaders of the New Zealand Faith Community Nursing Association over the years, or read of their work in *Parish Nurse Perspectives*. We pray for the parish nurses throughout New Zealand this day, and hold all of Christchurch and the surrounding area in prayer as they mourn lost loved ones and seek healing following last week's devastating earthquake. And please give generously to the international emergency response organization of your choice.

Article from the IPRNC e newsletter;

We received this correspondence from Kathryn Starky, a new parish nurse from South Canterbury, near Christchurch, New Zealand, who is married to Rev. Andrew Starky, an Anglican minister. Our prayers are with Kathryn, with Diane Webster, the President of the NZFCNA, who is from Christchurch, Elaine Tyrell, past President, a dear friend of the IPNRC, along with her husband, The Very Rev. Charles Tyrell, past Dean of the Cathedral in Nelson (and a registered nurse) who is now working as a national consultant on aging issues.

Kathryn writes,

"Thanks for your concern and prayers. This has been a horrific event and will be a long journey back to some normality. South Canterbury has sent emergency and rescue teams, ICU and ED nurses and doctors, and others tradesmen like plumbers. Timaru Hospital has taken people as have the local rest homes. I am on an on call roster for relief. We have had a meal by the churches for those from Christchurch in camp grounds and living with families. 40 turned up and at the service we had yesterday for the '2 minute' silence, there were 70 people.

My faith nursing is being part of the pastoral team listening and hearing people's storiessome tragic, some sad and some joyful. I am trying to give some normality to the ongoing things happening unrelated to the earthquake. Our mums and children program has families coming that are from Christchurch and we had our first 'Messy Church" event. We have had no damage personally or in our parish unlike the one in September. Our son Daniel is in Christchurch at University (just started) and has stayed on to help with the student army in the tidy up of suburbs. Andrew's work load naturally has increased.

Kathryn Starky

Elaine Tyrell has also had messages of support from Anne van Loon, from Australian Faith Community Nurses Association, Deborah Pattison from the IPNRC, and Maureen Daniels from the World Forum of Parish Nursing.

It is wonderful to be a part of this International group of Christian Nurses who support and remember each other in prayer

Congratulations

to Elaine Tyrrell
who has gained her Masters with
Distinction



Best Wishes and Thank you



to Margaret Arnold
who has recently retired as FCN in
Wellington

Nursing Evidence

Canterbury DHB, in partnership with the New Zealand Institute for Community Health Care, has launched a new website to enhance nurses' access to electronic information. *Nursing Evidence* is a free online service that will help nurses to quickly find key information on the web. .

This website is now live on:
<http://www.nursingevidence.org.nz>

.International Council of Nurses

The International Council of Nurses (ICN) is a federation of more than 130 national nurses associations, representing the more than 13 million nurses worldwide. Operated by nurses internationally, ICN works to ensure quality nursing care for all, sound health policies globally, the advancement of nursing knowledge, and the presence worldwide of a respected nursing profession and a competent and satisfied nursing workforce and can be accessed on:

<http://www.icn.ch>

Other Useful Websites

Australian FCN
www.afcna.org.au

NZNO
www.nzno.org.nz

NZ Nursing Review (Independent Nursing Newspaper)
www.nursingreview.co.nz

Nursing Council
www.nursingcouncil.org.nz

Disability, Spirituality and Faith Network of Aotearoa/ New Zealand
www.dsfnetwork.org

Ministry of Health
www.moh.govt.nz

John Kinder Theological Library
www.kinderlibrary.ac.nz

International Parish Nurse Resource Centre
www.parishnurses.org

UK Parish Nurses
www.parishnursing.org.uk

Bible Gateway – searchable online Bible
www.biblegateway.com

International Parish Nurse Resource Centre (IPNRC)
www.parishnurse.org



For more links and to see NZ Faith Community Nurses' stories check www.faithnursing.co.nz

Easter Prayer



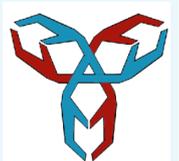
*God our Father,
 by raising Christ your Son
 you conquered the power of death
 and opened for us the way to eternal life.
 Let our celebration today raise us up
 and renew our lives by the Spirit
 that is within us.
 Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ,
 your Son,
 who lives and reigns with you and the
 Holy Spirit,
 one God, for ever and ever.*

Amen.

From the Editor,

Thank you for all the wonderful contributions to the newsletter, there is so much happening throughout the country. Please continue to pray for the FCNs in Christchurch, they are an inspiration to the rest of us.

I pray that you all have a blessed Easter, and have time to stop and contemplate the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and what this means for you.



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