

New Zealand Faith Community Nurses Association



FCN HANDOVER

James 2:17
"Faith by itself, if not accompanied by action is dead."

JUNE 2019

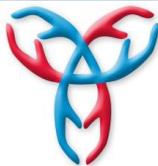


Who are our Vulnerable? :
The call to Compassion

New Zealand Faith Community Nurses Association
2019 Annual Conference

Wellington Cathedral of St Paul
2 Hill St, Thorndon, Wellington

Thursday 22nd August (Retreat)
23–24th August Conference + AGM



The board of New Zealand Faith Community Nurses Association would like to invite you to our 2019 annual conference in Wellington.

This is a time where you can learn about this very special ministry within the community. The registration form that includes the program of events is now available on our website [at this link](#).

The conference programme begins on Thursday afternoon with a retreat to be run by Judith Wigglesworth BA(Hons, LTh(Hons).

Judith has been involved in the Anglican Church for most of her life, first in Palmerston North where she was born, and then in Wellington. Both before and since her ordination in 2008, Judith has been involved in a wide range of parish ministries. In recent years Judith has developed a growing passion for retreat ministry and has led several weekend parish retreats and quiet days, most recently a quiet day in November 2018 for the Tararua Area of the Order of St Luke.

For more details on Judith's background and that of other speakers [go to our website](#).

Friday evening includes a time to relax and get to know other delegates at dinner.



The Shepherds' Arms Hotel
285 Tinakora Road,
Thorndon, Wellington



With an early bird registration special available up until 31 July, now is the time for you to get your registrations in.

IF GOD IS ALL YOU HAVE,
you have all you need.

NZFCNA is the Christian charity that equips nurses to serve their local community. NZ Charities Commission Registration number CC45052

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OBITUARY

Priscilla Kenna

The Board were sad to hear of the death of Priscilla Kenna in May. Priscilla was a supporter and encourager of Faith Community Nursing; although not a registered nurse, she attended recent conferences and supported us in many ways. We thank God for her.

The comment below was put on the NZ Herald condolence site.

Thanks to Priscilla for her encouragement and support over recent years to the ministry of Faith Community Nursing in New Zealand. Priscilla had a generous and loving heart, an outworking of her faith in Jesus. We look forward to meeting again in our eternal home where Priscilla now lives with Jesus Christ, her Lord and Saviour.



The Board of New Zealand Faith Community Nurses Association.

A DEMENTIA INCLUSIVE CHURCH GUIDE

Livability UK has produced an updated for churches to assist those living with dementia. It can be downloaded when you email them: <https://livability.org.uk/resources/travelling-together/>

Travelling Together, launched during Dementia Action Week, is a Dementia Inclusive Church guide. This practical resource will support churches to take their next steps towards dementia inclusion.

Increasingly dementia is understood to be an acquired disability, but there often remains great stigma around living with the condition. Too often in our society, and even within churches, people living with dementia and those affected by it face barriers that impact their lives and opportunities. One reason for the continuing stigma and barriers is that dementia is sometimes referred to as the 'disease of identity', prompting people to ask, 'Who am I?' or 'Who is this person now?'

This guide is the result of running Dementia Inclusive Church workshops around the UK for the last three years, and includes information, reflections, and resources that have featured most in those workshops. People often ask about the symptoms of different types of dementia, the theology of dementia, and even what happens if dementia means a person no longer remembers their faith.



Christian nurses are in a unique and privileged position as they are bilingual in faith and health. As nursing professionals they can serve an important role in the community, promoting health and well-being through education, advocacy and care management as well as providing pastoral support through a church fellowship.

TEAM WORK

A Sermon given by Faye Davenport *abridged* (NZFCNA board member) on Sunday 12 May 2019—Mothers Day.

We give thanks for the mothers with us and all those women who influence us and those mothers influencing us in spirit.

Sunday 12 May 2019 was also International Nurses Day, the birthday anniversary of Florence Nightingale. 2020 will be the 200th anniversary. I regularly think about the influence of Florence as the first year professional nursing paper I teach refers to Florence on a regular basis. She is viewed as the first nursing theorist, a statistician and leader in recognition of the importance of sanitation and the impact of cleanliness in reducing death due to disease. She advocated for fresh air, sunlight, adequate diet and rest in order to maintain and restore health. Florence was a woman with ideas far ahead of her time. She was strong willed and determined. The importance of hand hygiene comes up on a regular basis in my daily work; teaching students how to effectively wash their hands, other students present information to staff during their clinical placements about the importance of effective and appropriate hand-washing. It is important to know the history so that we know how we have got to where we are today, whether in health industry or in the church. We need to know the past in order to know how we got to the present.



In a sermon back in 2006 the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Rowan Williams, said that Florence Nightingale like Mother Theresa, had understood that care and compassion sprang from the understanding of the patient as an individual entitled to respect and dignity:

He said “both took it for granted that the level of human respect given to any patient is the same whether they are rich or poor, young or old, likely or unlikely to recover, because they stand on the same ground before their creator... The self is what is ill or hurt or restricted, not simply a set of bodily functions and processes. Healing is therefore about sustaining and restoring that vulnerable sense of who we are. It is about the service of human dignity.”

In this month’s edition of the Messenger with International Nurses Day in mind, I wrote about the spirituality of Florence Nightingale. I said at the end of the letter that I would be exploring what opportunities have arisen for me in terms of my faith and how my relationship with God impacts on my approach to caring for others. This story is all about me and I make no apology for that as you are all part of my story.

In November 2004 I was ordained Deacon. That weekend, on the Sunday morning, we celebrated here at St Peters. There was a pew full of my colleagues from the Regional Cancer Treatment Service. Whilst many of them did not profess to have a faith they have supported me on my journey and regularly used me as a resource in the health care environment. Think about the people you engage with during your week. Perhaps some or many of them do not profess to have a faith in or a relationship with God. That is not to say that we do not influence them in our faith journey or that they in turn do not influence us.

Jesus says “The works I do in my father’s name testify about me, but you do not believe because you are not my sheep. My sheep listen to my voice, I know them, and they follow me.... no one will snatch them out of my hand.” What does this bring to my mind? Many of you are familiar with my roles as Deacon.

We share in those roles Sunday after Sunday -reading and listening to the Gospel reading, setting the table, and of course the Dismissal. The Dismissal-during the service we listen out for the voice of God, we listen for and recognise those in need, we gain our spiritual renewal and refreshment and.....we take all of that and much more out in to the community and live out our faith as we engage with others in our normal activities of the week.

Continued over ...

OUR MISSION

NZFCNA will support Faith Community Nurses committed to working through faith communities to provide a ministry of holistic healthcare.

Continued

What does that mean for me as a as a person of faith and as a nurse? I have been a nurse for 42 years and a member of the parish of St Peters for 40 years. The challenges are many and varied. Every single day is a privilege and a blessing.

I met a patient in the community who I was involved in the care of twenty-five or thirty years ago I see and hear how much they have gained from the often rough chemotherapy and radiotherapy treatment they received and that I was part of. I have met a man in whose treatment I was involved with when he was an older teenager. To my horror he says to those around him “this lady saved my life”. It was not quite like that, I was part of a great team. It is always gained by great team work. Sadly we don’t often hear about the success stories and there are many out in the community and well beyond.

Just because an individual is in a cancer ward it does not necessarily mean they see themselves with such a diagnosis. I remember a very rural farmer, with no family support, only me, and I knew he was about to get some very dire news and he had absolutely no idea what was coming. The specialist would deliver the news to the patient, I would be present and I would follow on with the details and plan and the support. Faith and belief was essential as I dealt with that situation.

I had a woman patient newly diagnosed with cancer and about to embark on her first course of complex cancer. I had met her for the first time that day and would start that first treatment. Immediately prior she wanted to sit up..... and pray over the chemotherapy drugs... that they would work on the cancer. Unfortunately she died about a week later, though this was unrelated to the cancer. An extraordinary experience indeed!

On another occasion a young man died during our handover, night shift to morning shift. The staff used me as a spiritual resource and asked if we, the group of nursing staff, could pray with the young man, after his death, at his bedside and before he left the ward.

These days nursing students are equivalent to a patient load for me I am part of another great team these days. In nursing education I often find that the biggest critic of nursing students is the students themselves. Recently I met with a student who will probably never be an A grade student but she has the most amazing personality. I said to her that while good grades are part of it, personality and the ability to effectively communicate are also important. It is just getting them to see it that way that is one of the challenges today.

International nursing students bring different dimensions as not uncommonly they have had traumatic experiences in their home country and have come to New Zealand seeking a better life. Alternatively the student wishes to register as a nurse and return to their home country to improve the conditions for others. Despite the often significant sacrifices these students have made and the obstacles they have and are still overcoming, these individuals strive to better themselves and the world they live in.

When the students aren’t challenging me I in return challenge them. My faith and relationship with God allows me to go places that others might not. I play the devil’s advocate and challenge them, even first year students. We explore the relationship between religion and spirituality. If a patient asks the student to pray with them, how will they manage the situation. If a patient asks “am I going to die.....or states “I am going to die” how will they respond. They probably hope no one will ever ask them such questions. We talk about and discuss rates of suicide and mental illness in society, alcohol and drug abuse. In return they might ask me about my views on euthanasia. I am really clear in my reply, that my answer is my personal position only. My reply: it is not about legalising euthanasia, it is about high quality or best possible care in palliative care. Doing the very best we can as health professionals.

AMEN



“Faith Community Nurses aim to encourage, promote
and provide effective health ministries within their churches and wider community”

THE FRAGRANCE OF BEAUTY

Based on a study by Gaynor Schiff, adapted by Dorothy Finlay

2 Corinthians 2:14

*“But thanks be to God, who, in the
Messiah, constantly leads us in a
triumphal procession and through us
spreads everywhere the fragrance of
what it means to know Him.”*



STEP 1. Cleanse: Daily Confession

Isaiah 1:8 “Though your sins be as scarlet they shall be as snow.”

STEP 2. Tone/Revitalise: Filled with the Holy Spirit

John 4:14 “but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never thirst; but the water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life.”

STEP 3. Nourish: Feed on the Word

1 Timothy 4:6 “like new-born babies long for the milk of the word, that by it you may grow in respect to salvation”

STEP 4. Foundation: Jesus the Cornerstone

Isaiah 28:16 “Behold I am laying in Zion, a stone, a tested stone, a cornerstone for the foundation, firmly placed. He who believes in It will not be disturbed.”

STEP 5. Eye makeup: Lamp of the Body

Matthew 6:22 “The lamp of the body is the eye; if, therefore, your eyes are clear your whole body will be full off light.”

STEP 6. Lipstick: Sing to the Lord

Psalms 141:3 “Set a guard, O Lord, over my mouth; keep watch over the door of my lips.”

STEP 7. Perfume: The fragrance of the Lord

2 Corinthians 2:14 “But thanks be to God, who in the Messiah, constantly leads us in a triumphal procession and through us, spreads everywhere the fragrance of what it means to know Him.”

Proverbs 31:30-31.

“Charm is deceptive and beauty does not last but a woman who fears the Lord will be greatly praised v31
Reward her for all she has done; Let her deeds publicly declare her praise.”

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SHOOTING IN PLACES OF WORSHIP

Last year through my international contacts, I learned about these resources. One of the topics is “planning and preparation for active shooters”. At the time I thought, “we don’t need that in NZ”. Sadly recent events have proved otherwise.

These are American resources from the Department of Homeland Security.

There is a huge amount of material and so I have just provided the link.

<https://www.fema.gov/faith-resources>

Churches may well need to consider this now; and we do not need to begin at the beginning if others have already given it a lot of thought.

Please pass this information on to any who are likely to be involved in such planning.

Helen Vaughan

Estate Planning

We are grateful to those donors who remembered NZFCNA in their estate planning during the past year. Bequests to NZFCNA contribute significantly to our long-term financial well-being, and help us ensure the success of our programmes. Naming NZFCNA organisation in your will is not difficult, and you can designate any amount or % of your estate that you wish. As you make plans for your estate, we hope that you will consider a bequest to us.



NEW ZEALAND HISTORY CHANGED

March 15 2019

A date that changed our country.

Bishop Paul Martin of the Catholic Diocese of Canterbury said to the people of Christchurch that night:

“Words cannot convey our distress. Our prayers are with those who are suffering. I invite you now, wherever you are, alone or with family, workmates or friends, to pray together in the prayer of St. Francis of Assisi”

Lord, make us instruments of your peace:
where there is hatred, let us sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.

O divine Master,
grant that we may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Amen.

Did you know that 2degrees are offering a 15% discount on their plans to nurses and others in the caring professions?

<https://www.2degreesmobile.co.nz/mobile/pay-monthly/kiwi-hero-plan/>

NZFCNA acknowledges the following corporations and individuals from whom it has received funding and donations in 2018/2019, without which we would be unable to operate.

Valma Bycroft
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Anonymous
Megan Hunt



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