



EFM Matters

March 2018

EFM NZ **Annual General Meeting 2018**

Notice is given of the
2017 EFM NZ Annual General Meeting
to be held on
12 noon, Wednesday 16th May 2018,
at the Wellington Cathedral of St Paul,
Hill Street, Wellington.

As members of the EFM Trust, trainers, mentors, group members, and graduates are invited to attend.

Elections will be held for EFM Board members.

Under the terms of our Trust Deed, nominations for Board members are to be made in writing, endorsed with the consent of the nominee, and received not less than 24 hours before the AGM.

If you are intending to come, would like your apology recorded, or would like a form to nominate a Board member, please email

Executive Officer: admin@efm.org.nz

EFM Mentor Training

for anyone wishing to explore the possibility of becoming an accredited EFM Mentor and In-service Training for existing EFM Mentors

at

St Andrews Anglican Church, 110 Charles St, Westshore, Napier

12 noon - 6pm Friday 13th April AND 9am - 5pm Saturday 14th April

Email or phone Valda for more information: admin@efm.org.nz

Phone 027 442 5569 or 06 755 1851

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CONGRATULATIONS to our Recent EFM Graduates

EFM Dunedin Group

Maryalyce Reed

EFM Porirua Group:

Diana Wolken,

Paul Carey (Mentor)

Tim Davies-Colley (Co-Mentor)

Wellington Anglican Cathedral Group:

Judith Burch,
Wilbur Dovey (Mentor)

Rosemary Biss,

Gwynn Narraway,

Te Awakairangi (Lower Hutt) Group:

Judy Youmans,

Jean Malcolm (Mentor)

Newlands Group:

Christine Tether,
Peter Corbett

John Whitehead,
Steven Sim (Mentor)

Martin MacLean

Prayers composed by EFM Group Members

Lord,

The waves keep rolling in constantly,

God your love keeps rolling over us,

Constantly, never ceasing.

The water is refreshing and energising,

Your word is ever refreshing and energising.

The wind picks up the tops of the waves

And sprays to the sky.

I am reminded of the exuberance of Your
delight in us and your creation.

How awesome You are!

Father God

You weep for your people,

those who are lost, lonely, hurting, and
suffering.

I pray that your hand of compassion will
touch each person in the depth of their pain.

Help us to love unconditionally.

Open our eyes and ears to Your people
around us.

Amen.

Thank you Lord that your love and compassion are the links of the chain that bind us together.

May we endeavour to link onto others, especially those we find difficult to love.

And may the links grow stronger with time, as we reach out with your hands to the world.

Amen

Introducing EFM Trustee

Leanne Munro

Tena koe. Ko Leanne Munro tōku ingoa. Ko Tamaki Makaurau ahau.

I am married to Dugald and mum to Caitlyn (12) and we currently live in Wellington.

I grew up in Auckland, attending a small suburban Presbyterian Church in Mt Roskill. I trained as a nurse specialising in paediatrics and working in Auckland, Whanganui and Edinburgh (Scotland). I began my theological training as an independent student attending lectures at St John's/Trinity through the old Auckland Consortium for Theological Education in the early 1990's. I finished my training for ordained ministry in the PCANZ at the Knox School of Ministry (now Knox Centre for Ministry and Leadership) in Dunedin in 1998.



I was a parish minister in Hamilton for just over two years before getting married and joining Dugald in New York where he was working. We have been back in Wellington since 2003, where I have worked as parish stated supply and aged care chaplain before taking time off to be the so-called 'at home parent'.

I currently work part time as chaplain in Aged Care for Presbyterian Support Central at one of their Enliven rest homes in Wellington. As a family we worship at Wadestown Presbyterian Church here in Wellington.

I have an interest in encouraging fellow Christians to explore their faith and identity, particularly as it connects with being Christian in Aotearoa/New Zealand. I am excited by the 'local' content of the EFM course in Aotearoa/New Zealand and humbled to be asked to serve on the Board of EFM.

Prayer for refugees and others in places they do not want to be

Heavenly Father, give comfort, courage, strength and hope to all those who peer through fences, bars, walls and other barriers – waiting – for food, for shelter, for freedom.

Touch the hearts of the fortunate and free to help wherever they can, no matter how little it may be.

In the name of Jesus Christ, the Saviour of all. Amen.

Composed by an EFM Group Member

Thoughts from a Year 1 & 2 EFM Group at the end of their study year

GROUP MEMORIES

Lots of deep personal sharing
Lots of shared laughter
Shared caring & love
Support

NEGATIVES

RRG's didn't always feel clear
- didn't always reference page numbers
- questions often muddy
Year 1 - not enough time for all the reading.

POSITIVES

Study
Long term questions being addressed by modern theologians
We get the chance to interact with this
Forward looking
Challenges stereotypes
References to a wide variety of theologians
Year 2 text excellent
- non-authoritarian
- gave lots of food for thought
- archaeological background
Rich discussions with input from diverse backgrounds

GROWTH

Learning about ourselves and how we work
More leisurely disciplined study
Changed how I react to difficult situations
Made my theology a lot clearer
Helped me let go of a lot of assumptions about self
More acceptance of the challenges of the here and now
More able to let go of some hurts and annoyances from the past
Working out the type of spiritual discipline that works for me
Clarifying where my ministry is going
Collective wisdom gained
Extra information about history behind New Testament - read it differently
Daily effective spiritual habit established

INDIVIDUAL GOALS

To build in daily God time & include this into my life each day.
To find clarification of a future path I might follow.
To study the New Testament
To be able to respond better in a more Biblical sense to the people with whom I work.
To find where God is in life - when it goes wrong.
To try and understand why people do what they do, and why some react one way or another from a spiritual perspective
Where is God in violence and anger?
How do we hold out hope?
I need to be more disciplined in my study
To finish this year - to take the weeks one at a time.

EFM Scholarship

The EFM Trust Board is pleased to announce the formation of an EFM NZ Scholarship.

Aim of the EFM Scholarship Fund

To provide assistance with the payment of fees, books and travel, for EFM students who would otherwise be unable to participate in the EFM programme.

Application for Scholarships

- Application may be made by the student through their Mentor to the Executive Officer using the EFM Scholarship Application Form.
- The application closing date will be 31 October in the year preceding the commencement of EFM study.
- Exceptional circumstances may be considered at any time preceding the commencement of an EFM study year.

Criteria for awarding scholarships.

- A maximum of 75% of the annual fees for a candidate may be awarded.
NOTE: The EFM Board encourages applicants to first seek support from their denomination or local congregation or from the setting/community in which they exercise their ministry. Each applicant is expected to make a personal contribution towards the cost of their EFM studies.
- The scholarship is by way of a zero interest loan with the full amount to be forgiven on completion of the year's study, and repayable if the candidate withdraws from the course or has an unsatisfactory attendance record.
- The Board, (or appointed subcommittee), will consider each of the candidates circumstances giving due weight to their financial situation, ministry context or any other such matters which the Board considers relevant.
- The Board will make commitments to successful scholarship recipients for one year at a time.

The EFM Scholarship Fund

- A full report including a statement of funds accumulated and dispersed, and the number of EFM students assisted, is to be made to the Board and wider EFM community each AGM.

Please support the establishment of the EFM Scholarship Fund

Donations towards the EFM Scholarship Fund may deposited into the

EFM Bank Account: 01-0535-0051971-00

or posted to EFM, 12 Ta Paora Drive, Bell Block, New Plymouth 4312

Please include your "Name" & "Scholarship" as a Reference, and ensure that you notify EFM of your donation.

Receipts will be issued for donations of \$5 or more, and may be used for claiming a tax credit.

THIS 'N THAT



The EFM Trust Board has decided that
“Exploring Faith Matters”
would be trialled as a by-line underneath the EFM
logo.

Please tell us what you think.

*Does the inclusion of “Exploring Faith Matters” help
clarify the intent of EFM?*

Please send your comments to Valda

Email: admin@efm.org.nz

Or mail to: V McBeth, 12 Ta Paora Drive, Bell Block,
New Plymouth 4312

Theological Reflection beginning with a Christian Tradition

Matthew 11:28–30:28. ²⁸“Come to me, all you that
are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will
give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn
from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and
you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is
easy, and my burden is light.”

The image recently used recently by an EFM group,
for this piece of scripture was a Tandem Bicycle.



EFM GROUPS

EFM Groups are currently established in the following
areas:

Onehunga

Papakura

New Plymouth (2 groups)

Marton

Levin

Feilding

Palmerston North

Pahiatua

Porirua

Wellington Cathedral (3 groups)

Lower Hutt

Dunedin

Plans are underway for new EFM groups to commence
in

Waipau

Waikato

Taranaki

If you are keen to Mentor, or join an EFM group, please
contact Valda admin@efm.org.nz

EFM Facebook Page

Join our Facebook Community

<https://www.facebook.com/EFMNZ/>

Or search “Facebook EFMNZ”

Reflection written by Allison Heard, (Onehunga EFM Group)

based on "The Bush was Blazing but not Consumed" by Eric Law.

We bring before you, O God, the whole human family
a vast multitude of diverse people
divided by culture, divided by language
divided by race, divided by religion
yet one family nevertheless.

Give us grace to listen to one another
to understand and appreciate each other
even though we are not always in agreement.

We recognise the fear and insecurity we feel.
When we are part of the dominant culture, we face loss of dominance.
When we are the losers, we endure oppression.

We recognise the anger we feel.
The anger when we are taken advantage of.
The anger when our rights are denied.
The anger when the powerless strike back,

We recognise that we see God within our own cultural frame.
We want God to favour us over others.
We find it difficult to distinguish between our culture and God's culture.

We remember the early Church
established within the culture of Judaism
challenged to move beyond that culture
embracing all, slave and free, male and female, Jew and Gentile.

We acknowledge our need of rules and rituals
We acknowledge that they are but a transitory expression of God.

We commit ourselves to a living relationship with God
A relationship characterised by uncertainty but lived out in faith.

EDUCATION FOR MINISTRY

Fertile ground to grow your faith

Like the mustard seed, we need fertile soil to grow. Education for Ministry (EfM) is like that fertile soil and we are the mustard seeds.

Learning about the Old and New Testaments, church history, and discovering theology is the light shining on the soil, warming it so the seed will sprout.



EFM news from around NZ

What's happening with EFM in your area?

Let us know so we can include your news in the next newsletter.

Email admin@efm.org.nz

EFM –because Exploring Faith Matters



Education for Ministry
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Phone 027 442 5569 or 06 755 1851

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