



Included Across Our Church:

Newsletter of the Disability Ministry Educators

Our Vision is:

to provide Educational and Operational leadership for the ongoing work of Disability Ministry in the Anglican church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia



Disability Ministry Educators:
Revd Vicki Terrell (left)
Cherryl Thompson (right)

No 3 Spring 2024



Greetings, Kia ora, Bula, Malo, Talofa, Namaste -

Welcome to our Spring newsletter. This month the weather has been a bit of everything: snow, rain, wind and sun. Since July Cherryl continues out on the road while Vicki has been beavering away creating resources and facilitating our first zoom hui in Social Justice Week on Rights of Disabled people.

Website Refresh

The DMEs are very excited about the team at Berry Hill helping us tidy up our website:

<https://www.anglicansocialjustice.nz/disability-ministry-resources>.

Our Liturgical Resources are easier to find and download. Print ready Posters are now available as PDF downloads. Bookmark the page and check back each month for new and featured resources.

Led by Benjamin Brock-Smith, Berry Hill is a bespoke software company, with a background in supporting ministry projects. Berry Hill is the same team that developed Tuia, your Anglican Daily Prayers App (<https://tuia.app>), search for Tuia in your mobile phone's app store



There are links to other disability resources on the page. Please email disabilityresources@anglicanchurch.org.nz if you find other links that could be useful to have on the page.



Anglican Theological statement on Disability



A theological statement on disability is being developed by our church. It is a living document, and we are keen for feedback Please email

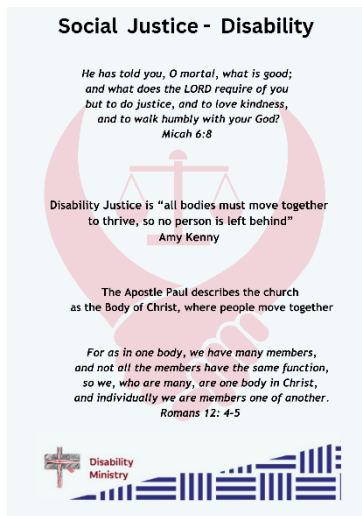
disabilityresources@anglicanchurch.org.nz

Full text of the statement can be found on the website:

[Theology of Disability – Social Justice Unit \(anglicansocialjustice.nz\)](http://www.anglicansocialjustice.nz)



Social Justice and Disability



Social Justice Week was September 8-15.

DME sent out a resource package to encourage reflection on Social Justice through a disability lens. It included an explanation of how disability justice links in with the Body of Christ and practical suggestions for upholding the rights of disabled people in ministry units.

Fully Loved and Accepted as the Image of God

During Social Justice Week, DME held zoom hui over three evenings, 15-20 people participated over the three nights on the Rights of Disabled People. There was rich discussion about disability theology, rights of disabled people and responding to the report of the Abuse in Care and how we might be part of the healing process.

There was support for the Theological statement with some suggestions on wording and a recognition that more discussion was needed particularly with Tikanga Māori and Tikanga Polynesia before launching it.

Discussion on Human Rights and responding to the report of Abuse in Care shone a light on the ways in which the church has marginalised and excluded disabled people from full participation. Alongside this pain, there were stories of hope and Good News. There was a strong affirmation of all people being image bearers of God and healing for us all is often found in being fully loved and accepted by our communities for the people God calls us to be disabled and non-disabled.

We hope to share some more of these insights with the wider church so Watch this space!



DME keeps up with Disability changes

In August, the disability community was dealt another blow when it was announced that Whaikaha- Ministry of Disabled People would no longer be responsible for Disability Support Services funding. From October, the funding will be through Ministry of Social Development. This is not good news because the flexibility in funding that enables disabled people to have choice and control over their lives is being severely restricted. Read article in [Anglican Taonga : New Zealand's Anglican News Leader](#)



Back from: On the Road

Meeting all the great people along the way, we now have a group of Disability Ministry Champions - people we can send information out to in various Amorangi and Diocese, and they in turn can help spread the message of Inclusion and Accessibility.

Contact us, if you have something to share or would like to join our zui

Cherryl - disabilityengagement@anglicanchurch.org.nz

Here's some of the great stuff already happening :

Waikato - Taupiri - Staff took part in DM training receiving their names in Braille as part of the 1 million names in Braille. Identified the need to adapt their services to include hearing impaired, with more visual cues and seating those to be able to see the speaker more clearly. They've already installed nonslip ramps both inside and out for better physical access.



We also acknowledge the passing of Kingi Tuheitia and the naming of the Māori Kuini Nga Wai Hono I te Po. Nga mihi aroha ki te Hahi Mihingare ki Taupiri, Christ's Church.



Wellington- National Camp: Increasing Accessibility

After visiting “The Abbey” National Youth Camp last year sharing ideas as to how to include more disabled youth by providing different ways of communication, Cherryl has some feedback about this year’s event.

Feedback from Lorna Gray

*“It was really moving- having all 3 languages (English, Te Reo and New Zealand Sign Language) was incredible
Rachel was on the main stage a Sign Language Interpreter for a speaking and worship parts. Our worship was over 50% in te reo.*

*A hearing member of the worship team signing the songs she knew.
The communication support worker signed for 3 of the workshop sessions so out of 4 time slots for workshops - 3 had a workshop offered signing*

There was wheelchair access to everything We did not use spaces that were not accessible.

We are about to release The Lord's Prayer in te reo with English translation and Rachel signing in the bottom righthand corner.

😊 **Well done!!!** 😊





Beyond the Church

2024/25 Kōrero for Change Online Webinar Series

Parking or Including disabled people?

Access matters Aotearoa Kōrero for Change: Education 14 August 2024

Vicki attended this webinar where people involved in different areas of the education system came together to discuss education of disabled people. Many of the ideas could be related to the church and how welcoming and inclusive our churches are of disabled people. Mike Potter spoke about in our society there are “parking spaces” for disabled people to get them out of the way in society. This got me thinking, do we “park” disabled people in our churches in a way that is not too obvious and does not distract from the main service? Inclusion is about changing hearts and minds in believing about all people belong together and disabled people are not parked so others can get on with life without them. How do we make all things inclusive? What resources are in place so that all people can fully participate in our churches?

Keep up with the Access matters Aotearoa Kōrero for Change Webinars by attending or going to [Kōrero for Change \(accessmatters.org.nz\)](https://www.accessmatters.org.nz) where there are videos and transcripts of past events and details of upcoming events.

Next Event: Kōrero for Change: Transport

Join the conversation on a pressing issue: the inadequacies of Aotearoa New Zealand's transport systems, which fail to provide equitable access for people with disabilities and access needs.

Webinar Details

Date: Wednesday, 9 October 2024, **Time:** 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Where: Via Zoom **Registration:** [Register via Zoom](#)



Spiritual care in Healthcare in Aotearoa

*You are invited you to participate in The Health Research Council funded study: **Spiritual Care in Healthcare in Aotearoa** to share your experiences and views about spiritual care provision and wairuantanga within our healthcare system.*

There are some virtual research hui in October-December, as well as other opportunities. Please check out how to be involved [Take part – Spiritual Care in Healthcare \(spiritualwellbeing.nz\)](https://www.spiritualwellbeing.nz)

For further information about the project, please visit the webpage at <https://www.spiritualwellbeing.nz/> or email spiritualwellbeing@otago.ac.nz



Signs of Spring

Disability Information



Where do I find?

Assessment and Funding:

Needs assessment services | Whaikaha - Ministry of Disabled People

New Zealand Disability Strategy:

New Zealand Disability Strategy 2016-2026 - Office for Disability Issues (odi.govt.nz)

Enabling Good Lives:

System Transformation and Enabling Good Lives | Whaikaha - Ministry of Disabled People

UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with disabilities:

<https://www.odi.govt.nz/united-nations-convention-on-the-rights-of-persons-with-disabilities>

Keeping up with Disability News

The D*List

The D*list is the home of disability culture in Aotearoa. Weekly e-magazine

Subscribe: [The D*List \(thedlist.co.nz\)](http://thedlist.co.nz)

What's new in disability NZ?

Twice monthly e-letter curated news about disability NZ from the media.

Subscribe [What's news in disability NZ \(campaign-archive.com\)](http://campaign-archive.com)



We would like to hear from you

Our experience of disability and church differ widely. It would be good to hear from you about your experience and/or your thoughts. Maybe you would like to write about your experience and/or something you are thinking about. May you have a question or a comment about something in this newsletter. In sharing your thoughts will help us all in widening our understanding and build the community.

Keeping in touch

We are creating a database for the Disability Ministry in the Anglican Church:

If this is the first time you have received the newsletter, please email disabilityresources@anglicanchurch.org.nz

- if you would like to continue receiving information.
- If you do not want to receive newsletter and other information from us.

Our email addresses are:

Revd Vicki Terrell - disabilityresources@anglicanchurch.org.nz

Cherryl Thompson - disabilityengagement@anglicanchurch.org.nz

Our postal address is:

***Disability Ministry Education
"Tuia"
Anglican Church General Synod Office
* PO Box 87188 Meadowbank, Auckland 1742
NEW ZEALAND***

