

Ministry Educator Report

Clergy and lay training

Key priorities are in-service training for clergy who hold a Licence or a Permission to Officiate, and training opportunities for lay people. I hold two Lay Learning Days per year in each region: all lay people are welcome at these, those with a Lay Ministry Licence are required to attend. Content for these regional days related to foundational issues, relevant to any class of licence – and indeed any Christian. This year the topics have been “Boundaries in Pastoral Relationships” and “Spiritual Practices to sustain us”. In addition to regional days I visit parishes to run seminars and training sessions on a range of topics, or to preach, preside or speak to various groups such as AAW. For clergy there are three events in each region, in addition to the annual clergy conference. Clergy Conference 2018 “Leading On and Off the Map” drew on Todd Bolsinger’s book *Canoeing the Mountains*, which uses the metaphor of Lewis and Clark’s exploration to look at leadership challenges for the church in the post-Christendom world. The Boundaries training sessions for both clergy and lay people highlighted the work of the Diocesan Contact Group and the Title D system: one of the tasks the group worked on this year was revision of the poster and the preparation of booklets. The diocese is grateful to those who serve as Contact People for the valuable work they do. I also arranged a refreshment day for clergy with the Ven Justine Allain-Chapman on Resilience for Life and Ministry.

Discernment Process and Formation Programme

Waiapu’s Ordination Discernment process is run in common with the dioceses of Auckland and Waikato-Taranaki, and we have now completed three cycles of the process. If discerned with a call to ordained ministry a person becomes a ‘candidate in training’: the discernment continues throughout the training until a point may be reached when the person is ready to be ordained. There are currently five candidates in training (four within the diocese and one at St John’s College); those training within Waiapu join with the recently ordained who are training locally as part of the formation programme. This is in addition to the training and formation that happens for all the recently ordained: the diocese is grateful for the work of a series of mentoring priests who share their wisdom and experience in this regard.

Anglican Studies Programme

Again, new students have begun studying for the Diploma of Christian Studies (an NZQA-registered qualification) through the Anglican Studies Programme. The Diploma also counts as the first year of a BTheol degree through Otago, Laidlaw or Carey. Waiapu students include lay people, the recently ordained, and ordination candidates in training, and study can be for credit or audit (the latter involves participating in class but not doing the assignments). Residential weekends (three per semester) are held in Taupo, and there is also an online ‘Flexilearn’ option. This year I co-taught the Doing Theology paper alongside a colleague from St John’s College.

Diocesan Theologian

The Diocesan Theologian, the Rev’d Dr Howard Pilgrim continues to be a resource for the Diocese of Waiapu. This year he has worked on a number of projects, including requests for theological comment from Anglican Care Waiapu staff.

Newsletter and Diocesan Library

I produce a newsletter 3-4 times a year as a means of keeping in touch with people and parishes throughout the diocese. When I visit parishes, particularly those outside Hawkes Bay, I am happy to bring with me books from the diocesan library (located in the Anglican Centre, Napier), and to take requests and send books to people. I remain grateful to those who have donated books to the library, and to those who have recommended books for purchase.

The Rev’d Deborah Broome