

BISHOP'S CHAPLAIN: EASTLAND & BAY OF PLENTY REPORT TO SYNOD 2012

Eastland:

I have continued to enjoy greatly visiting the Eastland region on a regular basis over the last year, at least once a month for several days where possible. With a move to Opotiki in February this year, I am now just 2 hours from Gisborne which has allowed more flexibility in supporting the region. With such a small region the opportunity to work together is one of the strengths of the region. The Regional Executive meetings each month usually form the basis of my visits as well as chairing the Friends of Te Hapara Whānau Aroha Centre since Joan Edmundson's retirement from this role. The other regular meeting which has been established is a separate support and advisory group for the Regional Youth Facilitator.

In February I preached and led an "ending of the Pastoral Relationship Liturgy" on behalf of the Bishop when we farewelled Blake Ramage as the vicar of Holy Trinity.

Again this year in February I facilitated a regional missional mapping day which was open to all who wished to attend. I also ensure other gatherings, such as Clergy Training Days are organised for the bishop, and meet regularly with the social services staff. Developing Tikanga Rua relationships both in Wairoa and the Gisborne and coastal area are significant part of the region's life which can only enhance the life of the region & diocese.

Bay of Plenty Region:

I have continued to work with the three Local Shared Ministry Parishes of Edgecumbe-Kawerau, West Rotorua and Turangi. This ranges from attendance at Ministry Leadership Team meetings, meeting with wardens and others from time to time and assisting as preacher, presider, and sometimes musician at services. With the Reverend Arthur Bruce, the Papamoa Missioner's move to Opotiki, I now have oversight of the Papamoa Mission, meeting with their Committee bi-monthly and providing some assistance every two months by taking a Eucharist.

Reconsideration of the calling processes for ministry teams in consultation with local parishes as well as the Bishop and other diocesan staff has been satisfying as we improve our processes acknowledging the skills and knowledge in each parish setting.

The end of 2011 and beginning of 2012 was a busy time with preparation of installation services for new vicars in Mount Maunganui, Taupo, Opotiki and Gate Pa.

I have continued to chair the Regional Youth Ministry Facilitator's Oversight Group on a six weekly basis, as well as ensuring the communication with and secretarial tasks of the Regional Executive are carried out.

I also ensure Clergy Training Days are organised and work with clergy and parishes as they make requests for information, resources and other pastoral conversations.

Again I have been invited to work with several parishes on the new 2012 Diocesan Missional Mapping process and the new gifting process incorporated into this which is proving an exciting new direction.

Ecumenically, I continue to chair the Joint Regional Committee of the BoP Co-operative Ventures.

Diocesan:

On the broader diocesan scene I meet with and report to Bishop David monthly, along with the other Bishop's Chaplain and together we also meet with the Ministry Educator. As part of this role I am also part of the Diocesan Leadership Team which meets several times a year.

I again assisted in the preparation of the St John's College Trust Board Application for Funding for diocesan ministry. I continue to chair the Youth and Families Committee (the latest new name for this group) which has worked hard over the last year to define its primary role.

To a lesser extent in the last year I have continued to provide an interface with our Waiapu Anglican Social Services where I often act as a broker between parishes and social services.

National:

As a member of the Tikanga Pākeha Ministry Council, I am a representative on Te Kotahitanga, the three Tikanga Ministry Board with responsibility for the governance of St John's Theological College and for recommending the distribution of St John's College Trust funds to the SJCT Board. I am also a member of the TPMC Funding Review Group which meets for three days each year to review all 15 Tikanga Pākeha applications for St John's College funding. I am grateful to the diocese for the opportunity to undertake this wider work for our church. Te Kotahitanga has had added challenge over the last two years with its increased role as Board of Governors to St John's College following the General Synod 2010 call to TK to appoint a commissioner at the college.

Accountability:

Essentially, as a Bishop's Chaplain I am accountable to Bishop David, however I also ensure I receive regular supervision and spiritual direction and keep up to date with my reading. I also appreciate the opportunity to interact on a broader basis with clergy and leaders from other dioceses which further hones my knowledge and skill base.

In summary, I would again like to acknowledge the support I receive from my husband, Arthur, who copes with my continual absences as inevitably this role, which I enjoy greatly and find very rewarding, requires a considerable amount of time on the road. I am enjoying the times when I am able to assist him in his ministry in his new parish of Opotiki.

The Reverend Adrienne Bruce

29th June, 2012