

An aerial photograph of a coastal landscape in New Zealand. The foreground shows a dark blue beach and the ocean. A large, semi-transparent white map of New Zealand is overlaid on the right side of the image. The background features rolling green hills, a small town, and a bay under a sky with soft, colorful clouds.

**WELCOME TO THE
TOP OF THE SOUTH
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
AND THE BAPTIST UNION
OF NEW ZEALAND**

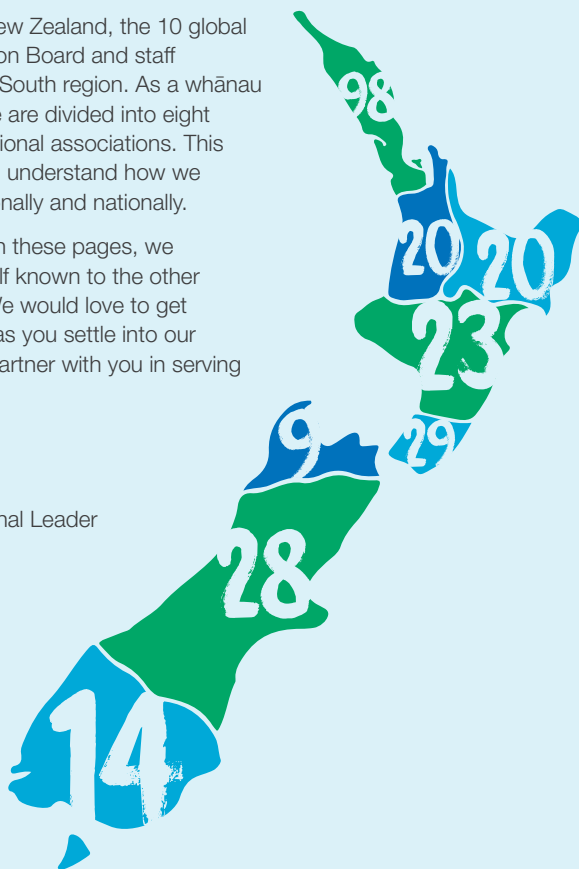
HAERE MAI!

KiA ORA

The 240 Baptist churches of New Zealand, the 10 global communities and the Association Board and staff welcome you to the Top of the South region. As a whānau of fellowships and churches we are divided into eight geographic regions with six regional associations. This booklet is designed to help you understand how we associate together locally, regionally and nationally.

With the information provided in these pages, we encourage you to make yourself known to the other Baptist leaders in our region. We would love to get to know you and help you out as you settle into our Baptist whānau here, and co-partner with you in serving Jesus and His Kingdom.

David McChesney
Tumuaki-a-rohe | Interim Regional Leader
Top of the South
Baptist Association
mcchesney777@gmail.com





WAYS OUR BAPTIST WHĀNAU ASSOCIATE

BAPTIST HUI

Once a year, representatives from each of the 240 Baptist churches in New Zealand meet together in one place to worship, pray, kōrero/discuss, make key decisions and fellowship together.

The annual national Baptist Hui is usually held in the first week of November and runs for three days and two nights. All Baptist churches are encouraged to attend our annual Hui by sending delegates from the membership, not just pastoral staff. There are seven great reasons why this is the case:

1. We represent our local church in wider discussion and decision making.
2. We engage with and get to know our national team including the national leader, office team and other national ministry leaders.
3. We get to know the focus and direction of a range of ministry areas including the New Zealand Baptist Missionary Society and Carey Baptist College.
4. We meet other church leadership and members.
5. We celebrate together key achievements and moments.
6. We gain a feel for the direction of the Baptist Churches of New Zealand.
7. It's the one time in the year when we get to be with others from the broader movement and learn from them.

For further information about Hui and to register, check baptist.org.nz after mid-August.

Hui manager: Kathryn Heslop | kathryn.heslop@baptist.org.nz | 09 526 0338

REGIONAL GATHERINGS

The Wellington Baptist Association Board puts on a regional gathering a few times a year to unpack the national vision and make sense of it for our region. We all need to meet together to do this well. All Baptist leaders are expected to attend regional gatherings. All Central Districts churches are invited to attend.

That process of working together with the board, regional leaders, youth coach and other local church leaders builds for us a strong sense of being 'in it together.' And the friendships formed through such gatherings are incredibly helpful when we need advice, sharing resource and prayer.

Dates for the regional gatherings will be emailed. For further information contact Mike Warring.

REGIONAL HUI

These regional annual events held in the middle of each year follow this format:

- Hosted by the national leader and regional leaders.
- Similar format and content throughout the country.
- Two days and one night, from 10am day one till 4pm day two.
- Local overnight venue.
- A local flavour mix of spiritual reflection, inspiration, and leadership development.
- All pastoral, elders and other staff are encouraged to attend.



CLUSTER GROUPS

Cluster groups meet from once a month to once a term, depending on the location.

Clusters are at the heart of forging good relationships in the region because they are the smallest and most regular of all the gatherings. All Baptist leaders are encouraged to attend a cluster group. These are about sharing what is going on for you in your church context, for you personally and critically to support each other in prayer.

Clusters in our region currently are:

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BAPTIST HANMER RETREAT

Baptist Hanmer Retreat is held each year in the first or second week of May for two nights and two days in Hanmer Springs.

The retreat is held for specifically pastors and leaders in our Baptist whānau of churches to seek direction, breakthrough and refreshment in the presence of the Holy Spirit. The retreat is optional and open to all Baptist leaders in our whānau.

The Baptist Hanmer Retreat is hosted by the Oxford Baptist Church.

To find out more contact:
hanmer@oxfordbaptist.org.nz

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BAPTIST LEADERS' REGISTRATION

Registration is a way for Baptist pastoral leaders, ecumenical chaplains, and missional leaders to communicate their commitment to professional development.

When you become registered, the Baptist Union and the Carey Centre for Lifelong Learning enter into an agreement with you to recognise and respond to the call God has placed on you. Baptist Hui, Regional Hui, cluster group and Hanmer Retreat can make up part of the Baptist whānau component of Baptist Leaders' Registration.

Registration also enables you to be included on the list of marriage celebrants if you choose.



BAPTIST NATIONAL CENTRE

The National Centre offers a wealth of resources for leaders throughout New Zealand and is located in Penrose, Auckland. The National Centre provides leadership, employment, communication, legal, administrative and accounting support. They also administer the Baptist Marriage Celebrants' List which registered Baptist leaders are eligible to join.

For more information contact: info@baptist.org.nz | 09 526 0333 | baptist.org.nz

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Carey Centre for Lifelong Learning		
Glenn Melville	glenn.melville@carey.ac.nz	021 764 204

REGIONAL LEADERS

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Otago & Southland		
Rachel Murray	rachel.murray@baptist.org.nz	027 220 9082



NEW ZEALAND BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY

Our whānau of Baptist faith communities is involved with specific global ventures and communities, and we're proud to have long-standing and genuine commitments to these people and places. The role of NZBMS is to inspire, educate, and facilitate *global gospel renewal*. We want to encourage and support your church to send, pray for, and financially give to global church planting and development, social enterprise and business, and community programmes. Our values speak to our aim of mutual gospel renewal: wholistic practices, humble posturing, pioneering thought, and respectful relationships. That means our Baptist churches of Aotearoa learning from and being transformed by the faith and growth of our global partners, and our global partners being inspired and supported by our New Zealand faith communities.

For more information contact: info@nzbms.org.nz | 09 526 8444 | nzbms.org.nz

General Director

Alan Jamieson

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021 662 213

Administrator

Lorna Kidd

lorna.kidd@nzbms.org.nz

09 526 8444



CAREY CENTRE FOR LIFELONG LEARNING

The Carey Centre for Lifelong Learning (CCLL) exists to support and resource the on-going professional development of both leaders and practitioners of ministry and mission. We aim to help sustain church and mission leaders with depth for longevity.

1. The Centre offers a range of resources and courses (in person and online) to enhance ministry.
2. The Centre manages the Baptist Leaders' Registration process which is reviewed in November each year.

For more information contact: lifelonglearning@carey.ac.nz | lifelonglearning.nz

Director

Glenn Melville

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021 764 204

Administrator

Sarah Axford

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CAREY BAPTIST COLLEGE

Carey Baptist College is the theological training college serving the Baptist Churches of New Zealand as well as being one of Aotearoa's leading providers of theological education generally. Their calling is to equip Christians to think, lead, and serve in ways that will advance God's mission in this world. They specialise in training people preparing for pastoral and missional leadership (on-site or by distance), but also provide a range of training pathways for anyone wanting to grow in their faith and participate more fully in God's work in renewing this world.

Carey also offer Pastoral Leadership (PL) and Youth Pastoral Leadership (YPL) training. The programme consists of a three year Diploma in Pastoral Leadership (which can also be done on-site or by distance). The PL and YPL tracks provide intentional development of biblical knowledge, spiritual life, self-awareness, leadership skills and preaching. Experienced practitioners work alongside students, mentoring and supervising them through a personalised development track. All of the learning is constantly enhanced by peer group experiences where students support and encourage each other as they grow together in pastoral ministry.

Library membership is available on an annual basis with a discount for Baptist pastors. Many of the 30,000 titles are available as e-books, and hard copy books can be sent around the country.

For more information contact: enquiries@carey.ac.nz | 0800 773 776 | carey.ac.nz

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Academic Registrar		
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Library Manager		
Siong Ng	siong.ng@carey.ac.nz	09 526 0347

HELPFUL RESOURCES

BAPTIST YEARBOOK

The Baptist Yearbook has been produced each year since the 1900s and has been a valuable source of information about our Baptist churches throughout New Zealand. It includes contact details for all churches in the country, annual reports, national financial statements and statistics. Copies of the yearbook are available for purchase from the National Centre.

ADMINISTRATION MANUAL & HANDBOOKS

The Baptist Intranet and Administration Manual are online and cover the following: benefits your church can access; church management resources for property, personnel and finances; policy examples; compliance requirements for health and safety, privacy and copyright licences; Association contacts; Baptist distinctives including our constitution and various policies set by Assembly/Hui.

The manual also has quick links to police vetting, pastor housing, stipends, terms of call and study leave.

To access the manual go to: intranet.baptist.org.nz. Contact the National Centre if you need password access to the intranet: info@baptist.org.nz.

The Baptist Union also has a range of documents and handbooks available from the regional leaders or the National Centre on the following topics:

- Pastoral search
- Ethical principles and guidelines
- Helping your church become more intergenerational
- Safety First manual (for ministry with children and accompanies training)
- The foundations of ministry and mission with children and families



BAPTIST COMMUNICATION

We're currently in something of a communication hiatus with the last print version of the *Baptist* magazine released in February 2021. We are working towards a new mechanism in place that will facilitate our shared storytelling, articles, opinions, and life as a collective of faith communities. In the meantime, the baptistmag.org.nz website has a trickle of new content being added, and it also holds a large amount of past articles from the printed magazine—updates can be subscribed to via email or Facebook.

REGIONAL CONTACTS

TOP OF THE SOUTH EXECUTIVE TEAM

STAFF

Interim Regional Leader

David McChesney

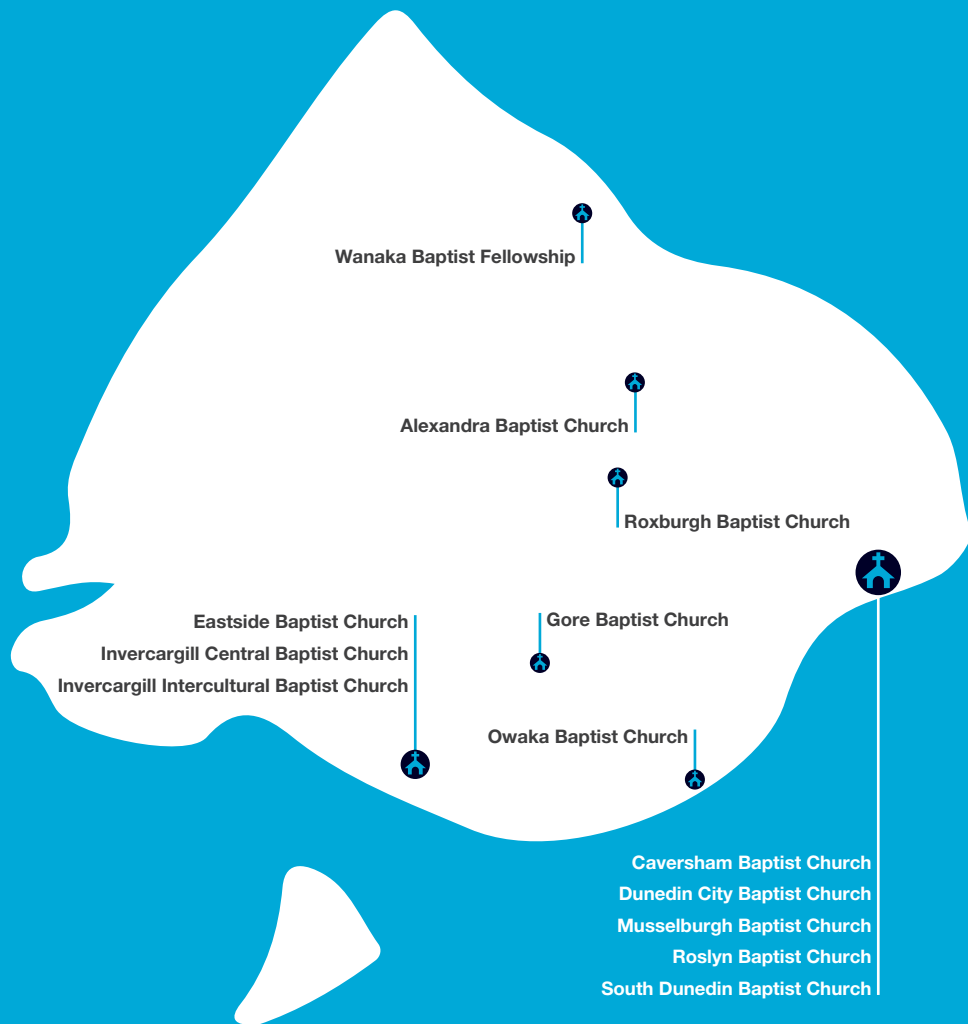
mcchesney777@gmail.com

FINAL THOUGHT

Feel free to get in touch with Peter if you have anything you would like to talk over.

E HARA TAKU TOA I TE TOA TAKITAHĪ HE TOA TAKITĪNI
MY STRENGTH IS NOT AS AN INDIVIDUAL BUT AS A COLLECTIVE

TOP OF THE SOUTH CHURCHES



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Otago & Southland
Baptist Association

Ko te Roopu Iriiri ki Otakou
me te Taurapa o te Waka



baptist
churches of new zealand
te hāhi iriiri o aotearoa