



# Cook Islands Christian Church Newsletter



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## Ordination of New Orometua's

On Sunday the 14th of July 2024, at 2pm, a special service was held in Ziona Tapu (Holy Zion) for the ordination of two new Orometua's (Church Ministers) in the Avarua CICC Ekalesia. The newly ordained ministers are **REV. MATAPAKIA TUMU-MAKARA** and **REV. KIPARERE PEREITI**.

Both have been serving the people of the Cook Islands living overseas in New Zealand and Australia in their respective roles as church ministers outside of the Cook Islands Christian Church (CICC). Now they both have furthered committed their services, wisdom

and knowledge to Gods people under the CICC umbrella. This special momentous occasion mark their ordination confirming their roles as church

this momentous day. On conclusion of this special occasion Rev. Matapakia Tumu-Makara was formally welcomed into his new Ekalesia in Arorangi that same afternoon, as for Rev. Kiparere Pereiti, he has later returned to his Ekalesia in Australia and



ministers within the CICC.

Right after the service in Ziona Tapu, the whole

will wait for his induction. We wish them with strength, patience and wisdom as they perform their duties as ministers of God.

**And he said unto them, go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. Mark 16:15.**

delegation and guest was graced with a huge feast that was prepared by the Avarua CICC Ekalesia on behalf of the Rarotonga Konitara Ekalesia (RKE) for

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# Avarua Ekalesia Host PNG Group

The Avarua Ekalesia hosted the remaining Papua New Guinea (PNG) group on Thursday 4th of July 2024, for dinner at the Sinai Hall before they left our shores.



and Papa President were also invited to joining our guest for dinner. It has been a great pleasure for the Ekalesia to host our friends from PNG; as they depart our shores, may their journey home be of peace and prosperity. **Gutbai or Lukim yu bihain** (*Goodbye in Papua New*)



The Rarotonga Konitara Ekalesia organized this hospitality program to look after our remaining brothers and sisters

from PNG, led by Superintendent Rev. Ovia Toua. The evening was pleasantly relaxing and enjoying the delicious food prepared for our guest, it was rather a quiet evening, different from all the singing and dancing during the previous week's host. Our Apii'anga students, the Principal



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# Kai ti i te ra o te Ui Ariki

I te popongi Varaire ra 5 no Tiurai 2024, i muri ake i te pure popongi, kua riro nga pare ariki koia a **Phillip Vakatini Ariki** raua ko **George Karika Ariki** i te

turu ia raua e to raua Ui Mataiapo, te au Rangatira e te matakeinanga. Kua riro teia akakoro'anga i te akamaara i te **Ra o te Ui Ariki**

te Basileia (Public Holiday). Kua pumaana te Ekalesia Avarua e pera nga Pare Ariki e rua e to raua matakeinanga, no te angaanga meitaki tei rave ia e pera katoa te kai ti kapipiti'anga atu kite katoatoa rava tei tae mai kite pure popongi.



Te karanga nei teia tuatua tika: **E akatinamouia te enua i te tuatua tau a te ariki: ko tei rave ra i te ou ra, kua tairipotia. – Maseli 29:4.**

angai i te au aronga tei tae ki te pure i te reira popongi ki tetai kai ti katikati'anga. Kua

(Ariki Day) i roto ia Te Au O Tonga. Kua ta kore oki te porokoramu a te Are Ariki no taua rā ra, no reira i tupu ei teia akakoro'anga, kua rave ta taki tai ia te au akamaara'anga i roto i te au vaka e te au matakeinanga.



Noatu ra te reira kua riro rai te Ra o te Ui Ariki ei ra akangaroi'anga no

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## Te Kapua'anga One Year Anniversary

On Friday 5<sup>th</sup> of July 2024 (Ui Ariki Day), at 5pm the Takuvaive community came together to commemorated the one-year anniversary of Te Kapua'anga since the re-opening of the meeting house since its renovations project, a year ago. This is also the day a year ago of the re-opening of the Avarua CICC Church, Ziona Tapu (Holy Zion).

My grandmother and I were invited to this beautiful occasion by Papa Tekura Potoru,



also known as Papa Steak and it was our pleasure to be part



of this momentous occasion at the Kapua'anga meeting house in Takuvaive.

In addition to the commemoration, the Takuvaive community also held their wrap-up function for their members who attended the Mangaia Bicentennial Celebrations.

We all enjoyed the delicious barbequed and roast meals with other delicious side dishes prepared for the occasion, with the beautiful island songs playing in the background.

I felt so grateful that evening because I had the pleasure of attending the Ui Ariki Day breakfast

by Vakatini and Karika Ariki after the morning church service and then the commemoration dinner in the evening.



To end my blessed day I just wanted to give honour and glory to God for the many blessings in my life.

***Thank you Lord for the blessing.***

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## Teretere Mapu, Avarua CICC Ekalesia



Psalms one hundred and fifty reads, ***"Praise ye the Lord. Praise God in his sanctuary; Praise him in the firmament***

***of his power"***. On Sunday, 18th of August 2024, a delegation of about 40 youth members from Murienua, Arorangi CICC Ekalesia joined in a special service in praising Gods Holy name, which was held at Avarua CICC church, Ziona Tapu. Many are aware that this is a special service dedicated by the Cook Islands Christian Church youth members of Rarotonga in sharing the Gospel message to one another. We the Avarua CICC Youth had the

honour of sending 40 of our members from the Tapere of Maraerenga to Ngatangia CICC Ekalesia. The rest of the other youths remained in Avarua to welcome those from Arorangi church.

The Arorangi Youth lead the 10am service by singing songs of praise alongside their Reverend Mata Tumu Makara and other supporting deacons and master singers, and later on, delivered a wonderful message based on ***"Praise and Worship God"***; and how one should praise God through

songs by singing to uplift his name and humbling one's self to worship God. In doing so helps you and others to see the realness of God and his love. *Such a wonderful and inspiring message by the Arorangi youth.*

Our remaining Avarua youth members, which I was a part of, shared five different messages to the congregation



as well, all surprisingly connecting to the main theme **Praise and Worship God.**

After such a long church service,

there was a combined lunch in the Sinai Hall, where everyone including youth guest from Arorangi and tourist visitors had the chance of enjoying a full-on Cook Islands feast provided by the Avarua Ekalesias. The day ended with an exchange of thanks and gratitude and farewelling one another as we all departed.

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## Launching Service for Tutakimoa Meeting House Renovation, Betelehema III

On Monday the 26th of August 2024, members of the Tutakimoa community and



Avarua CICC Ekalesia including representatives from Takamoa, project leaders, managers and landowners all attended a special service down at the Tutakimoa meeting house known as Betelehema III, as a final and launching service, before renovations of the building commences.

Makirere Poila, leading deacon

for Tutakimoa of the Avarua CICC Ekalesia shared, *"it has been 38 years since Betelehema III was renovated, in 1986, and throughout that time period had experienced rot through the ceiling and roofing structure of the building, hence the need for renovations that will be conducted by Taio Constructions"*.

This project was made possible through the re-affirmation of support from the landowners, in gifting the land for the building and funds granted by the government of India to the Cook Islands, a portion of that fund, was granted to the community of Tutakimoa for the renovation project of their meeting house. A three-member committee was set-up for the supervision of the renovations project headed by Vasie Ngatoko Poila as Project leader.



The service ended with refreshments prepared by the Tutakimoa community, taking a final look of the building before construction takes place, and awaiting what it will look like after renovation.

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## CICC Youth Convention 2024 Brisbane

**“Appointed and Anointed for the call”** is a theme that resonates amongst the many people and groups from here within the Cook Islands, New Zealand and all over Australia that travelled to the Cook Islands Christian Church Youth Convention, held in Brisbane Australia from the 14<sup>th</sup> to the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September 2024. The event was organized and hosted by the Southeast Queensland Youth Council, and the National Youth Council of Australia, including all the families and communities of Queensland and Australia.



I was part of this special occasion as a youth representative from the Avarua CICC Ekalesia alongside ten other members of our church. We all departed Rarotonga on different dates and times, all met at our Garden City Motor Inn accommodation; our home away from home during the week-long event alongside youth members from Matavera, Ngatangia, Titikaveka, Arorangi and Nikao.

The whole event, which was held at the BTP Centre, started with the usual formality, opening on Sunday the 15<sup>th</sup> by the Presi-

dent of the CICC Rev. Tuaine Ngametua. There held a three-day workshop from the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup> which focused on various interesting topics and speakers such as **Leader-**



**ship and Ministries** by Rev. Tuaine Ngametua and General Secretary Ken Ben, **Biblical Foundation** by Rev. Campbell Tupapaa and **Temperament** by Ps. Terepai Nooroa, just to name a few of my favourite topics; **“Which outlines that a Leader, like a Shepard should know who his/her people are, and how they behave in terms of personality; and lead with knowing his/her direction on a path to righteousness. And setting Jesus Christ as a foundation for all to stand on!”**.



Aside from all the mind draining lecture's, we did enjoy praise and worship at the beginning and end of each day. We also enjoyed a full day of

sports at MacGregor Park, playing Netball and Volleyball, simply having fun and connecting with one another. And with so much playing around comes empty stomachs, but that wasn't a problem as food, lunch and dinner were taken care of by our brothers and sisters from Southeast Queensland, enjoying snacks, pizza, sausage sizzles and barbequed meal, washed down with plain water and fizzy drinks.



A two-day meeting was held in regards to reports and or remits filed by each division of the Youth department, such as, Sunday School, Uniform Organisation and Representatives from each state's, region and islands within the Cook Islands, New Zealand and Australia. Outlining their achievements so far and the growing challenges they are facing, and encouraging one another how they can best, overcome those challenges. This session ended in the election of new office bearers within the youth department. A full list of these names will and should be presented to all ekalesia by the youth representative who attended this conference. One can be obtained from the current Youth Director, Dr Tuaine Unuia.



On Sunday the 22<sup>nd</sup>, this wonderful and joyous event sadly came to an end in a special closing ceremony by Rev. Ngametua, ***“urging all youth to help and support one another to a path in Jesus Christ, and to share the message of God to everyone. This convention will not be the end of it all, but a continuous approach in reaching out to the many peo-***

***ple who are still to find their path to God, who are struggling or lost in the world. But it won't be easy, for this is a life full of temptation, but through Jesus, the impossible is always possible”.***

Combined in this closing ceremony, was the blessing of a new CICC parish, now known as **SUNNYBANK CICC EKALESIA**, their newly ordained Deacons, and the blessing of the newly elected office bearers of the CICC Youth Department. Overall, this was the best and most spiritual motivated convention in my life, and I'm looking forward to the next convention 2026. We all said our goodbyes and shared the same feeling of sadness, however, we issued our *see you later!* In Auckland New Zealand, as they were elected to host the



next **CICC Youth Convention 2026.**

To conclude, the CICC visions states, ***“to worship and to serve God, and to make Jesus known to all people!”***

**1 Timothy 4:12 - “Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity.”**

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#### Disclaimer

This newsletter is generated by Takamoā in an effort to keep members of the CICC informed of current activities, past events, interesting issues, views and opinions of members and in some cases non-members of the Church. The views and opinions, unless otherwise stated, are not necessarily those of the CICC.

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