
Pacific Youth Initiative

December 08 – 10, 2021

Introduction

The CWM thematic focus for the 10 years' strategic framework is 'Rising to Life with Jesus.' The fixate surrounds how Christians envision a life flourishing with possibilities and abundance.

CWM, in response to the groanings of this age, commits itself and calls upon its member churches and the wider ecumenical community to engage in radical discipleship, as expression of faith and witness to enable Life-Flourishing Communities

- Life-Flourishing creation is reflecting ecological integrity and climate justice. This is not a matter of environmental advocacy, but of faith in God, the Creator, and of stewardship and witness in faithfulness to the God of life.
- Life-Flourishing Economy – There is a need for a new order of financial and economic governance. There is an increasingly negative consequences of the neo-liberal model like socio-economic inequality and polarisation, ecological destruction, a culture of violence at all levels of society and insecurity of employment.
- Life Flourishing Growth & Advancement is where the uncontrollable power of technology, including surveillance Capitalism, dominates the global economy and fundamentally challenges of what it means to be human. Human rights, responsibilities and freedoms are being compromised. Computational surveillance has become a powerful tool of unaccountable governments and corporations to deny citizens their freedom.
- Life-Flourishing Societies - there is hatred and division driving the powers of our nations, religions and communities, the violence done to those who don't fit the dominant norms set by White dominant Colonialism, Privilege and Patriarchy and other systems of dominance. Therefore, we need to seek societies built from the wisdom of those at the margins, confronting complicity, 'enfleshing' hospitality, equity, and justice.
- Life Flourishing Justice and Peace, there are wars and violence between and within states, the legacies of colonisation and practices of 'strong man' power poisoning our planet, our present and our peace. To call out the violent Imperial forces of our day and embody in our communities the life and love of peace.
- Life flourishing Knowledge, where ignorance and arrogance of systems and peoples whose certainty and knowledge creates poverty, indignity and violence and thus, we need to honour the truths and traditions of others, open always to learn new ways of grasping the wisdom of God.
- Life Flourishing Spiritualities, there are rivalries between religions, the hostilities baptised by preachers and leaders and the disbelief many feel when we speak of hope. Therefore, we seek her presence and wisdom in dialogue with others, the earth and our traditions, sharing and receiving each other's sacred truth and treasure.
- Life Flourishing Witness where our world against the ways Babylon exploits, destroys, divides, pollutes and profits, believing God speaks to us through these injustices and

through those who rise up against them. We are to witness to the outbreaking of God's new world in the systems we change, the lives we lead, the communities we build, the earth we tend and the good news we announce.

In the Pacific, life in abundance means life full of relationships, peace, and riches from the sea and land – it was never about money and gold. Life flourishing is about a spirit, free to roam and imagine, unbound by any doctrine, creed, culture, and law.

Below is a poem by Dan Lin and Kathy Jetn Kijiner from the Marshall Islands called Anointed. The poem comes in the form of a fighting spirit taking head-on structures and systems that undermine life in the Pacific.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hEVpExaY2Fs>

Also, a drawing from Maohi Nui depicting what it means to be free, to imagine a life flourishing region. The drawing is that of a free spirit, breaking away from a dive that could have taken life down with it.



Aims and Objectives

- Is to explore this spirit among the participants where they speak on a particular topic of interest.
- Provide a forum where participants speak for themselves and to imagine a Pacific or a world where the notion of 'rising to life' birth multi possibilities and beauties.
- To imagine life flourishing or life in abundance in the form of Art, Poem, Song, or even Chant. For example, if you chose Art in the form of a drawing, to prepare a short script describing what the drawing is about. If you are preparing a song or chant, to record it.
- Our stories through arts, poems, songs, and chants will be shared with one another, and eventually with the world.
- To begin a collection of Pacific poems and arts, songs, and chants. Such work has begun at different levels, but this time we want to bring to youths of our churches.

Invite

We would like to invite two participants from each member church to join us in this years' Youth Initiative.

There will be 20 participants altogether from the Pacific member churches.

We will also invite two of the most prolific people in the region in terms of creativeness and putting words and thoughts into art.

Date & Venue

8 – 10 December, 2021 (3 days)

Webinar

Programme

Time	December 8	December 9	December 10
9.00am	Devotion The Power of Imagination N. Sopepa	Devotion – Participants from EPM, CCCS and CCCAS.	Devotion – Participants from UCPNG and UCSI
9.30	Opening – CWM Rising to Life J. Keum	Presentation of Poems, Songs, Chants	Finalising collection of arts, poems, songs, & chants. REPORT.
10.00	The power of Art J. Havea	Presentation of Arts	
10:30am	M O R N I N G T E A		
11.00	Bible Study – Using Arts TBC/Benjamin Jackson	Discussion & Summarising	
1:00pm	L U N C H		
2.00	Discussion/Group Work	Closing remarks – J. Havea	
3.00	Closing Devotion – Participants from NCC, KUC and EKT	Closing Devotion – Participants from CUNZ and PCANZ	