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**A statement for the Gospel Bicentenary,
Aotearoa New Zealand
August 2014**

This is a discussion paper written to mark the bicentenary of the first recorded preaching of the gospel and the beginnings of Christian mission work in Aotearoa New Zealand. It is a *living* statement, a perspective from a vantage point of two centuries of complex history, a *contribution to the ongoing conversation* on the relationship between ngā iwi Māori and Christian faith and life in its varying expressions. It is offered in the hope that it will encourage a *process* of meaningful discussion and kōrero about our shared past and present and the shape of our shared future.

**He marau mō te Rongopai huri ruarautau,
O Aotearoa ki Niu Tīreni
Aukhata 2014**

Tēnei marau i tuhia hei tohu i te huri ruarautau o te tānga tuatahi o te kauwhau rongopai me te tīmatatanga o ngā mahi mīhana karaitiana hoki ki Aotearoa i Niu Tīreni. He marau *ora*, he tirohanga mai te taumata o ngā ruarautau o te hitori tāwhiwhi, ka takotoria inā hei marau o te wā, he tirohanga anō hoki mai te taumata o ngā ruarautau, he *koha ki te kawenga kōrero* pā kau ki te pāhekoheko i waenganui i ngā iwi Māori me te Whakapono Karaitiana me tona toiora i ōna tini whakaputanga hoki. Ka toharia me te tūmanako tērā pea ka whakahautia he ara kōrero whaihua me ngā kōrero ngātahi heke iho ki nāiane me te āhuangatahi o te aoturoa.



Gold, Charles Emilius (Lieutenant-Colonel), 1809-1871. [Gold, Charles Emilius], 1809-1871 :Off Cape Brett New Zealand. Jany 1847 "Driver"... Ref: B-103-019. Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand. <http://natlib.govt.nz/records/22896302>

The Polynesian ancestors of the Māori brought with them to Aotearoa beliefs and understandings

about the world and its divine origins. Māori saw the world as a unified whole and made little distinction between 'physical' and 'spiritual' dimensions of life. Spiritual beings animated nature and their blessing was sought before beginning important tasks such as planting crops, fishing, going to war, and starting life in a new land. The world had its origins in the gods, or God, and there is evidence of a 'supreme being' in Māori cosmology, in some traditions known as 'Io'. Io had many names including 'Io-Matua-Kore' (Io the Parentless), Io-Mata-Ngaro (Io the Hidden-Face), and Io-nui (Io the great-God).

Māori society emphasized the group or community. Although individuals held land use rights, the land was 'owned' by the hapū or group. Only the group could decide to gift or exchange land with outside groups. The social structure was not hierarchical, although tribal leadership was important and in some areas of New Zealand iwi or hapū had 'paramount' leaders similar to some parts of Polynesia.

This was the setting of beliefs and social values into which the gospel (the 'good news' or 'te rongopai') of Jesus Christ came. The gospel was introduced into New Zealand by European missionaries with their own cultural outlook and values. In

Historical narrative summary Hītori takinga rāpopoto

Nā ngā tīpuna Paranihi o ngā Māori i hari mai ki Aotearoa ngā whakapono me ngā mōhiotanga o te ao me ōna pūtake o tua. Ki tā te

Māori tirotiro tū kōtahi te ao kāore he rerengakētanga i waenga i te taha kikokiko me te taha atua o te ao koiora. Mā ngā atua e whakahau ngā mea katoa, otirā, ka inoia ō rātou manaakitanga hei mua i te tīmatatanga o ngā mahi mātāmua, inarā ki te whakatō hua ahuhenua, te hī ika, te haere ki te pakanga, otirā ki te uruuruwhenua hou. I pūpū mai te ao i ngā atua, i te Atua rānei, otirā kei roto anō i ngā tohutohu arā ia te "Atua o ngā atua katoa" e whakāria ana e ngā hekerangi Atua. Kei ētahi whakapaparanga ka mōhiotia ko "Io", he maha ngā ingoa o Io, arā ia ko Io-Matua-Kore, Io-Mata-Ngaro me Io-Nui.

Tino kaha te Māori ki te tautoko i te rōpu i te hapori hoki. Ahakoa anō i ētahi Māori te mana hāpai whenua, nō ngā hapū me ngā rōpu te mana whenua. I ngā rōpu anō te mana mā wai e koha e whakawhiti whenua ki te hunga kei waho. Kāore te whakaheke kāwai i taka mai i te matua ki te tamaiti, otā he mātua anō te rangatira a iwi ki ētahi rohe anō i Niu Tīreni kia a rātou ngā Ariki ōrite ki ērā āhua-tanga i ētahi atu wāhi i Paranihia.

Koia nei te āhuetanga o ngā whakapono me ngā tikanga i hou atu ai te rongopai (ngā pānui pai) a Ihu Karaiti. I tau mai te rongopai ki Niu Tīreni nā ngā mihingare Pākehā me

Aotearoa, the gospel was often accepted within Māori cultural settings, sometimes it was embraced almost completely as he huarahi hou ('a new way'), and in times of political challenge and turmoil it was a source of inspiration alongside older belief structures. This is the basic pattern of the story to be told briefly below.

Christian mission work in Aotearoa New Zealand began with real promise, through the relationships established between the Rev. Samuel Marsden of the Anglican Church Missionary Society (CMS) and Māori chiefs visiting New South Wales. A senior Bay of Islands chief, Te Pahi, was an important early contact for Marsden, and prompted him to consider establishing a CMS mission under Te Pahi's protection. However Te Pahi died, and his leadership role was assumed by the younger chief Ruatara who had also spent time with Marsden in New South Wales. At Ruatara's invitation Marsden established the first Christian settlement and conducted the first formal Christian service in New Zealand, near Rangihoua pā in the Bay of Islands, on 25 December 1814. Māori responded to this Christian ceremony with a haka of some 300-400 warriors.



Artist unknown :The power of God's Word. [1856].. [Josenhans, J] :Illustrations of missionary scenes; an offering to youth. Mayence [Mainz], Joseph Scholz publisher, [1856]. 2 volumes.. Ref: PUBL-0151-2-013. Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand. <http://natlib.govt.nz/records/23026181>

This initial gospel endeavour was soon followed by the arrival of other Christian mission leaders including the CMS Anglican Henry Williams (1823), the Wesleyan Samuel Leigh (1822) and the Roman Catholic Bishop Jean Baptiste François Pompallier (1838). The early mission stations were almost always established under the protection of a local rangatira or chief. Peacemaking endeavours by these missionaries during the 'musket wars' and their Māori allies achieved success over time. Peace was often conducted in accordance with Māori custom, with Pākehā missionaries involved. On other occasions, Māori converts themselves acted alone as peacemakers (as in the case of Taumata-a-Kura of Ngāti Porou and the peacemaking with Bay of Plenty iwi in the late 1830s).

ō rātau anō tirohanga a iwi me ō rātau anō uarā. I Aotearoa i whakaea i ētahi wā te rongopai ki roto ki ngā āhuetanga Māori, i ētahi wā anō ka tata awhina katoatia hei huarahi hou, otirā, i ngā wā whakataetae tōrangapu tau-patupatu hoki he whakapiki piri ki ngā hanganga whakaponu o mua. Tēnei āhuetanga kōrero ka whakamāramatia I rao iho nei.



Williams, Samuel, 1788-1853. Williams, Samuel, 1788-1853 :Landing of the Rev. S. Marsden in New Zealand, Dec. 19, 1814 [London, 1847]. Annals of the diocese of New Zealand, edited by Sir Charles Jasper. London, Society for the Promotion of Christian Knowledge, 1847. Ref: PUBL-0191-frontis. Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand. <http://natlib.govt.nz/records/23237252>

I pūpū kaha ake ngā mahi mīhana karaitiana ki Aotearoa i Niu Tīreni, inā nā te paheko i whakataungia i waenganui ia Hamuera Matene o te Rōpu Hāhi Mihingare rātau ko ngā ariki Māori i manuhiri ki New South Wales. Tērā tētahi tino rangatira nō (Bay of Islands) ko Te Pahi he tino tangata piringa pātata rawa kia Matene, nāna te kī kia hangaia he mana manākitanga i raro ia Te Pahi. Otiā ka mate a Te Pahi, ka riro tōna mana rangatiratanga e te teina ia Ruatara koia i piritahi kia Maatene i New South Wales. Nā te ui mātoro a Ruatara, ka whakatūria te pā karaitiana tuatahi e Matene, ka whakahaeretia te tino kauwhau karaitiana ki Niu Tīreni, pātata atu ki te pā i Rangihoua i Pewhairangi i te r 25 o Tīhema 1814, tā te Māori ki tēnei ara ka whakahautia he kapa haka taki 300-400 ngā toa.

Tēnei rongopai mātahi i arumia inā tata ake e te ūnga mai o ētahi atu kaiarihi mīhana karaitiana ināhoki ko te mihingare CMS nei, ko Henare Wiremu (1823), a ko te Weteriana nei hoki ko Hamuera Rii (1822) me te Rōmana Pihopa Katorika a Jean Bapiste Francois Pomapurua (1838). Ko ngā teihana mīhana tuatahi i tukua ki raro i te kaitiakianga o ngā rangatira o ngā ariki rānei o te rohe. Ko ngā āhua whakatau rongomau i ngā "pakanga tūpara" i hāpaitia e ēnei mihingare me ō rātau hoa Māori i puāwai ai te rongomau mō te huri o te wā. I taungia te rongomau ki ngā tikanga a te Māori, otirā ia i reira anō ngā mihingare Pākehā. I ētahi atu wā, ko ngā Māori kua huri ko rātau anake ngā kaiwhakatau rongomau (ināhoki pērā i tērā i waenga ia Taumata-a-kura o Ngāti Porou me tērā anō i ngā iwi o te Waiariki ki te tōmuri o te tau 1830).

Release of many slaves taken captive by northern iwi sparked an indigenous mission movement as those people returned to their home communities with their new found Christian beliefs. Peacemaking, translation of scripture, and the spread of the Christian message, led to a significant transformation of Māori society. Māori were attracted to Christianity in part because its message of peace provided an escape route from cycles of war that had engulfed much of the country in the 1820s and 30s musket wars.

Although conversions were initially few in number, by the mid-1840s, well over half the Māori population was estimated to be gathering regularly for Christian worship, influenced by Anglican, Wesleyan and Catholic traditions. The work of these European missions was taken up and expanded upon by local practitioners such as Piripi Taumata-a-Kura of Ngāti Porou, Nopera Panakareao of Te Rarawa, Minirapa Rangihatuake of Ngāti Mahanga, Wiremu Tamehana of Ngāti Hauā, Hakaraia Mahika of Waitaha/Tapuika, and Tamehana te Rauparaha of Ngāti Toa, to name a few. These evangelists and teachers witnessed the spread of the gospel from Kaitia to Rakiura/Stewart Island.



Artist unknown :Native Christian church at Turanga, New Zealand. [1852].
Ref: B-051-017. Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand. <http://natlib.govt.nz/records/22751176>

Following requests by iwi leaders for British intervention in a changing and challenging geopolitical milieu, Protestant missionaries brokered the 1840 te Tiriti o Waitangi/the Treaty of Waitangi. They supported the document believing it was the best chance of protecting Māori interests in the face of increasing British settlement. Missionaries carried and explained many of the nine treaty sheets that were signed by Māori throughout the country. In areas where Christian mission teaching had taken root, especially in Northland, some Māori understood the Treaty as akin to a biblical covenant.



Working Men's Educational Union :[Missionary wall pictures]. - London ; Working Men's Educational Union, [1850s?]. Ref: F-029. Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand. <http://natlib.govt.nz/records/22892602>

I te tukunga o te nuinga o ngā mauhere i haongia e ngā iwi o te raki i hihiko ai he nekehanga mīhana, inarā ka hoki āua hunga ki ō rātou ake iwi kāinga me te kawē i tō rātou whakapono hou nā te karaitiana. Te rongomau, a ko ngā whakamāori o ngā karaipiture, me te hōrapa o ngā marauanga a te karaitiana, ka ākina ai te tino huringa mai o te iwi Māori. I āhua aro atu ai te Māori ki ngā mahi karaitiana nā te mea ko tona karere rongomau he kukume mai i te Māori mai i ngā mahi arā ki te pakanga i hohou atu ai te rahi o te motu mai i ngā whawhai a “tūpara” o ngā tau 1820.

Ahako anō te tokoiti o te hunga i huri, tae kau ki waenga i ngā tau 1840, tata ki te haurua te hunga Māori e taki huihui ana mō ngā whakamoemiti karaitiana, ināhoki ngā runga anō i ngā whakahau tikanga nā te Mihingare te Weteriana me te Katorika. Ngā mahi a ēnei mīhana Pākehā i hikina ake, kātahi ka whakatoroatia e ngā kaihautu-a-rohe inarā pēnei ia Piripi Taumata-a-Kura o Ngāti Porou; Nopera Panakareao o Te Rarawa; Minirapa Rangihatuake o Ngāti Mahanga; Wiremu Tamehana o Ngāti Hauā; Hakaraia Mahika o Waitaha me Tapuika rātou ko Tamehana Te Rauparaha o Ngāti Toa, koia te tokoiti rā ēnei. Ēnei Kaikauwhau me ōna kaiako i arataki i te tōranga o te rongopai mai Kaitia ki Rakiura.



King, Marcus, 1891-1983 :[The signing of the Treaty of Waitangi, February 6th, 1840]. 1938.
Ref: G-821-2. Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, NZw Zealand. <http://natlib.govt.nz/records/22308135>

Because the involvement by Christians was integral to the Treaty signings, subsequent departures from its terms tarnished the reputation of the missionary churches, even though they were not in most cases responsible for these breaches.

The arrival of settlers after 1840 resulted in increasing conflict over the acquisition of Māori land. The emerging settler churches were preoccupied with their own life. Prominent Christians such as Bishop Selwyn and William Martin



were among those who attempted to prevent the adverse effects of colonization for Māori iwi and hapū. The early Native Protectorate, staffed mostly by former missionaries, had a positive influence, but was abolished by the late 1840s.

Leading Christians including missionary Octavius Hadfield spoke out against the government's land dealings in Waitara, Taranaki. A few years later, however, a Christian critique of the 1860s wars and confiscations was lacking. Some Māori perceived Pākehā church leaders as supporting Crown military forces, even though many did not intend to take sides in the conflict. In some instances, church leaders supported the Crown's prosecution of the war against the Kingitanga and other Māori.



Artist unknown :A fresh war in New Zealand; capture of a native stronghold by a British force - "Penny illustrated paper", 7 November 1868 - 6 February 1869]. Ref: A-423-002. Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand.<http://natlib.govt.nz/records/22815056>

The 1860s wars ruptured many North Island Māori communities, including those where many had become followers of the Christian way. Many Māori left the established churches, some feeling betrayed by a government that now had waged war against them, despite it purporting to be the government of Christian society (as the missionaries had taught them to ex-

Muri mai i te tono nā ngā rangatira Māori kia kuhu mai te Karauna ki te ao hurihuri a matangurunguru hoki, ka hāpaitia e ngā mīhana Pākehā whakapono kia hangaia te Tiriti i 1840 o Waitangi. I tautokoria e rātou tēnei pukapu-ka me te whakapono nō rātou mā tēnei ka taea ai te tiaki i ngā pānga nā te Māori i roto anō hoki i te tauranga iho mātinitini Pākehā. Te nuinga o ngā whārangi tokoiwa inā i kawea haeretia ki te motu i kawea kātahi ka whakamāramatia e ngā mihangare. Ki ētahi wāhi kua taunga nei ngā akomanga karaitiana ararā pērā i te Taitokerau kia rātou ōrite te Tiriti ki ngā kawenata a te Paipera Tapu.

Nā te mea i tino uru atu ngā Karaitiana ki ngā hainatanga o te Tiriti, inā ngā tikokitanga mai i ōna āta whakarite i paraparutia ai te rongonui o ngā whare karakia mīhana, ahakoa anō ēhara nō rātou te hapa mai o ēnei whakarite.

Te unga mai o tau iwi muri mai i te tau 1840 ka tīmata te puta o ngā tohetohe inarā nā hanga hao whenua Māori. Ko kaha kē te aro o ngā puanga whare karakia o tau iwi ki ō rātou ake hauora. Ahakoa anō i tēnei ko ngā tino karaitiana pēnei ia Pihopa Herewini me Wiremu Matene ko rātou mā i huri ki te ārai atu i ngā mahi kino a te rōpu whakaeke iwi ki te iwi Māori hoki. Te Rōpu Manaaki Tangata Whenua i tona tīmata te nuinga o nga kaimahi ko ngā mīhana rongonui, engari kāore i roa ka whakakorea i 1840.

Ko ngā mātua karaitiana pērā ia Octavius Hadfield i kaha te whakahau i ngā hapa a te Kāwanatanga mō ngā hoko whenua i Waitara i Taranaki. Inā ngā tau iti ki muri, ēhara, ngoikore ana te tirohanga a te Karaitiana mō ngā pakanga o te tau 1860 me ngā raupatu. Ki te titiro a ētahi o ngā Māori hanga tautoko kē ana ngā rangatira Pākehā kaikarakia i ngā rōpu whakapae a te Karauna mō ngā pakanga ki te Kīngitanga me ētahi atu Māori.



Nā ngā pakanga o 1860 i pākarukaru iho te rahi o ngā haporī Māori i te Ika a Maui hui atu hoki ki ērā kua mene ki ngā āhuatanga nā te karaitiana. He maha ngā Māori i whakarere i ngā whare karakia, ētahi e ngaukino ana te mamae ki te kāwanatanga e whakahau ana i te riri ki a rātou ahakoa te mea kau ake ko rātou te kāwanatanga o te rōpu karaitiana (Inā ki ngā akomanga nā te mīhana hei whakamanawa). Ka hua ake ngā rōpu poropiti a whakahara koa i pūpū mai i ngā whakaaro nā te Māori me te Paipera. Ngā whakapono hou pērā i te hāhi Ringatū hei muri mai anō hoki ko te hāhi Ratana i whangai i manaaki hoki i

pect). Prophetic and millennial movements arose inspired by both Māori and biblical ideas. New churches such as Ringatū and, later, Rātana, nourished and sustained Māori communities in troubled times. The traditional Christian denominations did not in most cases meaningfully engage with or support these movements, often seeing them as a threat to orthodoxy. However exceptions did exist, for example the support Methodists, through A J Seamer, gave to Rātana and the Presbyterians, through J G Laughton to Rua Kenana at Maungapohatu.

A church voice was generally lacking when the Kīngitanga and Kotahitanga movements protested against land loss and confiscation. It was also absent when Te Whiti o Rongomai and Tohu Kākahi and their followers resisted government encroachment on their land and community at Parihaka, Taranaki in the late 1870s and early 1880s. They were arrested and imprisoned in Dunedin, many without trial.

Māori communal society was overwhelmed by the introduced Western legal system. Individualization of land tenure in particular, splintered Māori tribal society and undermined its leadership structures. Individualization of title was usually understood as introducing modern benefits to Māori society, but church leaders often failed to perceive or speak out against its harmful effects. Some shining examples of Christian mission and educational endeavour, for example Te Aute College and support for the Young Māori Party, were lights in a rather bleak landscape for many Māori communities and individuals in the mid-to-late nineteenth century and into the twentieth century.

Particular instances occurred of churches failing to fulfill earlier promises to build schools on land gifted by local Māori for the education of their children. Technicalities of British law in some cases, church inertia and lack of funds in others, meant the land was not used for that purpose or returned to the original Māori owners. In recent times there are examples of this land being returned to Māori communities.

Christian mission in Aotearoa New Zealand has been hindered at various junctures, but the message of the gospel, heralded by Marsden in 1814, has continued to be received in its various forms by many within the Māori world from the nineteenth century up until the present day.

ngā hapori Māori i tapoko ki te āhua o te āwangawanga. Kīhai ngā hāhi karaitiana nā te Pākehā i te nuinga o te wā i huri ki te awhina ki te tautoko rānei i ēnei rōpu Māori anō nei hoki kia rātou he tapae kē ēnei rōpu i ngā tikanga o te hāhi karaitiana Pākehā. Ahakoa anō rā i tēnei ara atu ētahi kīhai i pērā arā ka tautokoria e ngā Methodist inā ko A.J. Seamer ki te hāhi Ratana me ngā Perehipitiriana inā ko J.G. Laughton kia Rua Kēnana i Maungapohatu.

Kāore i rangona he reo mai i te mīhana i te wā o te porotehi a te Kīngitanga rāua ko te rōpu o Te Kōtahitanga mō ngā whenua i murua i raupatuhia. E ngaro anō ana hoki tāua reo i te aukati a Te Whiti o Rongomai rāua ko Tohu Kākahi me ō rāua rōpu ki te whakaeke a te kāwanatanga ki ō rāua whenua i Parihaka i Taranaki tau noa tōmuri o 1870 ki te tau 1880. Ka mauheretia ka kawea rātou ki Otepoti te nuinga kāore i whakawātia.

I numia te hapori Māori i te kuhunga mai o ngā ture a te Pākehā. Te wāwahitanga o te ariki whenua i reira ka tiwara te mana Māori a iwi i tapahia ai te heke kāwai o te Māori. Te wāwahi o te arikitanga whenua e maharatia ana he pai ngā hua ināianei mō te iwi Māori, engari kāhore ngā rangatira kaikarakia i kite i whakāhua ake rānei i ngā kino ka puta mai i ēnei mahi. Ara anō ētahi tauira tōtika i puta mai i te mīhana karaitiana arā ko te Kāreti o Te Aute te tautoko ai i te pāti Taitama Māori he rama ēnei horapa kau ki te āhua pōuriuri ki te nuinga o hapori Māori me ngā tāngata mai i te tekau mā iwa rau tau ahu atu ki te rua teka rau tau.

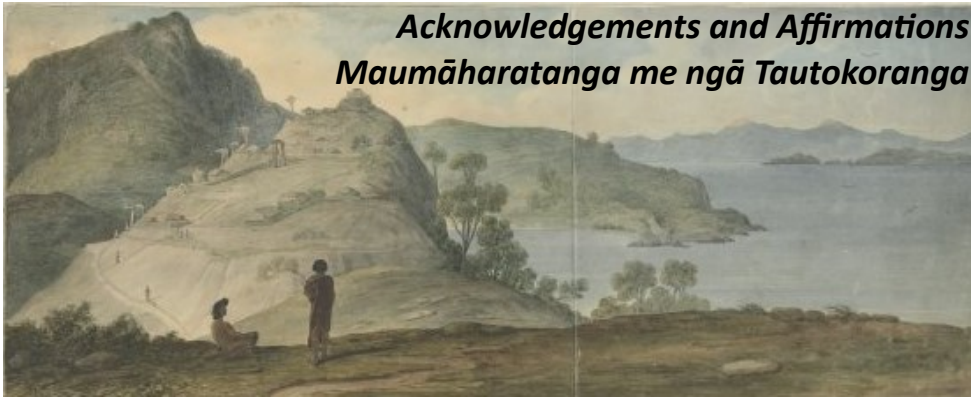
Ka tīmata te pupū haere ake o ngā hāhi e kore whakatūtuki ana i ō rātou ōhaki ki te whakatū i ngā whare kura ki runga i ngā whenua i koharia e ngā Māori o ngā rohe hei ako i a rātou tamariki. Kei ngā kopikopiko a ture Karauna i ētahi wāhanga, he ngoikore tonu nō te hāhi he iti rānei nō te moni i kore i taea ai te whakatū, nā tēnei āhua i kore whakamahia te whenua mō te pūtake i koharia te whenua i whakahokia rānei ki ngā ariki nō rātou te whenua. Inarā i tēnei wā kei te whakahokihokia ētahi o ngā whenua ki āua hapori Māori.

Ka whakatenetenehia ai te mīhana karaitiana i ētahi pekanga, engari ko te karere a te rongopai, i huaina ia e Te Matene i te tau 1814, e rere tonu ana te mau o ōna kauheke e te tini o te ao Māori puta noa i te rua tekau rautau heke rawa iho ki nāianei.



Inscription found on the base of Marsden Cross, Oihi Bay, Bay of Islands. Image: waymarking.com

Acknowledgements and Affirmations *Maumāharatanga me ngā Tautokoranga*



Rangihoua (Augustus Earle's watercolour), in the Bay of Islands, Northland, New Zealand —National Library of Australia Reference: nla.pic-an2838566

As those who seek to follow Ihu Karaiti/Jesus Christ in this land of Aotearoa New Zealand, we acknowledge the above historical narrative summary and make the following further statements:

Kia rātou e hiahia ana ki te aru kia Ihu Karaiti i tēnei whenua o Aotearoa ki Niu Tīreni, e maumhara ana mātou ki te rāpopoto hītori kōrero a taki o runga ake nei ka āpitiria atu ēnei marautanga:

With the apostle Paul, we declare that we are not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for the salvation of all who believe (Rom 1:16). We also affirm that God our Creator has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on the face of the earth and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their habitation, so that they may seek the Lord and find Him... (Acts 17:26-27)

Tapatahi atu kia Apotoro Paora, ka whakahautia e mātou e kore mātou e whakamā ki te rongopai, nō te mea koia te mana o te Atua hei whakaora mō te katoa e whakapono ana (Rom 1:16). Ka whakamanatia e mātou ko te Atua te Kaihanga i hangaia e ia mai te toto kotahi ngā momo tāngata katoa i te mata o te whenua, otirā kua whakataungia hoki e ia te wā me ngā pākoru nohoanga, kia taea ai e rātou te rapu i te Ariki kia kitea anō hoki a ia... (Acts 17:26-27)

We express thankfulness to God and to those Māori and Pākehā Christians who spread the gospel or good news of Ihu Karaiti/Jesus Christ throughout this land, who sought to follow faithfully the Christian way as individuals and communities, who established many churches, schools and social service agencies, and whose self-sacrificial work sustained many communities in these islands.

Inā ko tā mātou ko te whakawhetai ki te Atua otirā ki ērā Māori me ngā karaitiana Pākehā hoki e toha ana i te rongopai me te pānui pai a Ihu Karaiti puta noa i te motu, i rangahau kia aru pono i te ara karaitiana inā hei tangata hei haporī, i whakatū i ngā tini whare karakia, ngā kura me ngā ratonga pokapū awhina inā koa nā ō rātou mahi i tau ai ngā haporī maha i ēnei moutere.

We acknowledge the important role played by Christian missionaries in the drafting and signing of te Tiriti o Waitangi/the Treaty of Waitangi. We affirm the covenant nature of the Treaty, that the Treaty laid a foundation for true partnership between Māori and the Crown, Māori and Pākehā, and all peoples of this land. We affirm our commitment to the Treaty's key provisions: protecting Māori lands, resources, taonga/treasures and rangatiratanga/chieftainship; providing a foundation for civil government; and conferring equal citizenship on Māori and Pākehā and all peoples who followed them. We also acknowledge the difficulties presented by te Tiriti/the Treaty being in two different languages, which each reflect varying cultural norms and expectations. We affirm, however, that it has been the failure to uphold the spirit and texts of the Treaty – whether Māori or English text – that has been the main 'Treaty failure' in New Zealand society.

Ka whakamihi mātou ki nga mahi mātāmua a nga mīhana karaitiana ki te hanga ki te hainatanga o te Tiriti o Waitangi. Ka whakae mātou ki te rerenga kawenata o te Tiriti, ināhoki i takotoria e te Tiriti he tuapapa tino hoahoatanga i waenganui i te Māori rāua ko te Karauna, a Māori rāua ko te Pākehā, me ngā tāngata katoa o te motu. Ka whakahaua anō e mātou tō mātou herenga ki ngā tino whanonga a te Tiriti: e tiaki ana i ngā whenua Māori me nga rawa, ngā taonga tuku iho, te rangatiratanga/arikitanga, a te whakatakotoranga tuapapa whakatū kaāwanatanga a iwi, ka whakatauria nā ia te mana nohotahi a ōriterite a Pākehā a Māori me ērā iwi whaimuri mai ia rātou. Ka maumōhio tonu hoki mātou ki ngā uauatanga ka huapae mai nō te mea kei roto te Tiriti i ngā reo rua, te pua ai ko ngā tikanga me ngā torotorohanga. Ahakoa anō ka whakahautia e mātou ko te tapepa ki te pupuri i te wairua me ngā kupu o te Tiriti – tērā ia ko te kupu Pākehā kupu Māori rānei – koia te tino tapepa nui o te Tiriti ki te iwi o Niu Tīreni.

We acknowledge and affirm Te Reo Māori (Māori language) as an official language in Aotearoa NZ. We remember the establishment of mission schools in te reo Māori, and the study and documentation of te reo, which in time resulted in an outstanding dictionary and many resources in the language, including scripture, liturgy, and educational resources. We affirm te reo Māori as a taonga (treasure) and will endeavour to support the use of the language in Christian services and in new translations of scripture and resources for churches, communities, schools, and the generations that follow.

Ka maumōhio ka whakahau he tino reo te Reo Māori o Aoteara Niu Tīreni. Ka maumahara mātou ki te whakatūhanga o ngā kura mīhana i roto i te reo Māori, me te wānanga me te tuhihuhiranga o te reo, i puawai ai ngā tino pukapuka kuputaka me ngā tini putea rawa i roto i te reo, hui atu ki te karaipiture me ngā rawa mātau-ranga. Ka whakahau mātou he taonga te reo Māori ka pū kaha ai mātou ki te tau-toko kia hāpaitia te reo i ngā kauwhau karaitiana ki roto anō hoki i ngā whakamāori hou o ngā karaipiture me ngā rawa a ngā whare karakia, i ngā haporī, kura taka iho ki ngā heke ka ara mai.

We acknowledge and grieve that the Christian churches have not always honoured the Treaty, and we affirm apologies that have been proffered over recent decades by various individuals, gatherings, denominations, and the Crown. These steps towards reconciliation have recognised that the churches have failed in many instances to honour Māori as tangata whenua and have often failed to stand by them in troubled times. We also acknowledge that the need for reconciliation and restitution is ongoing and often location/denomination specific. We affirm, therefore, the need for churches, mission agencies, individuals, and the Crown, to continue to pursue the ministry of reconciliation and restitution within their own contexts and spheres of influence.

Ka whakahautia e mātou ka tangi anō hoki kāhore i hōnoretia i ētahi wā e nga hāhi karaitiana te Tiriti, ka whakahautia e mātou nga whakapaha a ētahi hunga o ngā rerenga tekau tau ki muri, arā ko ngā huihuinga, ngā wehenga hāhi me te Karauna hoki. Wēnei hikoitanga ki te whakatikatika he ohonga ki ngā hāhi karakia i tapepa i te nuinga o ngā wā ki te hōnore i te Māori koa te tangata whenua, ināhoki kāhore i tūkotahi rāua ko te Māori i ngā wā i taungia te Māori ki te raruraru. Ka maumōhio anō hoki mātou e haere tonu ana te au o te whakahuihui te whakatika pā kau hoki ki te wāhi/rerenga hāhi. Ka whakahautia e mātou, otira, mā ngā hāhi, ohanga mīhana, ia tangata me te Karauna, he aruaru i te ara whakahuihui me te whakatikatika i roto ki tona anō tikanga me ōna anō kopuranga mana.

Conclusions *Whakamutunga*

The early missionaries believed in a God who would ultimately work out all things according to his own sovereign plan.

In the same way we believe that, in spite of human failings and limitations, the Creator's purposes will be established in these islands.

We believe too, in the rule and reign of the Kingdom of God, which like a small kauri sapling grows to become a tree giving life to many things.

Like many who have gone before, we seek to fashion ways of life and faith that are both faithful to Christian scripture and tradition and, at the same time, authentically indigenous to this land of Aotearoa New Zealand.

In line with scriptural principles and the promise of a new world where justice reigns, we affirm our commitment to the proclamation of the gospel and to work for a renewed society in which the great potential of human life within these islands will be fully realized.

I whakapono ngā Mihingare o mua he Atua anō ra ia hei whakatika i tona wā ngā mea katoa, otirā ia ki tona ake tino mahere.

Inarā pērā anō ki tō tātou whakapono ana rā, ahakoa anō ngā tapepa a tangata me ōna herenga, tā te Kaiwhakaora ka horangia ki runga ki ēnei moutere. Ka whakapono tonu anō hoki mātou, ki ngā ture me te hira o te Kīngitanga o te Atua, ōrite nei ki te tipuranga kauri ka tipu ka rea ka toha i te oranga ki ngā mea katoa.

Pera ano i te tokomaha kua pahure ki muri, ka rapu tonu mātou i etahi mea oranga ā whakapono ano hoki upa kau ki te karaipeture Karaitiana a tikanga hoki otiia tūturu; motuhake ki tenei whenua i Aotearoa o Niu Tireni

Pā kau ki ngā whanonga a karaipeture me te ōhaki o te ao hou e hora ana ngā mea tōtika, ka whakahau mātou i to mātou tautoko ki whakahuanga o te rongopai me te mahitahi mō te tōpūranga hou inakoa ka puawai te mātātoru o te iho koiora tangata ki ēnei moutere.

‘And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.’

1 Corinthians 13:13

‘Nā tēnei te mau nei te whakapono, te tūmanako, te aroha, ēnei e toru; ko te mea nui rawa ia o ēnei ko te aroha.’

I Koriniti 13:13

‘The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has chosen me to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind;

to set free the oppressed and announce that the time has come when the Lord will save his people.’

Luke 4:18-19

‘Kei ahau te Wairua o te Ariki, nāna nei hoki ahau i whakawahi, hei kauwhau i te rongopai ki te hunga rawakore.

Kua tonoa ahau e ia ki te kauwhau ki ngā herehere, kia haere noa, ki ngā matapo kia titiro, ki te tuku i te hunga e marū ana, kia haere noa atu, ki te kauwhau i te tau manakohanga mai a te Ariki.’

Ruka 4: 18-19

Signed:

Date: _____