

UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA



TONGA NATIONAL CONFERENCE (TNC)

MINUTES

TNC Executive meeting – Friday 15th – Sunday 17th February 2019

Meeting Venue: Uniting Church, Corner Deakin Ave & Eleventh St, Mildura

Contact: Rev. Siotame Paletu'a – 0408996255;

'Atelaite Foliaki – 0434212487; Kalisitiane Finau – 0484829326; Taufau Nau - 0458677919

REFLECTION: Psalm 1

1. *Happy are those who reject the advice of evil people, who do not follow the example of sinners or join those who have no use for God.*
2. *Instead they find joy in obeying the Law of the LORD, and the study it day and night.*
3. *The are like trees that grow beside a stream, that bear fruit at the right time, and whose leaves do not dry up. They succeed in everything they do.*
4. *But evil people are not like this at all; they are like straw that the wind blows away.*
5. *Sinners will be condemned by God and kept apart from God's own people.*
6. *The righteous are guided and protected by the LORD, but the evil are on the way to their doom.*

Friday 15th Feb 7-10pm: Welcome Dinner and Fellowship - Talitali 'o e Fakataha 'a e Komiti Ngāue 'a e TNC 'i Mildura UCA.

Na'e fai 'a e talitali fakafe'iloaki mo e kaingalotu Mildura pea pehe ki he kau executive mo e kau fakafongga mei he ngaahi fai'angalotu.

Saturday 16th Feb 9.30am – 5:30pm: TNC Executive Meeting at Mildura UCA – Na'e fai 'a e talitali ē pelekifasi 'e he kaingalotu Mildura pea mo e ngaahi lea he hall pea hili ia pea toki kamata 'a e fakataha 'i falelotu.

Time	Agenda Items	Presenter/s & Action
09:30am	REFLECTION (see above, one of the lectionary readings for Sunday Feb 17 th) & Opening Prayer	Chair
	Himi 499 – “Ko si'etau mo'ui ko e fu'u vahanoa...” na'e kamata'a 'aki pea ne fakahoko aipe 'e he Sea fo'ou 'o e TNC, Rev Feke 'Uiha Kamiitoni pea mo e lotu.	Feke Kamitoni
	Hoko atu ki he fakafe'iloaki 'o kinautolu na'e 'ikai ke 'i heni he po Falaite ki mu'a ia pea toki kamata 'a e fakataha.	Feke Kamitoni

	<p>Na'e 'oange foki 'a e faingamalie 'o Rev Charissa Suli ke ne 'omai 'a e pōpoaki mei he Assembly. (refer to Charissa's email...)</p> <p><i>TNC relates directly to the Associate General Secretary currently is Rob Floyd (sometimes represented by one of the Assembly Resourcing Unit currently they are Rev Charissa Suli, Rev Dr Ji Zhang, Rev Dr Apwee Ting, Rev Lindsay Cullen and Stuart Mcmillan) and thru to the President for important matters.</i></p> <p><i>Twice per year the chairpersons of all the 12 national conferences are meeting with the President and the Associate General Secretary to discuss matters of significance.</i></p> <p><i>TNC is not a sub committee of the Assembly Resourcing Unit. TNC is a church network connected directly to the Assembly.</i></p> <p><i>Kole meia Charissa – Pe 'e lava ke kau mai 'a e Assembly ki he polokalama 'a e TNC he ta'u 2019 ha houa 'e taha pe houa 'e 2 ki ha ngaahi me'a 'e lava ke fai ai ha tokoni fekau'aki mo e ngaahi me'a 'oku ngaue'aki 'a e Assembly.</i></p> <p><i>Koe ha ha ngaahi me'a 'e lava ke ala tokoni kia tautolu ke fanongo pea tokoni mai ki ai 'a e Assembly ..."</i></p>	
	<p>Attendance – Rev Feke Kamitoni, Rev. Mosese Taufu, Makelesi Kavapalu Facci, Joyce Tangi, Langi Suli, Rev Charissa Suli, Talita Ata, Tene Pahulu, Virginia Lavaki, David Ma'ilei, Naule'o La'akulu, Lipina Taufu, Seini Taufu, Taufu Nau, Siaso Tu'uholoki, Veiongo Hehepoto, 'Aiona Palu, Rev Siotame Paletu'a, Namoe Faupula, Lataniu'ui Kamitoni, Litia Taufu, Rev Fa Matangi, Sione Hehepoto, Rev Salesi Faupula, Viliami Latu, Vaiola Kuluka, Pasiliti Manu, Kalisitiane Finau Fe'ao Katoa, Limoni Tupou, Rev Solo Tafokitau Liku, Kerri Needham, Lupe Taumoefolau, Laite Tupou, Li'ekina Suli, Susitina Suli.</p> <p>Apologies – Rev Valamotu Palu, Leimoni Taufu'i, Taani Taungakava, Rev Mele & Stephen Ratcliffe, Sitiveni Havea, Taiosisi Sikuea, Rev. Nau Taitusi Áhosivi, Rev. Haloti Kailahi, Rev Fololeni Tafokitau, Rev 'Ikani Vaitohi, Rev Jason Kioa & Fitolina, Rev 'Alimoni & 'Ofa Taumoepou, Susana Latu, Saane Pongi, Lavinia Pongi, 'Utoikamanu & Kalo Fotu, Fatafehi & Kiteau Funaki, Elvina Kramer, Rev. Hedley Fihaki, Rev Sylvia Tongotongo, Rev Lavingi Fine, Rev 'Oto Faiva, Nunia Langi, Rev Tevita Mone, Vivian Taufahema, Soana Faupula, Stella Naimet, Dr Tangikina Moimoi Steen,</p>	
	<p>Rev Kerrie Needham – shared her experience with the Tongans at their Robinvale church.</p>	
	<p>Feke welcomed Siua and Lupe Taumoefolau from Robinvale.</p> <p>Feke read out a letter from the President of the UCA wishing the TNC Executive a good meeting at their first executive meeting as a new team.</p> <p>Feke thanked those who have carried out the work of the TNC from previous years, the former Chairperson – Rev 'Isileli Jason Kioa, Former Secretary - Rev 'Alimoni Taumoepou and the Former Assistant Secretary - Dr Tangikina Moimoi-Steen.</p>	

	Feke acknowledged Rev Fa and also Veisia Lavaki from Brisbane, QLD.	
	<p>Joyce Tangi – From NSW/ACTS SYNOD</p> <p>I've been blessed and honoured with the Opportunity to serve the young people of our church in the NSW/ACT Synod. Pulse is what our department is called. So in our Role in Pulse, We assist in Encouraging and supporting the emerging generations within our Church.</p>	
10:00am –	<p>Venue, Dates & Theme for next conference 2019?</p> <p>A. Katoomba Christian Convention Centre (KCCC), 119 Cliff Drive, Katoomba NSW 2780.</p> <p>B. 27-30 September – it's the weekend that's available. This is on hold for now and they need the deposit by 26th April, 2019.</p> <p>C. Na'e fai 'a e potalanoa pea pehe ai 'oku faingata'a'ia fakapa'anga e kakai he totongi ? Pehe 'e he Sea ke 'ave e ngaahi fokotu'u ki he konifelenisi lahi. Tali 'e he executive 'a e fokotu'u. Mahino ko e 'aho mo e feitu'u kuo mahino ia toe pe ke totongi 'etau deposit.</p> <p>ACTION: Ke fakahoko ki he Tauhi Pa'anga, Valeti Moeakiola ke totongi 'etau deposit ki mu'a he 'aho 26 'Epeleli, 2019.</p> <p>ACTION: Ke 'ave ki he Konifelenisi Lahi 'a e TNC 'a e tokanga ki he faingata'a'ia fakapa'anga a e kakai pe 'e lava ke fai fakata'u ua 'a e Konifelenisi Lahi?</p> <p>D. Kaveinga – the secretary spoke about the theme : ASSEMBLY theme: "Abundance Grace, Liberating Hope" TNC theme: "KO HOTAU VETEANGE 'OKU 'I HE TUI KIA SISU KALAISI." i. "We are liberate by faith in Jesus Christ" Ko e fokotu'u ketau ngaue'aki mu'a 'e kaveinga ko eni he ta'u ni. Na'e tali 'e he fakataha.</p>	<p>Secretary/Treasurer</p> <p>Secretary/Assistant Secretary Executive</p>
	<p>NGAAHI FOKOTU'U MEI HE TNC 2018 –</p> <p>i. Fekau'aki mo e tohi ke fakamanatu e lotu ko e fokotu'u mei he kau Faifekau 'i Melipoane.</p> <p>ii. Meia Paula Taumoepeau – ke fakaafe'i mai 'enau Sea, Rev. Setaita Kinahoi ke kau mai ki he 'etau fakataha he 2019. Tali 'e he fakataha kae confirm 'oku 'ikai ketau fua e totongi fakapa'anga.</p> <p>ACTION: to confirm we don't fund this.</p> <p>iii. Security – Ke tau faka'ata ange ke faka'ofisiale ko e 'ofisa security ko e 'ofisa fakalao ia. Discussion were held and the chair asked Langi to refer back to Koniseti Liutai. There will be further discussion regarding this issue. Blue card – Risk Assessment, we need to move towards this. Two things – tafa'aki 'a e siasi fekau'aki mo e accredited 'etau ngaue. Fiema'u ke fai ha femahino'aki. Koniseti would like to do a Risk Assessment with his workers. 'Oku mou loto ke tali e fokotu'u ketau tali 'a Koniseti 'a e fokotu'u koia? Tali 'e he executive 'a e fokotu'u.</p>	<p>Secretary/Assistant Secretary & Treasurer</p> <p>Chair, Secretary & Executive</p>

ACTION : ke tuku mai ki he Executive ke fai ki ai ha ngaue etc.

11.45am –
12.00noon

SHORT BREAK

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE 8TH DECEMBER 2018 -

- i. Ngaahi me'a fekau'aki mo e ngaahi Pastoral sharing – fekau'aki mo e **tu'utu'uni 'a e assembly** kuo 'i ai 'a e ngaahi famili kuo nau 'alu mei he siasi.
 - a. Na'e fai 'a e vahevahe ketau toe tokanga ange he 'oku 'iai 'a e ni'ihi 'oku nau malanga'i pe 'a e faha'i 'e taha. 'Oku mahu'inga ketau fanongo pea ke fakamahino ki he kakai.
 - b. Na'e 'iai 'a e ngaahi Siasi na'e fai 'enau Pō Lotu ke fakamahino e tu'utu'uni . Ko ia e tokonií á e ngaahi siasi óku nau fie fai ha fepotalanoaáki fekauáki mo e kaveinga ni.
 - c. 'Osi fai 'e he assembly 'enau tohi ki he ngaahi fai'angalotu.
 - d. Ke tau toe tokanga ange ki he lea 'oku tau ngaue 'aki tautautefito ki he lea fakatonga.
 - e. Fokotu'u ke 'iai ha Forum 'a e kau Faifekau ke fai hano talanga'i pea fai mo hono tipeiti'i

Sea & Sekelitali

ii. Sunday School

- a. Fokotu'u ke fai mu'a ha tokanga ki he naunau 'a e **Sunday school** – ko e kole pe 'oku 'iai ha me'a fakatonga?
- b. 'Oku 'iai 'a e ngaahi siasi 'oku ngaue'aki 'a e Seasons of the Spirit.
- c. Fokotu'u ke 'ave kia Salesi mo ha ni'ihi kenau tokanga'i 'a e naunau ko eni. Na'e tali eni 'ehe fakataha.

Salesi Faupula

ACTION: Ke tokanga leva 'a Rev Salesi Faupula mo e komiti 'a e Sunday School ki he me'a ko eni.

iii **Toulekeleka**

Fokotu'u ke 'ai ha task group kenau teuteu ha polokalama ma'ae kau Toulekeleka. Na'e tali eni 'e he fakataha pea nau loto ke tokanga'i eni 'e Faifekau Solo Tafokitau Liku pea ke ne tokanga'i foki pe kohai 'e kau atu ki ai. Na'e tali eni 'e Solo.

ACTION: Ke ngaue leva 'a Solo ke kumi e kakai kenau tokanga'i 'enau polokalama.

- iv. Fokotu'u mei Tisema ke fai ha **Youth rally** 'i QLD. Kole 'e Nia ke tuku ki he'ene report...later on.

Solo Tafokitau Liku

A. REPORT SOUND SYSTEM – Langi Suli (Refer to Langi's report)

● **Fokotu'u 'e 3 'a Langi –**

- i. **Fokotu'u 1** – That we hire all the equipment we need or the whole TNC; sound music, projector, lighting and a technician to do the work during the three days of TNC. The cost is an approximately \$8000-\$10,000.

Tali 'e he executive

- ii. **Fokotu'u 2** – That any funds that are approved for the sound and equipment budget are made available a month before the TNC to the task group that looks after the sound and equipment.

Tali 'e he executive

- iii. **Fokotu'u 3** – That we add a \$10 administration fee per person to cover the cost of the sound and equipment and the money collected from this administration fee should pay for the sound and equipment hire. The sound and equipment are not just for the use of the 2nd Gen team it is for everyone who is part of the TNC.

'ikai Tali 'e he executive

- B. **REPORT WEBSITE** – Tevita Fungalei is the IT and professional person and he's back now and he's looking at ways to improve website.
- i. Sione Hehepoto is looking after it.
 - ii. Fokotu'u – Ke 'iai ha timi kenau ngaue fakataha moia ki hono fakalakalaka e website ke 'iai pe ha site 'a e Sunday school, 2nd Gen, Step Up pea mo e Toulekeleka etc.
 - iii. Ko e **'OhoFononga** 'oku 'osi 'iai ia he taimi ni. 'Oku fiema'u ke 'iai ha ngaahi fakamatala ia why does TNC still exist and also why people left or love TNC? To link the congregation's website, assembly's website to the TNC website. When people are looking for information they go to the website.
 - iv. Ko e **timi eni tenau ngaue mo Tevita Fungalei** ke fakalakalaka ki mu'a 'a e website 'a e TNC –
 - Rev. Salesi Faupula & Sione Hehepoto – Melbourne
 - Tevita Fungalei & Rev Moses Taufua – Sene
 - Rev Fa Matangi & Veisia Lavaki – Brisbane
 - v. Kole ke fetongi 'a e executive motu'a ki he kakai fo'ou he taimi ni 'i he website.
Na'e tali 'e he executive e fokotu'u.
 - vi. Ko e fehu'i – **Ko e ha e faikehekehe e Step Up mo e 2nd Gen?**
Fa clarified the difference.
 - Step Up is not about age, if some people are not comfortable with 2nd Gen then they're welcome to join Step Up.
 - 25-40 are young adults – there's no program for young adults.
 - vii. **WHAT IS TNC and the purpose of our fundraising at TNC?**
From the Minutes What is TNC and the purpose of our fundraising at TNC? - *Ko e kulupu eni kuo hanga 'e he UCA 'o fokotu'u ke kau ki ai 'a e Tonga kotaoa pe 'oku nau kau mai ki hee UCA. Na'e kamata eni he 1987 pea 'oku kau mai ki ai 'a kinautolu 'oku nau o mai 'o fakamalumu he Uniting church. Ko e feohi'anga fakalaumalie... ko e feitu'u ke lava 'o 'ohake 'a e ngaahi me'a fekau'aki mo hotau kainga Tonga. Acknowledging our cultural diversity. It should be a place where we can talk about the issues etc. It's important not to forget where we come from it's*

	<p><i>important to remember where we come from and where we are going. It's a blessing to see all the different group within TNC, Toulekeleka, adults, Step UP, 2nd Gen, Sunday School and it's important ...we are not here to meet only....</i></p> <p><i>TNC is a church network connected directly by the assembly - TNC relates directly to the Associate General Secretary currently is Rob Floyd (sometimes represented by one of the Assembly Resourcing Unit currently they are Rev Charissa Suli, Rev Dr Ji Zhang, Rev Dr Apwee Ting, Rev Lindsay Cullen and Stuart Mcmillan) and thru to the President for important matters. Twice per year the chairpersons of all the 12 national conferences are meeting with the President and the Associate General Secretary to discuss matters of significance. TNC is not a subcommittee of the Assembly Resourcing Unit. TNC is a church network connected directly to the Assembly.</i></p> <p>viii. Evaluation Form – <i>Fokotu'u – pe 'e lava ke 'ave ki he ngaahi fai'angalotu kenau fai mai 'a e evaluation pea toki fakafoki mai ia ki mu'a he taimi fakataha hoko.</i></p> <p>ix. 'Ohofononga</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - kole 'a e Sekelitali ki he kau faifekau kenau tokoni ki he 'Ohofononga. - Ke kau mai mo e kakai falalaánga ó ikai koe kau faifekau pe ki hono faú e óhofononga 	
1-2pm	Lunch – Mildura UCA	
2 - 4pm	<p>GENERAL BUSINESS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports from all the Task Groups <p>C. LANGI REPORTED RE PENIELI PROJECT</p> <p>Rationale –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. To help Penieli with their Vision to build a regional centre for all groups to use. b. TNC is growing in numbers and there is no camp site that can host and cater to the needs of TNC. <p>Benefits of the move to Penieli -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Less cost for the people of TNC particularly those living in Sydney. ii. The location in Sydney is closer than travelling to the blue mountains. iii. We no longer are investing into campsites but are able to invest into our own Tongan people and support the mission of God in the work they do. iv. Secured site with a fence around the church block. v. TNC members can stay with family and friends or book their own accommodation or connect with a local church and use their facilities for sleeping. <p>Disadvantages of the move to Penieli</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. No building. Church is small. ii. Marquees will need to be hired. 	<p>Convenors Treasurer Executive</p>

- iii. Increase the toilet facilities to cater for the number of TNC attendance.
- iv. All grassed areas need to concrete for easier access and weather conditions.
- v. Interstate people will still have to book their own flights and accommodation.
- vi. If it rains, we won't all fit in the church building.
- vii. Will need to consider self-catering.

D. REPORT 2nd GENERATION TEAM



(Please see attached report)

- **Proposal –**
 - a. That the 2nd Gen leader has a place on the executive committee and is invited to be part of the executive meetings.
 - b. A budget for the 2nd Gen team is established and approved and made available for the 2nd Gen team before the TNC to help them fulfil their task for the running of programs at the TNC.
 - c. *Tau hanga 'o tali ka ai ha'anau fiema'u ki he konifelenisi ki he ta'u ni pea tau tali ia.*
We approve it in Principle...to approve it.

ACTION : for Mosese to talk to Valeti

E. REPORT STEP UP – Rev Fa Matangi *(Please refer to the attached report)*

LUNCH AT 2.00 PM

- Kamata'aki 'a e Himi 591 - Ko hai ha taha 'e piki ma'u pe...
- Lotu by Feke.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hoko atu ki he ngaahi lipooti mei he ngaahi task group – <p>F. REPORT SUNDAY SCHOOL – <i>(Report were distributed)</i></p>	
4pm	Short Break	
4:30 – 5:30pm	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS - FOKOTU’U MEI PENIELI –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Kole ke fakafaingamalie ngaahi lotofale siasi TNC ke lava atu ‘a Penieli pe fai mai pe ha ‘ofa ki he visone Penieli.</i> <i>Ke lotua mo Hufia visone Ki Penieli pea fakapapau’i ko e visone eni ‘a e TNC, siasi mo e kainga Tonga.</i> <i>Ko e project eni ia ‘a Penieli ka ‘oku support ‘e he TNC.</i> <i>‘E lava ke ‘omai ha taha mei he presbytery mo e sinoti ki he konifelenisi hoko mo ha powerpoint ke tau sio ki ai.</i> <i>Goodwill ‘a e TNC ke support ke fiema’u ke ‘ilo pea ‘oku mau ‘ife’ia?</i> <i>Ko e tohi ‘e fai mei Penieli pe ia ki he ‘u siasi ‘o ‘ikai ke fakakau ai ‘a e TNC.</i> <i>‘Oku mahu’inga ketau femahino’aki KE TUKU HA KI’I TAIMI KE HU AI ‘A E PRESENTATION ...PENIELI PROJECT.</i> <p>DRAFT PROGRAMS ONLY –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> FRIDAY <ol style="list-style-type: none"> AUBURN is leading the opening service SATURDAY <ol style="list-style-type: none"> we need to work together to include the young ones. it’s important to have voting members to attend the business of the TNC ...for 2nd gen and step up to elect their members and send them to the business session. <i>To make sure that all guest speakers and leaders have their working with children card.</i> kau taki kulupu ke fili mai homou kau fakafofonga ke ai homou le’o ke nau ‘iai he taimi ‘oku fai ai ‘a e fakataha. NA’E TALI ‘E HE FAKATAHA. ADULTS PROGRAM – FOR SEINI TO RUN A PROGRAM TOGETHER WITH THE MINISTER’S WIVES. SUNDAY <ol style="list-style-type: none"> tau malanga he 10.00am tau malanga fakataha mo e sakalameniti. <i>Ko e tatakai e malanga sapate ke tuku kia mosese ke ‘alu ‘o talanoa mo e ngaahi siasi....for mosese to do this ;</i> <i>ACTION: For Mosese to go and talk to the congregations.</i> AFTER LUNCH <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Ha’ofanga for adults or whatever program? Dinner 	<p>Secretary/Assistant Secretary</p> <p>Mosese Taufa</p>

	<p>xi. Drama</p> <p>NEXT TNC EXECUTIVE MEETING</p> <p>xii. Date & venue of next meeting –Friday 16th – 18th August 2019 at Toetalatalanoa Canberra Civic UCA Poaki mai ‘a Canberra nau toki faingamalie ki Novema.</p> <p>PROPOSE DATE - 19, 20 & 21 of July</p> <p>VENUE - BRISBANE – the next meeting will be held in Brisbane or AUBURN to be confirmed.</p> <p>OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>A. NGAAHI FATONGIA - For the secretaries to confirm and have a draft of the program and all the fatongia for congregations to do like cleaning etc.</p> <p>B. POLOKALAMA KAKAI LALAHI - ko hai tene tokanga’i e ngaahi polokalam ‘a e kakai lalahi? a. Ko e sea, tokoni sea, sekelitali mo e tokoni sekelitali.</p> <p>C. DUE DATE FOR ALL PROGRAMS - 31st May is the due date for all programs to be ready.*</p> <p>D. ROOM ALLOCATION - Kole ke allocate e ngaahi loki ‘oku fai ai e ngaahi polokalama. <i>ACTION: For Mosese to talk to Langi Suli.</i></p> <p>E. NGAAHI RESOURCES - ko e NGAAHI RESOURCE hange ko e Safe Church na’a lava ke liliu ki he lea fakatonga etc. Ke fai ha ngaue mo fakatotolo pe ‘oku ‘iai ha faingamalie ke fai ai ha tokoni ki he ngaahi me’a ko eni. a. For the secretary’s to write to the assembly and request the help we need to fund resource. Etc. (Charissa’s advice) <i>ACTION: To write a letter to the Assembly and request some funds.</i></p> <p>F. Closing Prayer by Feke</p>	Mosese Taufa
6pm approx.	Dinner, Fellowship & Networking – Mildura UCA	All

Note – TNC uses their ‘meeting’ opportunity to have fellowship with members as follows:

Friday & Saturday evenings are essential to attend to make new or reinforce existing connections, building and consolidating relationships.

Sunday is a chance to worship together with the host congregation, prior to the closure of the TNC Executive meeting.

Sunday 17th Feb 10:00am: Combine Service at Mildura UCA – **Rev. Feke Kamitoni**