

Conference Hosts: The Selwyn Centre for Aging and Spirituality (SCAS)

SCAS is New Zealand's voice for the spiritual needs of older people as they near life's end. It is part of the Selwyn Foundation Group, a charitable Christian Trust which provides independent living through retirement villages and rental accommodation; hospital and rest home care; dementia care, day stay, and community-based assistance; to older New Zealanders. All this is carried out according to its mission to serve the elderly through 'The Selwyn Way' - **Christian faith, care, independence, and wellness**

SCAS has been set up to lead education, research, and advocacy in any areas of need related to aging and spirituality in New Zealand. We are modeled on similar organisations in Australia, the UK and the USA, yet retain a strong Aotearoa - New Zealand reference.



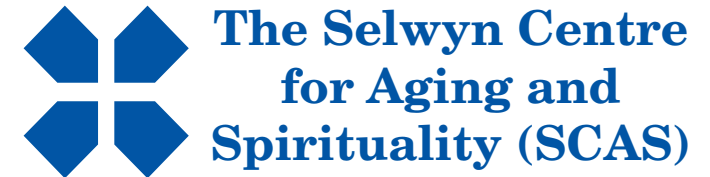
Our outreach is to a diversity of faiths, and embraces a wide meaning of 'spiritual care'. We see spiritual experience as anything that brings to the individual a sense of awe and wonder, and a deeper sense of meaning in life.



The Selwyn Centre for Aging and Spirituality (SCAS)



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2009 International Conference on Aging and Spirituality: Gender, Culture, and Care

*Sunday August 31 to Wednesday September 3 2009,
at the University of Auckland Business School
Grafton Rd., Auckland City,
Auckland, NZ*

www.selwyncare.org.nz/scas

Journey to Auckland for a Voyage into Faith-based Aging and Care

Evidence-based models of medical care have paved the way for people to live much longer, healthier, physical lives. But has the quality of spiritual guidance and care offered to older people kept pace? Are older people's spiritual needs being adequately met in healthcare and social systems around the world?

The 2009 International Conference on Aging and Spirituality will bring together researchers, aged care practitioners, and anyone with an interest in helping older people find deepest meaning and fulfillment in life.

The issues of aging and spirituality will be discussed against the backdrop of gender, culture, and new models of care. This conference will consider the positive possibilities of aging well, and flourishing, despite difficulties.

"Old age is like climbing a mountain. You climb from ledge to ledge. The higher you get, the more tired and breathless you become, but your views become much more extensive"
Ingmar Bergman

2009 International Conference on Aging and Spirituality:

Conference Themes:

- Advocacy, Policy formation and influencing political thinking
- 'Baby Boomers': Spiritual models of care and lifestyle for the free-thinking, wealthier, independent generation
- Indigenous issues and cultural experiences: real life case studies on aging and spirituality in non-Western societies
- Holistic 'whole person' care in an age where science is king
- End of life issues: touchstones and challenges
- Pastoral care and ministry in aging communities
- Funding and spiritual models of care: is the recognition there?

Key dates: (subject to minor changes)

- 05/08 Call for abstracts
- 09/08 Full paper submission
- 02/09 Paper reviews completed
- 02/09 Registration commences
- 06/09 Speakers and Conference programme confirmed and published
- 31/8—3/9/09 Conference

Recommended for:

- Health professionals working with older people
- of diverse cultures and faiths
- in indigenous cultural environments
- Clergy, chaplains, theologians, spiritual or faith leaders
- Pastoral care givers
- Diversional therapists
- Aged care leaders, administrators and directors of listed and non-listed aged care organisations
- Researchers in aging, spirituality, and new models of aged care
- Aged care policy makers and funders
- Political leaders
- Media with interests in aged care, social or health policy, or matters of faith
- Older people with interests in this area