

Otaki-Waikanae Presbyterian Parish



Parish News 2 March 2025

Christ Centred  Community Serving
Welcome to our church

This Week's Service

Sunday 2 March 2025

9.15 am Waikanae Communion

Duty Elder: Pat Smyth

Readings: Joshua 24:14-24, Luke 9:23-25,
Luke 9:57-62

Hymns: TIS422, TIS129, TIS516, TIS687, TIS778

10.50 am Otaki Communion

Next Week's Service

Service Rosters 9 March 2025

**9.15 am Waikanae Morning Worship/
Confirmation**

Duty Elder: Arnold Hawkins

Door Steward: Dot Le Prou

Reader: Geoff Eyles

Prayers of the people: Marion Brash

10.50 am Otaki Café Church

Door Stewards: Heather Craig

Arnold Watson

Worship Coordinator Jan Ballantyne

Church & Community Notices



Join us for our service this Sunday
via Live Stream

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82645360098?
pwd=XqDYulSBSEX3lwqL2fWj7L3tfR6xMX.1](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82645360098?pwd=XqDYulSBSEX3lwqL2fWj7L3tfR6xMX.1)

Meeting ID: 826 4536 0098

Passcode: 552473

PLEASE MUTE YOUR COMPUTER DURING THE SERVICE
Access the same way as Monday Bible Study.



Otaki Waikanae Parish is inviting you to a
scheduled Zoom meeting Monday at 7pm

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87645026965?
pwd=4lcQqfMf5mjllLKyLxLsb1VdadAxH5.1](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87645026965?pwd=4lcQqfMf5mjllLKyLxLsb1VdadAxH5.1)

Meeting ID: 876 4502 6965

Passcode: 691368

All welcome to attend!

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Mission update: Obstetric fistula, Nigeria with CBM.

After the interest on Sunday, some wanted to know details of how to contribute to Christian Blind Mission (CBM) for this needed cause.

One can go online to www.cbmnz.org.nz and will find Obstetric Fistula, Nigeria listed there as a project to support. Or phone Elizabeth at the CBM office on 0800772264, and she'll happily take details of any payment over the phone.

There is a CBM calendar in the Waikanae church (thanks Pat) to keep up to date along with their other projects. And it was Dr Catherine Hamlin, a surgeon from Australia who first began doing these surgeries in Ethiopia, Africa. She and her husband built the first hospital for this in Addis Ababa. Thanks for that reminder Dot.

I then remembered the doctor couple who went from Nigeria to learn the surgery in order to bring it back to Jos, Nigeria.

Margie



NEXT LUNCHEON:

12noon, Monday 10 March, at
Olive Grove Café, Mahara Place, Waikanae.
Lets get together over a good meal with good friends.

All Welcome.

Names please to Trish Tennant,

Phone 027 241 7910 or

Email trishandrod1@gmail.com

no later than Sunday, 9 March
so numbers can be advised.

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Arnold Watson

I was born in New Zealand, but my earliest childhood memory is of me as a four year old praying with my great-aunt by the side of the bed in the Lake District of England. So I guess that that experience set me up for life. I went religiously to Sunday school and Bible class every Sunday at St Aiden's church in Linden. There were 3 Sunday services in those days. I cannot recall a single time when I deliberately did not attend church.

Interestingly enough, my two younger brothers both permanently stopped church attendance whilst they were still at primary school.

I also attended the weekly Crusaders (Scripture Union) meetings at college.

I was confirmed in my mid teens, but it was more a ritual for me that you just went through and I can't say that it made a difference to my life at the time. I knew about Jesus, but I didn't "know" Him. Having very religious in England, I found the spiritual apathy in the church to be very discouraging and I felt that something was missing, but I didn't know what. Why weren't people enthusiastic about their religion?

At the end of my Form 7 year I stopped going to church altogether, as it seems did the rest of my Bible-class mates. There was no program for transitioning into young adults at the church.

In my first year at university there were several clubs to join, but they didn't really give me satisfaction. In those days the "Jesus Revolution" was in full swing and by the middle of the year I had been lured into the Christian Union and started attending an Apostolic church in Wellington, which was located in a lovely old building with a congregation which included many young and on-fire people. I felt very much at home and that this was the spiritual kick I needed. This was what had been missing in my life.

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However, in time I started regularly attending the Porirua Apostolic church, which was 90% Māori. It wasn't long before I also built up strong relationships with Samoan and Tokelau communities and felt at home in their churches too. Such a change from my college days, when the students were predominantly Pakeha.

When I was at university I worked as a vacation worker at Porirua Hospital and enjoyed caring for the psychiatric patients. Some years later I saw an advert for people to apply for jobs there on the proviso that you would do enrolled nurse training. Something drew me back to the hospital, as I had very much enjoyed working there. And the rest is history.

I moved to Otaki several years ago to care for my mother who had developed Alzheimer's. She had very many happy memories of her association with the local Presbyterian church, especially cafe church and the monthly car boot sales, where she joined a group of friends who seated at trestles which filled the whole width of the room. I have stayed on at her little unit ever since and have fitted into the Otaki lifestyle. I feel that this is where I am meant to be.....for the time being, anyway. The only downside is a 3 hour return trip to work each day, as I choose to leave my motorcycle at Waikanae and use the train and shank's pony to complete the journey. Christianity is an important part of my life. Wherever I am, in New Zealand or overseas, I will make every effort to attend church.

Arnold

In accordance with Presbytery guidelines, if there are any objection to the life, work or character of Arnold Watson, who is to be ordained as an elder of the Otaki Waikanae Presbyterian Parish, please notify the Parish Clerk

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MODERATOR'S 2025 LENT MESSAGE

Autumnal Letting-Go

After a late burst of summer weather, we are beginning to feel the turn of the season. Mornings have begun to feel quite autumnal. I love that word! And I have to say that autumn is my favourite season. There is something about the latter days, the sense of gathering in, the changing colours of the trees (brilliant in the South), the feeling of a different season with its own uniqueness and vibe.

Autumn also coincides with our season of Lent. The time of the year where we journey towards Good Friday. A time for reflection, repentance and spiritual preparation. A time where many Christians engage in practices such as fasting, prayer, penance, and self-denial to grow closer to God and reflect on the significance of Jesus's sacrificial giving and death on the cross.

So, we have these two seasons of autumn and Lent occurring in parallel. We often hear of people giving something up for Lent; a bit like a shortened (or maybe elongated) New Year's resolution – that for six weeks they will give up, say, chocolate, or social media, or a habit that is not helpful. And we reflect on how the trees 'give up' their leaves in this season. How might we expand, how might we take this seasonal opportunity to reflect more deeply on our faith commitment?

Perhaps we need to think about what our motivation is. If we give up something just to prove that we can, or that we 'should', it may well be an undertaking that brings a hollow sense of victory at the end. So what, we've proved we've got will power! Rather, if we give up something as a way of helping us grow closer to God, how much more meaningful and satisfying our 'letting go' will be.

I have found that with much travelling and a very different routine to my life as I carry out my role as Moderator, and also as parish minister, it has been more difficult for me to maintain a sense of a regular rhythm in my devotional life. For me, this season of Lent is going to provide an opportunity to 'let go' of that sense of distraction, to claim new ways of incorporating that rhythm into my life.

For those of us who attend Ash Wednesday services and have the sign of the cross in ash placed on our foreheads, hear the words 'Remember you are dust, and to dust you shall return' and 'Repent, and believe in the Gospel', this is both sobering and resource deeply. This Lenten time offers an opportunity to grow in our Christian faith.

At a time when there is so much uncertainty, prejudice, violence and hatred in our world, it may seem counter-intuitive to turn inward and reflect in this way. And yet growing in our faith, knowing to whom we belong, reflecting on his self-giving and loving ways, enables us to live more fully in this world that is crying out for hope and justice.

Just as the trees let go of their leaves and stand bare for a season, we too can let go of the things that may distract or mis-shape us, so that we too, like the trees, can be renewed and refreshed for the next season.

'From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.' (Matthew 16: 21)

Joan

Right Rev Rose Larched
Moderator Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand
moderators@presbyterian.org.nz

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CHILDREN'S DAY 2 MARCH 2025

Every year, the first Sunday in March marks Children's Day, a time for intentionally celebrating and cherishing our tamariki.

When I reflect on the nature of children, I see the image of God expressed in joy, wonder and curiosity. I see excitement, energy and authenticity. All these characteristics, wrapped up in a small human capable of creating chaos, noise and delight wherever they go. They are a gift, a taonga, that we must cherish and nurture.

As the people of God, we are called to have a child-like faith. To find joy in the most unexpected places, and to be filled with wonder at the glory of God. To have a child-like faith also means to be curious-to ask questions and ponder over things that we may not have thought important to pay attention to. To be excited and delighted in our worship to God, and authentic in the outliving of our faith in everyday life.

As we take the time to intentionally celebrate our tamariki, we are invited to be reminded by our children of what it means to have a child-like faith. That we would realise that we have much to learn from the smallest among us of the nature of God, and that in turn, we are called to love, nurture and care for the children in our midst.

I would also like to invite you to pray for our tamariki and their whānau.

In a time when there are many pressures on families, we pray for God's provision and protection over our children, for resilience and confidence as they discover who they are, and their place in this world. But most of all, we pray that the children we know would discover for themselves how big and wide and deep is God's love.

On behalf of the PCANZ Moderator
Kara Wilson - PCANZ Children and Families Director
kara@presbyterian.org.nz



MODERATOR'S PRAYER

Gracious and loving God, we give you thanks for our tamariki. For their energy, joy and zest for life. For the way that we can learn from them in seeing the world through their eyes. To experience wonder at the beauty of the world, to find excitement in learning new things, to see the world in a simple yet profound way. Help us to nurture and encourage our young people in our churches and communities, so that they feel valued and a vital part of our shared life. We pray for whānau who are struggling in any way and that you will show us how we may help. May our young people grow in their faith understanding, know deep in their hearts your abundant love for them and come to know their full potential in you. This we pray in the name of the one who welcomed and cared for the children, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Rose

Right Rev Rose Luxford

Moderator Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand

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CAFÉ RENDEZVOUS

WAIKANAE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

43 NGAIO RD WAIKANAE

TUESDAYS

11:30 FREE COFFEE AND TEA

12:00 FREE MEAL OF THE DAY

ALL WELCOME

Gluten Free catered for

Voluntary Koha

Thanks to Kaibosh & Waikanae Butchery



Church & Community Notices

Mission	Main Contact People	Contact Numbers
Kapiti Hidden Books	Yvonne and John Miller	04 2389663
Biscuit blessing	Annie Christie - Otaki	027 480 4803
	Dot Le Prou - Waikanae	021297 9144
Christian World Service	Marion Brash	04 293 1932
Bible Society	Marion Brash	04 293 1932
Café Rendezvous	Peter Jackson	021207 9455
	Dot, Penny,	
	Helen, Olive	
Garage Sale	Meri Risati-Garratt	021456 562
	Kevin, Heather	
Saturday Morning Café & Sale	Jan Ballantyne	06 364 6449
	Lois Gemmell, Annie Christie	
	Heather Craig	
Sausage Sizzle	Roger Upson	022 397 4782
	Margaret B, Sue, John	
Skills Sharing	Lois Gemmell	06 364 0993
Te Awhi Rito	Peter Jackson	021207 9455
	Lois, Quentin, Roger, Margie,	
	Margaret S, Sheree	
Messy Church	Adair Anderson, Katie Lewis	027 774 1041
Christian Broadcasting Service	Janet Todd	04 293 5928
Café Church	Jan Ballantyne	06 364 6449

Daily Bible Readings

Monday 3 March

James 3:13-end

Ps 32:1-8

Mark 10:17-27

Tuesday 4 March

James 4:1-10

Ps 50:1-6

Mark 10:28-31

Wednesday 5 March

Isa 58:1-12

Ps 51:1-17 2

Cor 5:20b-6:10

Thursday 6 March

Deut 30:15-end

Ps 1

Luke 9:22-25

Friday 7 March

Isa 58:1-9a

Ps 51:1-4,16-17

Matt 9:14-15

Saturday 8 March

Isa 58:9b-end

Ps 86:1-7

Luke 5:27-32

MESSAGE OF THE WEEK

**Change the way you
look at things, and the
things you look at
change.**

Parish Contact Details

Minister: The Rev. Peter Jackson

phone: 06 364 8759 (home) 021 207 9455 (mob)

email: minister@owpresb.nz

Rev. Peter Jackson is available to meet
with you:

Monday in Waikanae from 2.00-3.00pm

Thursday in Otaki/Waikanae

from **11.00-12.00pm**

Please contact the office for an appointment.

Parish Clerk: Glenda John

027 329 5440

email: parishclerk@owpresb.nz

Parish Office: Jacqui Hurley

Hours: Waikanae 9:00am to 12:00pm Monday,

Wednesday, Thursday

Otaki 9:00am to 12:00pm Tuesday

phone: 04 293 6987

email: office@owpresb.nz

website: www.otakiwaikanaechurch.nz

43 Ngaio Road, Waikanae

Offerings: Can be paid by Direct Debit into:

06 0592 0094011 00

Church Bank Account—Otaki Waikanae Presbyterian Parish

