

Otaki-Waikanae Presbyterian Parish



XPRESS & Parish News 15 September 2024

Christ Centred  Community Serving
Welcome to our church

XPRESS

XPRESS CONTENTS

MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

PARISH CLERK

MAINLY MUSIC—Derek Hemming

UPDATE FROM THE TREASURER

OTAKI UPDATE—Annie Christie

MAINLY MUSIC—THANK YOU

MESSY CHURCH

TE AWHI RITO

CHRISTIAN WORLD SERVICE

THE LEPROSY MISSION

CRAZY

It is incredible how fast the year is going. Sometimes it feels like sand flowing through my fingers .So much is happening all the time. There is so often the need to discern between what is 'urgent", and what is important. yet, I believe it to be true that the only things that just go with the flow in a river are dead. Each day is a gift , and each day is Here to be celebrated Gratitude is never misplaced, but moaning and groaning sours the soul and alienates all listeners. I guess I could go on a lot more , but enough!

I have heard different opinions on the informality at the beginning of our worship, so let me share some thoughts and points. For one hour a week we gather as the Body of Christ. In our gathering we celebrate the presence of each other in the journey that we are about to engage in. It is a brief few moments to acknowledge those with whom we make the journey and experience. It is not a time to share the events of the week. That is why we welcome each other into worship. Worship per se is meeting with God , and the liturgy is structured to be an Interaction between God, ourselves as individuals, but also jointly who we are as the Body of Christ. It is also the opportunity to welcome any newcomers, so that they know they are welcome and appreciated. It is the opportunity for The Holy Spirit to create the synergy of being the Body Of Christ. We have the whole week to be alone with God , but we only gather for one hour to be together with God. There is a noticeable difference between being together physically and for instance on zoom. Although zoom or skype are amazing tools they also mask or hide the greater silent communication, for instance body language , and only allow partial communication.

The sharing of the peace after communion is something totally different, and is about passing on and sharing the peace of being made whole by God as a corporate reality.

So let us celebrate our togetherness in the gift of the day and time freely given by God for celebration.

Peter L. Jackson

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Parish Clerk's letter for the Xpress

September 2024

Dear all

As we make our way into spring and hopefully some warmer weather it is very exciting to be thinking about our Giant Garage Sale on Saturday 19th October. A huge thank you to Meri and to Glenda for agreeing to lead this event. I encourage you all to get behind the event, whether it be looking for resources that you no longer need and could gift to the Fair, to running a stall, to offers of help on the day.

Our level of mission in the community continues to grow. The sausage sizzle at Otaki is huge. 120 sausages are cooked and given away to hungry teenagers after school every Tuesday. This is all covered by donations from both parishes and is becoming very well known in Otaki. What a blessing to be known in the community for feeding the hungry.

At Waikanae, Café Rendezvous (the community lunch) continues to grow. Again, the generosity of Kaibosh and Waikanae Butchery is wonderful. Not only does this lunch physically feed people but it is also a wonderful place for people to meet and talk and to have the soul fed spiritually. Te Awhi Rito is doing an amazing job with a group of up to twenty six to twelve year olds (although a few younger children also attend). They meet after school on a Tuesday and Thursday for activities and kai. How wonderful would it be if these children chose not to join a gang when they became teenagers. Wednesday mornings at Te Awhi Riot is a time for mums and their pre-schoolers and messy church in Otaki is every second Sunday for all generations.

All these community outreach events can only take place with an amazing group of volunteers. So many of our church members give huge amounts of their time so that others do not go hungry. THANK YOU.

It was very exciting to induct Owen Dance as an elder in our Parish. Both Otaki and Waikanae have welcomed new members over the past year and this growth and the warmth with which new members are welcomed has been something

XPRESS

that many people have commented upon. I encourage you all to continue to make new people who venture into our church, whether they be visitors or potential new members, as warmly welcomed as they currently are.

I cannot write this report without mention of Peter. We are incredibly blessed to have a minister who is so focussed on mission and on how to spread God's word. He continues to think about what the way forward is for the church and how we can build a yet more diverse and thriving church that can reach out to those many, many people who need God's love. Blessings to you all.

Anne Field

Mainly Music.

Mainly music at Waikanae Presbyterian closed on 31st August this year one shy month of fifteen years of service to young families in the Kapiti district. Changing, social, employment and financial difficulties, some as a result from the disruption caused by Covid in recent years, have caused the number of families attending to dwindle to the point where it became impossible to continue.

I am so very grateful to all of the church family who began this outreach and have given so willingly of their time and love to welcome young parents and support them as they brought their children to enjoy each session. Charmian and I were welcomed into the team shortly after we moved to Waikanae and mainly music became an important part of our weekly programme.

Thank you to the parish for the support of mainly music in so many ways. Thank you to everyone who has generously given time, money, baking, skills and patient caring to so many families. There is great joy in watching babies develop their own personalities.

I have enjoyed the support of a dedicated, willing team of helpers. I have a great deal to thank them for.

Derek Hemming

An update from the Treasurer

Dear Parishioners

Overview from 1 July 2023 to 31 May 2024

- Direct Giving remains under budget which is of considerable concern and, like households, the Parish is facing cost increases in almost every area.
- The insurance claims for water damage at the manse, referred to in the last update, were successful although each of the two claims was subject to a \$2,000.00 excess.
- Management of the manse tenancy was handed over to Quinovic Property Management last month.
- Repairs to the Otaki portico have now been completed at a cost of \$7,496.
- Work on repairing the storeroom roof at Waikanae has started, but is yet to be completed.
- Since December last year, the Parish has been receiving a grant from Central Presbytery of \$2,839 per month to support the work of our Child/Youth/Family workers. A Resource Grant of \$5,000 for this work was received in April. As a large part (\$15,285) of the wage and resource grants have not as yet been spent, income for the year to date is overstated. The liability created to Central Presbytery has been taken into account when calculating the amount of General Funds available.

For the month of May 2024:

- The Parish incurred a cash deficit of \$9,343 compared to a budgeted deficit of \$302.
- Tithes & offerings of \$8,703 were under budget by \$536 for the month.
- Other income of \$8,628 was \$3,140 over budget for the month.
- Total income of \$17,331 was \$2,604 over budget for the month.
- Total expenses were \$26,674 compared to budgeted expenses of \$15,029.

For the 11 months to 31 May 2024:

- The cash deficit was \$29,735 compared with a budgeted deficit of \$31,214.
- Tithes & offerings of \$93,542 were down on budget by \$8,098.
- Garage sale income contributed \$5,483.
- Total income of \$187,320 was over budget by \$19,959.
- Property expenditure of \$50,002 was under budget by \$8,311.
- Total expenditure of \$217,055 exceeded the budget by \$18,480.

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Cash and Investment Balances as at 31 May 2023:

- There has been a decrease in parish funds of \$41,298 since the start of the current financial year, 1 July 2024.
- General Funds available amount \$109,702 (approximately).

It is of concern that the financial position of the Parish has deteriorated since my last update and that our membership continues to decline. Please pray that the Parish is able to find ways to grow the congregation to ensure it can continue its Mission in the community beyond the next two to three years.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any queries or wish to discuss anything further.

Kos van Lier
6 June 2024

Phone: 021 237 0644 / Email: treasurer@owpresb.nz



Otaki Update

The Otaki outreaches are going well. Around 50 children are attending Te Awhi Rito during the week in the different groups. There are two enthusiastic new children's workers Sheree and Edon, who are getting used to the environment. The teams who work in the kitchen are doing a fantastic job and the meals are always well received by the kids.

Messy Church is up and running. The attendance is around two families at this stage and it is hoped these families will encourage others to join in. There's an energy about it, and many arty crafty creations led by Katie have been constructed and enjoyed.

The sausage sizzle outside the church building continues to be popular with the Otaki College and Primary School students. Around 100 sausages are given out each week and relationships are being formed between the kids and the helpers. We have a chalkboard by our church noticeboard which is available for the students to use to write inspiring thoughts.

The Biscuit Blessing went to Otaki Health Camp in July, All Things Automotive in August and to the Helping Hands Charity shop on the Main Road in September. This has proved to be a great outreach; the people who receive the biscuit blessing are genuinely blown away and express much gratitude for the thought.

Jan led an interesting Café Church in August on the topic of Hidden Treasures, and the September Café Church topic was Spring and the gift of celebration. Serious concerns too often divide us; love and laughter heal us and make us one. The front of the church was decorated beautifully with spring flowers and there was a robust discussion around what resurrection is in our lives.

Our church facilities are being used more and more which boosts our profile in the community – exercise groups, Legacy, Wednesday Skills Group, the yoga group, and Otaki Players to name a few.

We continue to hold our monthly Forum meeting after the service, usually starting with some delicious soup and rolls. Forum provides an opportunity to get together to share kai, and for all things Otaki to be brought up and discussed in a free and open setting.

Annie Christie

Mainly Music Thank You

How do we even begin to say thank you to the team who have run Mainly Music at our church in Waikanae for the past 15 Years?

We, and many mums, dads and children in our community are so very grateful for the hours and hours of voluntary time and effort that so many of you have put into making a Monday morning so enjoyable.

Derek, you have been the mainstay of this and so many children have enjoyed your energy and enthusiasm in running this programme. From setting up on a Sunday to ensuring everything went smoothly on the day, to leading the singing and so much more - you have been there.

And to your “dedicated and willing team of helpers”, including Pat, Janet, Lisa, Yvonne, Adair, Katie, Alison, Gaya, Annette, Alex, Ben and Joyce who have all provided such wonderful support in recent times. Whether it be operating the IT, baking the morning tea, talking to the mums and dads or playing with the children and encouraging them to get involved and the many other seen and unseen support that you have all given to members of our community that have come along to Mainly Music at various times –
THANK YOU.

Messy Church Update

Oh, Messy Church – my happy place!

Katie and I run a program every Sunday fortnight at the Otaki Presbyterian Church (supported by a wonderful small team).

We have a theme which is introduced in the church then 5 or 6 activities, that support this, that are completed in the main hall.

Generally, there are 4-6 children and the same amount of adults (usually the parents or caregivers). These activities offer the opportunity for one-on-one interaction. Katie with the children and myself with the adults. This works really well as we are working to our strengths.

The environment is wonderful for shy children (and adults) or anyone with 'difference' as there is no pressure to perform. Katie and I are quick to pick up on individual needs and can gently zone in.

To date we have had three fathers come, which is special, and many mothers. It is just so joyful to see the communication happening between adults and children right across the group.

Although we are not dealing with large numbers (yet!) there is a very special connection made with those attending each session and a relaxing, positive atmosphere in which to share life's challenges.

It is very obvious to me that the Lord is with us throughout and especially when we finish by sharing a light meal. Quite a delight to behold!
Lucky Me !!!

Adair Anderson

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Te Awhi Rito Trust 13th August 2024

Program Report:

We now have 3 children's/youth workers, Edon, Heta and Rangihōia who are all amazing with the kids.

It has been really good having so many adults as I have been able to do some one-one or small group work with the children around emotional regulation.

On Tuesdays we still have Sheree and Jill who volunteer and have been helping in the kitchen if needed.

Doris helps to pack the food parcels and in the kitchen on Thursdays. We are packing on average 15 food parcels a week.

Our numbers per session have gone back up, we have between 12-15 each session now, and not many who just come for dinner but we are still in desperate need of volunteers for meals.

All our staff and volunteers who work with the children have Safety training through the Anglican Diocese coming up on Friday the 13th of September, it is online this year which makes it much easier to attend.

Sheree has started a fund raiser to get a free-standing punching bag, and as a result New World donated one that the owners had that they were no longer using, so we will use the money raised to get other sports equipment such as balls.

Ngā mihi,

Katie Lewis

Te Awhi Rito Trust Ōtaki Coordinator

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CHRISTIAN WORLD SERVICE UPDATE

EDUCATION AND HUMAN DIGNITY: Becoming a refugee means not only fleeing your homeland and all that is familiar, for many it also means an end to their education and/or the opportunity to gain a qualification. CWS local partner, the department of Service to Palestinian Refugees (DSPR), since its inception in 1950, has focussed on education, the dignity of people, and supporting the rights and culture of Palestinians. Its work has changed over time and today it runs study centres, libraries, adult literacy classes, popular vocational and agricultural training programmes, exam-focussed programmes for secondary students, to name a few.

SAMER'S STORY: Samer was in Grade 8 when war broke out in Syria. Lost and confused he dropped out of school, but never lost sight of his dream of gaining his Baccalaureate. DSPR Lebanon made this possible for him through the exceptional teaching he received at Sidon Centre School. After passing his exams, Samar said, "it felt as if the sun had entered into my life". Since then, Samer has been accepted into the communications programmer of a Syrian university.

DEALING WITH TRAUMA: For children, the hardest part of being uprooted from their family home and becoming refugees, is often the resulting trauma which can last for years. Children cannot understand why there is war, why they have to leave their friends behind and go and live in another country. In the Sabra Centre rooms are set aside for a child psychologist and other specialists to work with children facing special challenges, including ongoing trauma. So far this year, 30 children have received help.

If you are not already a CWS donor but would like to donate to the CWS Education Appeal, please contact CWS, Ph. 0800 74 73 72 or Email cws@cws.org.nz for information.

Marion Brash, CWS Parish Link

THE LEPROSY MISSION

The Leprosy Mission is the largest and oldest organisation in the world working in the fight against the disease leprosy. Its goal is to achieve zero leprosy transmission by 2035, as well as zero disabilities, and zero leprosy discrimination. Leprosy Mission is an international Christian Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) and is active in most countries of the developed world.

2024 marks the 150th anniversary of its founding in Dublin in 1874 by a couple who had been teachers in India, and had seen the devastation caused by leprosy and its extreme contagiousness. Eager to help, they called together meetings of church groups, neighbours and friends, and set about raising money to help fight against the dreaded disease. Leprosy Mission New Zealand was established in 2012. Leprosy is a very old, very infectious disease. It is caused by a type of bacteria and affects the skin, causing disfigurement, the peripheral nerves, the mucous membrane of the upper respiratory tract, and the eyes. Because of nerve damage, sufferers lose feeling in their hands and feet so are unaware if they are injured, often leading to infection and further suffering.

With modern drugs, leprosy is 100% curable if treated early. In countries like India and Papua New Guinea where leprosy is still rampant, a major effort is being put into education programmes, helping families recognise the early signs of leprosy infection and the need to seek immediate help, not go into hiding.

A copy of the Leprosy Mission magazine, *In Touch*, is pinned to the Mission Notice Board in the Lounge at Waikanae, and is available for borrowing. If you would like to learn more about the disease leprosy, or the work of Leprosy Mission, please contact Leprosy Mission NZ, PO Box 96262, Balmoral, Auckland 1342, or phone 0800 862 873.

Marion Brash

This Week's Service

Sunday 15 September 2024

9.15am Waikanae Morning Worship

Duty Elder: Pam Collinge

Readings: Jeremiah 11:18-20, Mark 9:30-37

Hymns: TIS133, TIS640, TIS229, TIS613, TIS778

10.50am Otaki Morning Worship

Next Week's Service

Service Rosters 22 September 2024

10.50 am Otaki Contemplative Service

Door Stewards: Margie Upson
Lois Gemmell

Worship Coordinator: Annie Christie

9.15 am Waikanae Morning Worship

Duty Elder: Marion Brash
Door Steward: Dot Le Prou
Reader: Dot Le Prou
Prayers of the people: Peter Jackson

Church & Community Notices



Join us for our this Sunday service
via Live Stream

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82639824450?
pwd=c94n4BPhlYNDp0chaTOoaMr2H3Cjcd.1](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82639824450?pwd=c94n4BPhlYNDp0chaTOoaMr2H3Cjcd.1)

Meeting ID: 826 3982 4450

Passcode: 921728

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/86770455989?
pwd=VtwZAr4byr4TUMuGajDwbGufbcvasr.1](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86770455989?pwd=VtwZAr4byr4TUMuGajDwbGufbcvasr.1)

Meeting ID: 867 7045 5989

Passcode: 636353

All welcome to attend!

Church & Community Notices

SUPER GARAGE SALE

Thanks to all of you who have offered to help at
our Super Garage Sale!!

Now is the time to be potting up plants or popping
in seeds to sell on the garden stall.

Clearing out your cupboards and finding stuff you
no longer need.

Asking your friends and neighbours for donations
for our sale.

We need lots and lots of baking too, so all you bak-
ers please start thinking about what you can con-
tribute.

Also, flyers will be printed soon and these need to
be delivered in mailboxes.

Any questions please phone Meri or Glenda.
Thanks!!



OTAKI

Sunday 15 September 2024

after Morning Service

Church & Community Notices

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
	Meri Risati Garratt	
	Dot, Penny, Helen, Olive	
Hospitality	Meri Risati-Garratt	021456 562
Garage Sale	Meri Risati-Garratt	021456 562
	Kevin, Heather	
Saturday Morning Café & Sale	Jan Ballantyne	06 364 6449
	Lois Gemmell, Annie Christie	
	Heather Craig	
Mainly Music	Derek Hemming	04 293 5636
	Pat, Janet, Yvonne, Lisa, Adair	
Sausage Sizzle	Roger Upson	022 397 4782
	Aria, Margaret B, Sue, John	
Skills Sharing	Lois Gemmell	06 364 0993
Te Awhi Rito	Peter Jackson	021207 9455
	Lois, Quentin, Roger, Margie,	
	Doris, Margaret S, Sheree	
Messy Church	Adair Anderson	027 774 1041
Christian Broadcasting Service	Janet Todd	04 293 5928
Café Church	Jan Ballantyne	06 364 6449

Daily Bible Readings

Monday 16 September

1 Cor 11:17-26,33

Ps 40:8-13

Luke 7:1-10

Thursday 19 September

1 Cor 15:1-11

Ps 118:1-2,17-20

Luke 7:36-end

Tuesday 17 September

1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-end

Ps 100

Luke 7:11-17

Friday 20 September

1 Cor 15:12-20

Ps 17:1-8

Luke 8:1-3

Wednesday 18 September

1 Cor 12:13b-13:end

Ps 33:1-12

Luke 7:31-35

Saturday 21 September

Prov 3:1-6

Ps 19:1-6

Matt 9:9-13

MESSAGE OF THE WEEK

Destiny is not a matter of chance. It is a matter of choice. It is not something to be waited for, it is a thing to be achieved.

William Jennings Bryan

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:

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

