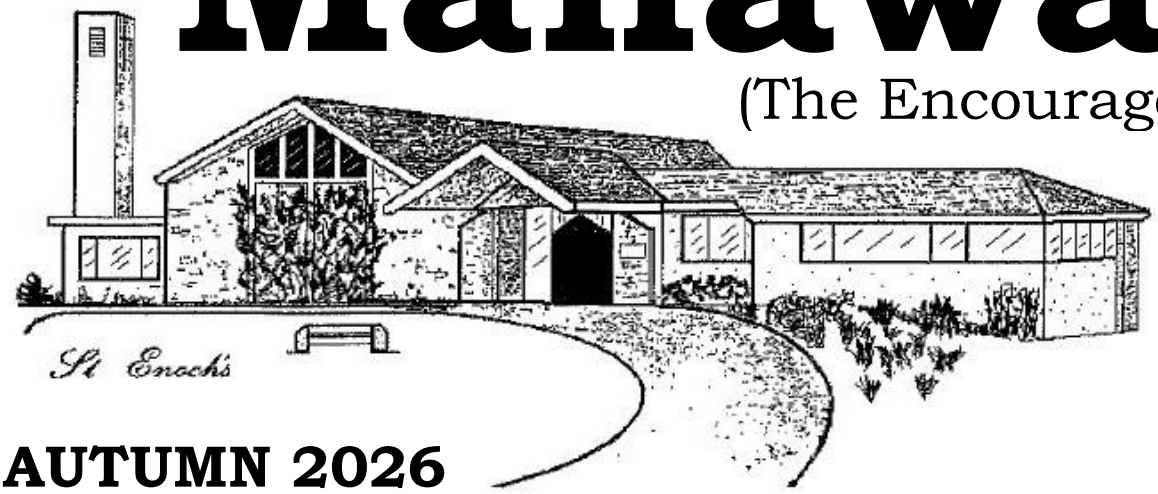
Manawa

(The Encourager)



AUTUMN 2026

We strive to be: God honouring, Christ following, and Holy Spirit led

In Jesus Christ we find acceptance, community, and purpose

St Enoch's Presbyterian Church

134 Sixteenth Avenue, Tauranga.
Phone 578-3040
www.stenochs.org.nz

A MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

Taking Jesus Seriously

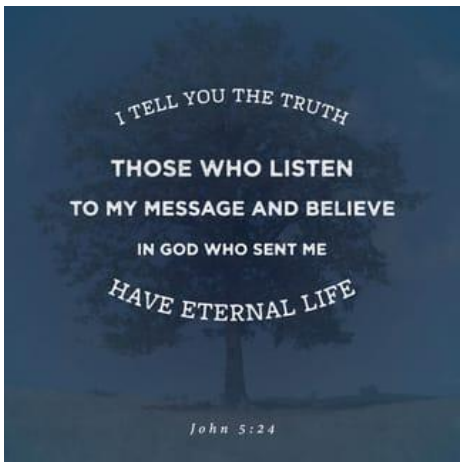
In stark contrast to many leaders and public figures, Jesus is the supreme example of humility. His life aligning perfectly with his teachings. After Jesus humbly served his disciples by washing their feet, He said: “I have given you an example to follow. Do as I have done to you.” (John 13:15 NLT) Jesus gave up his divine privileges for our sake and humbled himself in multiple ways - culminating in the cursed death on a cross. God then exulted Jesus to the place of highest honour and glory. “For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.” (Luke 14:11 NLT)

Jesus can therefore rightly require of us: “If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross daily, and follow me.” (Luke 9:23 NLT – also Mat 16:24, John 12:26) To humbly submit to Jesus to the point of giving up our own ways is contra our culture and basic (fallen) human nature. Most leaders, celebrities and everyday people (including us), often seem to make it about nothing but themselves and their egos. Contrary to Jesus’ teaching not to do good deeds to be admired by others (Matthew 6:1-4), the good we do are often ‘humbly’ used to optimally enhance popularity and power, or even as proof of our devotion to God. “No, O people, the LORD has told you what is good, and this is what he requires of you: to do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.” (Micah 6:8 NLT)

But, humility is only one of Jesus’ multitude of teachings delivered verbally and by example. “Jesus said to the people who believed in him, ‘You are truly my disciples if you remain faithful to my teachings.’” (John 8:31 NLT) And to remain faithful to Jesus’ teachings, we need to know what they are.

Sometimes Old Testament teachings are presented as if they are Jesus’ teachings, while Jesus corrected many widely held beliefs of the time (see Matthew 5 and 15). In the Pauline- and general epistles attempts

are made to apply Jesus' teachings to specific situations in the lives of Christians and congregations. Sometimes these teachings are interpreted in ways that breaches the boundaries set by Jesus. Starting with a deep understanding of what Jesus taught and what Jesus revealed about God's heart and will is essential.



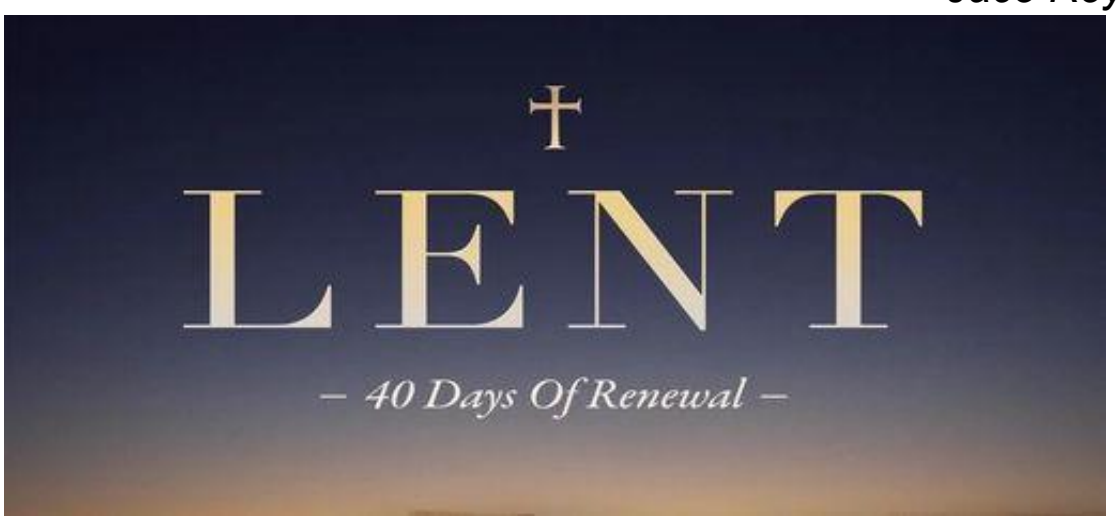
Jesus said: "This is my commandment: Love each other in the same way I have loved you." (John 15:12 NLT). "I tell you the truth, those who listen to my message and believe in God who sent me have eternal life. They will never be condemned for their sins, but they have already passed from death into life." (John 5:24 NLT)

I invite you to read through the Gospels again this Lent (18 February to 5 April) with a strong focus on what Jesus is teaching. As a handy tool, every household will receive with their Autumn 2026 Manawa a copy of The Recorded Words of Jesus as compiled by David Tait. This is not primary study material, but only a handy tool. It is important to read and understand Jesus' words within the context they were spoken. The compilation will also be distributed electronically.

Can we, among our fasting and other ways in which we commemorate Lent, also make Lent 2026 The Year of Rediscovering what Jesus Taught?

May we, during Lent 2026, grow closer to Jesus Christ as we grow in understanding of what Jesus taught and how Jesus saw people and life.

Jaco Reyneke



SESSION REPORT

Dear St Enoch's Faith Family and Friends

At the beginning of this year, I made resolutions to be a nicer person; evidenced by being more servant-like in a Christian way. Were those resolutions I made to be a better person an intent to store away good deeds, so that when I am held to account before God, I hope I have enough in credit? March is certainly too late to be re-viewing those resolutions, and too late to be squirrelling away brownie points that will tie me over any tough challenges ahead. Or is it?

Rather than squirreling away brown points, are we living lives that (as Jaco often says in his message) will put a smile on God's face. Paul wrote in his letters to the Ephesians **2: 8-10**

> *For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God - [9]not by works, so that no one can boast. [10]For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.*

It is by God's grace (not our good deeds) that we have been saved. However, we need to remain alert and consider how we do God's work. Over our weeks of summer, one of my sons and family were in Japan on a skiing holiday. Coupled with the pleasure of receiving photos of them ploughing through the powder snow, it was disconcerting, to see reports of the increase in the number of bear attacks in Japan. Climate warming, increased urbanisation and decreased forestation mean that there is insufficient food for the bears to store prior to their winter month hibernation. While the family enjoyed their skiing experiences, they were also on the alert.

Furthermore, we in Tauranga were not prepared for the unprecedented rain 21/22nd January, and while on high alert, we were shocked about

the landslides at Welcome Bay Road, and then Mauao/Mount Manganui and loss of 8 lives. Many of us ignored the Red Warning alert we received on January 21st, believing it is not going to be relevant to me. Are we also ignoring the alerts that are detailed in the Bible?
In Matthew chapter 24, Jesus warned the disciples to not only watch out for times of trouble, but also live lives of faithful servants of God, for, as it is written in Matthew **24:36** , we do not know when we are going to meet God face-to-face.

But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.

May we all be mindful of living lives in a way that continues to be meaningful to God.

Christine
Session Clerk

PRIORITIES STRAIGHT

Teach us to use wisely all the time we have – 'Psalm 90: 12 CEV

When he became campaign manager for President George Bush and chairman of the Republican National Committee, Lee Atwater had accomplished the two things he wanted to do by the time he was forty years of age. Then he was diagnosed with a malignant brain tumour. Shortly before he died, he wrote these sobering words: "I acquired more wealth, power and prestige than most. But you can acquire all you want and still feel empty. What power wouldn't I trade for a little more time with my family? What price wouldn't I pay for an evening with friends? It took a deadly illness to put me eye to eye with that truth, but its, a truth that the country…. Can learn on my dime. I lie here in my bedroom, my face swollen from steroids, my body useless… the doctors still won't answer that nagging question: how long do I have? Some nights I can't go to sleep, so fearful am I that I will never wake up again. I've come a long way since the day I told President Bush that his "kinder, gentler" theme was a nice thought, but it wouldn't win us any votes. I used to tell the President that he might be kinder and gentler, but I wasn't going to be. How wrong I was. There is nothing more important in life than relationships, and nothing sweeter than the human touch'.
If you're wise, your priorities will be God first, family second and career third. 'Teach us to use wisely all the time we have (Psalm 90: 12 CEV)

$$$ Treasurers Notes $$$

I am grateful to share a summary of our church's financial activity for the months of October to December 2025, and how this compares with the same period last year.

Now that the hall maintenance work is complete, **Property Expenses** have been significantly reduced, and we hope to see a return to profitability in the coming months.

Giving Income for this period is lower than at the same time last year, reflecting the ongoing financial pressures faced by many households.

The difference in **Activities and Other Income** compared with the same time last year is mainly due to income from the Movie Night and Market Day.

	Oct - Dec 2024	**Oct – Dec 2025**
Income		
Giving Income	38,544.60	33,727.90
Property/Rental	18,615.03	20,204.35
Hall Appeal	10,940.00	0
Grants & Legacies	250,00	250.00
Activities & Other Income	4,504.63	71.00
Total Income	**72,854.26**	**54,253.25**
Operating Expenses		
Administration	11,284.06	14,596.84
Ministry Expenses	33,930.68	32,987.68
Mission Expense	3,163.37	1,639.86
Property Expenses	13,073.97	5,008.82
Total Operating Expenses	**61,452.08**	**54,233.20**
Operating Profit	**11,402.18**	**20.05**

Our primary source of income continues to be offerings. Each gift – large or small – plays a vital role in sustaining our ministries and outreach and we thank God for your generosity.

The church bank details are:

St Enoch's Presbyterian Church
02-0466-0167590-00

As we reflect on the current economic pressures facing many in our community, we continue to lift those in need before God in prayer. Scripture reminds us to 'pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests' (Ephesians 6:18, NIV). As a church, we remain committed to supporting one another through prayer and compassion.

Wilna Human
Treasurer

Kaimai Strategic Plan

We want to remind you of our **vision** and encourage you to keep **praying** for our Presbytery throughout this year as we journey together—through both valleys and places of hope. Let us **celebrate** together the faithfulness of God, the signs of new life among us, and the ways He continues to lead and shape us as a community.

St Enochs Church is delighted to announce the celebration of its **75th Anniversary**, taking place over the weekend of **2–3 May 2026**. This special milestone offers a wonderful opportunity to give thanks, reflect on our shared history, and celebrate the life of our church community.

The anniversary weekend will begin on **Saturday 2 May** with a **commemorative lunch**, coordinated by the **STEW group**. This lunch is open to all invited guests and church members who have registered to attend. Guests can look forward to a warm time of fellowship, delicious food, and **entertainment**, making it a joyful gathering for all generations.

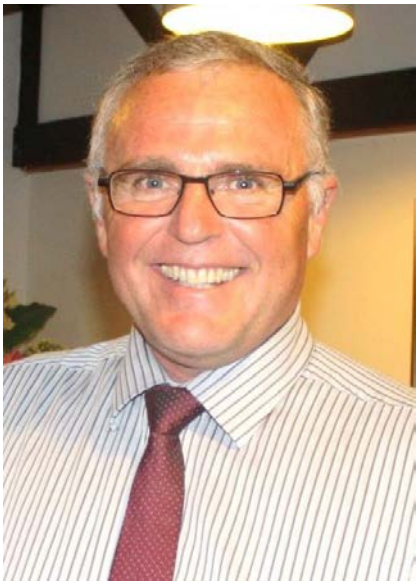
A highlight of the celebrations will be the historical **displays being organised by Minette**. These will be set up in the church lounge and will feature a record of important events from across the 75 years, along with a tribute to all the ministers who have served St Enochs. The displays will provide a meaningful walk through the church's rich heritage and enduring witness.

The celebrations will conclude on **Sunday 3 May** with a **Thanksgiving Service**, led by **Jaco**, as we come together to give

thanks for God’s faithfulness over the years. The service will be followed by a **morning tea**, offering another opportunity for connection and reflection.

All members and friends of St Enochs Church are warmly encouraged to take part in this significant anniversary. It promises to be a memorable weekend of gratitude, celebration, and community as we honour the past and look forward with hope to the future.

Spiritual Growth



Growth through God's Word

In the Summer 2025 Manawa I reflected on Growth through Gathering. This time it is Growth through God's Word.

Working through the historical and cultural layers to get to the core or principles of God's word so we can apply that to our everyday lives is not always easy.
For example, in Exodus 21:26 (NLT) we read: "If a man hits his male or female slave in the eye and the eye is blinded, he must let the slave go free to compensate for the eye." There is no mention or indication that it is wrong to hit someone in the first place, let alone have them as a slave. Then Jesus brings new perspective to violence against another person by explaining the true intent of the command not to kill. In this commandment it not only about preservation of life but also dignity and worth: "But I say, if you are even angry with someone, you are subject to judgment! If you call someone an idiot, you are in danger of being brought before the court. And if you curse someone, you are in danger of the fires of hell." (Matthew 5:22 NLT) Because God created all people as his image bearers, everybody needs to be treated with respect.
In Ephesians, masters are reminded that both them and their slaves are equal before God: "Masters, treat your slaves in the same way. Don't threaten them; remember, you both have the same Master in heaven, and he has no favourites." (6:9 NLT) And in Colossians 3 we learn that in Christ it is of no consequence whether we are slave or free.

Teasing out what this means for us, is best done with other believers. Together, with the faithful guidance of the Holy Spirit, we are called to discern what God might be saying to us within our circumstances.

The Spiritual Growth Group is one place where such discernment takes place in a safe and open environment in dependence of the Holy Spirit.

You are invited to join us as we study Romans every first and third Wednesday between 13:00 and 14:00 in the Lounge.

321 Reflections

In May 2025 Jaco suggested that one way of enhancing St Enoch connections and extending community was to hold what was termed **321 meetings**. Groups of three people would meet for two hours, once a month.
Initially, Jaco suggested that he assign interested people to the group, but we approached Jaco to see if we could self-select our group. This report reflects our experiences and learning over the last 6 months and possibly moving forward.
We held our gathering at Christine's place as meeting there did not "displace" either John or Philip from their own homes or banish them to another part of the house so we could talk in private.

What did we achieve?
Privacy was very important to each of us and probably made us a little hesitant in sharing information about ourselves and past lives. As identified, some of us have been brought up to be very private and had instilled "you do not share but keep going on". However, over time we each shared our experiences of what being involved in the church meant for us.
Each gathering took place over a shared coffee and delicious morning tea. This shared coffee was more special that the shared coffee either after church or on the Tuesday morning, as we were not distracted by other activities or people. We formed a bond of caring and comfort in knowing that we can become a listening ear if any of us have trouble or concerns. The 321 connections filled a gap of social connections that had been experienced in other congregations and was missing in ours. We often talked for more than the 2-hour time allocation.

What would we do differently?
We wonder if it would be beneficial to have a Bible reading that we analysed as a starting point. Conversations might then look at how that verse could be applied to today's life. However, while that provides a focus, we would probably have made different relationships. On the other hand, we might draw on Bible readings for future conversations.
It was certainly a successful way of extending St Enoch's being into more than just attending a service on Sunday. We will continue to meet in our 321 group; lacking the confidence [at this point] to spread out and form new groups

Helen Temple, Ngaire Foote, Christine Mercer

Age Activated Attention Deficit Disorder

I've recently been diagnosed with A.A.A.D.D. (Age Activated Attention Deficit Disorder) It manifests itself this way...

Last Saturday I decided to wash my car. As I pick up my car keys and start toward the garage I notice there is mail on the hall table. I decide to go through the mail before I wash the car.

I lay my car keys down on the table, separate the junk mail from the bills, and put the junk mail in the trash can under the table. I see the trash can is full.

I decide to put the bills back on the table and take out the trash but then I think, since I'm going to be near the mailbox when I take out the trash, I may as well go ahead and pay the bills now.

I pick my checkbook up off the table, and see that there is only one check left. My extra checks are in my desk in the study, so I go to my desk where I find the can of Coke that I had been drinking earlier.

I pick up the Coke to move it aside so I don't accidentally knock it over and notice that it's getting warm, so I decide to put it in the refrigerator.

As I head toward the kitchen with the Coke a vase of flowers on the bookcase catches my eye--they need to be watered.

I set the Coke down on the bookcase, and I discover my reading glasses that I've been searching for all morning.

I decide I better put them back on my desk, but first I'm going to water the flowers.

I set my glasses back down on the bookcase, fill a small watering can with water, and suddenly I spot the TV remote. Someone left it on the kitchen table. I realize that tonight when we go to watch TV, we will be looking for the remote but nobody will remember that it's on the kitchen table, so I decide to put it back in the den where it belongs. But first I'll water the flowers.

As I go to water the flowers, I bump the bookcase and spill water on the floor.

So, I set the remote back down on the table, the watering can on the floor, and go get some paper towels and wipe up the spill.

Then I head down the hall to the trash can trying to remember what I was planning to do.

At the end of the day; the car isn't washed, the bills aren't paid, there is a warm can of Coke sitting on the counter, the flowers aren't watered, there is still only one check in my checkbook, I can't find the remote, I can't find my glasses, I don't remember what I did with the car keys, and there's a small watering can sitting in the middle of the floor. Then when I try to figure out why nothing got done today, I'm really baffled because I know I was busy all day long, and I'm really tired. I realize this is a serious problem and I need to get some help for it, but first I need to check the forums.

An old pastor lay dying. He sent a message for an Internal Revenue Service agent and his lawyer to come to the hospital. When they arrived, they were ushered up to his room. As they entered the room, the pastor held out his hands and motioned for them to sit on each side of the bed. The pastor grasped their hands, sighed contentedly, smiled and stared at the ceiling. For a time, no one said anything.
Both the IRS agent and lawyer were touched and flattered that the old man would ask them to be with him during his final moments. They were also puzzled because the pastor had never given any indication that he particularly liked either one of them.
Finally, the Lawyer asked, Pastor, why did you ask the two of us to come here? The old pastor mustered all his strength, and then said weakly, Jesus died between two thieves, and that’s how I’d like to go...

Board of Managers: Nov – Feb 2026

Hi to all.

Another Manawa. It seems such a short time since I was writing for the Summer one.
So, we have two new smoke detectors for anyone at a discounted price.

The office has a new photocopier/printer. We have changed companies and hopefully this will be more cost efficient.

Over the holidays we had the floors in the Hall kitchen and toilets and the toilets in the Church stripped and re- A great job was done and they now look, clean and shiny.

Please mark in your calendar MARCH 21st - it's our MARKET DAY. Please see Marie to offer any help you can give on the day or prior. We need many hands and it is a lot of fun.
That us all for now.

Blessings
Robyn M

Discipline in the classroom

A former Marine Corps Sergeant took a job as a high school teacher.

Right before the school year started, he injured his back and had to wear a plaster cast under his shirt. The students didn't know.
On the first day, he walked into the noisiest, rowdiest class in the school - the kind that eats new teachers alive. The kids, knowing he was a former Marine, were already planning to test him.
The Sergeant calmly opened the window, sat at his desk, and when a breeze blew his tie around, he casually picked up a stapler and stapled the tie to his chest.
The room went dead silent.
The rest of the year? Let's just say discipline was never an issue again.

Youth Group

We saw last year off with Secret Santa and a sausage sizzle at the beach. While it's been a long break, Youth Group is excited to be back, recommencing on 13 February with a classic pool party - rain or shine! There's a real sense of energy and enthusiasm as the group reconnects and begins a new term together.

Alongside Youth Group, our Young Adults Group continues to meet every Thursday with young adults from St Andrew's Presbyterian. A start date for 2026 is still to be confirmed, and we look forward to sharing more details soon.

This term also marks a time of transition as we say goodbye to Lucy Hediger and Corlene Vanderspuy. Corlene has already left and is now studying at Waikato University, while Lucy will be heading to Auckland University at the end of February. As they step into a more independent stage of life, we hold them both warmly in our prayers. We will miss them heaps!

Our focus for the term is the Fruit of the Spirit, explored through the lens of Jesus fulfilling the Law. Together, we will reflect on how Christ embodies each fruit—such as love as the fulfilment of the greatest commandment, and self-control shown through obedience even unto death.

Looking ahead, a Youth Service is planned for 27 March during Term 1. This will be a special opportunity for our young people to contribute to worship and share their faith with the wider congregation. We also have plans to support our faith family through gardening, participate in the March Market, and head away to Easter Camp, which kicks off the Term 1 holidays.

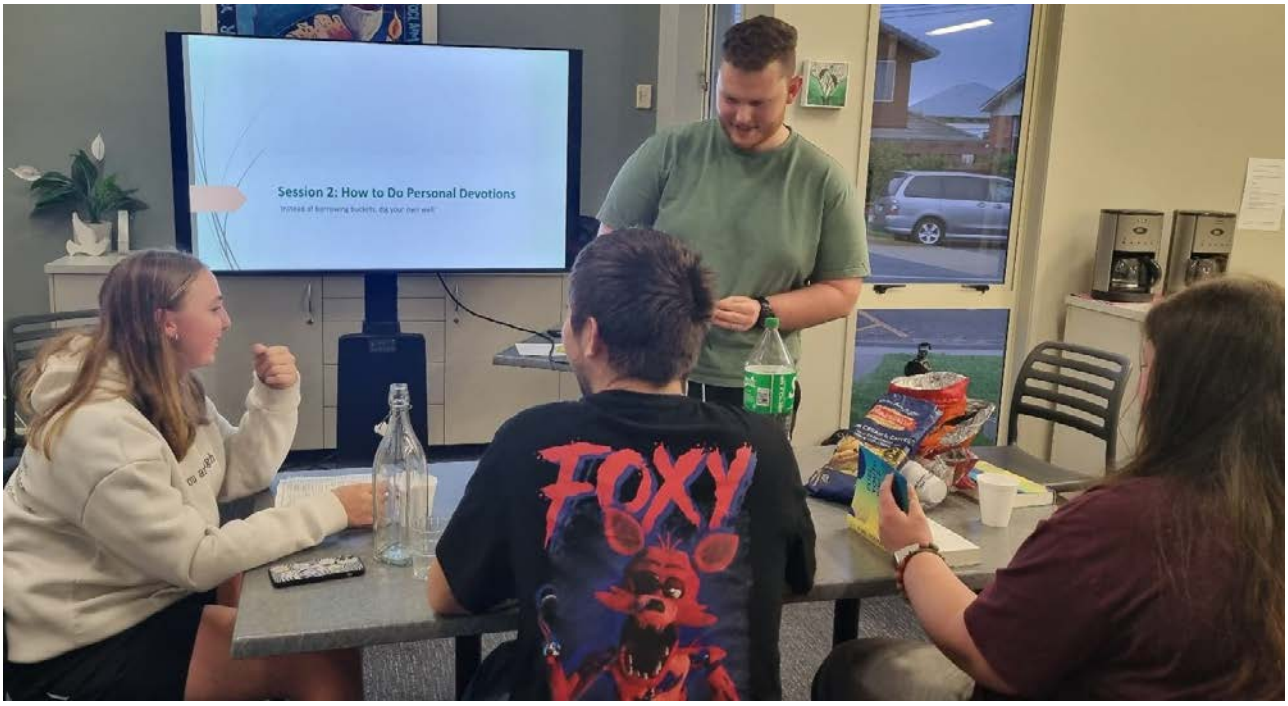
What a term - absolutely full of opportunity!

Malo 'aupito,

Leiona Tupou-Dixon

Youth and Family Worker

DRBF


Session 2: How to Do Personal Devotions
FOXY

BETHLEHEM
23
COLLEGE

Pastoral Care

St Enoch's Pastoral Care system is a means of ensuring the provision of the compassionate emotional, spiritual and practical support and care to the members of our St. Enoch's faith family and beyond as and when necessary.

Pastoral care is not only about connecting on social and emotional level, but also on spiritual level through listening and prayer 'with' and 'for' each other. Nor is pastoral care just the responsibility of the Pastoral Care Leaders of the members of their specific group. There may be other times that members of St Enoch's church family care for and support each other. For example, it is wonderful to see members of the St Enoch's family provide care and support to someone who walked into our church in desperate need of prayer for her husband. It is encouraging to know that Christians pray for you, petition on your behalf with the Father, especially when the going gets hard and your own energy and hope or faith lets you down.

The role of the Pastoral Care Leaders is more than delivery of the Manawa. A phone call or a visit conveys the message that somebody values you, thinks of you and cares for you. Regular contact facilitates efficient communication of the pastoral needs of members to both Jaco and Session via the Team Leaders, Lyn Hartley, Helene Stols and Christine Mercer. If you feel you need to discuss your concerns, please reach out to your Pastoral Care Leader, or your Team Leader, but also look out for each other.

There have been some changes to the Pastoral Care Leaders. Lyndsay Bol has taken over from Verena Brungger. Thank you to both for your willingness to serve the Lord in this way.

Christine, Helene, and Lyn

The St Enoch's Team Leaders Christine Mercer, Helene Stols, Lyn Hartley

Leiona Tupou-Dixon

On 15th February, Leiona shared a heartfelt reflection on discerning God's call in her life. She spoke about being in the final year of her theology degree and her growing sense of calling to become an ordained minister. Leiona described the journey as both exciting and a little daunting, and it was a privilege to hear her speak so openly about the path she feels God is leading her on.

Matthew Hastie

Called to Follow Jesus

On 15th February, Matthew spoke to the congregation about his personal journey of faith and how choosing to follow Jesus has transformed his life. He shared openly about the changes he has experienced and the difference his relationship with Christ has made in shaping who he is today.

Prayer Ministry

Imperfect and Prayerful

“Sometimes I wonder if the words I use are the least important part of prayer. Who am I? And who is God? If I can answer those two questions, the words I pray recede. Prayer invites me to lower defences and present the self that no other person fully knows to a God who already knows.” wrote Philip Yancey in his book ‘Prayer. Does it make any difference?’.

A few weeks ago, Philip Yancey (called the most inspirational spiritual writer of our day) also wrote in a statement to Christianity Today:

> To my great shame, I confess that for eight years I wilfully engaged in a sinful affair with a married woman. My conduct defied everything that I believe about marriage. It was also totally inconsistent with my faith and my writings and caused deep pain for her husband and both of our families. I will not share further details out of respect for the other family.
>
> I have confessed my sin before God and my wife, and have committed myself to a professional counselling and accountability program. I have failed morally and spiritually, and I grieve over the devastation I have caused. I realize that my actions will disillusion readers who have previously trusted in my writing. Worst of all, my sin has brought dishonour to God. I am filled with remorse and repentance, and I have nothing to stand on except God’s mercy and grace.
>
> I am now focused on rebuilding trust and restoring my marriage of 55 years. Having disqualified myself from Christian ministry, I am therefore retiring from writing, speaking, and social media. Instead, I need to spend my remaining years living up to the words I have already written. I pray for God’s grace and forgiveness—as well as yours—and for healing in the lives of those I’ve wounded.

None of us is immune to temptation. After Jesus’ closest friends and followers were unable to pray with Him in his darkest hour, He said to them: “Keep watch and pray, so that you will not give in to temptation.

For the spirit is willing, but the body is weak!" (Matthew 26:41 NLT) "If you think you are standing strong, be careful not to fall." (1 Corinthians 10:12 NLT)

None of us is qualified to throw the first stone. Usually there is a big object in our eyes while we are trying to remove the splinter from someone else's eye.

Regular, open and honest communication with God (prayer) helps us to stay near God's heart. As we talk to God, our awareness of who God is sheds light on who we are and how much we need God's grace. This stirs up gratitude for what Jesus Christ did for us and allows the Holy Spirit to help us to grow.

Acknowledging when we fall is the right thing to do. Taking responsibility, asking for forgiveness, and doing what we can to prevent ourselves from sinning again, is what God wants us to do.

Asking trusted Christian friends or family to pray for us is also important - when we face challenges but also when we let God, ourselves and others down. "Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results." (James 5:16 NLT)
God will heal us from the consequences of our sins.
God will give us the peace that is beyond human understanding.
God will be with us as we go through the easy days and the difficult days.

Let the Prayer team know if they can offer you prayer support (027 325 9003; minister@stenochs.org.nz)
Let Jaco know if you want your name or the matter you want our faith family to pray for put on the Sunday Bulletin prayer request list.

Jaco Reyneke

Ladies Christmas luncheon

A heartfelt thank you to Cynthia for organizing the Ladies' Coffee Group Christmas lunch on 25th November at Bethlehem Shores café. Cynthia went above and beyond — creating beautiful handmade gifts for everyone and decorating the table so elegantly that it truly added to the festive atmosphere.

Cynthia leads the Ladies' Coffee Group, a group that fosters such lovely friendship and companionship among the members. The group meets every Tuesday at Columbus Café, and we're so fortunate to have such a safe, welcoming, and joyful community.

A very special thank you to Cynthia for all that she does!

*“I KNOW MEN, AND
I TELL YOU THAT
JESUS CHRIST IS
NO MERE MAN.
BETWEEN HIM AND
EVERY OTHER PERSON
IN THE WORLD,
THERE IS NO COMPARISON.
ALEXANDER, CAESAR,
CHARLEMAGNE AND I
HAVE FOUNDED EMPIRES.
BUT ON WHAT DID WE
REST THE CREATIONS OF
OUR GENIUS? UPON FORCE.
JESUS CHRIST FOUNDED
HIS EMPIRE UPON LOVE.”*

NAPOLEON BONAPARTE

HAVE A GO CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Have-a-Go meets every Wednesday morning in the lounge. This much-loved group has been running since the early 1960s, and it clearly holds a special place in the hearts of its members. Some have shared that while they may not always be able to get to church or out and about as much as they once did, they will never miss their Wednesday morning gathering.

Officially, Have-a-Go is a craft group—but in truth, there is just as much laughter and enjoyment of delicious homemade baking as there is crafting. More than anything, it is a community group that offers friendship, connection, and a welcoming space, meeting a truly valued need within our community.

FAMILY CAR

A teenage boy had just passed his driving test and, bursting with excitement, asked his dad if he could start using the family car.

His dad leaned back, folded his arms, and said, “Tell you what, son. You bring your grades up from a C to a B average, spend some time studying your Bible, and get that mop of yours cut. Then we’ll talk.”

The boy mulled it over, nodded, and agreed to the deal.

Six weeks later, Dad called him into the living room. “Well, son,” he began, “I’m impressed. Your grades are up, I’ve seen you reading your Bible regularly… but I notice you still haven’t gotten your hair cut.”

The boy grinned, ready for this one. “Dad, I’ve been thinking. In my Bible studies, I noticed something: Samson had long hair. John the Baptist had long hair. Moses had long hair. And I’m pretty sure Jesus had long hair too.”

His dad didn’t miss a beat. “That’s true, son,” he said with a smirk. “And did you also notice… they all walked everywhere they went?”

The boy’s smile vanished. Dad’s grin didn’t.

Check out the amazing nativity scenes at St Enochs

Supporting the Love Grace Handbag Appeal

St Enoch's Presbyterian Church

St Enoch's is once again supporting the **Love Grace Handbag Appeal**, a charity founded in memory of Grace Millane. The initiative honours Grace's love of handbags by collecting new or gently used bags filled with essential toiletries for women escaping domestic violence.

Each year, the appeal runs from **14 February to 8 March**, and communities across New Zealand donate thousands of bags—over **5,269 handbags were collected nationally last year** for Women's Refuges.

How You Can Help

You are warmly invited to support the appeal through St Enoch's by contributing in any of these ways:

Donate a Filled Handbag

Please donate a handbag in good condition filled with items such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, shower gel, shampoo, deodorant, tissues, moisturiser, and small comfort items.
(Please avoid sharp items, medications, food, and alcohol.)

Drop Off at St Enoch's

Please place handbags, individual items, or both in the clearly named donation box in the church foyer. Donations will be delivered to Women's Refuge to support women in our community.

Spread the Word

Tell friends and whānau, or encourage groups you're part of to donate. Community participation is key to the appeal's success, which is entirely volunteer-driven.

Christmas Vibes

On 18th December, Robyn treated us to a wonderfully cosy Coffee and Dessert Afternoon, complete with festive cheer and a good old sing-song around the church piano. A huge thank you to Helen for her beautiful piano playing, which had everyone in fine Christmas voice, and to all those who brought along such a tempting spread of desserts.

There was, of course, the usual moment of hesitation when someone declared they *couldn't possibly* go back for seconds because of "all those calories." Thankfully, Jaco was on hand with a simple solution: *if you shake it, you shake the calories out.* Problem solved. Easy as that.

All in all, a lovely afternoon of music, laughter, and desserts that were clearly too good to resist—even after a good shake!

Christian Community

On 23 November Jaco based his children's talk, on Jesus' prayer for unity in John 17:20–23. After the passage was read, a green ribbon—matching the window colour and symbolising the abundant life we receive in Christ—was passed through the congregation. As everyone held the ribbon, we were invited to reflect on our shared connection as the St Enoch's faith family: bound together, impacting one another's joys and struggles, and accomplishing more in community than alone. This visible act reminded us that we are in community with one another and, collectively, in intimate, life-changing community with God—an enduring, comforting, and defining union where God is in us and we are in God.

You're warmly invited to join us for our **Market Day on 21st March**! It's going to be a wonderful community day filled with delicious home baking, great bargains, and plenty of fun for everyone.

Bring your friends, invite your family, and come along to enjoy the atmosphere and support our community.

We'd also love you to start thinking about how you might be involved — could you help run a stall, lend a hand on the day, or donate baking, produce, books, or other goods to sell? Every contribution, big or small, makes a real difference.

Let's work together to make this Market Day our best one yet!

WHAT'S ON AT ST ENOCH'S

(There may be more – please watch your Sunday Bulletins)

Communion Service	First Sunday of each month	9.30am
Sunday Prayer Gr	each Sunday in Jaco's office	9.00am
Sunday Worship	each Sunday	9.30am
Men's Morning Tea	each Tuesday (at Mitre 10 Café)	10.00am
Ladies Morning Tea	each Tuesday (at Columbus Café)	10.00am
Have A Go	each Wednesday in lounge	9.30am
Spiritual Growth Group	1st & 3rd Wednesday in lounge	1.00pm
STEW Bible study Gr	1st Thursday of month (Venue to be advertised in bulletin)	7.00pm
StEM	Different day and time each month, (arranged using WhatsApp group)	
Youth Group	Friday night in the hall (Leiona to advise dates)	4.30pm
Under the Stars	3rd Thursday of each month @ 45 Cliff Rd. For more info ring Louise – 027 2323481	

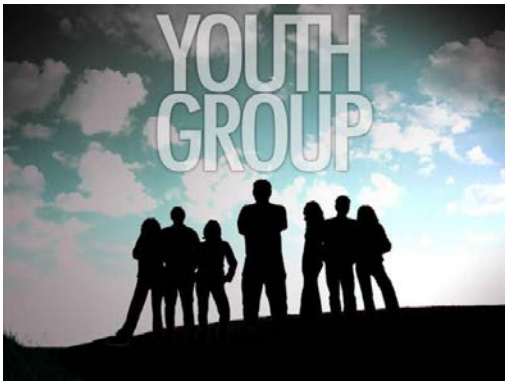
St Enochs
HOME GROUPS

Spiritual Growth Group 1st & 3rd Wednesday in church lounge @ 1.00pm. Please contact Jaco for more information. (Phone 027 3259003)

STEW (St Enoch's Women) Bible study Group: meets on the 1st Thursday at members' homes (venue to be advertised in weekly bulletin @ 7.00pm). Phone Anel for more information 021 2683064

StEM (St Enoch's Men): meet at a different day and time each month to get together for fun and fellowship. If you are interested in joining please ring Jaco to join their WhatsApp group.

Youth: The youth group, under Leiona's enthusiastic leadership continue to meet most Friday nights from 4.30pm – 6.30pm and do fun activities. Let us know if you know of someone who might benefit from engaging with our youth group. Please contact Leiona (027 505 1117) for more information.



Mens Coffee: All men are invited to join this group on Tuesday at 10am in the Mitre 10 Mega Columbus Café. Phone Rex for more info (027 2842317)

Ladies Coffee: Ladies are invited to join this lovely group who meet every Tuesday at 10am at Columbus Café at Gate Pa. Phone Cynthia for more info (027 3241027)

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

Get in touch with Joy if you need a JP

Phone 07 543-1550
Cell 027 6189367
Email nlfanddjlf@xtra.co.nz

Advice to my Grandchildren

I have lived a good while now, studied, tried to learn, worked hard, got married had children, made mistakes had some pleasure, had some luck, had disaster and sadness, times of continual trial, had to give up pleasures and hobbies, but I have never given up and lately I have had love and goodness showered on me beyond my wildest dreams or expectations.

The point or points I would like to make to you (because I like and love you and love to see young people a success and happy) is that if you can acquire some good habits and avoid some of the mistakes that it is so easy to make you will have a better and happier and more successful life. Especially if you learn them early in life. I would say the first essential is mental health. (respect and love parents) A well balanced outlook good morals, love, tolerance, a desire to learn, able to mix easily with other people, able to express what you wish to convey to others. If you read Dale Carnegies book How to win friends and influence people you will learn about this and it will help you very much to acquire a desirable life. (you only have one)

Next in importance is physical health. You can acquire this by not doing stupid things like excess drinking or experimenting with drugs. By getting a balance between eating, sleeping, work and pleasure. Occasional excess is not harmful but prolonged and continual excess can lead to disaster. Observe other people's mistakes and avoid them. Some exercise is desirable, continual and in moderation especially good breathing. Good correct breathing will do more for you than any other single factor.

Perhaps the next would be learning, learn all you can, keep on learning all your life, you are never too old to learn, you will find that the more you know, the less you know. This is a fact not a contradiction. Try and decide as early as possible that you wish to do, the sooner you do this the greater chance you have of being a success early in life, choose something you like doing, this is most important. It is fatal to stay in a job that doesn't suit you and you are not happy doing. If you get in one get out and try another one.

Another thing that happens to most is getting married, this can be good, bad or poor resulting in happiness or misery or some stage in between. Don't be in a hurry, try and make sure you can hit it off. Even then there are more pitfalls, afterwards you have to learn to live and work together,

to give way, be tactful, show love and consideration. If you cause a hurt don't be too proud to say you are sorry. Try to understand and keep up communications by talking over problems together and working as a team. Marry with the idea it is for keeps, so be careful, it is not easily undone. When you get this far you should know enough to work out your own destiny.

MONEY – Money in itself is neither good nor evil. It is what you do with it that counts. I find myself getting new concepts and insights but at this point in time I have this to say.

You need money, lack of money can lead to misery and frustration. You need to save money, but not to the point where you are a miserable person. You have to save money and give it away at the same time. It appears that the more you give away, the more you get. The giving, however, must benefit someone, not be wasteful or foolish. In giving however, you do not give expecting a return. You give wholeheartedly and unselfishly.

The strange thing is when you do this there is a flow set up towards you, it can even be something of a flood.

Since Youngsters of Today have their Texting Codes (**LOL, OMG, TTYL,** etc.) the Oldies decided not to be outdone by these kids, and now have developed our own codes too :

ATD - At the Doctor's
BFF - Best Friend's Funeral
BTW - Bring the Wheelchair
BYOT - Bring your own teeth
FWIW - Forgot Where I Was
GGPBL - Gotta Go, Pacemaker Battery Low
GHA - Got Heartburn Again
TFT - Texting From Toilet.

LUCY HEDIGER

My name is Lucy Hediger and I have been at St. Enoch's since I moved from Canada in 2019.

I just graduated at Bethlehem College in 2025 and am now this year going to The University of Auckland do a three year degree of Biomedical Science. At school I really liked chemistry and biology, so thought this would be a good option for me. I know I want to work with people too, and Biomed provides lots of opportunities into different clinical paths like medicine, radiography, pharmacy and research. I'm not really sure what I'll end up doing but am super excited to study.

I'm super excited to be staying in halls, where I'll hopefully make some new friends and meet new people! Theres also a skiing club which I'm planning on signing up for, and the biggest gym in New Zealand is also on my campus, so I'm looking forward to staying active while I study!

My friends and I have planned to go look at a few churches in Auckland to see which ones we like. I will miss St. Enochs congregation and youth! I've loved having Leiona as a youth leader to always support me through everything, I am so

thankful!! Youth has always been a highlight every week for me, and I'll miss it!! Growing up with everybody in my youth has been so cool, and I will definitely come visit when I'm back in Tauranga for uni holidays!

Odette Roberson

Congratulations to **Odette Roberson**, who proudly graduated in December 2025 with a **Bachelor of Science**, majoring in **Marine Science and Zoology** and minoring in **Ecology**. Odette's interdisciplinary focus reflects a strong commitment to understanding and protecting our natural world, and we congratulate her on this outstanding academic achievement. We wish her continued success as she embarks on the next chapter of her professional journey.

St Enoch's Women's Group (STEW)

Our STEW group started the year with a birthday celebration and afternoon tea to discuss our vision for the year. We are looking forward to learn more from the names of God in our Bible studies.
We are pondering on some changes, but our first meeting will be on Thursday 12 February 7pm.

May this year bring new happiness in a life with God, new goals in faith, new achievements in using talents in His service, and a lot of new inspirations on witnessing to others.

Anel Reyneke
(coordinator STEW)

Controlling Anger and Choosing Peace

(Children's talk on 18th January)

Jesus teaches that God's law is not only about outward actions but about the condition of our hearts. In Matthew 5, He explains that the commandment *"You must not murder"* goes far beyond taking a life—it also addresses anger, contempt, insults, and any behaviour that diminishes another person's dignity. God's intention was always to help us love better and honour the image of God in every person.

Anger, bitterness, and revenge are incompatible with life in Christ. Scripture urges us to put away rage and harsh words, to forgive as we have been forgiven (Ephesians 4:31–32), and to do everything we can to live at peace with everyone (Romans 12:18). Jesus calls us to love our enemies, pray for those who hurt us, and respond with compassion rather than retaliation (Luke 6:27–36).

Jesus also connects our relationships with others directly to our relationship with God. If there is unresolved conflict, we are called to seek reconciliation promptly—even before acts of worship—because peace with God and peace with others are deeply intertwined (Matthew 5:23–26). When we are in the wrong, we are encouraged to take responsibility and make things right quickly.

Love, not anger, is meant to control us (2 Corinthians 5:14). Bullying, abuse, manipulation, and contempt all rob others of "life" and fall short of God's desire for us. Followers of Christ are called to be peacemakers, overcoming evil with good and leaving judgment in God's hands.

To help manage anger practically, we were encouraged to use the **ABCDE method**:

- **Awareness** – recognise rising anger
- **Breath** – slow down physically
- **Count** – pause before reacting
- **Distance** – step away if needed
- **Express** – respond calmly and constructively

Whenever anger rises, whenever we feel tempted to look down on others, we must remember: peace and love are not optional. Honouring God's image in every person is central to living as children of the Most High.

ADULT CHILDREN

No one really prepares you for what it feels like when your children grow up and stop being by your side all the time.
It's not just the silence that fills the house. It's the silence that seeps into your soul.
When they no longer ask you what to do, when they no longer seek your advice, when they start living without you.

And you smile, of course.
Because it's what you've always wanted: to see them take flight.
But inside… something breaks.

Being the mother of adult children is something else entirely.
It's staying silent when you see them making mistakes.
It's holding back your hand when you want to call them, and they don't answer.
It's continuing to love them discreetly, without being too present.

It's watching them from afar, with your heart tight and your hands still.
Sometimes they tell you something… but often they don't.
And you pretend it doesn't matter.
But yes, it hurts.

It hurts not to be everywhere, like you once were.
It hurts to know they no longer need you the way they used to.
And yet, you are always there.

Preparing their favorite dish when they come home.
Tenderly arranging old photos.
Praying for them every night, hoping they are doing well.

Because a mother never stops keeping watch.
She just learns to do it in silence.

From a corner.
From a prayer.

It’s a love no one sees…
But it holds everything together.

Being the mother of an adult child means accepting that you are no longer the most important person in their life…
But continuing to love them as if you were.
Because there are loves that never fade.
They simply learn to wait, in silence.

MENS CHOIR

A Satisfying Life in the Service of God, Christ, and the Holy Spirit

Warren Wilson answered the call of God to ministry while working in a bank in Auckland. Study for ministry had high requirements both at Auckland university and Knox Theological Hall in Dunedin. Among other subjects both Greek and Hebrew were required.

His earliest ministry commenced as Student Assistant at Brockville – a then new housing area in Dunedin. The requirement being one Sunday service and half a day's visiting. The remuneration being four pounds a week. After graduating from Knox Theological Hall, Warren was licensed to preach in our beloved home church St. Stephen's in Auckland.

He was ordained to the ministry of Word and Sacrament in our first parish Pokeno 60 years ago - on 10th February 1966. There were seven preaching places which required either a morning or evening service. Most services were on a fortnightly basis except Pokeno which was weekly. While at Pokeno we needed to get used to country life, water tanks and being on the Post Office Exchange. Fortunately, we were privileged to have a private line – 101 Pokeno. Of necessity, I guess.

We were called to Fitzroy New Plymouth which required both morning and evening services. Fitzroy was a lovely new church with a pipe organ and because of this it was popular for weddings. Sometimes three on a Saturday. And it was picturesque for wedding photos. So, it was back to city life.

St. Andrew's Wanganui was our next parish. There were two preaching places, so this involved two morning services plus an evening one. Some people attended both services.
We had a lively Youth Group. On two occasions Gay kayaked down the Wanganui River with them. She was much younger then!
Warren had two Samoan Assistants who ministered to our lovely Samoan people. Always so friendly and kind.

While here a large choir led the singing.

After an illness we were invited to run a Christian Retreat Centre in South Auckland where life was less demanding.

Warren returned to ministry after four years to the parish of Glendowie in Auckland – the city we grew up in and where our families were. Again, there were morning and evening services and a large Youth Group.

In each parish there were the usual requirements of a minister. Most parishes during Warren's ministry required Bible in Schools. Sometimes there would be more than one school that required that ministry.

Warren served the wider church in various capacities – in most cases alongside his normal parish ministry:

- Clerk of Presbytery in both Taranaki and South Auckland
- Moderator of Wanganui and Bay of Plenty Presbyteries. While Moderator of the Bay of Plenty Presbytery he visited every parish for a Sunday service from Katikati to Turangi. By now he was retired so he could.
- Twice he was responsible for the General Assembly Moderator's Arrangements Committee.
- He was on the Church Union Committee.
- National Assessment of Students for ministry.
- Theological Hall Commission of Enquiry.
- Board of Nomination for New Principal of Theological Hall.
- Board of Nominations for several parishes.

Throughout Warren's ministry we always lived in the manse 'on site'. At time it had its disadvantages. So, on retiring after years of ministry it has been a delight to live in our own home.

Warren says it has been a privilege to serve under the Lordship of our Saviour, Jesus Christ, to the glory of God, in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Thank you Warren

On 15th February, Warren spoke to the congregation, sharing reflections on his life and journey in ministry. He spoke warmly about the experiences, challenges, and blessings he encountered along the way, and expressed heartfelt gratitude to his wife Gaye, acknowledging the enormous role she has played in supporting and strengthening his ministry. It was especially meaningful to have their family present on the day, all coming to support him and celebrate the life and service he shared with us.

I see kindness as an antidote to the horror and sadness in the news.
This poem, written during the covid pandemic captures what a difference kindness can make in difficult times
Lesley

Kindness

By Brian Bilston

To recap what we now know: it did not begin
In a laboratory in Wuhan not with a pangolin or bat,
But it already lay dormant within us, like a seed
In need of certain conditions to grow.

its symptoms are many and various,
and may include some, or all of the following:
tear drops, sudden laughter, a feeling of warmth,
and a peculiar uplifting of the heart.

it leaves its traces everywhere: from boxes
left on doorsteps to conversations over fences;
it can be transmitted over vast distances,
through a phone call, or from a smile across the street,

or a certain softness of tone spoken beside
a hospital bed; it affects young and old equally;
there is no race or gender immune from it;
it has the power to topple bad governments;

if one person were to pass it on to just three others
and they, in turn, were to pass it on to three more,
in no time at all, the world would be full of it,
and where, might we ask ourselves, would we be then.

LIBRARY BOOKS

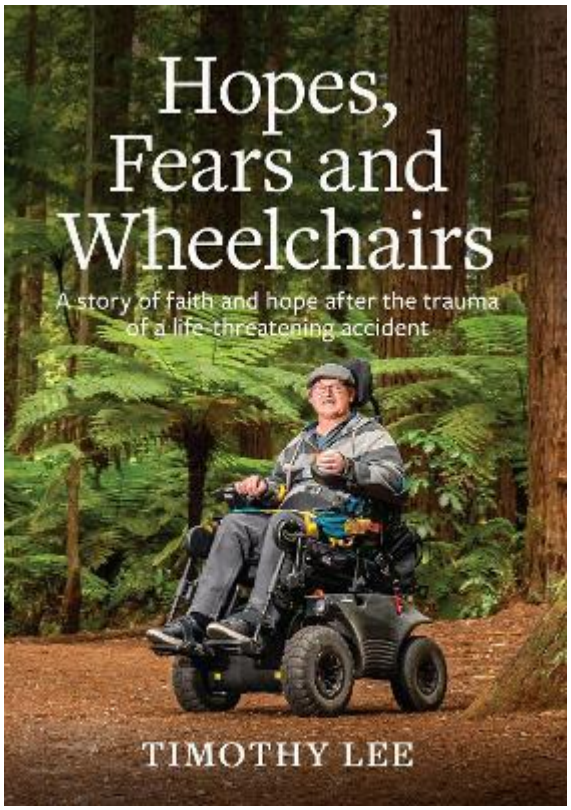
St Enoch's library has some amazing books so make sure you check it out next time you are in the Church

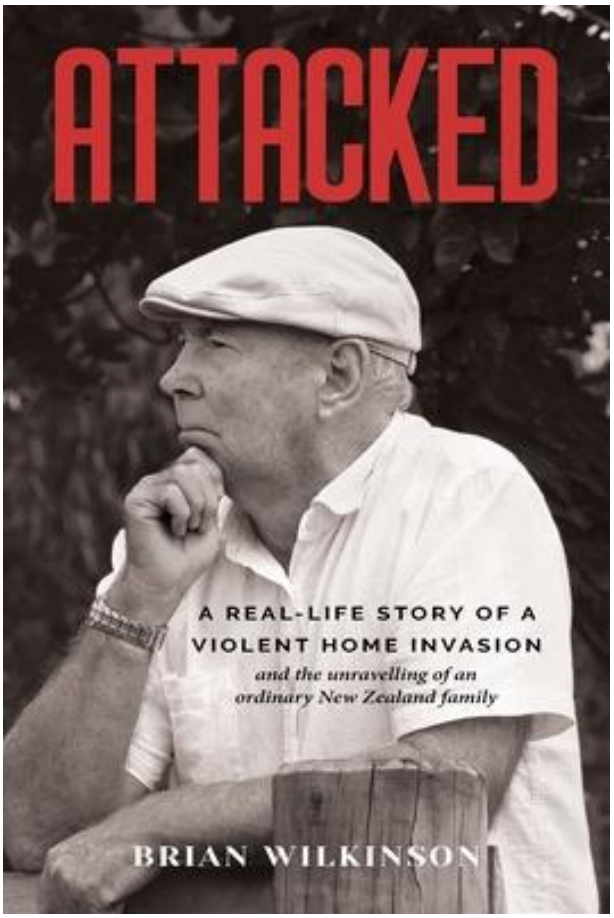
Three new books have just been added to our library:

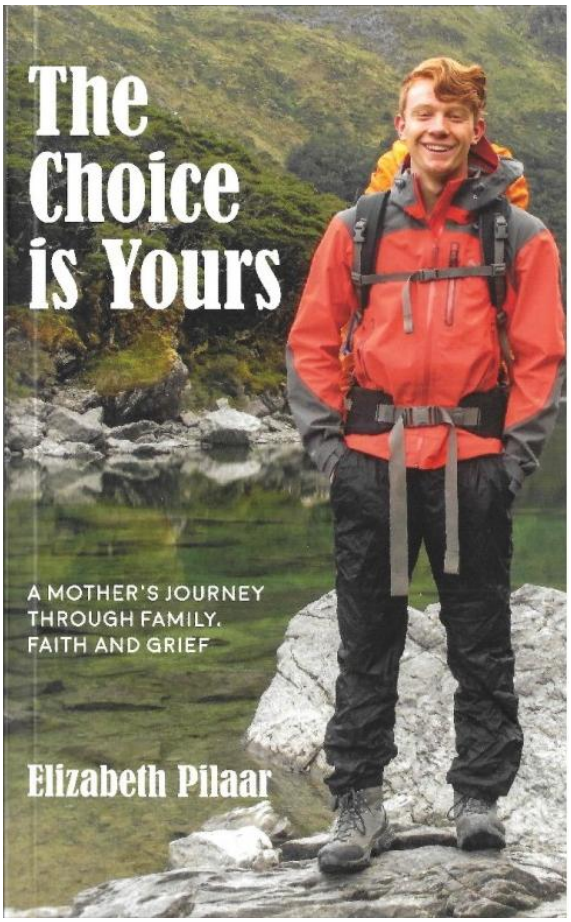
(i) Hopes,Fears and Wheelchairs (A story of faith and hope after the trauma of a life-threatening accident by Timothy Lee

(ii) Attacked (A real life story of a violent home invasion) by Brian Wilkinson ("This is quite a gripping, dramatic read" - George)

(iii) The Choice is Yours (A mother's journey through a family grief) by Elizabeth Pilaar.







Book Review

The Gift of Being Yourself: The Sacred call to Self-Discovery

by David G. Benner

It is a paperback format with small writing, with a preface, six chapters divided into subheadings, and an epilogue.

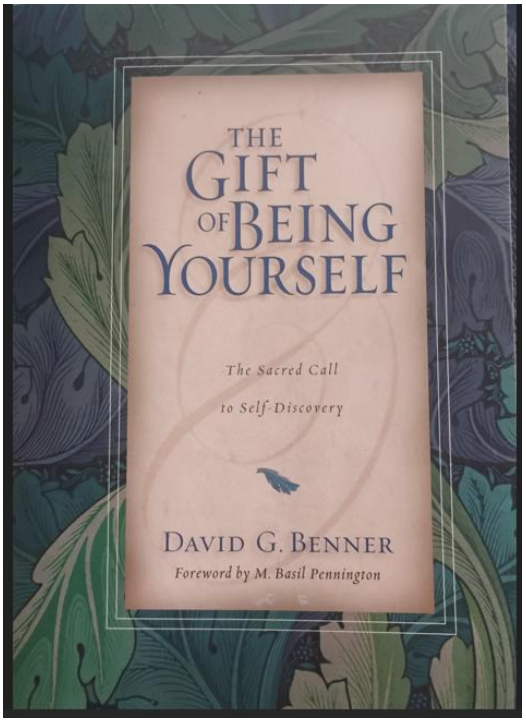
The preface focuses on identity and authenticity and explains the paradox that we truly need to lose ourselves in order to find it and that self-discovery is in part self-sacrifice.

The six chapters focus on the idea that true knowledge of ourselves and God is transformational and that our identities in Christ are a gift. It also states that we should not avoid the parts of our identity that makes us uncomfortable or ashamed, but that we should acknowledge the entirety of it.

In part the book talks about how we can get to know God by looking at ourselves and initially I was sceptical about this because it felt a bit back to front, but then I thought about Psalm 139:14 that says “I praise your because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well;” and Romans 1:20 “For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities - his eternal power and divine nature - have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse”. We can get to know the creator from his creation.

The book surpasses any other book that looks at identity in a more superficial way. It offers a lot to contemplate and requires self-honesty and honestly with God.

I definitely did not find it a comfortable read. It is a book for those who genuinely seek to grow spiritually; for those who long to know themselves and God better, and who are willing to put in the time and the effort. For those people I would 100% recommend “The Gift of Being Yourself”.



Minette

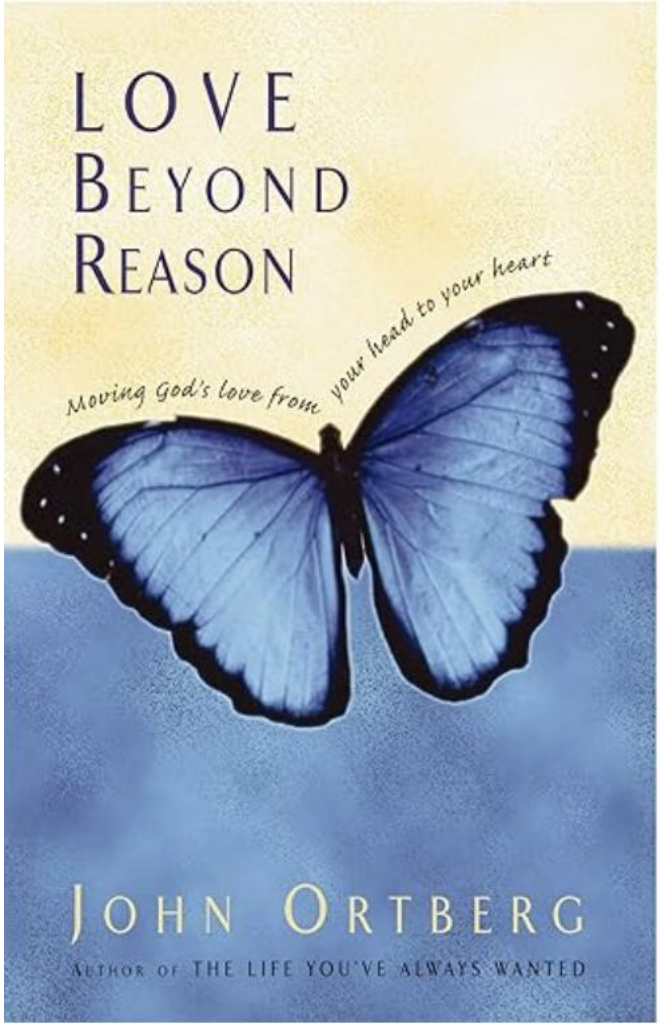
Book review

Love Beyond Reason: Moving God's Love from your head to your heart

by John Ortberg

Sometimes I look at the news, or how people in general act, and it becomes really hard to understand how it is even possible that God could love us as human beings with all our failures. When we think this way, it also becomes very hard to love each other. If you can relate to this, then you will definitely find comfort in "Love Beyond Reason".

In his book Ortberg states that we are all flawed and broken and that love invariably changes us for the better. He explains that love is why God created us in the first place, but the full extent of His love could be seen when we became sinful.
The book states that love dies in isolation and that makes it so important that we follow Jesus's example of being approachable and compassionate. The book reiterates the fact that God, through Jesus, came to live as a person among people, fully understanding our plight while trying to teach us about his divine, unending love.
"Love Beyond Reason" is a reassuring and encouraging book that inspires us to live with the same love Christ has taught us to live. But it does even more, it shows us practical ways to do it and it teaches us why it is so important. Love is transformational.

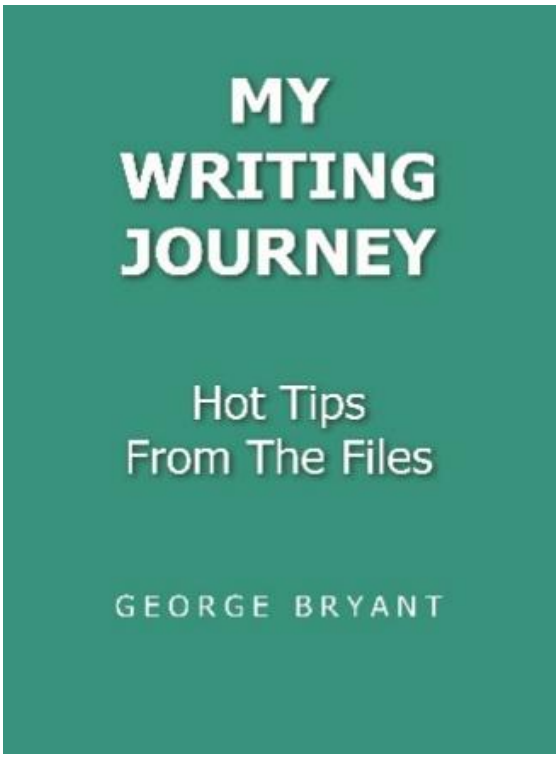


Minette

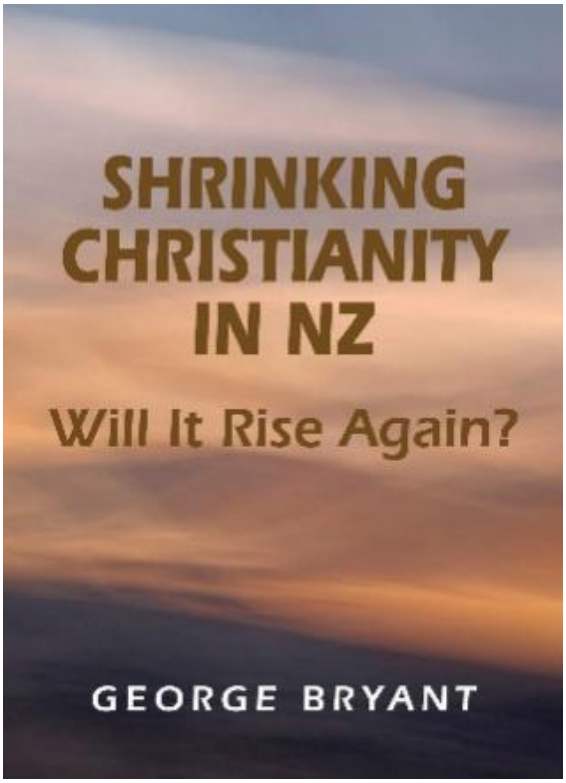
GEORGE INVITES YOU

to the launch of his new book

on Sunday April 12th - 2pm-4pm @ Greenwood Park



Statistics show that the numbers of people who claim to be Christian are shrinking, both in the Western World and in New Zealand. Christianity once had a key influence on social standards, behaviour and morality, but society is now largely a secular one. What happened? George discusses the causes of decline, and what modern Christians need to do to resurrect their faith. Will Christianity rise again?



The personal story of how a student who hated writing essays became a prolific, successful author.
A unique glimpse into George Bryant's failures and successes, with thirty-eight useful tips for potential writers.

Refreshments Available

Please reply to George before Monday April 6
bryantgw@xtra.co.nz or **0273146690**

Please come and celebrate with me – five decades of writing and publishing about people and society. The latest two publications will probably be my last but some of my friends don't believe me!"

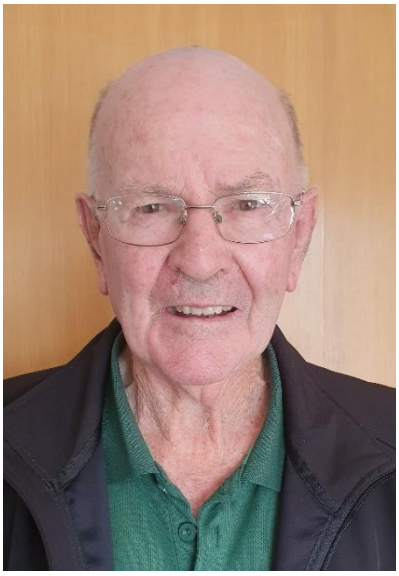
St Enoch's ladies Coffee Group

Coffee morning tea has been most successful already this year so far with new people popping in.
It's a friendly time together with much enjoyment.
If you have time come and join us at Columbus Coffee Cafe Gate Pa on a Tuesday morning from 10.00am to 11.00am
You will be most welcome.

With blessings Cynthia
Phone 07 5443053 or 0273241027

St Enoch's Men's Coffee Group

Men's Coffee Group – Tuesdays at 10 a.m.
Join us at the **Columbus Café, Mitre 10 (Gate Pa)** for a relaxed morning of coffee and conversation. It's a great opportunity to connect with others, share stories, and chat about life, faith, and community. Whether you're new or a regular, you'll be warmly welcomed.



Rex Eagle
Phone 027 2842317

For more information or any questions, feel free to reach out to Cynthia or Rex

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Little Johnny was a lazy student and was failing Math badly. His parents had enough of this, so they pulled him out of regular school and enrolled him in the local Catholic school. After the first day, he came home and not a word, and headed up to his bedroom to do his Math homework. He was up there four hours until it was all done. The same thing happened the next day, and so on. Several days later, his parents came up to his room and asked, "Johnny, what brought this on? Your working your tail off!"
Johnny replied, "When I got to my Math class on Monday, and saw that guy above the blackboard nailed to a plus sign, I knew they weren't messing around!"

ST ENOCH'S MISSIONS & OUTREACH

St Enoch's congregation supports the following mission organisations:

- Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF)
- Wycliff Bible Translators NZ (WBT)
- Homes of Hope
- YWAM Ships Aotearoa
- Under the Stars

"A Homeless Jesus"

There is a statue in Vancouver Canada, called "A Homeless Jesus," created by Canadian artist Timothy Schmalz. It is located in front of St. Andrew's-Wesley United Church in Vancouver. From afar it simply looks like another homeless person sleeping on a park bench. On closer inspection one realises that it is a life size statue of a homeless person. Then one notices bare feet sticking out from under the blanket. But these feet have holes in them and one can see the crucifixion wounds….
It is our Jesus asleep on the bench on the sidewalk. What a sobering thought to see Jesus depicted as one of the marginalised and suffering in society.

37 "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink?38 When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? 39 When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'

40 "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'-Matthew 25

A short while ago our local newspaper front page had the following headline:
‘Homelessness in Tauranga CBD: Rising complaints, safety fears for shops’

This accompanying picture on the front page, reminds of the statue of the ‘homeless Jesus’.

The latest Under the Stars newsletter make note of how the amount of people in need of help have increased.
The Thursday meals have an average of 58 customers and a maximum of 81. The Saturday meal numbers also increased to an average of 96 and maximum 122.

One of the meal managers Rose, wrote the following about this increase in numbers:

> *"Most organizations would celebrate continued growth and demand for their services —but the increasing need for ours is nothing to celebrate. UTS has seen unprecedented numbers in recent months, and as hard as it is to see so many struggling, I'm glad we can ease some of the pressures our guests are facing. A hot shower, clean laundry, a bit of banter, and a full puku may not solve all the problems, but it restores mana, hope, and allows clearer thinking (no one makes good decisions*
> *when they are hangry!)*
> *Honestly? I'd love nothing more than to work myself out of a job—to see a day where everyone has a warm, safe place to call home, mental health support, and enough kai in their cupboards. Until that day comes (I'm hopeful), we'll keep showing up, keep serving, and keep creating a space where everyone belongs.*
> *Whether you're here every week or once a month, whether you're cooking, serving, sorting, or simply showing up with a smile—you are the heart of this kaupapa. You're also the reason I have hope and faith in humanity. We are making a difference." - Rose*

St Enoch continue to support Under the Stars every third Thursday of the month by supplying cooked food. Serving at Under the Stars is a collaborative effort. Thanks to a generous financial contribution from a church member, the team could recently provide a meat dish for about 80 people.

<u>Hebrews 13:2</u>
Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have entertained angels without knowing it.

Sunday School

We ended 2025 with our Christmas play – a wonderful opportunity for our young people to be involved in a practical way in sharing the message of Jesus' birth. We are blessed to have such talented young people who always do a wonderful job. The play was narrated by 2 stars – old and new star, which gave us a different perspective of the story of Jesus' birth.

We began 2026 with a parent meeting to look at how we can best support the faith journey of these young people who have been entrusted to us. We are excited to welcome Tim and Abi Reed and Jade and AJ Law to our team, who will be helping to take our Sunday school lessons.

Our programme during term one will be looking at Jesus' miracles over nature, and the Easter story.

If you would like to be involved in leading our children at Sunday School, please see Wendy.

Many blessings,
Wendy Roberson

DUTY ROSTER – MARCH

March 1st **COMMUNION**

Service Leader: Rev George Bryant
Kitchen Duties: Isabelle & Phillip Ashmore
Door / Offering: Mama Tu
Prayer Partner: Gaye Wilson

March 8th

Service Leader: Rev Jacqui Cavit
Kitchen Duties: Anua Abbott, Ian McEldowney
Door / Offering: Bev Hayman
Prayer Partner: Sue Davys

March 15th

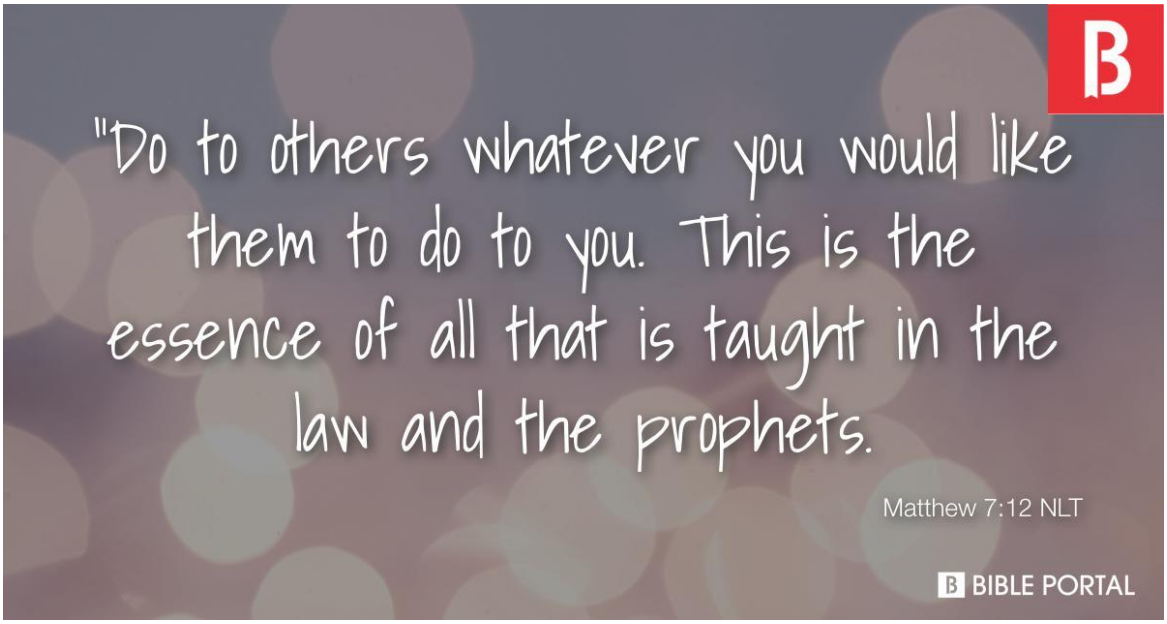
Service Leader: Leon Roberon
Kitchen Duties: Anel Reyneke, Jeanette Stewart
Door / Offering: Gloria Mouatt & Mama Tu
Prayer Partner: Lesley Ayers

March 22nd

Service Leader: Rev Dr Jaco Reyneke
Kitchen Duties: Bev Cochrane, Christine Mercer
Door / Offering: John & Ngaire Foote
Prayer Partner: Gaye Wilson

March 29th

Service Leader: Rev Dr Jaco Reyneke
Kitchen Duties: Cynthia Herring, John Reid
Door / Offering: Joseph Toara, Mama Tu
Prayer Partner: Sue Davys



DUTY ROSTER - APRIL

April 5th **COMMUNION**

Service Leader: Rev Dr Jaco Reyneke
Kitchen Duties: Dinis Davie, Richard Wilson
Door / Offering: Joy Fisher
Prayer Partner: Lesley Ayers

April 12th

Service Leader: Rev Dr Jaco Reyneke
Kitchen Duties: Bernice Tyrrell, Josh & Luke Reed
Door / Offering: Julien & Hazra Syed
Prayer Partner: Gaye Wilson

April 19th

Service Leader: Rev. Dr Jaco Reyneke
Kitchen Duties: Ken & Lyn Hartley
Door / Offering: Louise Hediger
Prayer Partner: Sue Davys

April 26th

Service Leader: Rev. Dr Jaco Reyneke
Kitchen Duties: Jannie & Nicolette Wentzel
Door / Offering: Margaret Wakefield, Mama Tu
Prayer Partner: Lesley Ayers

THANK YOU TO REGAN FROM IT SQUAD

Regan is our go-to person whenever we need computer advice or repairs. We really appreciate his prompt help and amazing knowledge, especially when we need it most.

DUTY ROSTER - MAY

May 3rd **COMMUNION**

Service Leader: Rev. Dr Jaco Reyneke
Kitchen Duties: Cynthia Herring, Shona Giles
Door / Offering: Mama Tu
Prayer Partner: Gaye Wilson

May 10th

Service Leader: Rev. Jaco Reyneke
Kitchen Duties: Robyn Dowdle, Robyn Magowan
Door / Offering: Mama Tu
Prayer Partner: Sue Davys

May 17th

Service Leader: Rev. Dr Jaco Reyneke
Kitchen Duties: Isabelle & Phillip Ashmore
Door / Offering: Rob Brown, Mama Tu
Prayer Partner: Lesley Ayers

May 24th

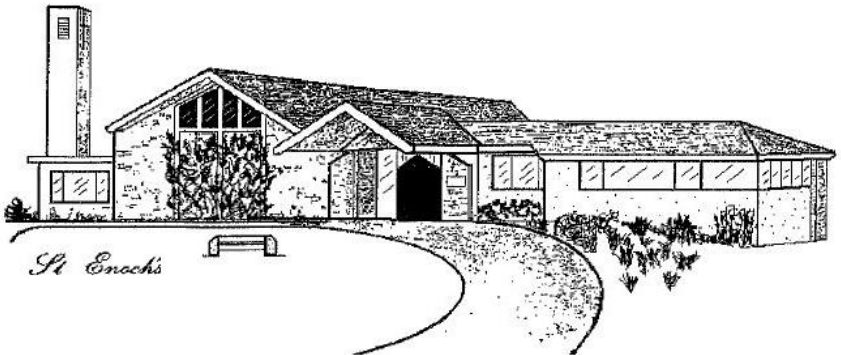
Service Leader: Rev. Dr Jaco Reyneke
Kitchen Duties: Bernice Tyrrell, Erice Tomalin
Door / Offering: Mama Tu
Prayer Partner: Gaye Wilson

May 31st

Service Leader: Leiona Tupou-Dixon
Kitchen Duties: Ken & Lyn Hartley
Door / Offering: Philip Temple
Prayer Partner: Sue Davys

Contact People

Minister	Rev Dr Jaco Reyneke	544 0644 (home) 027 3259003
Session Clerk	Christine Mercer	027 2302147
Treasurer	Wilna Human	027 5783348
Administrator	Marie Nilson	029 7716902
Sunday School	Wendy Roberson	027 4388635
Youth & Family worker	Leiona Tupou-Dixon	027 5051117
Envelope Secretary	Church office	578 3040
Mission Motivator **Homes of Hope**	Louise Hediger Robyn Dowdle	027 2323481 544 0031
Lounge Kitchen Co-ordinator	Cynthia Herring	544 3053
Musicians	Helen Temple George Bryant Ruth West Hilda Bester	027 5140723 027 3146690 027 4889220 027 4241029
Prayer Chain	Jaco Reyneke	027 3259003
Sound System	Richard Wilson Robert Brown Eddie Groenewald Josiah Dixon Matthew Hastie	578 3894 021 456802 022214927 022 4208400 022 3701031
Library	Betty Cronin	544 0551
Health & Safety Officer	Bernice Tyrrell	027 4808910
Website Design & Management	Tim Reed	021 1372262



CONTACTS

Minister:	Rev. Dr Jaco Reyneke	544 0644 (home) 027 3259003
Hon. Asst Minister:	Rev. George Bryant	027 3146690
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Youth & Family worker	Leiona Tupou	027 5051117
Treasurer:	Wilna Human	027 5783348
Administrator:	Marie Nilson	029 7716902

SESSION

Christine Mercer	027 2302147	Helene Stols	022 0815923
Lester Gray	021 757599	Robyn Dowdle	544 2231
Louise Hediger	027 2323481	Joseph Toara	027 4404625
Wendy Roberson	027 4388635	Lyn Hartley	021 02152319
Minette Soekoe	021 995875		

Pastoral Care Leaders

Christine Mercer	**027 2302147 (Team Leader)**		
Robyn Dowdle	544 2231	Helen Temple	027 5140723
Dinis Davie	571-0071	Lesley Ayers	544 2135
Cynthia Herring	544 3053	Peka Tautali	021 08241613
Lyn Hartley	**021 02152319 (Team Leader)**		
Gaye Wilson	544-4270	Nicolette Wentzell	022 4132217
Patricia Brown	544-0317	Jeanette Stewart	544-7153
Marion Bennett	578 8382	Lawson Stewart	548 1204
Helene Stols	**542-2488 (Team Leader)**		
Shona Giles	578 0192	Mary Woods	578 5561
Lyndsay Bols	021 0466821	Joseph Toara	027 4404625
Bernice Tyrrell	578 2224	Robyn Magowan	021 0714133

Youth Leaders

Leiona Tupou-Dixon	027 5051117	Wendy Roberson	027 4388635

BOARD OF MANAGERS

Robyn Magowan	021 0714133	Eddie Groenewald	022 0214927
Tim Reed	021 1372262	Leon Roberson	027 4388636
Bernice Tyrrell	578 2224	Matthew Hastie	022 3701031