

St Enoch's Faith Family Manawa

(The Encourager)



Summer 2023

Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa NZ

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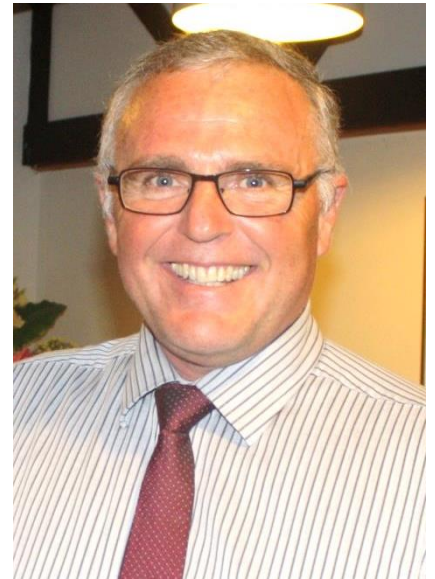
Website

www.stenochs.org.nz

A MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

Good News

Jesus Christ declared: “The Spirit of the LORD is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that captives will be released, that the blind will see, that the oppressed will be set free, and that the time of the LORD’s favour has come.” (Luke 4:18-19; NLT)



Bringing the Good news did not end there. Jesus prayed: “Just as you sent me into the world, I am sending them into the world.” (John 17:18) And the apostle Paul reminds us: “And all of this is a gift from God, who brought us back to himself through Christ. And God has given us this task of reconciling people to him. For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people’s sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation. So, we are Christ’s ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, “Come back to God!”” (2 Corinthians 5:18-20; NLT)

“Our task as ambassadors of this gospel is to formulate it in a manner that speaks to the minds and hearts of those to whom we address ourselves – or at least does not get in the way of their hearing.”ⁱ

Within the context of globalism and the various paradigms simultaneously at play in our context, we shall have to sincerely and compassionately attempt to understand how people see and understand the world. Without truly knowing people’s perspective on life, it will be impossible to formulate our witness in a way that will be heard and lead to curiosity, enthusiasm, and through the Holy Spirit eventually also to faith.

Our natural tendency is to contradict, resist and try to correct the way people see and understand the world if it is different from our worldview. We want them to either have a similar worldview to us or at least something like the worldview that was dominant in the good old days. This causes us to come across as condescending, and even judgemental. It also creates the impression that we are not truly willing to

listen and try and understand where the younger generations are coming from.

Many people today are anxious and overwhelmed. People seem disconnected, isolated, and lonely. And people is looking for purpose in life. God's Good News in Jesus Christ addresses our deepest needs to enable our relationship with God to be restored.

Perhaps, Jesus' words relayed in Luke 4:18 and 19 today would have been: "The Spirit of the LORD is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring Good News to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim that anxious and overwhelmed people will find purpose, that the disconnected will be meaningfully incorporated in loving caring community, that those in search of who they are will be accepted, and that the time of the LORD's favour has come."

We need to continuously look for ways to effectively share the Good News with people. Jesus shared the good news with everybody. Jesus engaged with leaders and upstanding members of the community. Jesus sat with people looked down on by society. Jesus associated with people who were rejected and despised by society. Jesus ate with people who were considered not to be good company. Jesus' opponents even called Him a glutton and a drunkard (Luke 7:34).

Over summer and the Christmas period we need to

- nurture our faith in Jesus Christ and grow our relationship with God,
- ensure our opinions and interactions with people are driven and motivated by the love of the crucified and risen Christ,
- do our best to understand people's needs,
- help anxious and overwhelmed people to find purpose,
- help the disconnected to be meaningfully incorporated in a loving caring community,
- help those in search of who they are to be accepted,
- and we need to embody the fact that the LORD's favour has come.

In Jesus Christ is acceptance, community and purpose. As recipients of God's love, we need to bring this good news to others.

Jaco Reyneke

¹ Hall, D. J. (2012). *Waiting for Gospel. An Appeal to the Despirited Remnant of Protestant "Establishment"*. Oregon: Cascade Books.

SESSION REPORT

Firstly, we welcome back Anel and Jaco. While it is always sad to see you go, it is wonderful to have you back amongst your St Enoch's faith family. Well, it's been an interesting year! Sadly, for the last six months, your Session clerk has been almost invisible! The good news, however, is that your Session has continued to serve our God and you in all that it has overseen during this period. With Jaco away on his sabbatical and study leave, the task of maintaining our faith family landed squarely on George Bryant's shoulders. What a wonderful contribution he made to the work of our Lord in this place. From pastoral visiting, preaching, chairing Session meetings, overseeing the Board of Managers, looking after Joan and his home. Incredible. On behalf of St Enoch's, thank you George. You are a special gift. He was helped on seven of the twelve Sundays by Leon Roberson (4) and Nols Bertrum (3). Thank you both. Having such willing and talented members as part of our family is something we should give thanks for.



The Kaimai Presbytery has appointed Vania Wallace (previously Presbytery administrator) to a newly created internal Missions coach. The Kaimai Presbytery is the biggest Presbytery in N.Z. and Vania's role will include helping parishes with the challenges of outreach in their community. You should look up the extent and number of parish's it covers!

Due to illness, I was unable to represent you at the 2023 General Assembly. So, I'm sorry there is no report on its findings. If you are interested, you can find out more information on the PCANZ web-site.

Each year we go through the same routine as we rush head-long into Christmas. From social engagements, juggling family commitments, shopping, meal preparation and the list goes on. This sounds like a regular day in our calendar year except it is on a vastly different scale. It's huge. While we



contemplate all this activity, how much time do we commit to understanding and appreciating the present that we all received on Christmas day? You see, even Jesus took time out to talk to his father in heaven. When things got tough and everything was too busy. He went away to a quiet place to “talk to Dad”. We too should follow his example and in this hectic preamble to Christmas, spend time talking to our Lord, appreciate his gift and acknowledge his ever present love for us.

With this thought in mind. I pray that you will all be mindful of what Christmas is all about. That, through all the business of shopping, meal planning and present wrapping, you manage to leave room in your life, in your heart to remember that ultimate gift. ..the one that we didn't earn...the one that is priceless....the one that is ours and will last forever.

May our loving Lord Jesus continue to richly bless you all.

Blessings

Philip P Temple

Session Clerk.

CHURCH GARDENS

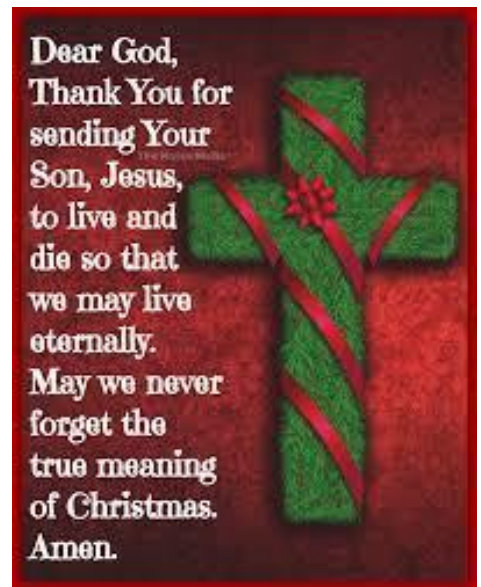
We are still looking for someone who has a green thumb and can nurture our church garden.

Can you commit to maintaining the garden on a regular basis – (approx. half an hour a week), ensuring proper watering, pruning, and weeding.

Do you enjoy working independently but are you also open to collaborating with our maintenance team.

Whether you are an experienced gardener looking for a new project or someone who is simply green thumb-curious and eager to get your hands dirty, we encourage you to take this opportunity to serve our church community in this unique and fulfilling way.

To express your interest or for further details, please reach out to Richard or Jaco. We will be more than happy to provide additional information, answer any questions you may have, or even arrange a guided tour of our garden.



Youth Group

Our youth are very active! Have a look at the mahi, and fun they have been up to!

There was a Regional Sports Day held by St. Johns and funded by Kaimai Presbytery on the 5th of November 2024 at Tui Ridge. We went over to join 7 other churches in this service, followed by an evening of games and fun. Safe to say - the Riperoa youth group dominated!



I organised a snow trip for the end of September with Ismael, the Youth Pastor of St. John's In Rotorua. We had a total of 42 young people join us. The weather was not the best, but we were glad to be together at the end of the day.



It was a hot day, but our youth did so well for their performances. They



were videoed and put on a Facebook page called 'Pasifika in the Bay'. They organised the event. If you are interested in going to have a look, please do!



*Leiona
Tupou
Youth and
Family
Worker*

\$\$\$ Treasurers Notes \$\$\$

Attached is a summary of St Enoch's Profit and Loss Accounts for the Year to Date ending 31 October 2023

The actual figures are compared with the budget.

Also inserted are the Giving income the YTD figure for 2022, 2021 and 2020 years.

In comparing the actual to the budget figures, there appears to be a shift away from giving by Automatic Payments. This has resulted in a gradual decline in total giving income.



Profit & Loss St Enoch's Presbyterian Church For the YTD ending 31 October 2023

Income	YTD Actual	Budget	YTD 2022	YTD 2021	YTD 2020
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Giving

Automatic Payment Receipts	28,941	30,155	33,913	29,965	29,389
Cash Receipts	1,734	2425	2,691	3,026	2,905
Envelope Receipts	6,620	6,620	5,190	6,235	5,285
Total Giving	37,295	39,241	41,794	39,226	37,579

Sundry Income

Acorn Foundation Receipts	13,262	13,260
Activities (Fairs, Film Outings etc)	660	80
Bequests & Legacies	200	0
Church Complex Letting	5,070	5,908
Grants & TECT Trust Receipts	250	250
Grounds Income	522	522
Hall Rental Income	2,217	2,218
Have A Go Receipts	100	162
Interest Income	765	965

Manse Rental Income	9,839	9,084
Other Revenue	1,277	1.27
Youth Group & Sunday School income	0	92
	39,248	39,647
Total of Giving & Sundry Income	76,544	78,888
Less Operating Expenses		
Administration Expenses	14,649	17,736
Ministry Expenses	30,868	31,511
Mission Expense	3,719	4,380
Property Expenses	14,647	17,029
Total Operating Expenses	63,883	70,656
Net Profit	12,660	8,232

While the income is below budget, there has been a corresponding drop in expenditure. It has resulted in a profit of \$12,660. This is misleading as the full cost of this years, insurance has yet to register. Even though St Enoch's has paid the full Insurance premium the cost is spread over the year. The best way to compare is with the Bank account balances as at 31 October 2023 had funds of \$59,418 whereas in the 2022 year had registered funds of \$64,121. A difference of \$4,703.

Just another reminder, if you are contributing to the church in cash or using the envelope system, please consider paying your offering each month via an Automatic Payment. This helps the church in the administration of handling cash and banking.

As with the envelope system please ensure you add a number to your initialled surname.

This helps to collate your giving to a total for your end of year tax refund of 30%, and ensures your contributions are confidential

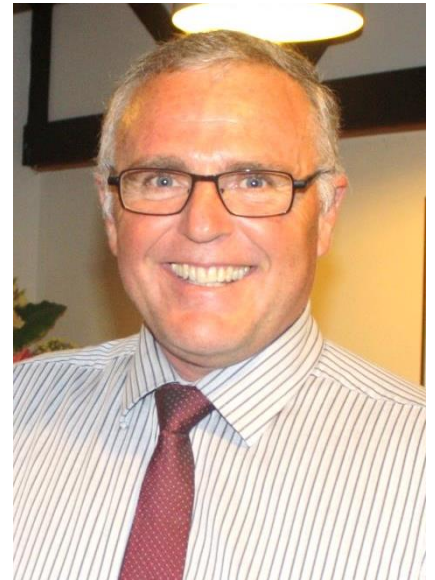
The church bank details are:

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

Ken Hartley

Spiritual Growth Group

As eleven of us sat around the table sharing our views on the multifaceted topic of our relationship with money and possessions (wealth), I was once again in awe of how the Holy Spirit moved and guided us to use the principles God gave us through the Bible and apply that to our own lives and contexts.



That is the core of spiritual growth. Finding ways, habits and practices which help us strengthen our relationship with God and more clearly express our love for God and people through everyday living.

I am grateful to the various members who facilitated meetings in my absence. Each of us has a unique journey with God from which others can learn and enrich their own walk of faith. We have finished our exploration of what God might be saying to us through the book of James. It was an encouraging, challenging, and enriching study. In December we will look at the implications of Jesus' incarnation for how we do life, take a break in January, and reconvene on 7 February 2024.

Everybody is welcome to join this warm and friendly group every first and third Wednesday of the month between 13:00 and 14:00 in the lounge.

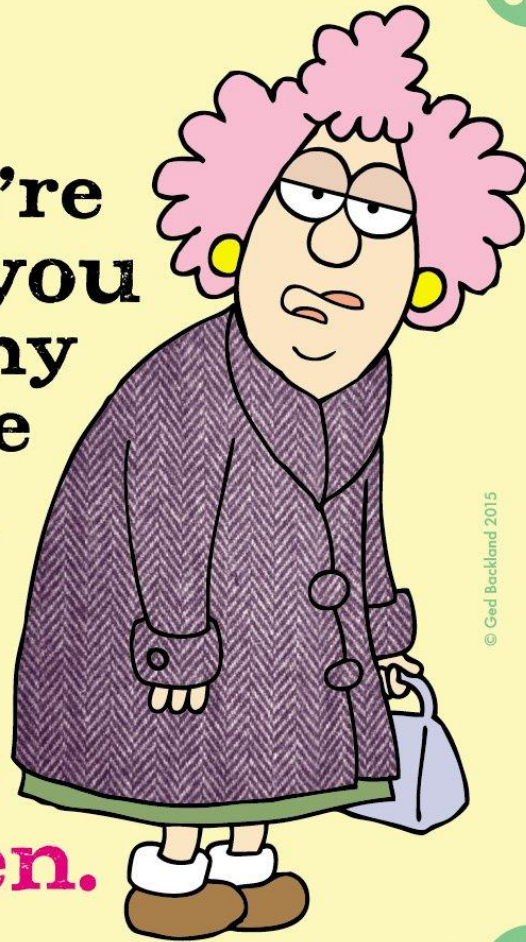
**No matter what
You face in life...
Don't let go of
God's Hand.**



aunty acid

**When you're
a child you
make funny
faces at the
mirror.**

**In middle
age, the
mirror
gets even.**



97610

A husband and wife were in the middle of a massive argument and were giving each other the silent treatment. Suddenly, the husband realised that he needed his wife to wake him at 5am the next morning for an early business flight.

Not wanting to be the first to break the silence and admit defeat, he wrote on a piece of paper: "Please wake me at 5am."

He left the note where he knew she would find it. The next morning, the man woke up, only to discover it was 9am and he had missed his flight.

Furious, he started to ask why his wife didn't wake him, when he noticed a piece of paper by the bed. The paper said: "It's 5am. Wake up."



Board of Managers: Sept - Nov 2023

Well, here we are again, just a stones throw away from Christmas. Board Of Managers has been busy with the usual maintenance and every day issues our buildings come up with.

The fridge in the Hall needed replacement. As it happened, Marie's son was replacing his fridge for a larger one and was happy for us to have his old one. It is ideal for the needs of the Hall. Thank you Jarrad.

Some of the Long Pew cushions were looking rather stained and marked. Jaco decided to have a go at washing them – most successfully. Thank you Jaco. Still a work in progress.

Jaco has been elected as Chair for the next year.

An initial Seismic Assessment of the Hall needs to be done in accordance with the Policy of Presbyterian Property Trust. Kirk Roberts Consultants have been contacted to do the Assessment at a cost of \$3100.

Have a Blessed Christmas.

Blessings
Robyn M



Pastoral Care

We have so much to be thankful for in our congregation over the past term: many of us remain healthy, are



financially sound, have friends and family that care about us and we are able to actively participate in serving God together. There is, however, also an awareness of wars around the world that impact us one way or another, uncertainty about what regulations the new government might implement and concern for loved ones who might be facing challenges.

Our prayers remain with them, and in particular with Cora Smart, Odette Roberson, Gloria Mouatt, Alan Eagle, Philip Temple, Rudi Nelson, Dale Moyer, Kim Cleary, Delia Vermaak, Joan Bryant, Jean Tennent, Ruth West and Patricia Eagle.

How great that we can always take any problem to God! Please call any of the pastoral care leaders if you need prayer, or a visit.

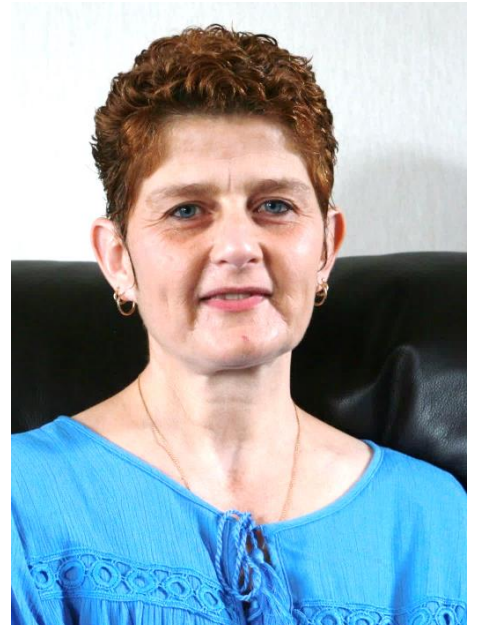
Minette Soekoe



Gail Walker



Sue Davys



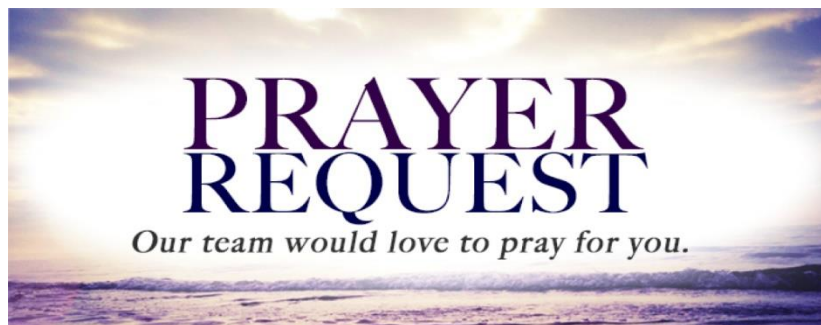
Minette Soekoe

Prayer Chain

A small group of people have dedicated themselves to prayer for others weekly, in confidence whether for family, faith family or worldly.

Where two or three are together in prayer God is there also.
We know he uses us to touch others.
Please get hold of me if you need prayer for yourself or another person.
We seek to serve.

Gail Walker



Do you or someone you know need prayers right now; would you like us to pray for you or somebody dear to your heart?

Would you like to express heartfelt gratitude?

If so, you can email, text or phone your request to our prayer chain.

All requests are kept strictly confidential.
God bless!

If you are interested in becoming a PRAY-er please contact Gail.

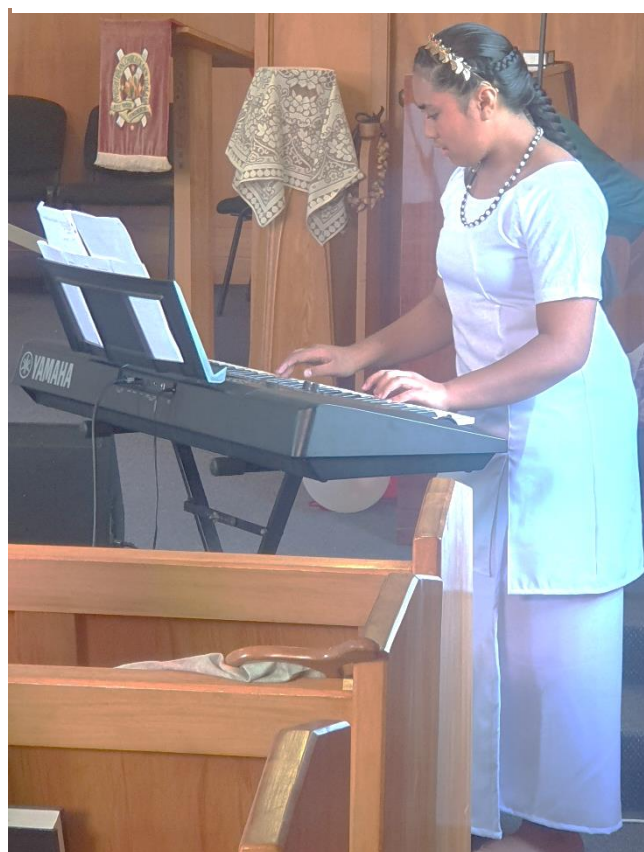
Contact Gail at
gaillindawalker@gmail.com
Phone or text 027 3163510





WHITE SUNDAY

8th October





LOIS ROUT

5.10.36 – 26.10.23

We are saddened to announce the passing of Lois Rout, a dear member of our church.

Lois was a faithful member of our church since 1967 and had been an active part of our leadership team for many years until her health declined.



She had many close friends within our congregation and was known for her warm and kind heart. She had a special way of making everyone feel welcome and loved. One of her most cherished friendships was with Marion and Iris. The three women had been close friends for over 40 years and had a bond that was unbreakable. Their friendship was a testament to the power of love and enduring relationships. People called them the 3 musketeers.

As we mourn the loss of Lois, we take comfort in knowing that she is now in the loving arms of our Heavenly Father. Her memory will live on in the hearts of all those she touched during her time with us, and her legacy of love and service will continue to inspire and guide us for years to come.



HOSPITALITY SUNDAY

We had 37 people sign up for the shared luncheon on 15th October. This is such a lovely way of getting to know people in the congregation who you don't necessarily get time to talk to in church. Everyone had a wonderful time and said they wanted to do this more often. Thank you to all the amazing hosts who looked after their guests so well.



Jaco, Anel, Patricia and Keith had a great hamburger meal with Hel ne, Steph, Helena and Corleen. The young then went for a walk on the beach!



Lunch at the Wilson's

PETER TAUTALI

“Talofa Lava, my name is Peter Tautali. I am 17 years of age and have had the privilege of attending St. Enoch’s for pretty much my whole life. I was born and raised in Tauranga and am now a former student at Bethlehem College. I am a proud Christian and I thank the Lord for the opportunity of educating that I had been so generously gifted to me.



I had attended Arataki Kindergarten alongside Danny Atoa (2008-2009), Arataki Primary School (2010-2016), Mount Maunganui Intermediate (2017-2018), and had recently finished up 15 years of education at Bethlehem College (2019-2023).

Next year I plan on either doing an electrical apprenticeship or studying a Bachelor of Construction at Massey University (Auckland). I have chosen to take on either these pathways because I feel like these are my stronger points and plan on using these talents that God has given me for my career.

My career goal is to become a qualified Quantity Surveyor whilst being qualified in multiple different lines of trades and successfully provide for my family. Although these are my plans for the future, there is only one plan that I shall follow and that is the Lord’s plan for me. I may have plans for my future now but God works in so many different ways so I also plan on letting God use me in his ways.



“For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.”
Philippians 4:13”

DANNY ATOA

Talofa Lava

My name is Danny Atoa, I am 17 years of age, and I was born in Auckland, North Shore.

Moved down here in Tauranga at the age of 1. Since then, I've been attending St Enoch's.

Started schooling at Arataki kindergarten alongside with Peter Tautali (2008). Botanical Kindergarten (2009 - 2010), Gate Pa Primary (2011 - 2016), Tauranga Intermediate (2017 - 2018), Tauranga Boys College (2019 - 2023).



Next year I've decided to take a gap year as I wanted to look after and help provide resources for my family. At the same time, I'll also be diving into studying the Bible during my free time as I've always been very intrigued in finding ways to connect Christianity and psychology. In 2025 my plan is to attend university and pursue my passion for psychology. What captured my attention in psychology was how people live differently, some have it easier and some have it difficult, and I just want to be able to help out the community.

Philippians 4:6 (Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done.)

Kind regards,
Danny Atoa



WHY ENGLISH IS SO HARD TO LEARN

Marlene Davis

You think English is easy? Check out the following.

The bandage was wound around the wound.

The farm was cultivated to produce produce.

The dump was so full that the workers had to refuse more refuse.

We must polish the Polish furniture shown at the store.

He could lead if he would get the lead out.

The soldier decided to desert his tasty dessert in the desert.

Since there is no time like the present, he thought it was time to present the present to his girlfriend.

A bass was painted on the head of the bass drum

When shot at, the dove dove into the bushes.

I did not object to the object which he showed me.

The insurance was invalid for the invalid in his hospital bed.

There was a row among the oarsmen about who would row.

They were too close to the door to close it.

The buck does funny things when the does (females) are present.

A seamstress and a sewer fell down into a sewer line.

To help with planting, the farmer taught his sow to sow.

The wind was too strong to wind the sail around the mast.

Upon seeing the tear in her painting she shed a tear.

I had to subject the subject to a series of tests.

How can I intimate this to my most intimate friend?

Homonyms or homographs are words of like spelling but with more than one meaning and sound. When pronounced differently, they are known as a *heteronyms*.



WHAT'S ON AT ST ENOCH'S

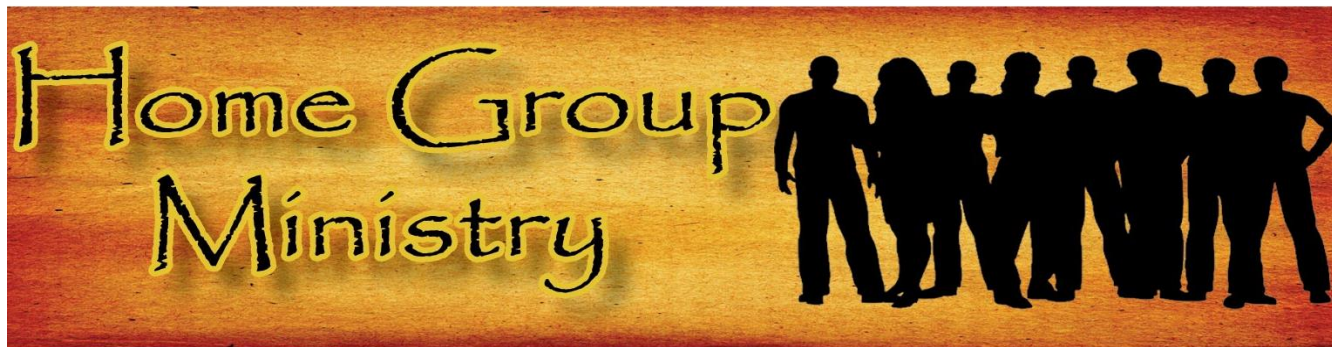
(There may be more - please watch your Sunday Bulletins)

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	1 st & 3 rd Wednesday in lounge	1.00pm
Readers Group	last Wednesday of the month (Venue to be advertised in bulletin)	1.30pm
STEWV Bible study Gr	1 st Thursday of month (Venue to be advertised in bulletin)	7.00pm
Youth Group	Friday night in the hall (Leiona to advise dates)	4.30pm
Under the Stars	3 rd Thursday of each month @ 45 Cliff Rd. For more info ring Louise - 027 2323481	

Christmas services all at 09:30:

- **Carol Service – 10 December**
- **Christmas Eve service – 24 December**
- **Christmas Day service – 25 December**
- **New Years service – 31 December**





Readers' Group This group shares what they have read or are reading, and discussion arises from there. We are introduced to a variety of books, genres and authors which broadens our further choices. Then there is a cuppa and general chat. We meet at different members' homes from 1.30 to 3pm on the last Wednesday of the month.

Ring Patricia Brown for further details – phone 544-0317.

Spiritual Growth Group 1st & 3rd Wednesday in church lounge @ 1.00pm. Please contact Jaco for more information. (Phone 027 3259003) or Lesley (Phone 027 7733811) while Jaco is away

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

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.

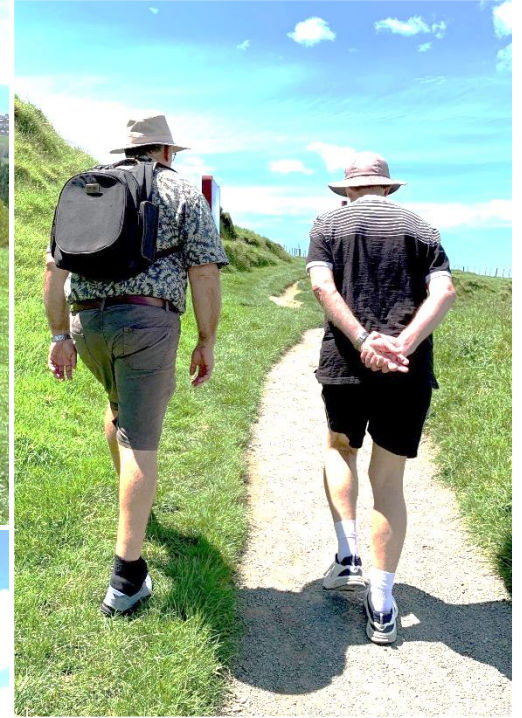
Mens Coffee: All men are invited to join this group on Tuesday at 10am in the Mitre 10 Mega Columbus Café. Phone Rex for more info (027 2842317)

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



Church Picnic

After church on the 12th of November, a few members walked up Papamoa Hills and enjoyed the beautiful views of the Mount (Mauau), Tauranga Harbour, Te Puke and Motiti Island and Whale Island. We have some very fit people in our congregation that just darted up the hill as though they do it every day! It was an inspirational day spent enjoying each other's company. We are blessed to live in such a beautiful area, and especially to have each other to share it with.



IMPRESSIONS OF A SOUTHERN AFRICAN TRIP

Thank you to Jaco and Anel for taking us on an adventure with photos and tales about their amazing trip around Southern Africa – 10,900 km of driving and 3,501 km domestic flying.

What a lovely night we all had, and we all got spoilt with local Afrikaans cuisine that Jaco and Anel prepared and served to us. What a fantastic night and they raised \$1400 for St Enochs – thank you so much.

Check out the recipes for the pumpkin fritters and Malva pudding below that Anel shared with us. They were both delicious and commonly eaten in South Africa in the Afrikaans speaking community.





Pumpkin fritters

- 1 cup pumpkin cooked and pureed
- 1 cup flour (I used gluten free flour)
- 2 teaspoon baking powder
- 2 tablespoon caster sugar
- 1 egg
- ¼ cup milk
- pinch of salt
- oil for deep frying

1. Combine all the ingredients and mix until you have a smooth batter.
2. Heat the oil in a medium saucepan and fry spoonful's of the batter until golden brown and cooked throughout, approximately 2-3 minutes.
3. Remove from the oil and allow to drain on kitchen paper.
4. Continue until all the fritters are cooked.



Malva pudding

- 15ml butter
- 125ml sugar
- 1 egg
- 250ml flour,
- 125ml milk
- 30ml apricot jam,
- 5ml baking soda
- 15ml vinegar



1. Cream butter, sugar and egg.
2. Add milk and flour bit by bit, mix well. Combine apricot jam, baking soda and vinegar- stir into the mixture.
3. Bake @ 180°C - approximately 30min. When you remove from oven, immediately pour the hot (not boiling) sauce carefully over the pudding.

Sauce:

- 250ml cream,
- 125ml sugar (I use less),
- 50ml water,
- 5ml vanilla essence

THE RAINBOW

*When the thunderstorm's fury is over
and the dark clouds are drifting away,
when the sunbeams are playing in puddles
and the blue sky's replacing the grey,
when the rain that has drenched trees and bushes
is dripping from leaf tips like tears,
when tranquillity blesses the landscape -
a beautiful rainbow appears.*

*Its colours are painted in pastel,
in seven soft, shimmering shades,
but its beauty is fragile and fleeting,
the ethereal vision soon fades.
Yet just for those magical moments
it's glory's a joy to behold,
and the sight of a rainbow's more precious
than it's mystical crock full of gold*



St Enoch's Working Women's Group (STEWV)

Our group of 10 working women are so appreciative of each other: support, friendship, respect and carrying each other's burdens.

We are reading through Ruth- four chapters packed with lessons for us in 2023.

Next month we plan an end of year get together, including the men and children: celebration of a year of growing in faith and knowledge of God's Word.

Anel



MENS COFFEE

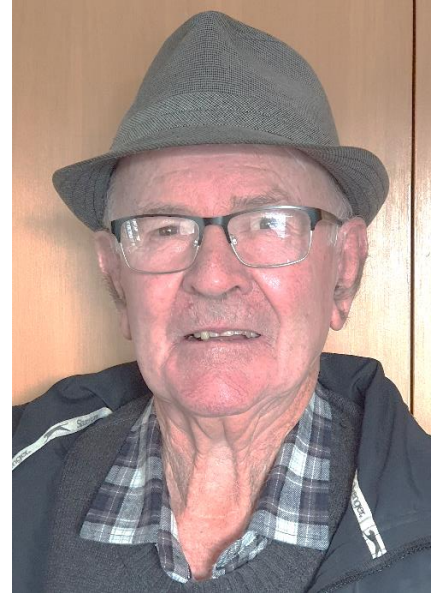
The last 3 months we've had numbers up and down, people away sick and in hospital. The challenges of getting older.

The fellowship at our table is wonderful. I would encourage any men from St Enochs with an hour to spare on Tuesday morning to come along to mega Mitre café.

We would love to have you join us.

The drinks and food are great.

Blessings Rex



How the world has changed

*I remember when grass was mown
Weeds were what we found in the garden
Crack was what appeared on your best china cup
Pot was something you cooked in
Smack you got when naughty
Tinny – grandma kept her biscuits in
Joint was cooked on Sundays
Hash was Sunday's leftover – mashed and fried
Dope was someone of low intelligence
P was done on the potty under the bed
Coke was kept in the coal house
Speed you did with the ball chasing
Ecstasy when you won the art union
High was something out of reach
Hardware meant nuts and bolts
Software wasn't even a word
Welcome to the modern world*

THE WORLD
AS WE KNOW IT HAS
CHANGED

Ladies Coffee Group

It's a special time of the week when those that can gather at Columbus Cafe for coffee or tea and a friendly chat and fellowship.

We meet at 10.00 a.m. - 11.00.a.m. every Tuesday except the last Tuesday

Where we meet at Broom Tree Cafe Cameron Road.

Last Tuesday for meeting 19th December 2023
Begin again 9th January 2024.

Merry Christmas to you all with blessings
Cynthia.

Cynthia Herring

Phone 07 5443053 or 0273241027



Coffee Morning

Everyone Welcome





Readers Group

We meet on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 1.30pm at the home of Patricia Brown (10 Golden Heights, Hairini).

We are a small group and we are enthusiastic about what we read. So others can become interested in different books we like to share and lend what we are currently reading.



The genre is varied as books from the public and church libraries are shared.

The afternoon commences with prayer and concludes with a cup of tea and a friendly chat. We would love you to become part of our group – you would be very welcome.

Contact Patricia Brown for further details – phone 544-0317.

*Gaye Wilson
(on behalf of
Joan Bryant)*

CHURCH LIBRARY

"Love the Lord your God with all your mind."



Sunday School Report

Term 4 has rolled around so quickly.

This means lots of fun things for our children .. the Christmas play; a chance for the younger generation to share the joy of Christmas through drama. This year we have a special version of the Christmas story to share with the congregation. You won't want to miss it! It will be presented by the Sunday school children as well as some of our teens and university aged members of St Enochs.

Keep Sunday 3rd December free in your diary to come and share the joy of Christmas and support our younger generation. We will end the term with a celebration for the children before breaking for the summer holidays.

Blessings,
Wendy, Louise, Robyn and Leiona



*Youth and Family Worker
Leiona Tupou*



The Sunday school team – Wendy, Robyn and Louise

PRAYER FOR TODAY

A person is seen from behind, standing in a field of tall, golden grass. Their arms are raised in a gesture of prayer or worship. In the background, a large, glowing cross is visible against a sky with soft, warm colors, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The overall mood is peaceful and spiritual.

LORD GOD

I worship you.

I praise you.

I give you thanks.

I will serve you today.

I will love you

with all my heart, mind, and soul.

I place all my trust in you.

I surrender my life into your hands.

AMEN

MISSION OUTREACH

St Enoch's congregation supports the following mission organisations:

- Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF)
- Wycliff Bible Translators NZ (WBT)
- Homes of Hope
- Hospital Chaplaincy



Under the stars

A few of the Under the Stars volunteers penned down what attracted them to volunteer.

My husband Doug and I joined Under the Stars, because we are passionate about people who are struggling to make ends meet. It gives us great satisfaction to provide food and serve it to them. It is good to see the interactions taking place between the people. Some of them are lonely and this is an opportunity for them to communicate with others.

- Kitty

I saw what the Under the Stars team was doing at St Enoch's, I have a passion for helping people and with a bit of a cooking enthusiasm I volunteer to help. It's nice to assist the team in providing a nice meal to people that are less fortunate, less seen in the community, where they can feel people care and that they matter within the Tauranga community.

- Eddie

To prepare and serve meals to the homeless, as part of our St Enochs Church team, is to me personally, an act of obedience to my calling as written in Math.25:35 and 40 " For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat.....I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."

- Helene

Through Under the Stars I got to know more people in our congregation on a deeper level and formed warm friendships. We plan the meals and share recipes and ideas.

It is a fun day to serve, and it is inspiring being part of this team that is dedicated to alleviating hunger and providing nourishment to those who are less fortunate. Serving those in need has opened my eyes to the harsh realities faced by the homeless community and has instilled in me a deep sense of gratitude for the privileges I often take for granted. Witnessing the gratitude and appreciation from the individuals we serve is humbling and reminds me of the difference we can make in someone's life, even through small acts of kindness.

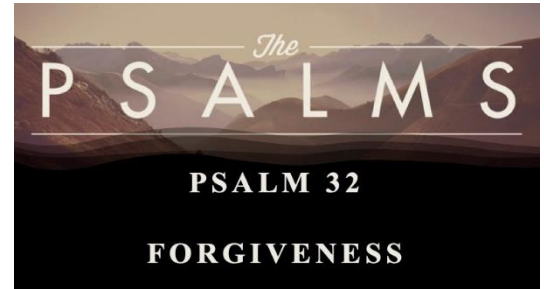
A karakia is usually said before the meal and St Enoch's is always mentioned and thanked for the contribution.

A close friend of mine went through a difficult time and said to me that only two big things in your life has to go wrong for one to lose everything. Many people are there through no fault of their own and it is just through grace that one is fortunate enough to be on the serving side.



A BOQUET OF BEATITUDES

Beatitudes are found in Matthew's Gospel, chapter 5 at the beginning of the Sermon on the Mount. Perhaps you know them or learnt them in Sunday School – all nine of them – as guidelines for your Christian living.



But wait, there is more! There are quite a few tucked in the Book of Psalms – about a dozen and here are some for YOU.

Psalm 32: 1+2 “Blessed is the person whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered”

“Blessed is the person whose sin the Lord does not count against that person and in whose spirit is no deceit.”

Psalm 34:8 “Taste and see that the Lord is good, blessed is the person who takes refuge in Him:”

Psalm 40:4 “Blessed is the person who makes the Lord his trust, who does not look to the proud, to those who turn aside to false Gods”

Psalm 84: 4+5 “Blessed are those who dwell in your house O Lord they are ever praising you”

“Blessed are those whose strength is in You”

“Blessed are all who respect and revere the Lord, who walk in His ways”

Psalm 128: 1 “Blessed are all who respect and revere the Lord who walk in His ways”

I draw your attention to the above as good words and messages to ponder and meditate on and to add to the Beatitudes in Matthew 5 for living a fully rounded, rich Christian life shaped by these gracious, promised blessings of our loving Heavenly Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

NB Some modern translations have “Happy” instead of blessed. But I think happy is a thin word made so by frequent and overuse. “blessed” to me strongly suggests something God is doing as it brings Him into the equation as some would say.

God is the Blessed One. He blesses us all.

(To be continued)

Warren Wilson

Nurturing the Spiritual Health of Our Church Community

Dear Church Family,

In a world often characterized by chaos and uncertainty, our spiritual health becomes a vital anchor that keeps us centered and connected to something larger than ourselves. As we gather in worship, fellowship, and service, our church not only serves as a place of solace, but also as a beacon of spiritual growth and transformation. Today, we reflect upon the importance of prioritizing and nurturing the spiritual health of our church community.

Spiritual health encompasses a wide array of interconnected aspects, including vibrant worship, meaningful relationships, and active engagement with both God and our fellow congregants. It involves fostering an environment where all members, regardless of age, background, or life circumstances, feel embraced and encouraged on their spiritual journeys.

At the heart of our church's spiritual health lies a sense of genuine worship. Our worship services provide us with an opportunity to collectively express our gratitude, awe, and reverence for God's presence in our lives. It is essential that we come together regularly to worship, as it strengthens our connection to one another and deepens our relationship with God.

Meaningful relationships play a pivotal role in nurturing our spiritual health. Our church community provides a support system where individuals can find companionship, encouragement, and accountability. In these relationships, we find the love, understanding, and guidance necessary to navigate life's challenges and grow in our faith. It is through the sharing of joys, sorrows, and spiritual insights that we truly experience the transformative power of God's love.

Active engagement within our church community is another crucial element in maintaining our spiritual health. Opportunities for service and ministry allow us to put our faith into action, extending God's grace and love to those in need. By participating in outreach programs, missions, and acts of kindness, we not only serve others but also nurture and strengthen our own spiritual well-being.

Amid the hustle and bustle of life, it is easy to overlook the importance of nurturing our spiritual health. However, when we prioritize and invest in our spiritual well-being, the benefits ripple throughout our entire church community. A spiritually healthy church is one where individuals find healing, restoration, and purpose, collectively becoming a shining light to the world.

Let us commit ourselves to cultivating a vibrant and welcoming church community, where worship is heartfelt, relationships are valued, and active engagement is embraced. May our spiritual health continue to thrive as we journey together, growing closer to God and one another.

Blessings,
Your Church family



BAD NEWS

The pastor stood before the congregation and said
“I have bad news, I have good news, and I have more bad news.”

The congregation got quiet.

“The bad news is: the church needs a new roof”, the pastor said

The congregation groaned.

“The good news is we have enough money for the new roof.

The bad news is, its still in your pockets”.



DUTY ROSTER – DECEMBER

December 3rd -

COMMUNION & Childrens Christmas Production

Service Leader:	Rev Dr Jaco Reyneke
Vestry:	Sue Nelson Davys
Servers:	Wendy & Leon Roberson: Lesley & John Ayers
Kitchen Duties:	Barrie & Marylyn Smith
Door / Offering:	Brian & Gail Walker
Prayer Partner:	Gaye Wilson

December 10th

Service Leader:	Carol Service with Bethlehem Shores singers
Vestry:	Sue Nelson Davys
Kitchen Duties:	Christine Mercer, Robyn Magowan
Door / Offering:	Mama Tu
Prayer Partner:	Gail Walker

December 17th

Service Leader:	Rev Dr Jaco Reyneke
Vestry:	Sue Nelson Davys
Kitchen Duties:	Shona Giles, Cynthia Herring
Door / Offering:	John & Ngaire Foote
Prayer Partner:	Sue Davys

December 24th

Service Leader:	Rev Dr Jaco Reyneke
Vestry:	Sue Nelson Davys
Kitchen Duties:	Geoff & Bernice Tyrrell
Door / Offering:	Gloria Mouatt, Mama Tu
Prayer Partner:	Lesley Ayers

December 31st

Service Leader:	Rev Dr Jaco Reyneke
Vestry:	Sue Nelson Davys
Kitchen Duties:	Tricia Brown, Robyn Dowdle
Door / Offering:	Joseph Toara
Prayer Partner:	Gaye Wilson

Each Sunday the reading and sermon is recorded and downloaded onto our website.

www.stenochs.org.nz/reading-message

DUTY ROSTER - JANUARY

January 7th - COMMUNION

Service Leader:	Rev. Dr Jaco Reyneke
Vestry:	Nols Bertram
Servers:	Ngaire & John Foote: Lyn & Ken Hartley.
Kitchen Duties:	Jeanette Stewart, Jean Whiteman
Door / Offering:	Mama Tu
Prayer Partner:	Gail Walker

January 14th

Service Leader:	Rev. Dr Jaco Reyneke
Vestry:	Nols Bertram
Kitchen Duties:	Ken & Lyn Hartley
Door / Offering:	Joy Fisher, Mama Tu
Prayer Partner:	Sue Davys

January 21st

Service Leader:	Rev. Dr Jaco Reyneke
Vestry:	Nols Bertram
Kitchen Duties:	Richard Wilson, Robyn Magowan
Door / Offering:	Gerald & Yvonne Krohn
Prayer Partner:	Lesley Ayers

January 28th

Service Leader:	Rev. Dr Jaco Reyneke
Vestry:	Nols Bertram
Kitchen Duties:	Beverley Cochrane, Cynthia Herring
Door / Offering:	Rob Brown, Mama Tu
Prayer Partner:	Gaye Wilson

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

A couple were Christmas shopping. The shopping centre was packed, and as the wife walked through one of the malls, she was surprised when she looked around to find that her husband was nowhere to be seen. She was quite upset because they had a lot to do and she became so worried that she called him on her mobile phone to ask him where he was.

In a quiet voice he said. "Do you remember the jewelers we went into about five years ago where you fell in love with the diamond necklace that we couldn't afford, and I told you that I would get it for you one day?" The wife choked up and started to cry and said, "Yes, I do remember that shop". He replied, "Well, I'm in the bar next door."

DUTY ROSTER - FEBRUARY

February 4th – COMMUNION

Service Leader:	Rev. Dr Jaco Reyneke
Vestry:	Eli Yoo
Servers:	Yvonne & Gerald Krohn. Kitty & Doug Naude
Kitchen Duties:	Anua Abbott, Anel Reyneke
Door / Offering:	Margaret Wakefield, Mama Tu
Prayer Partner:	Gail Walker

February 11th

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

February 18th

Service Leader:	Rev. Dr Jaco Reyneke
Vestry:	Eli Yoo
Kitchen Duties:	Robyn Magowan, Helene Stol
Door / Offering:	Philip Temple, Mama Tu
Prayer Partner:	Lesley Ayers

February 25th

Service Leader:	Rev. Dr Jaco Reyneke
Vestry:	Eli Yoo
Kitchen Duties:	Geoff & Bernice Tyrrell
Door / Offering:	Doug & Kitty Naude'
Prayer Partner:	Gaye Wilson

Biscuits

the church kitchen are running short of biscuits to share on a Sunday. If anyone is able to donate a packet or 2 please drop them into the church kitchen.

Thank you - we appreciate your support.



Contact People

Minister	Rev Dr Jaco Reyneke	544 0644 (home) 027 3259003
Session Clerk	Philip Temple	570 2275
Treasurer	Ken Hartley	579 3477
Administrator	Marie Nilson	578 6902 (home)
Sunday School	Wendy Roberson	027 4388635
Youth & Family worker	Leiona Tupou	027 5051117
Envelope Secretary	Church office	578 3040
Mission Motivator Homes of Hope	Minette Soekoe Robyn Dowdle	021 995875 544 0031
Lounge Kitchen Co-ordinator	Cynthia Herring	544 3053
Hospital Visiting	Gail Walker	544 2179
Musicians	Helen Temple George Bryant Ruth West Denice Priest	570 2275 544 1669 281 0661 027 2553945
Prayer Chain	Gail Walker	544 2179
Sound System	Richard Wilson John Foote Robert Brown	578 3894 926 9065 578 7492
Library	Betty Cronin	544 0551
Health & Safety Officer	Robyn Magowan	021 0714133
Website Design & Management	Marnel Van de Spuy	021 2080104

CONTACTS

Minister:	Rev. Dr Jaco Reyneke	544 0644 (home) 027 3259003
Hon. Asst Minister:	Rev. George Bryant	027 3146690
Session Clerk	Philip Temple	570 2275 (home)
Youth & Family worker	Leiona Tupou	027 5051117
Treasurer:	Ken Hartley	579 3477 (home)
Administrator:	Marie Nilson	029 7716902

SESSION

Lester Gray	021 757599	Robyn Dowdle	544 2231
Joan Bryant	027 7733811	Philip Temple	570 2275
Peka Tautali	572 2329	Gail Walker	544 2179
Joseph Toara	027 4404625	Louise Hediger	027 2323481
Sue Davys	027 4833113	Minette Soekoe	021 995875
Nol Bertram	027 2381450		

Pastoral Care Leaders

Sue Davys (team leader)	027 4833113	Joan Bryant	0277733811
Gail Walker (team leader)	544 2179	Marion Bennett	578 8382
Minette Soekoe(team leader)	021 995875	Iris Stockwell	578 5148
Helen Temple	570 2275	Lawson Stewart	548 1204
Ngaire Foote	926 9065	Lesley Ayers	544 2135
Cynthia Herring	544 3053	Mary Woods	578 5561
Ken Hartley	579 3477	Shona Giles	578 0192
Bernice Tyrrell	578 2224	Robyn Magowan	021 0714133
Robyn Dowdle	544 2231	Brian Walker	544 2179
Joseph Toara	027 4404625		

Youth Leaders

Leiona Tupou	027 5051117	Wendy Roberson	027 4388635
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BOARD OF MANAGERS

Richard Wilson	578 3894	Robyn Magowan	021 0714133
Ken Hartley	579 3477	Geoff Tyrrell	578 2224
Tim Reed	021 1372262	Leon Roberson	027 4388636
Eddie Groenewald	022 0214927		

Maintenance & Development

Richard Wilson	578 3894
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