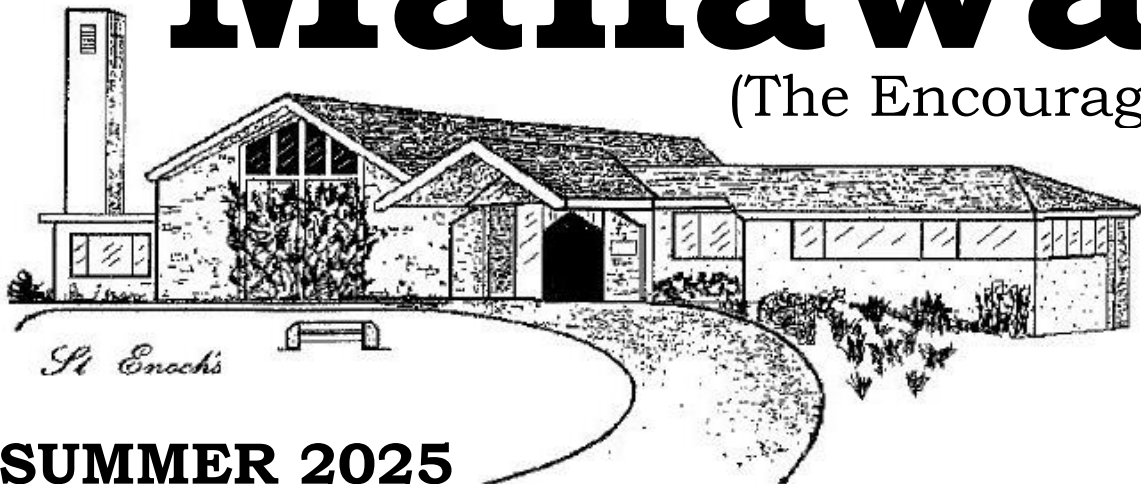
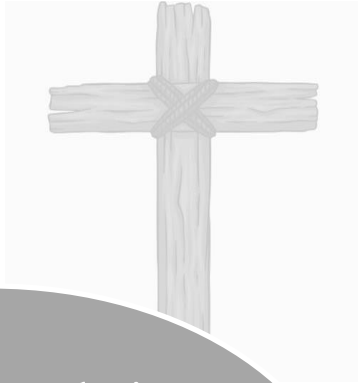


# Manawa

(The Encourager)



*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

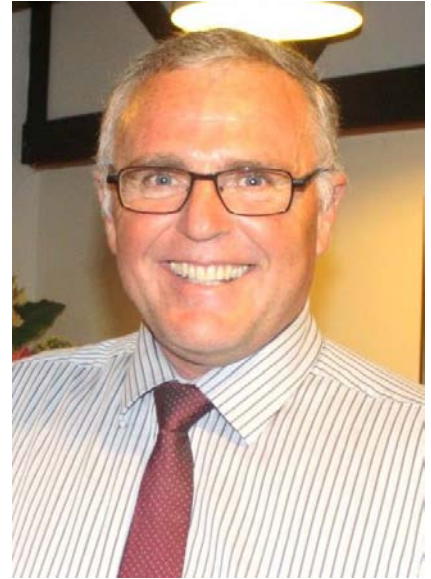
[www.stenochs.org.nz](http://www.stenochs.org.nz)

# A MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

## Our Christian Witness

What do people see when they look at us, when they experience us?

Jesus said: “Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples.” (John 13:35 NLT) and He prayed: “May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that you sent me and that you love them as much as you love me.” (John 17:23 NLT)



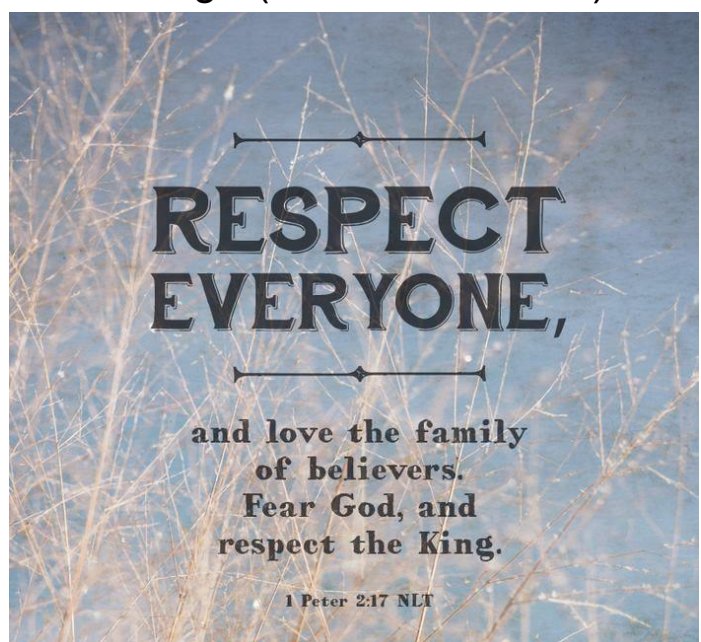
Our Christian witness seems to start at home – among us as brothers and sisters in Christ. Do our love and care for one another prove to the world that we are Jesus Christ’s disciples? Are we so unified (which is different from being uniform) that people can see that God sent Jesus Christ to the world, and that God loves them as deeply as a parent loves their child?

This does not imply we are perfect people with perfect relationships with no sins, no differences and no tensions. Christians are not perfect, we are loved and forgiven by God. Because we are forgiven, we gratefully do our best to live in a God honouring, Christ following and Holy Spirit led way.

It means:

- We avoid meaningless arguments. “Again, I say, don’t get involved in foolish, ignorant arguments that only start fights.” (2 Timothy 2:23 NLT)
- We afford each other space of grace. “Make allowance for each other’s faults and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.” (Colossians 3:13 NLT)
- We are humbly aware of our own imperfection. “And why worry about a speck in your friend’s eye when you have a log in your own?” (Luke 6:41 NLT)

- We share our views in a respectful manner. “And if someone asks about your hope as a believer, always be ready to explain it. But do this in a gentle and respectful way. Keep your conscience clear. Then if people speak against you, they will be ashamed when they see what a good life you live because you belong to Christ.” (1 Peter 3:15b-16 NLT)
- We know that action speaks louder than words. “In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.” (Matthew 5:16 NLT)
- We encourage each other to do better. “Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works.” (Hebrews 10:24 NLT)
- Christ’s love becomes our behavioural benchmark. “Either way, Christ’s love controls us. Since we believe that Christ died for all, we also believe that we have all died to our old life.” (2 Corinthians 5:14 NLT)
- We focus on others rather than on ourselves. “Don’t be selfish; don’t try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves.” (Philippians 2:3 NLT)
- In every area of life – social, spiritual, and political - we strive to set a good example. “Respect everyone, and love the family of believers. Fear God, and respect the king.” (1 Peter 2:17 NLT)
- We value and intentionally nurture our unity in Christ and in the Spirit. “Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other’s faults because of your love. Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves





together with peace.” (Ephesians 4:2-3 NLT)

- We take our stewardship of creation seriously. “The earth is the LORD’s, and everything in it. The world and all its people belong to him.” (Psalms 24:1 NLT)

Looking at this list brings us to a point where we realise, we need God’s help. We pray: “How can I know all the sins lurking in my heart? Cleanse me from these hidden faults. Keep your servant from deliberate sins! Don’t let them control me. Then I will be free of guilt and innocent of great sin. May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing to you, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.” (Psalms 19:12-14 NLT)

Every day we have opportunities to reflect God’s grace and love we experience fresh every morning. Every day we have opportunities to be a witness to God’s deep desire to be in loving relationship with all people.

Jaco Reyneke

How can I know all the sins lurking  
in my heart? Cleanse me from  
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Psalms 19:12-14 NLT

# 2025 General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand



Moderator, Rev Peter Dunn's theme for the next two years is: We believe. Peter explained "The "we believe" logo can move in the imagination as you like. In a moment, I will be introducing the analogy of a braided river to consider who we are as the Presbyterian Church. The Cross is the anchor feature. Being in the stream of Reformed Theology, the Cross is empty because of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The wavy lines represent a braided river." And "the wavy lines might also



represent a howling norwester you get in these parts. And a howling norwester drifted my mind to thinking about the wind of the Holy Spirit reviving the good old PCANZ, and anyone else who wants to join in." "A braided river is known for its many channels that flow within its banks from the mountains to the sea. The channels shift and change over time, but the river is still the river." "What flows in the channels within the banks? Evangelicals and progressives. Conservatives and Liberals. Cooperating Parishes. Urban and rural parishes. Parishes with ministers, parishes without, parishes that have recently realised they cannot afford a minister anymore. Parishes that are thriving and growing, parishes on palliative care, working out who will finally turn the lights off. There are people from the

Rainbow Community. There are Contemplatives. Charismatics, the occasional mystic. Nicene Creed adherents, those who are not. Those in the channel of Reformed Theology. There could even be dispensationalists and Anabaptists in our river. How many languages and cultures flow in our channels? Forty? Fifty? We have channels that are recognisable as ethnic channels, bringing their richness to the river. Youth leaders and their challenging groups of young people. We have a large channel of boomers. Ordained Ministers, Ordained Elders, Deacons and Board of Managers, Parish Counsellors. Members and associate members. And people who just come to our Churches.”

Great work has been done by the Council of Assembly (COA) in response to the report of the Royal Commission of Inquiry into historical abuse in the care of state and faith-based organisations. In collaboration with survivors an advisory group with specialist expertise guided COA in developing a redress framework. This will be a survivor focussed process. “We plan to have Hauora Coordinators in place to support survivors throughout their journey, as well as independent panels of Navigators and Investigators to ensure the process remains transparent, just and survivor centred.”

After a lot of listening to the church, the workgroup exploring the PCANZ’s (our) strategic direction concluded: “What’s emerged isn’t a new top-down directive. It’s an invitation to belong, to be together, to trust God and each other, and to walk forward not just as structures or committees, but as whānau.

Because we’re better together—not just in theory, but in the messy, hopeful, Spirit-led reality of Church life. Rather than simply drafting another plan or producing another document, we’ve found ourselves led into something deeper, more relational, and more transformational. So, if you’re wondering what the strategy is, it might be this: less prescription, more presence. Less about managing the Church, more about being the Church—together.”

It is WHANAUNGATANGA.

“Whanaungatanga refers to a sense of family connection. It’s a relationship through shared experiences and working together which provides people with a sense of belonging.

A simple way to understand whanaungatanga is that it is about relationships and expectations.

Whanaungatanga describes the ‘glue’ that holds people together in any whānau relationships. In tough times, it’s the relationship-glue

of whanaungatanga that causes the whānau to gather round, provide support, and put the needs of the group before the needs of individuals.

What it isn't. It is not about making everyone fit into the same pattern, suppressing opinions, thoughts and ideas which don't match our own, but rather, valuing the unique contribution each person makes to the whole. It is not about pushing others out because they are not part of our whanau, but about welcoming them in.

What makes this a Christian value?

We are called to be a community gathered around and finding our identity in Christ, not divided by societal barriers, prejudices or expectations."

Assembly accepted that the church would focus on whanaungatanga while Presbyteries and congregations will work out missional strategies that will serve the Kingdom best within the particular context.

The General Assembly Review group looked at removing barriers for people to attend and engage with General Assembly. To make it more affordable to attend the General Assembly, it was decided that funding for General Assembly will be included in the General Assembly budget, alternative funding will be sought, and that presbyteries and congregations be asked to approve a hybrid General Assembly - with up to 25% of commissioners participating via electronic means.

It was exciting to see how God is moving within Presbyteries, our mission partners (like among others the Uniting Church in Australia; the Presbyterian church in Vanuatu and in Myanmar), and various ministries (like Presbyterian Youth Ministry), as reports were tabled.

Our first female Assembly Executive Secretary, Rev Erin Pendreigh, was appointed. Erin will commence the role in February 2026. We wish her well and pray for a smooth transition as she takes over from Rev Wayne Matheson, who has been the Assembly Executive Secretary for the past 11 years.





The Rev Dr Murray Rae will be the next leader of the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand. Murray was elected Moderator designate by the Church and will take up the role of Moderator at the 2027 General Assembly.



All commissioners were allocated to a dialogue group. In dialogue groups more people could share their opinions and there was opportunity to engage with each other's views. The three dialogue groups (about various forms of ministries, the recognition thereof and training for it; the Whanaungatanga and GA Review reports; and about healthy church characteristics) were constructive, meaningful and helpful.

It is of concern that there are less people willing to take up roles in church and presbytery committees. Pray that people would develop an awareness of our shared responsibility for the life and mission of Jesus Christ's church.

Let's keep the PCANZ's mission statement in mind as we do mission in our patch:

The Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand believes it is called by God to work with others in making Jesus Christ known through –

- Teaching and nurturing people in Christian faith
- Loving service responding to human need
- Proclaiming the gospel
- Seeking to transform society
- Caring for God's creation

*Jaco Reyneke*





# Thank You, Ken Hartley

A heartfelt thank you to Ken Hartley for his 9½ years of dedicated voluntary service as Treasurer at St Enoch's. Ken has done an outstanding job of keeping our finances in excellent order, always ensuring everything balanced beautifully.

In addition to his careful bookkeeping, Ken has faithfully advised the Board of Managers at their monthly meetings, offering his financial wisdom and insight to help guide important decisions. He has always been available to assist and provide thoughtful advice whenever needed.

Although Ken is stepping down from the role, we are very grateful that he will still be available to give advice and help out when needed. His steady hand and practical guidance have been a real blessing to our congregation, and his contribution will be greatly missed.

We are delighted to welcome Wilna Human, who will be taking over the role of Treasurer. Thank you, Wilna, for stepping into this important position.

Once again, thank you, Ken, for your years of faithful service and commitment to St Enoch's.



# SESSION REPORT

Good afternoon Church Family

As I write this report, we are blessed in the sunshine that cover us in the Tauranga area. Although there was a general grumble about the wind, and occasional squally showers, we were lucky to avoid the storms that hit Te Waipounamu (the South Island); storms that caused moments of grief and sorrow.



October is a month of grief and celebration for me. As many of you know I celebrate my birthday in October, and because it fell on Labour Day this year, I could take the day off. As a child I grew up on a farm, and the local school celebrated Calf Club Day on the Tuesday after Labour Day, so for 4 years, I did not attend school on my birthday!. However, back to the present. October is also the anniversary of my husband's death. Therefore, I approach October with anticipation, but also the month is backgrounded by a sense of grief.

I was talking to one of our fellow church family, who also has coped with a lot of grief during her life. As she said, you cannot keep focusing on grieving, but celebrate and acknowledge there is a pathway forward, and perhaps the grief makes us more aware of God, even if we question His plans for us. My friend also went on to say that others don't want to always hear about our grief; they want to move on with their own lives. This sage counsel makes me mindful of my Gisborne sister who lost her house in Cyclone Gabriel. Although it is almost three years since the cyclone flooded through their home, and others have moved on, every day my sister and her husband have to negotiate with tradesmen, district council officials or other setbacks.

Many of our St Enoch brothers and sister are also experiencing grief, and yet we see them week after week with a cheerful smile that hides the tears. As Paul wrote in his second letter to the Corinthians Chapter One verse 3-5 Let us give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord

Jesus Christ, the merciful Father, the God from whom all help comes! 4He helps us in all our troubles, so that we are able to help others who have all kinds of troubles, using the same help that we ourselves have received from God. 5Just as we have a share in Christ's many sufferings, so also through Christ we share in God's great help

May we continue to give thanks to God for His Grace and celebrate in the knowledge that His help will carry us in both sorrow and joy. May we, as a church family, continue to help our brothers and sisters in Christ, help to carry their burden, and ease their loads

May God Bless us all and keep us safe in His arms

Christine  
Session Clerk



## 2025 Love Grace Handbag Appeal

14th February - 8th March 2025

### Empowering victims of domestic abuse in honour of Grace Millane

Violence against women is not ok. In memory of Grace Millane, the Love Grace charitable appeal was set up by her family to combine Grace's love for handbags with a legacy to end violence against women. In association with Women's Refuges, we are collecting handbags and filling them with useful items for women in need.



If you want to donate a handbag, fill it with everything from basics – eg toothpaste, toothbrush, shower gel, shampoo, deodorant to luxury items like make up, sunglasses, jewellery etc. We will be collecting items and handbags and putting them together closer to the appeal. Drop off to the Church office.



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

My name is Wilna Human and I am grateful for the opportunity to serve as the new treasurer here at St Enoch's. I have Ken's big shoes to fill! My husband and I have been part of this congregation since 2020, following Jaco from the Afrikaans Church. Our family emigrated from South Africa in August 2006. I have also been the treasurer at the Afrikaans Church for a few years. Outside of church I worked in Finance at Tauranga Girls' College for nearly 18 years and accepted a part-time position in a similar role at Otumoetai College last December. In my role as treasurer, I help oversee the church's finances, alongside Marie and Neville, our Accountant. It is a joy to see how your generosity supports the ministries, outreach programs, and day-to-day needs that help our church share God's love.



Below is a comparison between the income and expenses for the months of July – September 2024 and 2025. Although it looks like the church is running a deficit, it is due to the \*Property Expenses which includes \$20,314.28 for the maintenance work on the hall. As Ken stated in his previous three month's report, we have the hall expenditure covered, and the church should make a small profit next year. The hall repairs are now completed.

	Jul-Sep 2024	Jul – Sep 2025	
<b>Income</b>			
Giving Income	33,054.35	31,911.80	
Property/Rental	20,142.91	21,090.67	
Hall Appeal	10,076.25	-	
Grants & Legacies	13,616.11	10,000	Acorn Foundation
Activities & Other Income	1,800.45	5,666.31	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>78,690.07</b>	<b>68,668.78</b>	



### Operating Expenses

Administration	10,890.38	11,449.86
Ministry Expenses	28,076.96	28,660.63
Mission Expense	3,301.87	2,239.90
Property Expenses*	22,945.35	42,802.70

**Total Operating Expenses    65,214.56    85,153.09**

**Operating Profit                    13,475.51    -16,484.09**

It is noted that the Giving Income is a bit less compared to the same period last year.

Just a reminder and a kind request to review your giving in the light of the inflationary trends. Any small increase will make a difference.

The church bank details are:

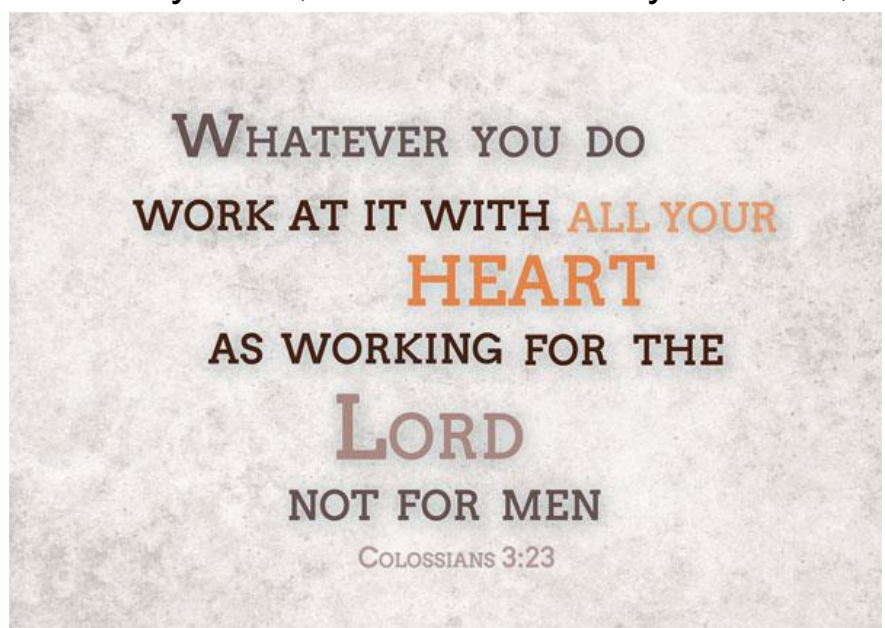
**St Enoch's Presbyterian Church**  
**02-0466-0167590-00**

The increase in the cost of catering from \$10 to \$12.50 per person has been approved at the Board of Managers Meeting of 15 October.

The following verse teaches us that we should perform our duties, in all areas of our lives, with the mindset that we are ultimately working for the Lord.

Colossians 3:23 (NIV): "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters".

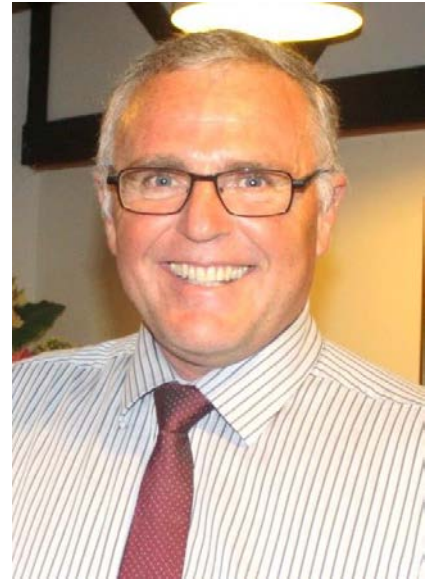
*Wilna Human*  
*Treasurer*



# Spiritual Growth

## Growth through Gathering

Faith is both personal and communal. Yet, an increasing number of people seem to see themselves as Christians without being affiliated to any faith community. The gathering of his followers seems to be important to Jesus. Jesus often used the flock and sheep pen as metaphors and states where two or three gather as his followers, He is there among us. (Mat 18:20) We are the Body of Christ, and we therefore need to be well connected and in tune with each other to be a healthy and well-functioning body. That is why the Hebrews author encourages: "Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near." (Hebrews 10:24-25 NLT) It is in our gatherings as Christians that we get the opportunities to hone our skills to love and forgive, to serve and to encourage, to minister and to correct.

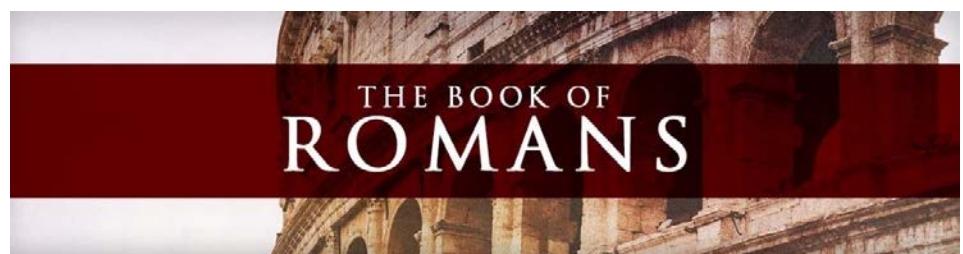


Isolation weakens faith and increases the risk of developing skewed views. A big part of discerning is affirmation by fellow believers. Christian life is meant to be lived in community.

That is why it is important to regularly attend Sunday worship and engage in groups where we can fellowship as believers and gather around the Word.

The Spiritual Growth Group who meets in the lounge at 13:00 on the first and third Wednesday of the month, is an opportunity to learn from each other. It is a safe space to be honest about our struggles and joys. We are currently working our way through the book of Romans. Anyone is welcome to join in.

*Jaco Reyneke*



## Board of Managers: Sept – Oct 2025

Nice to know Summer is upon us and we can start summer activities.

You may have seen the new railings in the St Vinnies carpark. This needed to go up, as cars were parking over our entrance to the back field.

At the last BOM meeting we met with Neville Watkins who is now our Accountant. It was great to meet Neville and know we are in good hands. He is the Accountant for many of the Churches in Tauranga so the systems and processes are well known to him.



We are also pleased to have Wilna Human as our Treasurer. Wilna is well experienced in this kind of work and we thank her for agreeing to take on this important roll.

### **Maintenance:**

- The church windows have all been washed  
Over bench slider in the hall has been repaired
- Digital locks have been installed in the Hall. This is a more secure way of admitting groups who use our hall. They work on time, and the office can monitor who goes in and when. It saves many people having keys.

Session and BOM are having a Community Celebration Morning Tea for all those groups who use our facilities. Invitations will go out for 2 or 3 representatives to attend.

Funeral catering is working well and is a very good means of extra income. It is well coordinated by Marie and is also cost effective for those needing this service. Thank you, Marie.

That is all for this quarter. I wish you a Blessed and Happy Christmas season.

*Blessings*  
*Robyn M*





## Kaimai Presbyterian Youth Ball

The ball was something special. We had four youth groups, attend and come together for this Enchanted Forest Ball – not just a fun night, but to keep building the friendships that began when we all camped together at Easter, and to worship God as one community. The youth groups attended were Katikati St Paul's, Saint Enochs, St Andrews the Mount and Bethlehem Community Church.

We had an amazing team behind this night – from our cooks, who created a beautiful grazing table including a chocolate fountain and big selection of fruits. To the leaders who worked so hard on the decorations and all the organising behind the scenes. To the youth band who filled the room with worship music, Ethan the youth pastor from Katikati, who gave a great inspiring message. It truly looked and felt magical.



In the end, 40 young people and their leaders came together, danced together with some Scottish group dancing, talked and celebrated together.

It was more than a ball, it's a picture of community and teamwork and God at work in our youth, worshiping and praising God together. Thank you to Bethlehem Community Church for the use of their premises and helping us host this ball and Leiona from Saint Enochs who put a lot of hours into the organising.

We would love to have more youth groups attend this event throughout the Kaimai region, next year.



Julianne  
Children's Families Ministry Coach



# Youth Group

## What a difference!

It's been a full and fruitful season for St Enoch's Youth — one of deeper faith, stronger relationships, and new beginnings.

Our Friday youth nights have continued to thrive, running from 4:30–6:30 pm with a mix of Highs and Lows (sharing time), games, Bible study, and shared meals.



This term, our youth are exploring the theme of Redemption: the story of being bought back and restored by God. The study aims to show our young people that redemption isn't just a word thrown around, but a picture of God's deep love and desire to free us from the power of sin and brokenness.

## Highlights in Youth Ministry:

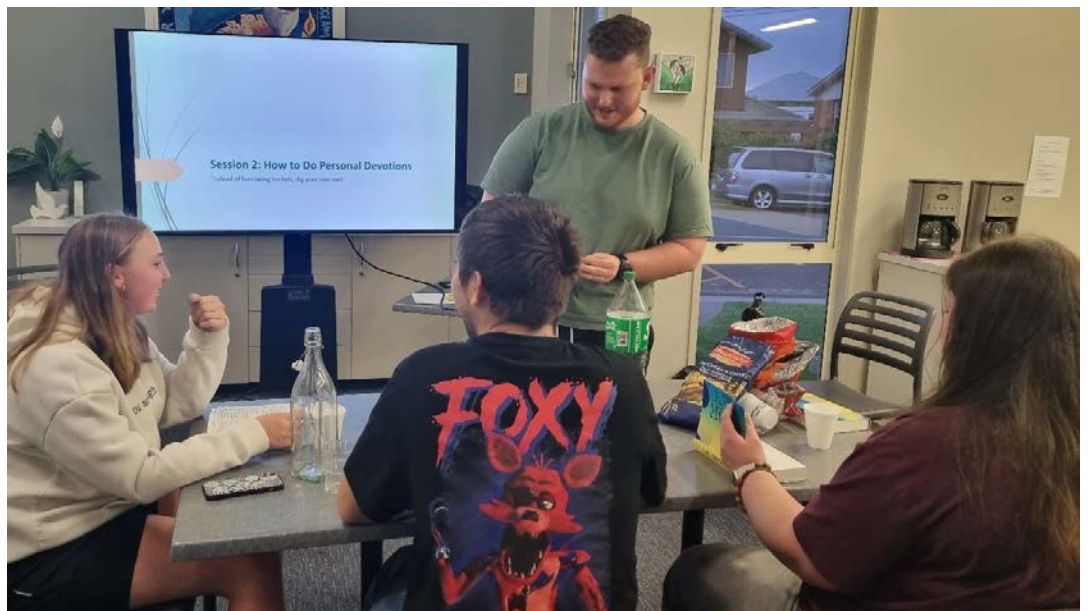
- **Presbyterian Youth Ball:** The Presbyterian Youth Ball, held on September 20th at Bethlehem Community Church was a fantastic success, strengthening interchurch relationships. This event brought together 43 young people from across the region for an evening of



celebration, worship, and community. We had been blessed by the community who rallied around this vision and helped to make it happen. Thank you to all of you who support this ministry.

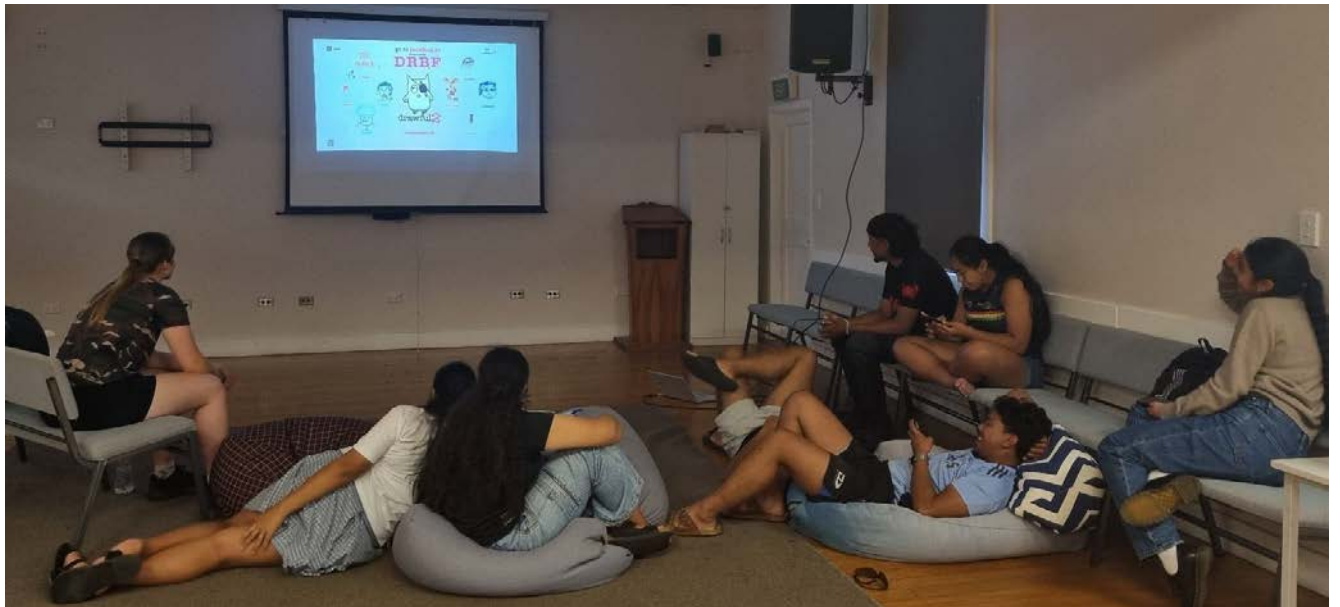
- **Young Adults Ministry with St. Andrews:** A shared ministry between St Enoch's and St Andrews Mount Maunganui. The group was formed to provide a space for those aged roughly 18–25, including senior youth who have finished school, to stay connected in faith and community as they navigate early adulthood.
- **Youth Group:** With the Young Adults group underway, St. Andrews youth have joined us in our youth group sessions. They have not become part of St. Enoch's youth, but have come alongside us. It is a blessing to have them.

From the energy of Friday nights to the regional unity seen at the Youth Ball and the launch of the Young Adults ministry, we're witnessing God's hand at work - shaping a generation to know Him, serve others, and walk confidently in their identity in Christ.



*Leiona Tupou-Dixon*  
*Youth and Family Worker*





## Pastoral Care

- This final report for 2025 is completed on behalf of the elder team, comprising of Helene Stols, Christine Mercer and myself, Lyn Hartley.

Over the year we have worked cooperatively and harmoniously, serving our church community with dedication and care. This report emphasizes our achievements and lessons learned during these challenging economic times.

We would like to express gratitude to our minister Jaco, all church members and community partners for their ongoing encouragement. This report fervently serves as a testament to Gods encouragement and love.

- A significant hurdle faced by our elder team is the increasing awareness of mental health issues. This involves physical health, mental health, dementia and grief issues. It has been a priority to offer regular contact, support and prayer. Support has been given to Iris Stockwell, as after many years, she will be stepping down as a pastoral care group leader and will be replaced by Verena Brungger.
- On a more uplifting note, we are grateful for the continued success of our Manawa church magazine. It has been a source of inspiration, connection and informative church news for our members. The Manawa magazine is of particular significance for those who cannot attend church services. We appreciate the many contributors who reflect the positive spirit of our church.
- We are now also aware of the financial hardships faced by many in our church community, especially those living alone. The rising cost of living, unemployment and unexpected expenses have left some struggling to make ends meet. We are reminded of the importance of



generosity, kindness and compassion in such difficult times.

- Finally, may the lessons learned, and the experiences shared in this report inspire future leaders to continue building on the foundations laid. To God be all the glory.

*Lyn Hartley.  
Elder.*

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



## **Thank you Ruth**

Ruth is retiring from her role as pianist at the end of this year. Ruth plays for us every Third Sunday of the month. We are deeply grateful for the time, dedication, and heart she has poured into her music over the years. Her beautiful playing—often alongside Lawson and Josh on guitar—has enriched our worship in a special way.

Thank you, Ruth. We will miss your music and the joy you bring to our services.





# Thank You Morning Tea

On 15th November, St Enoch's held a special Thank You Morning Tea in the church lounge to acknowledge and appreciate the wonderful groups who share our premises and form part of our wider community. The Session kindly catered and served the morning tea, creating a warm and welcoming atmosphere for everyone. Members of Session and the Board of Managers were also invited to attend, making it a lovely time of fellowship and gratitude as we celebrated the partnerships that enrich the life of our church.





# **Celebrating 100 Wonderful Years**

## **Margaret's Special Day**

Margaret Shearer, was a much-loved member of St Enoch's many years ago, along with her late husband Ken. Ken served faithfully as one of the trustees and as treasurer of the Goodwill Shop, and together they were an important part of our church community around 30 to 40 years ago.

Margaret now resides at Te Puke Country Lodge, where she recently celebrated her 100th birthday. To mark this remarkable milestone, four familiar faces from St Enoch's – Marion Bennett, Mary Woods, Beverley Hayman, and Iris Stockwell – visited to join in the celebrations. The day was beautifully organised by Margaret's daughter, Judith.

Those who attended said that Margaret is still the same cheerful, smiling lady we remember so fondly from the 1980s and 1990s. The highlight of her special day was receiving a birthday card from King Charles and Queen Camilla – a fitting touch to a truly memorable occasion.

*Iris Stockwell*





## TWO LITTLE OLD LADIES....

Two little old ladies, Niamh and Tara, were sitting on a park bench outside the local town hall in Limerick, where a flower show was in progress.

The short one, Niamh, leaned over and said, "Life is so boring. We never have any fun anymore.

For \$10 I'd take my clothes off and streak through that stupid, boring flower show"!

"You're on!", said Tara, holding up a \$10 bill.

So, Niamh slowly fumbled her way out of her clothes. She grabbed a dried flower from a nearby display and held it between her teeth.

Then, completely naked, she streaked (as fast as an old lady can) through the front door of the flower show.

Waiting outside, her friend soon heard a huge commotion inside the hall, followed by loud applause and shrill whistling.

Finally, the smiling Niamh came through the exit door surrounded by a cheering, clapping crowd.

"What happened", asked Tara?

"I won \$100 as 1st prize for 'Best Dried Arrangement'!"





# LOUA PAHL

It's no small feat leaving your home country in search of a better future - but in 2018 that's exactly what Loua Pahl, Healthcare Assistant at The Avenues, did.

Loua moved from Samoa to New Zealand, with the dream of supporting her family set firmly in her sights.



"It was a big move with lots of change," she admits. "English is my second language so I knew it would be hard, but I was ready for the challenge."

Joining Metlifecare a year later, Loua started as a cleaner at The Avenues in the Bay of Plenty – a role which fuelled her passion for helping and caring for others.

"When I was younger I looked after my own grandparents. Working in the village brought back many memories, and reminded me how fulfilling it can be to support others."

Keen to embrace the next step in her professional career, Loua enrolled in a health care assistant course.

"I have a lot of support from my family and I don't give up easily. They're always encouraging me to be the best I can be."

Loua's dedication didn't go unnoticed. Recognising her potential, she was encouraged by her peers and supervisor to apply for a health care assistant role.

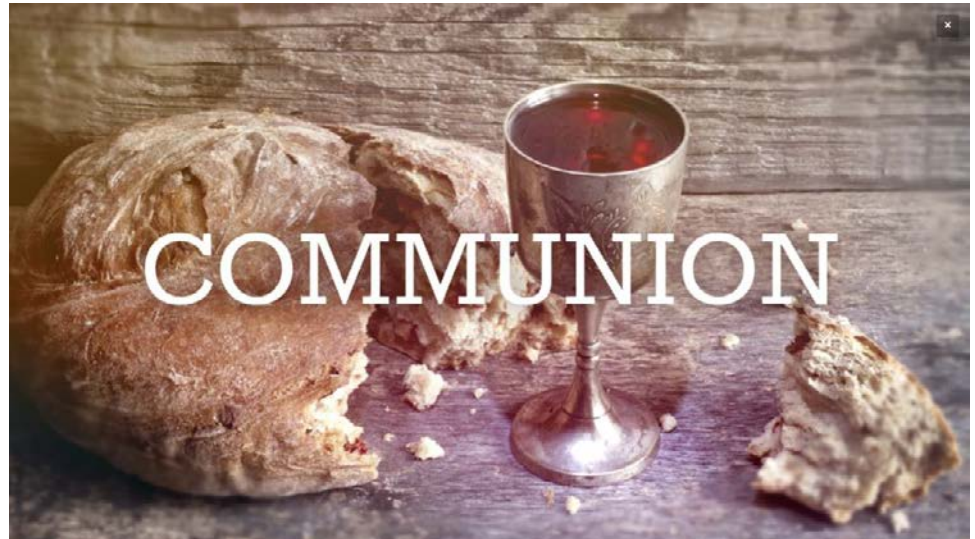
"Loua has always shown a strong natural ability to care, and it was evident that her talent would be a perfect fit for our care home," says The Avenues Care Home Manager Sophie Singh.

Showing a real love for the industry and those that she cares for, coupled with the support of Metlifecare and her team, Loua has successfully achieved her Level 4 certification, and continues to go from strength to strength.

Her favourite part of the job? "The residents I get to work with

# Newly Trained Communion Administrators

We are pleased to share that Christine Mercer and Wendy Roberson have now completed their training and are officially authorised to



administer Communion within the St Enoch's congregation. Their commissioning has been approved by the Kaimai Presbytery for the next two years.

This is wonderful news for our church family, as it means that Communion can continue to be shared even when Jaco is away. We are very grateful to both Christine and Wendy for their willingness to take on this important ministry role and to serve our congregation in this way.

With their addition, we now have three authorised Communion servers — George, Christine, and Wendy — who are all available to help lead this special part of our worship life together.





Please join us in  
congratulating and  
thanking them for  
their commitment  
and service to St  
Enoch's.







# CHRISTMAS VIBES



We won't be doing the Dessert & Coffee and Christmas Lights drive this year – but don't worry!  
The Dessert & Coffee tradition is still on.

Join us in the Lounge for:

## A Christmas Afternoon

Thursday, 18th December at 4:00pm

Bring yourself and a small wrapped gift.  
Enjoy delicious desserts, coffee (or tea), festive carols, and joyful singing.

Then join in the fun with Secret Santa!

Let's celebrate together the most meaningful and joyous season in our Christian calendar.





# 2026 ST ENOCH'S MARKET



## JOIN THE CELEBRATION!



**Saturday, 21 March • St Enoch's  
Back Field**

We're excited to announce the return of St Enoch's Market! Last year was an amazing success—raising \$5.000 and bringing our community together for a day of fun, fellowship, and generosity.

This year, we're aiming even higher—and we need **YOU** to make it happen!

## WAYS YOU CAN HELP



- Have a great stall idea? Share it with us!
- Run a stall—solo, with a friend, or as a group.
- Help with prep—organizing supplies, setting, up, packing down.
- Donate items—baking, crafts, plants, preserves, second-hand books or clothes, and more.
- Assist with cleanup—many hands make light work!

Whatever your skills or availability, there's a role for you. Every contribution helps make this day special!

## READY TO JOIN IN?

If you'd like to help, have suggestions, or aren't sure where to start, contact us or speak to Marie in the office.

**Let's make the 2026 St Enoch's Market a day to remember!**

# WHAT'S ON AT ST ENOCH'S

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

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

## HALL UPDATE

St Enoch's is pleased to announce that the strengthening work on our church hall is now complete. When the project began, the hall was assessed at 49% of the New Building Standard (NBS), with an initial requirement of 67%. Our congregation showed wonderful generosity, donating \$27,000 toward the work. During the previous renovation of the hall no attention was given to the subfloor structure. Of concern were small inadequate concrete pads to which piles were not properly secured, a few deteriorating wooden piles, and some beams with weak spots.

During this time, the Church Property Trustees updated their policy to align with the Building Act 2004, lowering the requirement to 34% NBS—a level our hall already met. The Board of Managers then engaged a specialist Auckland company to tend to areas of concern.

We are grateful to have a safe, well-maintained hall that serves both our church family and the wider community.





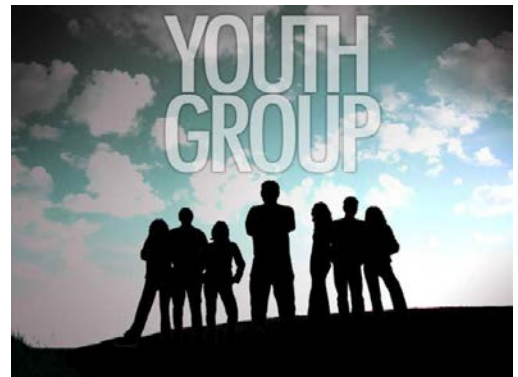
# St Enochs HOME GROUPS

**Spiritual Growth Group** 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 [nlfandjlf@xtra.co.nz](mailto:nlfandjlf@xtra.co.nz)

## White Sunday Celebration at St Enoch's

White Sunday was held at St Enoch's on 12th October, and what a joyful and heartwarming service it was! A big thank you to all the children who led the service with such confidence and enthusiasm — through their singing, dancing, skits, and prayers they reminded us of the importance of childlike faith and joy.

A special thank you to Peter, who did a wonderful job delivering the sermon. His message was inspiring and beautifully complemented the spirit of the day.

We also want to express our sincere thanks to Peka for organising the service and for the many hours she spent practising with the children. Your dedication and love for them truly shone through in the way they led worship.

We were then treated to a delicious morning tea — thank you to everyone who helped make the day so special.

White Sunday is a cherished tradition in many Pacific Island churches, especially in Samoa, Tonga, and other island nations. It is a day dedicated to celebrating children — their place in the church, their faith, and their future. The name “White Sunday” comes from the custom of children wearing white to symbolise purity and joy. It's also a time for families to come together, with children taking leading roles in worship and often being honoured with special meals and gifts.





We are grateful to have shared in this beautiful celebration at St Enoch's and to have been reminded once again of the blessing that our young people are to our church family













# Funeral Catering at St Enoch's

The funeral catering at St Enoch's has been a wonderful success and a truly meaningful way for us to support families in their time of loss. Through this ministry, we are not only providing delicious food but also helping to ease the financial burden for families who may be unable to spend much during such a difficult time. A sincere thank you to everyone who has contributed — those who have prepared food, served on the day, helped set up, or stayed behind to clean up. Your kindness and generosity reflect the heart of our church community, and this could not happen without you.





# RIP MR BUBBLES

My 6-year-old nephew's goldfish died last week. His name was "Mr. Bubbles," and he lived a full 3 months — longer than most celebrity marriages.

So naturally, my nephew insisted on a proper funeral. Not a casual flush.

No — we were doing a ceremony.

We lit a candle. We made a tiny paper boat.

We gave speeches.

I said:

"Mr. Bubbles was a good fish. He swam with purpose. He looked surprised 100% of the time, and that's how I'll remember him — shocked, but present."

We flushed the boat.

My nephew threw in one goldfish cracker as an offering.

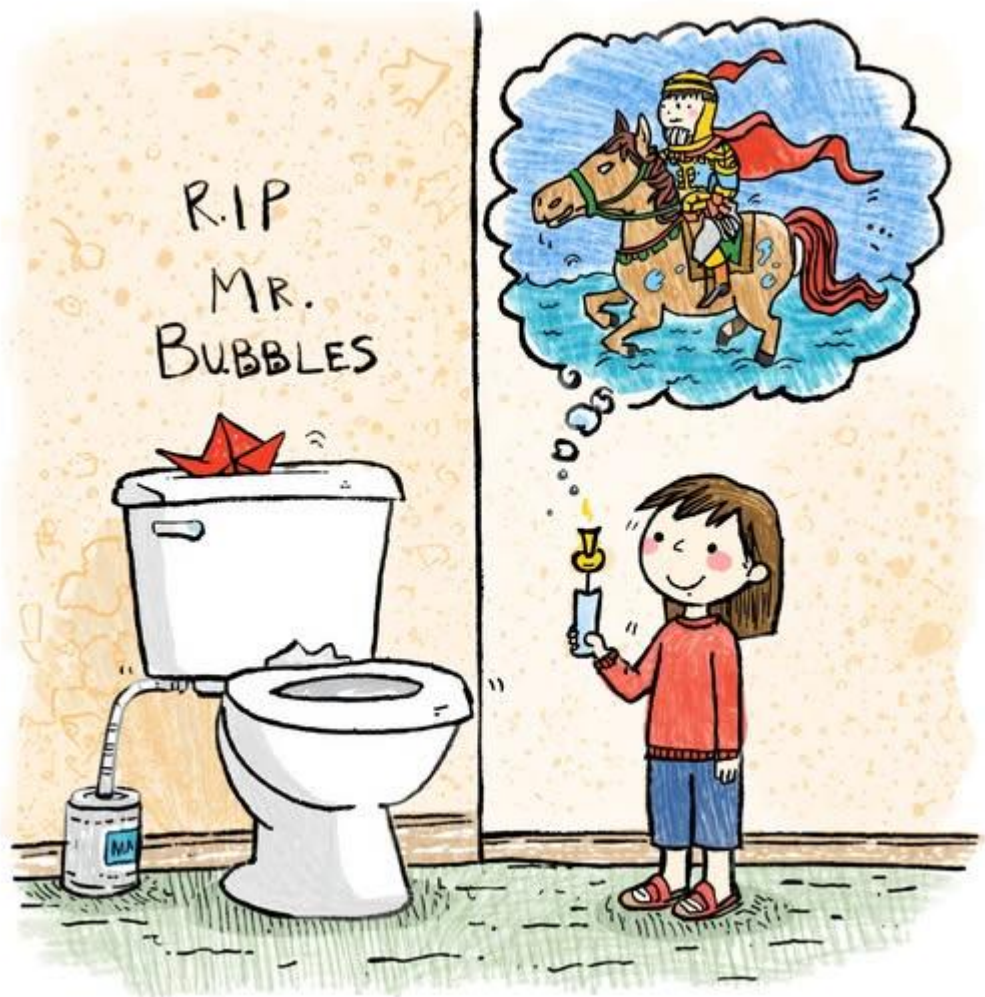
Then he looked at me with serious eyes and asked:

"Uncle, where do dead fish go?"

And like an idiot, I said:

"Atlantis."

Now I'm stuck writing bedtime stories about Mr. Bubbles the Warrior of Atlantis, who rides sea horses and fights evil clams. This is my life now.



# Youth Share About Being Young Christians

On Sunday, 5th October, Jaco invited our youth to share with the congregation about what it means to be a young Christian in today's world. Their honest reflections were both encouraging and thought-provoking.

Many of the young people spoke about the challenges of living out their faith, especially when their values differ from those of their peers—something they experience most keenly at school and in the workplace. A few shared that attending a Christian-based school has been a real blessing, allowing them to be surrounded by friends and teachers who share their beliefs and support their faith journey.

Others expressed heartfelt gratitude for their parents, acknowledging the strong Christian foundations they've received at home. They spoke about how their families' example, prayer, and guidance have helped them stay grounded in their faith.

It was inspiring to hear their voices and see their courage in speaking openly about their faith. Their words reminded us all of the importance of supporting our young people as they navigate life's challenges and continue to grow in Christ.







## St Andrew's, Te Puke 1915-2025

St Andrews Presbyterian Church, Te Puke, marked its closure with two deeply meaningful services: the first having more of a family feel with an in-house gathering on 28 September 2025, followed by a formal final service on 5 October 2025.

The first service was led by Mission Facilitator Alby Mascheretti, who graciously shared the preaching slot with members of the congregation. Centered on the theme of thanksgiving, it offered space for anyone to reflect on their journey with God and the fellowship they experienced at St Andrews. There were memories, tears, laughter, heartfelt stories, and the joy of reconnecting with familiar faces.

The final service drew a crowd of approximately 80 people, gathered to give thanks for 110 years of ministry, growth, and fellowship. Presbytery was well represented, alongside current and former members of the congregation. The service was led by Rev Ron Bennett, Acting Moderator of Presbytery, with elders Elspeth Ireland and Coral Stewart contributing to the worship. Lynne Robertson offered a reflection on the 125-year journey since the first Presbyterian service was preached in Te Puke.

Together, we grieved the church's dissolution while celebrating the Lord's guidance of the many who served and worshipped here. The legacy they leave – the seeds planted and nurtured – ensures the Gospel continues to flourish. Throughout the day, friends and families reunited, sharing memories of youth group adventures, the trials and triumphs of leadership, and the enduring bonds formed at St Andrews.



# Adventures in Pet Ownership

OK... let me tell y'all about this crazy morning!

My neighbours... I won't mention any names...but they had been complaining that my dog had been barking non-stop.

I hate the electric zapping bark collars so I purchased a humane citronella collar. When a dog barks, it shoots a blast of citronella under their nose and apparently, they don't like it.

This morning, I was getting the collar ready and filled it with the citronella liquid.

And that's where my morning should have ended. But no, it's ME...and I begin to become curious as to "how" the collars actually work.

So, I'm standing by my back door "barking" at my dog's collar. Nothing happens.

I make sure it's turned on, check the fill level, and go through the "getting started" check list one more time.

Again, I bark. Nothing happens. Now I'm not quite sure, why I had this next thought, but I did...I put the collar on. I seriously extended the band and fit the growl box against my throat and barked.

Apparently, the collar only works if it feels vibrations, because I immediately received a blast of citronella to the face.

I began coughing, which only caused the collar to continue squirting bug spray over and over into my nasal cavity.

I'm now on my hands and knees in my back yard, trying to breathe, and to make matters worse, the dog is barking.

So, between coughing and yelling at him to shut up, I've emptied over a dozen blasts of citronella to my face.

During all of this ruckus, I'm trying to undo the clasp of the collar, which has somehow managed to weld shut during this whole fiasco.

I finally get the collar off and threw, yes I threw that inhumane piece of rubbish across the yard, and





lay in the grass sucking in the cool morning air.


In the middle of thinking this is probably the dumbest thing I've done in a while, I hear laughter.

MY NEIGHBORS SAW THE WHOLE THING! They were laughing so hard they couldn't breathe. Between gasps, they tell me, "We were gonna come help, but every time we started to come over, you'd set it off again and then we would start laughing and couldn't make it." So now, not only are my eyes red, but my face and ears are too. After checking to make sure I was okay, we parted ways and I went into shower so I wouldn't smell like ode de' Tiki Torch.

Lesson learned: next time (yes, there will always be a next time with me) make sure that:

1. Don't fill the collar before trying to set it off.
2. Remember your neighbor is not a good source of help in a comedy crisis situation.

On the plus side, I won't have a mosquito problem for a few days!



God didn't remove the  
Red Sea. He parted it.  
God doesn't always remove  
your problems, but He  
will make a way to  
get through them.



# Fathers Day at St Enochs

A big thank you to our amazing youth who set up the Father's Day photo booth! The props and decorations were fantastic, and it was such a joy seeing dads and their families having fun together and capturing those special moments. We really appreciate the effort and creativity that went into making it such a memorable part of the day.









# LIBRARY BOOKS

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

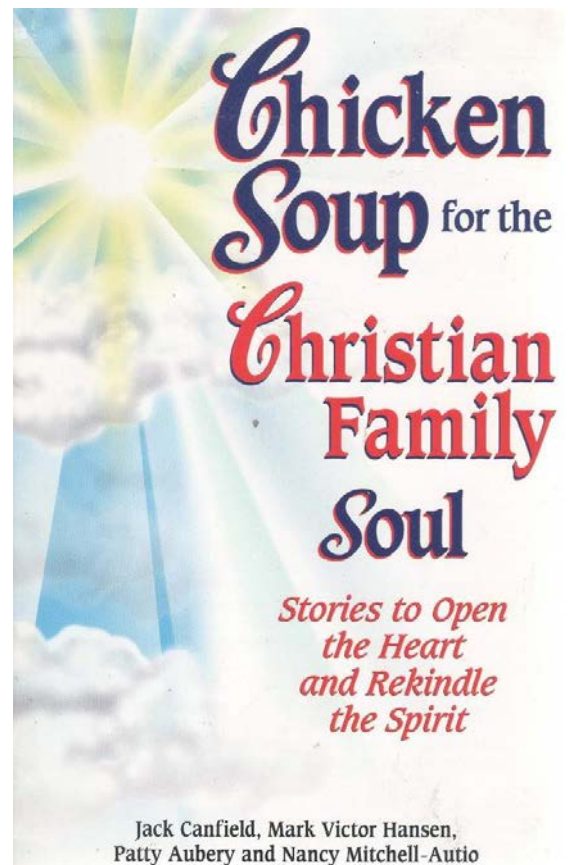
## ***Chicken Soup for the Christian Family Soul*** ***by Jack Canfield, Mark Victor Hansen,*** ***Patty Aubery and Nancy Mitchell Autio***

The endearing, heartfelt, and at times humorous, real life experiences of the people in this book is thought provoking and faith strengthening. God meets us where we are, and we, his children, are asked to do the same for others. However odd the title might seem, this is a book of redemption and healing. Just as chicken soup is wholesome to the body, so God's love and presence in our lives are wholesome to our spirit. *Chicken Soup for the Christian Family Soul* focuses specifically on family values and experiences inside families that lead God-centered lives. It inspires us to practice belief, hope and love against all odds; and to be charitable, kind and forgiving.

This book is easy to read with medium-size print and just over a hundred short stories divided into nine categories: *On Love, Divine Intervention, On Parents and Parenting, Going Home, Acts of Kindness, The Power of Believing, The Meaning of Christmas, Overcoming Obstacles, and Insights and Lessons*. It would be difficult to read the whole book in one go, so I recommend spreading it out and maybe read a story or two a day. In the introduction the authors write: "We pray that these stories will remind you of what is most important in life and encourage you to act in accordance with those higher priorities."

Chicken Soup for the Christian Family Soul is definitely a worthwhile read.

*Minette*





# St Enoch's ladies Coffee Group

## **Tuesday Morning Ladies Coffee Group**

Our Tuesday morning gathering meets at **Columbus Café, Gate Pa**, from **10.00 a.m.**

It's always a warm and welcoming time of friendship, laughter, and good conversation. If you're free on a Tuesday, we'd love you to come along and share in the fellowship of this happy group.

*With blessings Cynthia*

*Phone 07 5443053 or 0273241027*



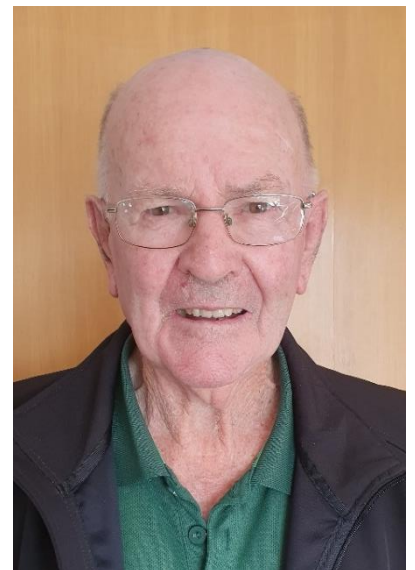
# St Enoch's Men's Coffee Group

## **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*

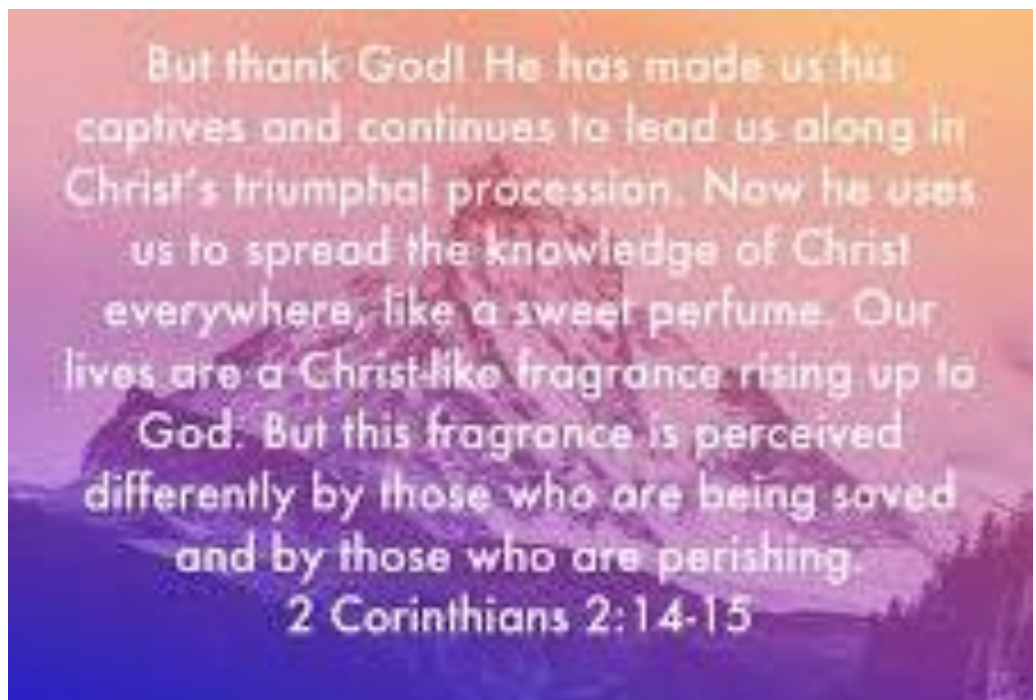
# St Enoch's Women's Group (STEW)

Have you ever walked in a bush or a garden - and be amazed at the lovely fragrance palette of nature? Sometimes it is possible to identify a single tree or bush as source of the fragrance. And sometimes it is impossible to identify one plant - but it is rather a symphony of fragrance that makes up the pleasing aroma.



## 2 Corinthians 2:14-15 NLV

***But thank God! He has made us his captives and continues to lead us along in Christ's triumphal procession. Now he uses us to spread the knowledge of***



***Christ everywhere, like a sweet perfume. Our lives are a Christ-like fragrance rising up to God.***

What a privilege it is to be standing in the GOD-garden! You don't have to do it on your own. Just stand patiently where God planted you. Sometimes it is not only the beautiful and attention-drawing flowers that have beautiful aroma! Sometimes the rustic wood, the dropped leaves under



the tree, can surprise with beautiful earthy fragrance. Summer is the time to bloom and draw attention with a display of beautiful flower and sweet nectar. Let this be a motivation to rethink what sort of aroma you spread every day.

As STEW-members we strive to spread God's word: not only with words, but also with deeds and with quietly following God's instructions for daily living.

We are completing our Bible study series on Emotions with the emotion of LOVE in November. In December we will reflect on our year of manaakitanga (how we practiced the values of care, respect and generosity ) in 2025.

STEW is happy to be part of the St Enoch's landscape as we spread a beautiful aroma together. Together, we make God known to all that come into contact with us.

Merry Christmas, Geseende Kersfees, Meri Kirihimete, Manuia le Kerisimasi, Frohe Weihnachten, 메리 크리스마스, Mi wisim yufala eerywan one gutfala Krismes.

Anel Reyneke  
(coordinator STEW)



# 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

## Wycliff Bible translations

Jillian Connolle from Wycliff tells that recently, more communities celebrated being able to read the New Testament in their own language. Thirty-five years ago work began in the Zinza language spoken at the southern end of Lake Victoria.

The Ikizu dedication marked the end of a nineteen-year journey. One Ikizu elder, holding the New Testament with shaking hands, said; "For so many years we prayed that one day we would hear Jesus speak to us in Ikizu. Today, that prayer has been answered." We give thanks to God, for the work He has done in the lives of the Ikizu people.

It is sobering to hear that the translation of the Bible takes often decades to complete. One is then aware of how blessed we are to have grown up hearing the word of God in our mother tongue.

The Ikizu dedication celebration.





## MAF

When founders Murray Kendon and Trevor Strong set the vision for Mission Aviation Fellowship 80 years ago, one is not sure they would have imagined the scale and impact it is making today. Serving in more than 25 countries, flying 120 aircraft to reach hundreds of thousands of isolated people each year.

There are so many stories where MAF makes a life-changing impact in the community they serve. Here is just one of the countless stories of hope and healing that gives us a glimpse of the life-transforming work happening all over the world.

*MAF flew the Mercy Ships team to Toliara, in southern Madagascar, after a tropical storm cut off road access. This made it possible for baby Osman, born with a cleft lip, to be scheduled for consultation on board the Africa Mercy Ship.*



*Potential patients in Toliara were eagerly awaiting the arrival of the Mercy Ships Patient Selection Team. Among them was Delphine, a 20-year-old mother clutching her six-month-old son, Osman, who was born with a cleft*

*lip. Delphine knew that her child needed surgery, but the cost at a local hospital was too high for her.*

“There are surgeons here, but it costs a lot of money so I cannot afford it,” she said. However, when she heard about Mercy Ships on the radio, she seized the opportunity and enrolled, hoping to give her son the care he needed.

“I don't want people to mock him for his cleft lip when he grows up,” she added.

Before going to Toliara on a flight with MAF pilot Wouter Nagel, the Mercy Ships Patient Selection Team was conducting field consultations in Taolagnaro, in the southeast of Madagascar. A cyclone had just swept through the region, making travel difficult. Despite those challenges, the team was determined to meet potential patients.

“If people always carry this hope with them that someday help will come, even in this remoteness, then I also feel like I always need to show up for my patients. And I do that always,” said Alheri Ibrahim Gora, Patient Selection Clinical Supervisor.

The team needed to reach Toliara, on the opposite side of the island. The road between the two cities stretches over 600 kilometres and usually takes several days to drive. But after the tropical storm, it became nearly impossible.

“But with MAF, we were able to fly for about one hour and 30 minutes, which saves us a lot of time. So, we could not do it without MAF.” said Macfaiden Chipeta, Patient Selection Logistics Supervisor.

Thanks to the partnership with MAF, the team was flown safely and swiftly to Toliara one day before the field consultation and could start seeing patients the next day, in partnership with the Ministry of Health. That is when six-month-old Osman came with his mother. Inside the field consultation room in Toliara, the Mercy Ships team carefully examined Osman.

After a thorough assessment, the team confirmed the news Delphine had been hoping for - Osman could be scheduled for consultation with the surgeon on the ship. He has been scheduled to travel to Toamasina, where the Africa Mercy hospital ship is docked.

“I always had faith. I thank them for the help. May God bless them,” she said.

***Thanks to the partnership between MAF and Mercy Ships, patients like Osman can access life- changing surgery that would have otherwise been out of reach.***

*Through prayer and financial support, St Enoch is helping to make these interactions possible. I pray these stories inspire and encourage you in your support of MAF's work.*



## YWAM News

Greg Dryden from YWAM extended his thanks to St Enoch for our ongoing financial support and prayer support. He took a YWAM trip to Georgia (the country, not the state). Greg represented the Pacific Island Region for Frontier Missions.

They had 42 nations and over 200 attendees at the Georgia "Full Nets" gathering.

These attendees included 22 young Russian 'Ywamers' who have a heart to see 'Disciple Making Movements' across their nation. The sad thing was to hear that the Russians have not had any overseas YWAM team visit them, since the Ukraine war started. They were therefore hugely encouraged to meet 'Ywamers' from all over the world for the few days during this gathering.

*Greg also did a trip out to what is now believed to be the real Mount Sinai - including the rock of Horeb that Moses struck. There is plenty of evidence (including rock drawings and rock altars) that this is the right location.*



Greg felt God's peace on the whole trip, and appreciates the prayer support from our congregation.



# ***When the World Stopped***

*by Lesley Ayers*

Auckland Airport was bustling as usual as I waited for my flight to be called. I was returning home after some time helping out with our young grandchildren, who were living on Rarotonga. Soon I'd be home and seeing John again. Just one more flight to go.

But in one shocking moment it all changed. With an announcement over the speaker system it felt as if the world had stopped. For on that day, February 22nd 2011, at 12.25 pm a disastrous shallow earthquake hit Christchurch. Terrifying news items showed on screens around us. I feared for friends and family there. The city I knew so well was in chaos.

Air traffic control had been based in Christchurch and was now at a standstill. All planes were grounded. It was obvious that I wasn't going to get home today. In fact I had no idea when I would be able to. I joined the stunned crowds from both International and National terminals, all of us scrambling to get accommodation.

I felt very vulnerable, very alone. We have friends in Auckland but I either didn't have their numbers with me, or they were away. Calls to all the hotels around the airport brought the same response as Joseph and Mary experienced in Bethlehem. There was , "no room at the Inn".

I was praying, as I imagine many people were that day and I'm sure that it was the Holy Spirit who led me to the small bookshop in the terminal. I looked in the travel section, found a guide of Airbnbs in the North Island and turned to the Auckland section. Desperately I phoned one that said it was close to the airport. My relief and gratitude was great when a friendly woman said yes, she had just had a cancellation and would I like her to pick me up? I sure would!.I told her she was my answer to prayer, my rescuing Angel.



And so I spent that night in a small room, mesmerised by the horrifying repeated scenes from Christchurch on the television. Did I mention that it was my birthday? The muesli bar and bottle of water I had with me provided a most unusual birthday meal.

But it was the conversation I had with my kind hostess which still amazes me. She sounded puzzled asking 'Where did you get my phone number from yesterday?'

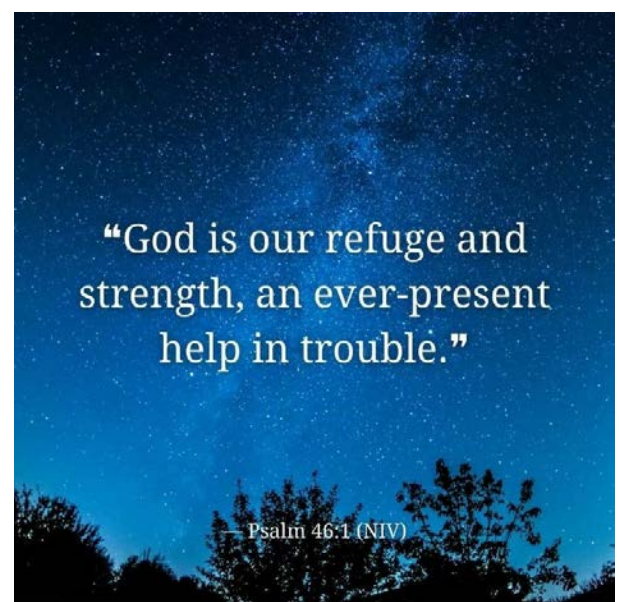
I told her it was in the book in the shop at the airport. 'But I'm not listed in it anymore' (She was in the process of selling her business she explained) 'The shop must have had last year's copy of the guide'.

If she had been in the current guide, I'm sure I wouldn't have been able to get a place, and if someone had not just cancelled, she wouldn't have had any room available. If the bookshop hadn't displayed an out-of-date guidebook... that's a lot of 'ifs'!

You could see this as coincidence after coincidence. I see it more in the words of psalm 46 ( I already knew verse one, but when I looked up the psalm I hadn't even realised how apt the second verse is!)

1 God is our refuge and strength,  
Always ready to help in times of trouble.  
2 So we will not fear when earthquakes come  
And the mountains crumble  
into the sea.

Yes, it was a very sad and challenging time. Yet I'm reminded time and again that no matter what our circumstances are we have a God, Creator of the Universe, who sees us, hears us, loves us.



# Sunday School

## Term 4 2025

Our children did a wonderful job of sharing with us during the recent White Sunday service- a wonderful collaboration of many young people.

We are using some material from an online programme called Sermons4kids. It provides a weekly theme with a range of activities.

We are hoping to put together a production of some sort for Christmas in December.

We are also looking out for more leaders /helpers who would be willing to help lead our younger generation. If you are interested, please speak to Wendy

*Wendy, Louise, Leiona, Peter, Lucy, Danny*





# The meaning of Advent Candles

The Advent candles are part of the Advent wreath, a Christian tradition used to mark the four weeks leading up to Christmas. Each candle has a special meaning and helps believers reflect on the spiritual preparation for the birth of Jesus.

Here's what each candle represents:

1. First Candle – Hope (Prophecy Candle):  
Symbolises the hope and anticipation of the coming Messiah. It reminds us of the prophets, especially Isaiah, who foretold the birth of Christ.  
*Lit on the first Sunday of Advent.*
2. Second Candle – Peace (Bethlehem Candle):  
Represents peace and reminds us of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem.  
*Lit on the second Sunday of Advent.*
3. Third Candle – Joy (Shepherd's Candle):  
This candle is usually pink to signify joy and rejoicing. It reflects the joy the shepherds felt when they heard the good news of Jesus' birth.  
*Lit on the third Sunday of Advent.*
4. Fourth Candle – Love (Angel's Candle):  
Symbolises love — the love of God revealed through the gift of His Son, Jesus.  
*Lit on the fourth Sunday of Advent.*
5. (Optional) Fifth Candle – Christ Candle:  
Placed in the centre of the wreath and usually white, this candle is lit on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day to represent Christ's purity, light, and arrival into the world.



# DUTY ROSTER – DECEMBER

## December 7<sup>th</sup>

**Service Leader:**

**Kitchen Duties:**

**Door / Offering:**

**Prayer Partner:**

## COMMUNION

Rev Dr Jaco Reyneke

Isabelle & Phillip Ashmore

Mama Tu

Sue Davys

## December 14<sup>th</sup>

**Service Leader:**

**Kitchen Duties:**

**Door / Offering:**

**Prayer Partner:**

Leon Roberson

Anel Reyneke, Mativa Ropati

John & Ngaire Foote

Lesley Ayers

## December 21<sup>st</sup>

**Service Leader:**

**Kitchen Duties:**

**Door / Offering:**

**Prayer Partner:**

Rev Dr Jaco Reyneke

Bev Cochrane, Christine Mercer

Rob Brown

Gaye Wilson

## December 28<sup>th</sup>

**Service Leader:**

**Kitchen Duties:**

**Door / Offering:**

**Prayer Partner:**

Rev Dr Jaco Reyneke

Dinis Davie, Robyn Dowdle

Mama Tu

Sue Davys





# DUTY ROSTER - JANUARY

## January 4<sup>th</sup>

### COMMUNION

**Service Leader:** Rev Dr Jaco Reyneke  
**Kitchen Duties:** Cynthia Herring, Shona Giles  
**Door / Offering:** Julien & Hazra Syed  
**Prayer Partner:** Lesley Ayers

## January 11<sup>th</sup>

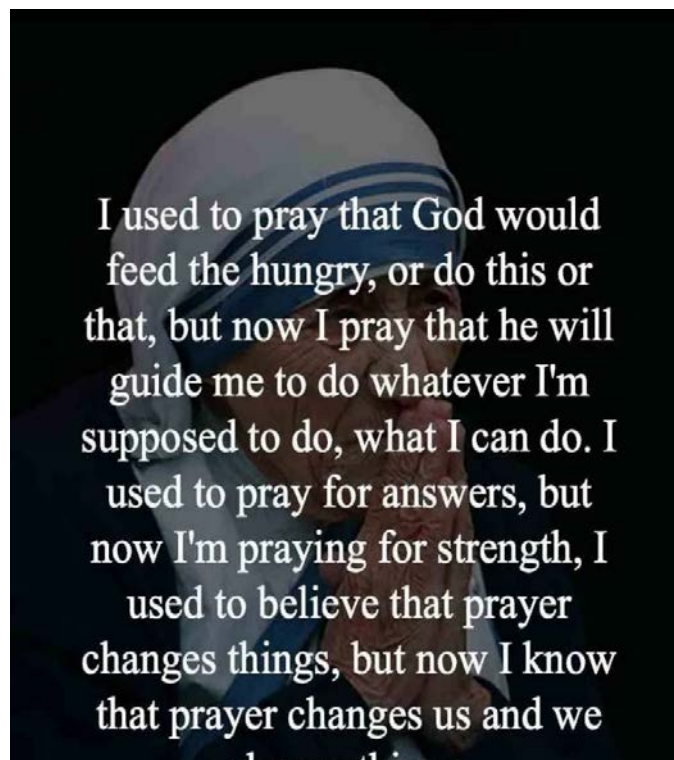
**Service Leader:** Rev Dr Jaco Reyneke  
**Kitchen Duties:** Anel Reyneke, Ian McEldowney  
**Door / Offering:** Mama Tu Joy Fisher  
**Prayer Partner:** Gaye Wilson

## January 18<sup>th</sup>

**Service Leader:** Rev. Dr Jaco Reyneke  
**Kitchen Duties:** Bernice Tyrrell, Josh & Luke Reed  
**Door / Offering:** Louise Hediger  
**Prayer Partner:** Sue Davys

## January 25<sup>th</sup>

**Service Leader:** Rev. Dr Jaco Reyneke  
**Kitchen Duties:** Richard Wilson, Cynthia Herring  
**Door / Offering:** Margaret Wakefield, Mama Tu  
**Prayer Partner:** Lesley Ayers



# DUTY ROSTER - FEBRUARY

**February 1<sup>st</sup>**

## **COMMUNION**

**Service Leader:** Rev. Dr Jaco Reyneke  
**Kitchen Duties:** Robyn Magowan, Trisha Brown  
**Door / Offering:** Philip Temple  
**Prayer Partner:** Gaye Wilson

**February 8<sup>th</sup>**

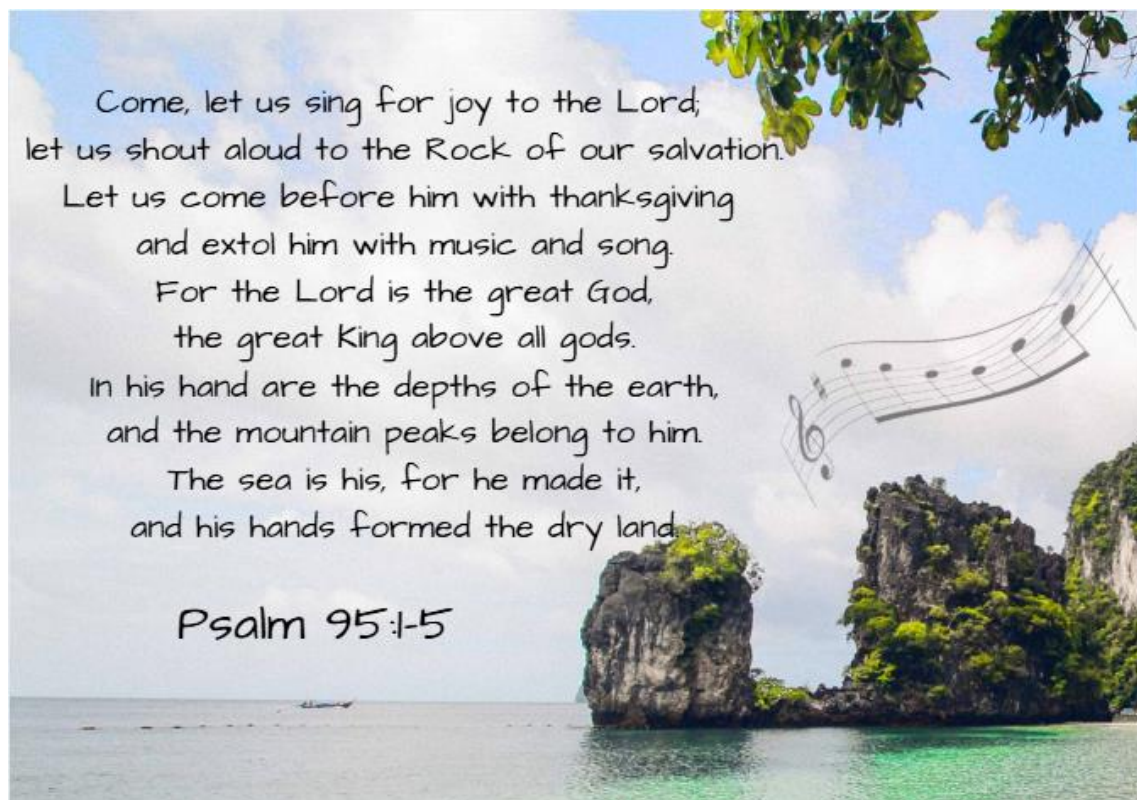
**Service Leader:** Rev. George Bryant  
**Kitchen Duties:** Jeanette Stewart, John Reid  
**Door / Offering:** Mama Tu  
**Prayer Partner:** Sue Davys

**February 15<sup>th</sup>**

**Service Leader:** Rev. Dr Jaco Reyneke  
**Kitchen Duties:** Lyn & Ken Hartley  
**Door / Offering:** Rob Brown, Mama Tu  
**Prayer Partner:** Lesley Ayers

**February 22<sup>nd</sup>**

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





## **Contact People**

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



## CONTACTS

Minister:	Rev. Dr Jaco Reyneke	544 0644 (home) 027 3259003
Hon. Asst Minister:	Rev. George Bryant	027 3146690
Session Clerk	Christine Mercer	027 2302147
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

<b>Christine Mercer</b>	<b>027 2302147 (Team Leader)</b>		
Robyn Dowdle	544 2231	Helen Temple	027 5140723
Dinis Davie	571-0071	Lesley Ayers	544 2135
Cynthia Herring	544 3053	Peka Tautali	021 08241613

<b>Lyn Hartley</b>	<b>021 02152319 (Team Leader)</b>		
Gaye Wilson	544-4270	Nicolette Wentzell	022 4132217
Patricia Brown	544-0317	Jeanette Stewart	544-7153
Marion Bennett	578 8382	Lawson Stewart	548 1204

<b>Helene Stols</b>	<b>542-2488 (Team Leader)</b>		
Shona Giles	578 0192	Mary Woods	578 5561
Verena Brungger	929 6081	Joseph Toara	027 4404625
Bernice Tyrrell	578 2224	Robyn Magowan	021 0714133

### Youth Leaders

Leiona Tupou-Dixon	027 5051117	Wendy Roberson	027 4388635
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## 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