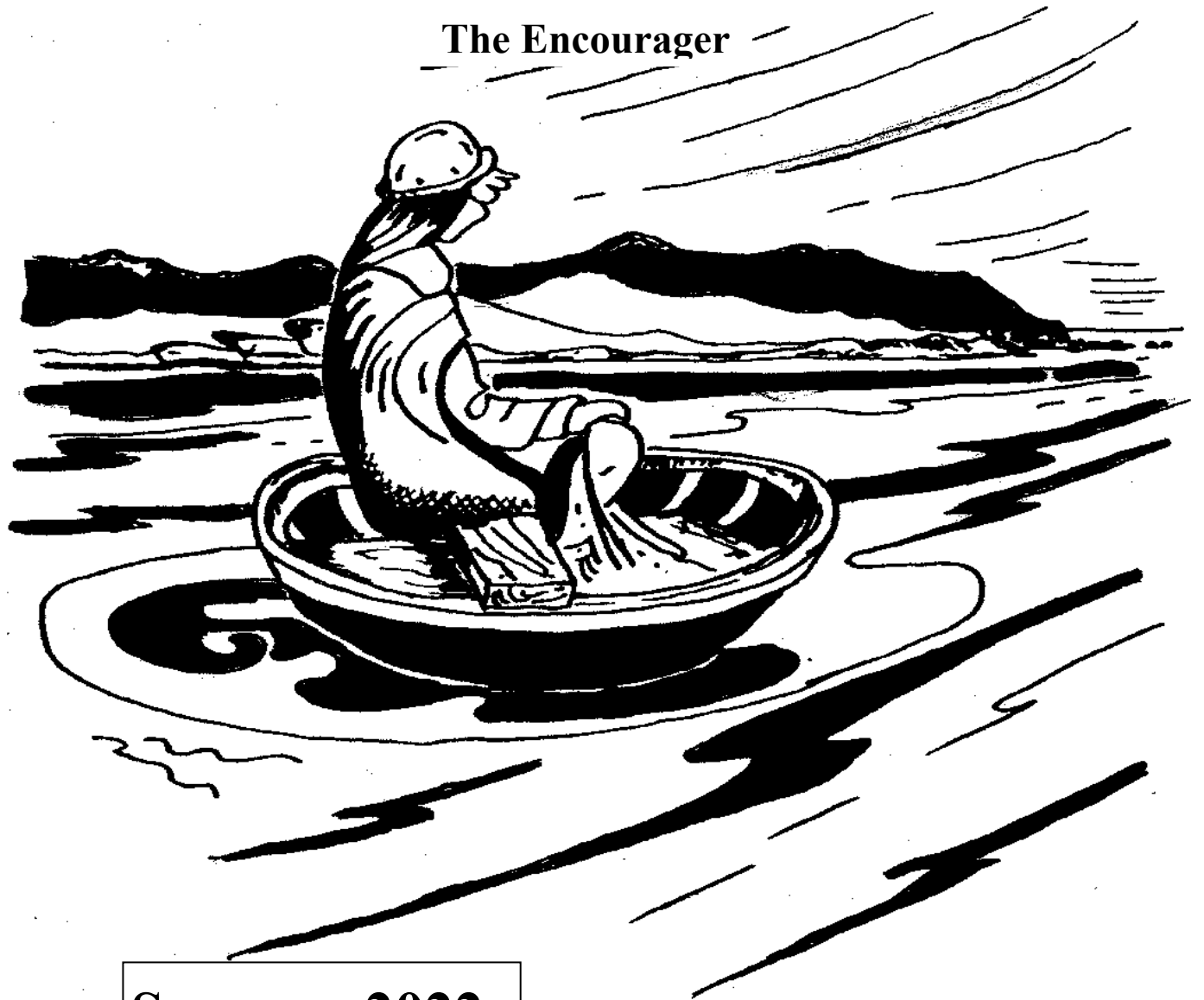


St. Enoch's Church Community Manawa

The Encourager



Summer 2022

Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa N.Z.

Phone 578-3040

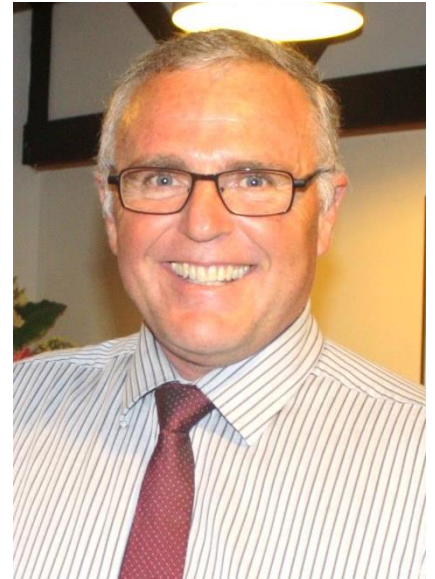
www.stenochs.org.nz

A MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

In the run up to Christmas we hear and share with each other phrases like: "If people would only discover the real reason for the season again!", or "The world should put Christ back in Christmas!"

And then I read 2 Corinthians 5:19-20: 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!".

And John 20:20-22 which reads: "As he spoke, he showed them the wounds in his hands and his side. They were filled with joy when they saw the Lord! Again, he said, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I am sending you." Then he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit."



And I wonder what the world sees when they look at Christians, what they see when they look at the church, what they see when they look at us, at me. Do we effectively spread the message of reconciliation, or does our message sometimes have a distinct condemning and condescending flavour? Does it look appealing when we invite people to come back to God? Jesus sends us as God sent Him. How well are we representing Jesus Christ? Are we living and being in such a way that we express God's heart of love and desire for reconciliation as Jesus did? Are we living from without the power of the Holy Spirit?

Advent and Christmas remind us how much God loves us. This brings us joy, gives us hope, and enthuses our faith. Advent and Christmas motivate us to be the best possible channels for the appeal God is making through us to every person: "I love you. Come back to me." Advent and Christmas sensitise us to the fact that Jesus Christ sends us for the same reason that God sent Him. Not to be saviours to the world, but to show the world what Godly values are and where cultural values are out of line. Jesus treated all people with respect and showed they had intrinsic value as image bearers of God. Jesus reached out to those on the fringes of society, those who were lost and needed to find their way back to God. Jesus showed what it means to love one's enemies. Jesus did not cling to

status, but was prepared to be humiliated for the sake of his Father's cause. Jesus modelled trust in God and obedience to God.

Advent and Christmas is the season for us to reflect on how well we are doing as stewards of God's creation. It is the time to think about how well we are caring for, nurturing and building up the people God has made part of our lives. It is the time to give thanks for the abundance we receive from God and assess how faithful we are in growing our talents and using it as God intended.

The more we embody God's message encapsulated in the birth of a baby boy who ends up paying the debt of the world and raise to eternal and complete victory, the more the world will come to know what Christmas is about.

May God help us to be God honouring, Christ following, and Holy Spirit led as we celebrate advent and Christmas, and every day of our lives as God's people.

May this Christmas be spiritually meaningful, socially enriching and Kingdom expanding for you and those you love.

Jaco

Mildred, the church gossip and self-appointed monitor of the church's moral, kept sticking her nose into other people's business. Several members did not approve of her extra-curricular activities but feared her enough to maintain their silence.

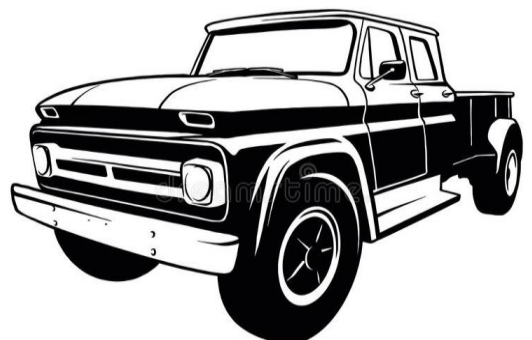
She made a mistake, however, when she accused Frank, a new member, of being an alcoholic after she saw his old pickup parked in front of the town's only bar one afternoon. She emphatically told Frank and several others that everyone seeing it there would know what he was doing!

Frank, a man of few words, stared at her for a moment and just turned and walked away. He didn't explain, defend or deny. He said nothing.

Later that evening, Frank quietly parked his pickup in front of Mildred's house...

Walked home... and left it there all night.

You gotta love Frank!



SESSION REPORT

Dear friends,

What a difference a year makes! This time last year we were contemplating the uncertain future of our daily activities along with the challenges of the Covid pandemic.

During that time several of our faith family succumbed to the virus and suffered varying degrees of illness. Despite these set-backs we all have been blessed to be back together as one, a worshipping fellowship again.



Spring is such a wonderful time in our year. We are surrounded with new life as nature, animals and our weather take on a new face. We are blessed with sights and sounds that warm our hearts and demonstrate the love and generosity our God has for His people.

While there has been a reluctance to hold bigger social events, your Session has continued to meet each month and has, through the Pastoral care team, maintained contact with all our church family. In September, the Kaimai Presbytery held a gathering in St Paul's, Katikati, at which the key note speaker, Rev Mick Duncan, was dynamic! His topic was 'What sort of leaders and actions are needed for the future church in mission' which, in itself, congers up all sorts of answers. There were over 70 folk of various ages there, all seated at tables of four. Rather than give a long monologue, he gave us key topics and then let each table discuss their own thoughts. He concluded with a summation of those key points and we all left feeling informed, included and blessed. Josh, Carolynn, Lester and I attended.

There have been numerous vacancies in parishes in Tauranga and Lester has been asked to be the Kaimai Presbytery Elder on the Ministry Settlement Board for the parish of Waihi and I on the MSB for St Andrews in Te Puke.

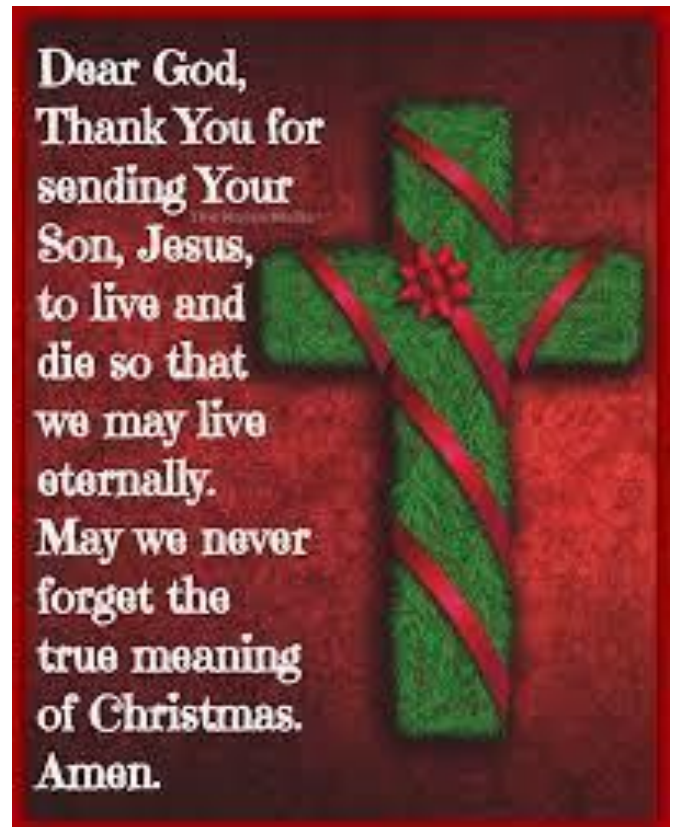
A graphic with a black background and white text. The text reads: "I CAN DO EVERYTHING THROUGH CHRIST WHO GIVES ME STRENGTH". The background features a subtle pattern of radiating lines.

So much of our lives are repetitive and we must be alert to not fall into the trap of thinking 'same old, same old! As we approach what many call the 'silly season', let's focus on the reality of what Christmas means and what it is. In the rush to get gifts, have gatherings of family, friends and work colleagues and to expect pressure and anxiety to achieve everything before December 25, we often overlook what all the fuss is about. The simplicity of the birth of a baby. Not just any baby but a baby that will become the Saviour of the world. The Saviour of you and of me. No need to panic and become stressed! All the hard work has been done, and not by us! Our baby Jesus is the earthly proof of what our Heavenly Father thinks of His creation. If we look at the challenges of the last year, there has been only one unchanging constant in our lives, the love and generosity of our God. So, Christmas is a time for rejoicing and giving thanks for this priceless gift. This gift is to us, His children and it will last forever.

May the blessings from our God this Christmas, enrich and encourage all that you do.

Philip P. Temple.

Session Clerk



HEALTH AND SAFETY OFFICER

Thank you to Robyn who has stepped in as our temporary Health and Safety officer until we can find someone who is able to take on this role.

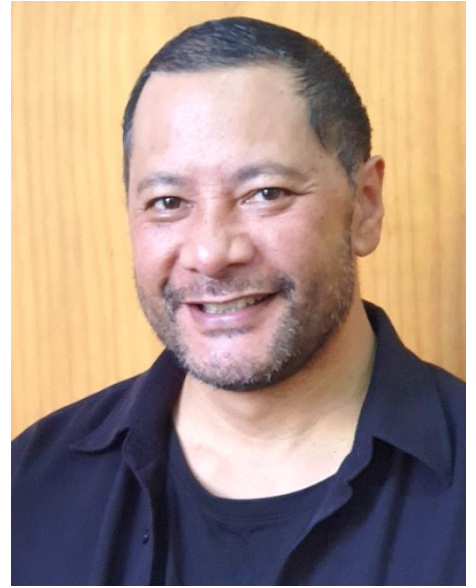
If you would like to know more about this role or you are interested in doing this please get in touch with Marie in the office.

Phone 578-3040



Intern report

Writing this report is bittersweet as I think it's the last that I offer in terms of my time as an intern at this parish. All along the way, you have probably heard me frequently say that my time here at St Enoch's has been a blessed placement for my family and I, and it has. We have been welcomed and cared for and I am thankful to you for opening the door for me to complete our internship here and for the hospitality and love that you have shown us.



Over the last couple of months, I have attended my last block course at Knox in Dunedin, I have spent time at Ohope for a retreat exploring our bi/multicultural identity as a denomination (which I would highly recommend for our leadership), I have taken a number of services at various retirement villages, lead prayer and provided pastoral oversight at Pacifica events and competitions, taken the service for the Niue community during the language week celebrations, I have preached in the wider Kaimai Presbytery as well as attended their gatherings and spent time engaging with the various Kaimai leaders, I can't recall how many reports I've written (this is one of the last!), I've had a lot of coffee with so many people (I might need to resort to decaf), I have led services and preached at St Enoch's (probably not as much over this final period due to my schedule) and with the privilege of leading a recent service whilst our Moderator shared a compelling sermon, I've led a couple of studies and music group sessions, I have visited our people in their homes and in hospital, I attended the One Conference in Wellington this past weekend with Carolynn (I highly recommend trying to get as many of St Enoch's to the next one as well as the Presbytery gatherings), and thankfully I have submitted all of my assignments and have satisfied all of my requirements for Knox and my requirements for the Kaimai Presbytery that allows me to graduate and to be licensed.

Although I've still left a little bit out, the leadership and especially Jaco has been gracious in allowing me the space to do all that needed to



be done and Jaco has done so with the full plate that he carries as well! We had always identified this last leg of the internship as being the period that I would be less available and it has proven to be so, but the load has been steady rather than overwhelming, and I thank you St Enoch's for your grace and your investment in me and in the ministry that God might call me to, I thank God for His ongoing love and for His revitalising peace that has brought me to the last few weeks of my internship.

I don't have too much more to offer you apart from what I have tried to encourage you with over my time with you. As I think about the various sermons and discussions that I've had with St Enoch's, it might be summarised as follows:

(Identity) For those of you believe in the Jesus, know that you are children of the Most High God, sons and daughters of the Almighty Father, citizens of heaven, called into the blessing of eternal fellowship with our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

(Calling) By knowing who we are, the call of God on our life is made so much simpler, although not easier. With confidence and boldness can we then attend to God's mission, resting in the sustaining power of God to keep us secure in Him until He calls us home. As true believers, we know that God wins, we know that God keeps and sustains us, therefore despite any obstacles in our way, we should be extravagant in our faith, witness, and outworking of His mission. Consider the few verses below if you ever feel discouraged and daunted:

- **Psalm 118:6** says, *"The LORD is with me; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?"*
- **2 Kings 6:16:** *"Don't be afraid,' the prophet [Elisha] answered. 'Those who are with us are more than those who are with them.'"*
- **Psalm 56:9:** *"My enemies will turn back when I call for help. By this I will know that God is for me."*
- **Hebrews 13:6:** *"So we say with confidence, 'The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can mere mortals do to me?'"*



- **Psalm 27:1:** *“The LORD is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid?”*
- **Romans 8:31:** *“31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?”*
- **Romans 8:38-39:** *“For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*

We are given a gift beyond our wildest imaginations, a gift so valuable as to be truly unbelievable. And yet this is a gift that we are called to share with anyone and everyone that God puts on our path.

Yes, be cautious in your discerning. Yes, be wise in your stewardship. But do not allow that to limit the extravagance of your faith in what God can do. God is in your corner!

God bless you St Enoch's, we love you and know that you are an important and special part of our ministry journey.

Joshua Tepou
St Enoch's Presbyterian Church
Intern Minister



Farewell for Josh and his family is being planned for Sunday 4 December during the morning worship service. *Session invites every member to sign the card available in the foyer for the next three weeks.* If you would like to contribute to a farewell gift, please hand it in at the office or make arrangements with Marie.

Josh's Licencing and Graduation: You are warmly invited to Josh's graduation and licencing service on Sunday 4 December at 15:00. The Kaimai Presbytery runs this service. After the service we will celebrate with Josh, Carolynn and family in the lounge. Please bring a plate.

Farewell to the Tepou's

It is hard to imagine St Enoch's without Josh here but his 2 year internship finishes in December and he is moving onto the next part of his journey. We have been so lucky to have him and his family with us and wish them all the very best.

Thank you to not only Josh but also Carolyn and Aline for helping run our Sunday School. The family have slotted in so well and we all absolutely love them.



We are extremely proud to have been a part of your journey Josh and have no doubt that wherever you end up you will do well and you will be as loved and respected as you are here. You care about people and that shows in everything you do.



BUT we are going to miss you so much.

Thank you for choosing St Enoch's and God bless you and your family



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

Attached is summary of St Enoch's Profit and Loss Accounts for the month of October and the Year to Date

The actual figures are compared with the budget.

In comparing the actual to the budget figures, it should be noted the shift in giving income from Cash and Envelope Receipts to Automatic Payments is a good development. It gives more assured and evenly spread income. With Covid hopefully behind us the Church is starting to resume its normal activities.

So, with that in mind we can see an increase of rental income and with receipt of the donation from Acorn Foundation Charity (The Goodwill Shop Charity), being well over budget it has resulted in the YTD Income being over budget by \$11595. This is a promising start to the year.



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



Profit & Loss						
St Enoch's Presbyterian Church						
For the month ended 31 October 2022 and YTD						
	Actual	Budget	Var	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Var
Income						
Giving						
Automatic Payment Receipts	8,413	7,918		33,913	29,389	
Cash Receipts	764	839		2,691	2,905	
Envelope Receipts	620	1,493		5,190	5,285	
Total Giving	9,798	10,250	-452	41,794	37,579	4,215
Sundry Income						
Acorn Foundation Receipts	0	0		14,291	10,000	
Activities (Fairs, Film Outings etc)	0	40		0	160	
Church Complex Letting	1,984	1,385		7,519	6,742	
Grounds Income	348	348		1,478	1,479	
Hall Rental Income	1,751	1,558		9,215	6,432	
Have A Go Receipts	0	106		169	274	
Interest Income	0	13		54	52	
Manse Rental Income	2,260	2,200		9,248	9,421	
Other Revenue	470	470		1,878	1,880	
Youth Group & Sunday School Income	0	8		0	34	
Total Sundry Income	6,811	6,128	683	43,853	36,474	7,379
Total of Giving & Sundry Income	16,609	16,378	231	85,648	74,053	11,595
Less Operating Expenses						
Administration Expenses	3,592	3,364		18,844	14,686	
Ministry Expenses	9,202	9,219		40,363	40,475	
Mission Expense	1,040	558		2,948	3,382	
Property Expenses	2,613	3,516		14,385	16,083	
Total Operating Expenses	16,447	16,657	-210	76,539	74,626	1,913
Net Profit/Loss	162	-279		9108	-573	9,681

Hello to All

Another Winter is now behind us, but we haven't seen a lot of Summer yet. The garden is sure doing well with the warm rain though.

We have only had 2 meetings this quarter as there were some of us away in October. At our November meeting we were very pleased to welcome Tim Reed onto the board. Thank you Tim for your contribution and skills that you bring.

As people can enter the church unannounced when the door is open, a Laser Beam door entry has been installed. As well, there is a bell to the left of the door to alert Jaco or Marie if someone needs to come in.

Thank you to John and Ngaire Foote who are now looking after the gardens in the front of the church and tending to the weeds in the drive. However, John Brabyn has done his thing again and planted Sunflowers in front of the office. They are so joyous when in bloom. Thank you also to Dinis Davies for offering her help where ever she is needed.



Marie will have a new up-to-date photocopier in the office very soon.

The servery slide in the hall has been repaired.

This is all for the year. The Board of Managers wishes you all a very Blessed, Happy and Safe Christmas.

Blessings
Robyn M

Spiritual Growth Group

We are creatures of habit. We quickly become comfortable with doing stuff in a certain way. We also tend to spend time with people who think and do as we do.

This can be dangerous and detrimental to our faith. Jesus challenged many of the beliefs and practices of people around him – including the faith community of the day. To grow spiritually, that is to grow the depth and breadth of our faith, we need other Christians. We need a safe space where we can explore different ways of doing faith and find affirmation of the ways in which we do faith. We need to reflect on the ways in which we express our faith and nurture our relationship with God. We need a space where we can learn from others' journey with God and be enriched by others' faith perspectives and practices. The Spiritual Growth Group aspire to be such a space.

We lately have enjoyed an extensive exploration of different forms of prayer flowing from the trinitarian character of God, based on the content of 'A Guidebook to Prayer' by MaryKate Morse. Every first and third Wednesday of the month we gather between 13:00 and 14:00 in the lounge for an inclusive discussion with the Holy Spirit part of the process. We are people from various backgrounds with our faith and love for God binding us together. Anybody is welcome to join. Jaco has some copies of the book we are working through available.

May this festive season give you the opportunity to invest in your spiritual growth so that you can move closer to the Father's heart, fuller into your identity as a Christ follower, and more powerfully aligned with the leading of the Holy Spirit.

Jaco



Pastoral Care

We are thankful for Gail's support and service as one of three pastoral leaders of our congregation. She is stepping down for now and we wish her God's blessings and a time of rest and renewal. We would also like to welcome Sue as new pastoral care leader and offer her all our support.

After dealing with the tail end of Covid, we are blessed to be settling again. We are thankful for God's grace during these past few months.



Overall, our congregation members are doing well. We do however continue to think about and pray for those who are dealing with ongoing challenges in particular James, Ruth, Ralph, Cliff, Lester, Leona, Joan, and Wendy. We also continue to make contact and pray for everybody in our congregation who feels isolated and alone, especially during the coming Christmas period. We are grateful that church services have started up again at rest homes which means better connectedness for some of our more vulnerable congregation members who cannot come to church.

During this time, we also think about Jaco and Joshua for their leadership during the past year. As pastoral care leaders we wish Joshua all the best for his future endeavours.

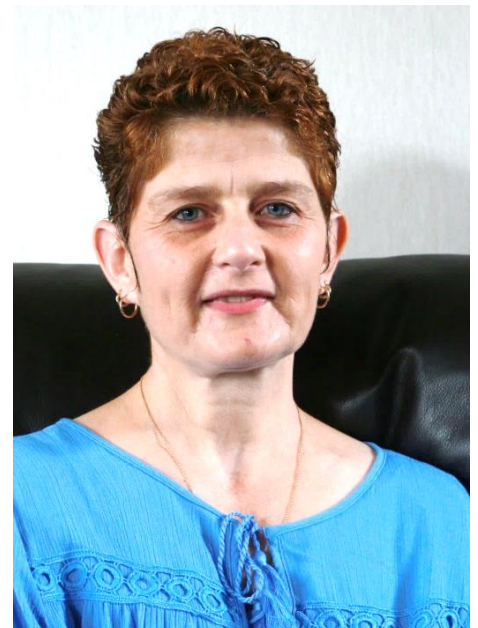
Minette, Joan and Sue



Joan Bryant



Sue Davys



Minette Soekoe

Quote of the Day

Grandchildren

are the reward you get
for not strangling your
teenagers.



Excerpt from Sunlive on 10th June

“90-year-old Iris Stockwell has been swimming at Greerton Pool for more than 50 years, since the pool first opened there in 1971.



It was all outdoors back then. There was no roof. No gym. No 34 degree Celsius hydrotherapy pool, or learners' pool. A lot has changed about this facility over the years. But not Iris. She has always been here. She continues to swim lap after lap, for an hour straight, three mornings a week.

“I’ve never swum competitively, I’ve swum just for the sheer joy of it,” says Iris.

“And when I reached 80, I made myself a goal to get to 90 and still be able to dive into the pool. And I did.”

Iris grew up in Tauranga and first learned to swim down at Sixth Avenue, in the sea, where the tide had to be right before you could hop in.

The first pool she swam in was a saltwater one, built out into Tauranga Harbour.

Iris always loved the water, but it wasn’t until many years later, when she became a mum, that she began to develop her regular swimming routine.

She was watching her children learn to swim at Memorial Pool one day when she was asked if she would consider running some lessons herself.

Iris took up the challenge and got involved with the Greerton Swimming Club, which at that time didn't have its own facility and was using Memorial Pool.

On Thursday Iris will cut a ribbon officially opening the brand-new front entrance.

Greerton Aquatic and Leisure Centre has undergone a lot of maintenance, renovation, and seismic strengthening work over the past year.

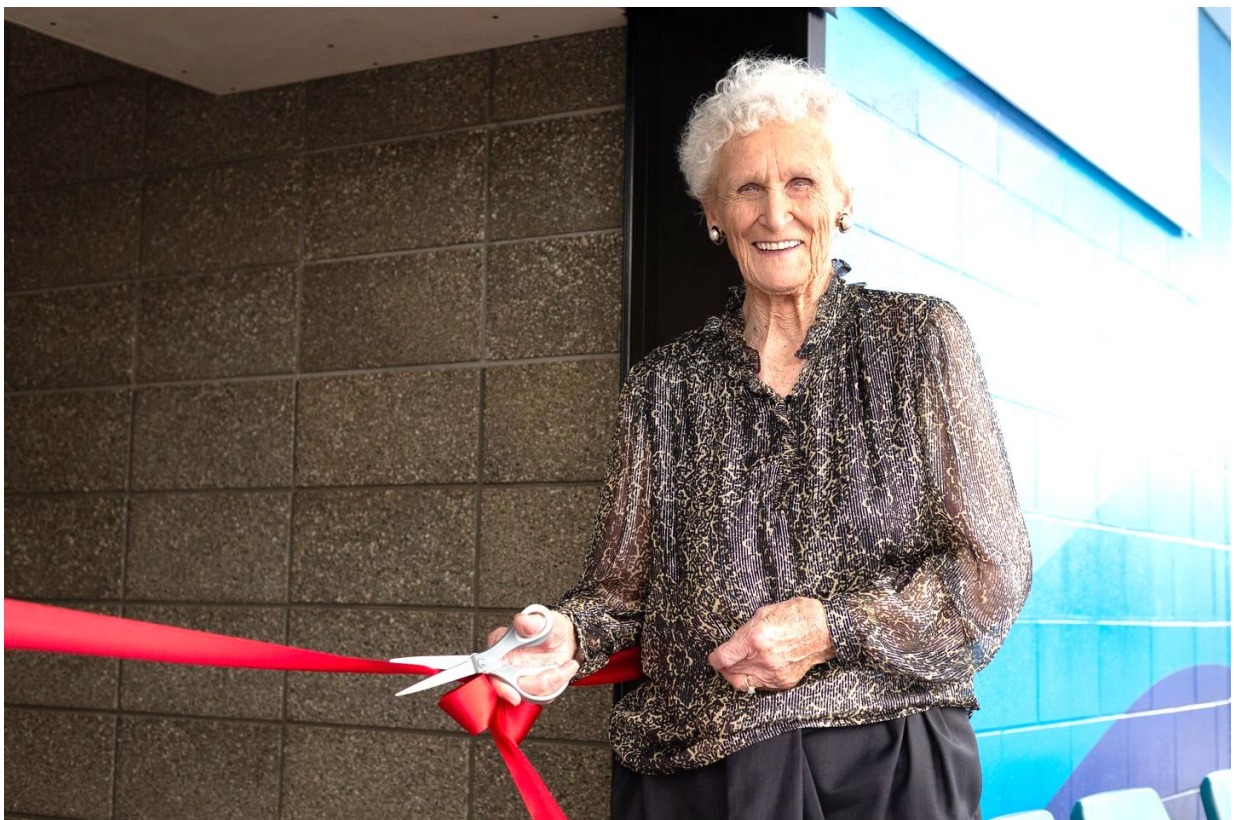
When it comes to celebrating this development and marking the occasion, there really is no better person than Iris to cut the ribbon and welcome everyone in

She is a pillar of this community and continues to show people, three mornings a week, what is possible when you just keep swimming.

"If I'm still swimming at 100, I'll be blimmin' lucky," says Iris.

That sounds like a new goal.

"Well ... I suppose it could be," she says. "Why not?"



St Enoch's Music Group

This music group gathering has been quite a blessing for me. It has been a low-key affair, it has been intimate, a safe place where those who have attended have been able to creatively express themselves through music. It has been a time of worship, of fellowship and of laughter and the focus as I saw it was not to build some large gathering, but rather to build relationships and confidence as we engaged in times of prayerful musical worship. Generally, we met fortnightly on Thursday afternoons, with a handful of musical friends and I pray that this small group will continue to gather with their favourite worship songs and play together long after I leave.



After our last session on the 16th November, those in attendance went out for lunch and had a wonderful time together of food and fellowship. May God continue to bless those who have taken part in these sessions as well as those who serve in the wider scope of musical worship at St Enoch's.

Music plays a powerful part in allowing the church to find and express themselves in worship. It can unite the body of Christ to hear God's call and to respond to Him in a way that can be profound and visceral, reaching into the deepest parts of our being to flow out in praise of our Lord.

As the psalmist reminds us: 1 Praise the LORD. Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens. 2 Praise him for his acts of power; praise him for his surpassing greatness. 3 Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet, praise him with the harp and lyre, 4 praise him with timbrel and dancing, praise him with the strings and pipe, 5 praise him with the clash of cymbals, praise him with resounding cymbals. (Psalm 150:1-5)

Our Lord is worthy to be praised.

If you or someone you know would like a safe, encouraging place to grow in confidence with your musical expression of worship, please contact Lawson Stewart, Ruth West or the office to discuss further.

God bless

Joshua Tepou

St Enoch's Presbyterian Church

Intern Minister



shutterstock - 780427600

St Enochs Sunday School presents: Simply Christmas

Sunday 18th December 2022

The children and youth of St Enochs will be presenting a Christmas play during the service on 18/12/22

This will be a time to share the story of Jesus' birth with the congregation and a chance for us to all join in with the singing of well known and loved Christmas Carols.

The children will be preparing for this for 4 weeks prior to the 18th (November 20th, 27th, December 4th & 11th)

There will also be a dress rehearsal on Saturday 17th in the church.

If your children would like to be part of this special programme, and can commit to these dates please either speak to or email Wendy @ robb3rs4@gmail.com

If you can help with costumes, props or assisting children to learn their roles, please see Wendy.

Otherwise, put the 18th December in your diary, invite a friend or neighbour to come along too.

The Sunday school team - Louise, Carolyn, Aline, Robyn and Wendy



WHAT'S ON AT ST ENOCH'S

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

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 (@ different members homes)	1.30pm
Musical Home Group	3 rd Thursday of each month in Church	12.00pm
STEWV Bible study Gr	1 st Thursday of month (venue to be advertised in bulletin)	7.00pm
Youth Group	Saturday in hall (Leiona to advise dates)	4.00pm

December 2022

Thursday 1 st	7.00pm	STEWV Bible Study Group
Sunday 4 th	9.30am	Communion Service
Sunday 4 th	3.00pm	Josh's licensing and graduation
Thursday 15 th	6.30pm	Board of Managers meeting
Sunday 18 th	9.30am	Sunday School presents Simply Christmas

January 2023

Sunday 1 st	9.30am	Communion Service
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February 2023

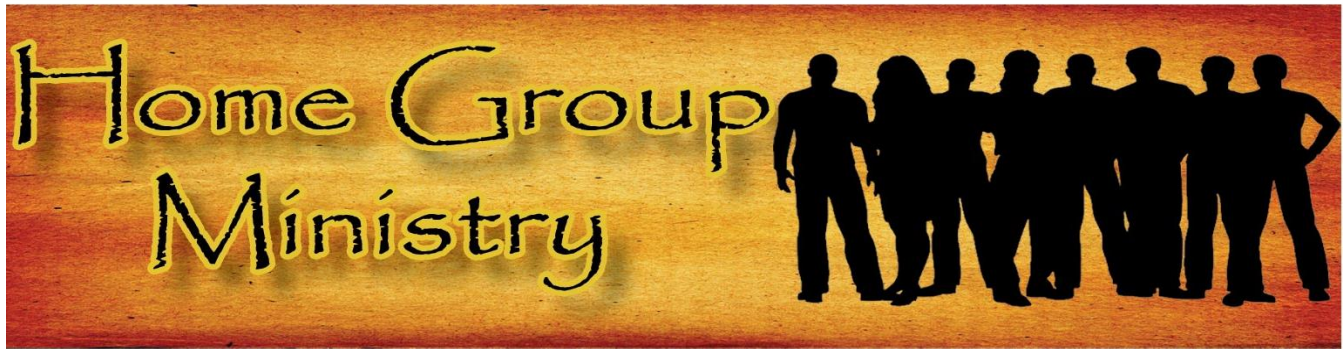
Sunday 5 th	9.30am	Communion Service
Thursday 2 nd	7.00pm	STEWV Bible Study Group
Wednesday 8 th	6.30pm	Board of Managers meeting

Under the Stars

Help to prepare and serve food to the homeless
and needy once a month.

Contact Louise if you want to be involved.
(027 2323481)





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 Joan Bryant for more information (5441669 or 027 7733811).

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

The musical group is hoping to continue meeting in the church on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 12 pm. This is a time of fellowship and worship together through a relaxed jam session. The group then assist Ruth playing the piano on the third Sunday of the month during the Sunday service. Lawson, Ruth and Dean would love others to join them so if you can strum a guitar or sing please come along and join them. If you want more info on this please contact Lawson on 548-1204.

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 regularly 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 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)

YOUTH GROUP

The overnight retreat was a great experience for all with no injuries. There were a total of 4 kids that showed up. Regardless of low numbers, the home that was generously lent to us never felt empty. They lounged, and laughed as planned. They were grateful for the retreat. Although they had lots of fun, they missed the other half of youth. I will be planning another retreat around the 26th of November as exams will be either well underway or completed. There is an expected increase of 6 more children for this retreat, so will need congregation and leadership support. An event titled 'laser scene and lolly themed' was our substitute for Halloween. The youth were dripping in sweat upon exit of laser tag, and their smiles indicated that they had a great time. To Jaco, thank you for your contribution to this event. The youth were sad to see you go, but understood you needed to rest. We have started to get ready for the season of advent leading into Christmas!

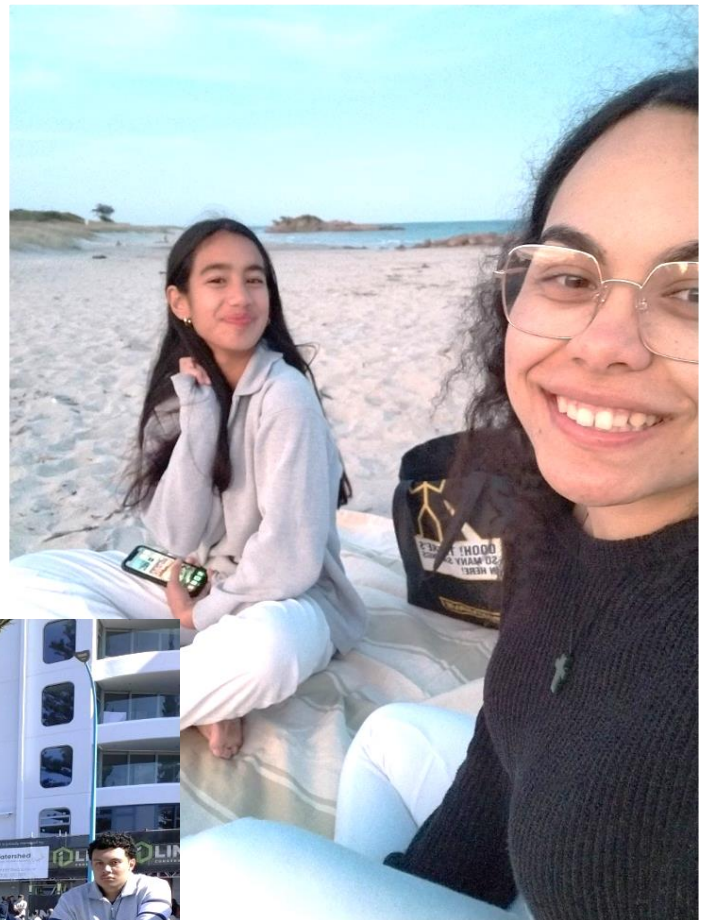
Our wreath making workshop after our Sunday service on the 13th had great attendance, and beautiful looking wreaths! We have some talented creatives amongst us.



Thank You for your time and support of our intergenerational, festive connection activity. We hope to engage like this more often. Overall, I believe the momentum of youth is sustainable - it is picking up. Over the next couple of months our young families will be busy, so youth will not seem so populated - but keep faith in the fact that they love coming to youth and being around their faith family. Our youth continue to participate in Sunday services through sharing their ideas and experience on what we have done together. This will begin to look different as the youth become comfortable on stage. Please continue to encourage them. We are grateful to have St. Enochs as a safe space where we can make mistakes and develop as God's people.

Thank you, St Enochs for your love.

Blessings over you all
Leiona



St Enoch's Working Women's Group

Colossians 3:23-24 NLT

Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people. Remember that the Lord will give you an inheritance as your reward, and that the Master you are serving is Christ.

It has been a variable month for our group! We celebrated a birthday, enjoy the pleasure of having family visiting (not seen for some time) and looked forward with members travelling to loved ones. We had concerns about loved ones being unwell, a member who had surgery and a close friend that died. Due to family circumstances, we had a member that housed some of the extended whanau for a while – and rejoice in healing and finding a new rental.

Reminiscing over some months about the lost arts of housekeeping (all of our grandmothers could cook, bake, sew, knit etc) – we decided that we will use whatever skills each member has, and share it with the rest. So we had a morning baking session – with the talented Carina showing us the ropes. Apart from one lot (forgotten in the oven by Anel) that came out a bit dark....the fruit of our labour tasted amazing!

The first Thursday of December will be our last STEWW meeting for 2022.

Anel



Ladies Coffee Group

The ladies morning tea continues to be most enjoyable.

Plenty of friendships and laughter.

We plan to have a Christmas luncheon at the Bethlehem Shores Cafe on the 13th December at 11.30.a.m..

All welcome.

Phone me if you would like to come.



WE ARE NOW
MEETING AT
THE BROOMTREE
CAFE ON THE
LAST TUESDAY
OF EVERY
MONTH

Cynthia Herring.
Phone 07
5443053 or
0273241027



Men's Coffee Group

Another year nearly over, we are blessed to be able to meet with loving fellowship each Tuesday at mega mitre Columbus Cafe.

We are all getting older and sadness and loss happens, so we remember Truby Hollister Jones who passed away 11-9-22. We all miss Truby.

We are having a Christmas lunch on the 29th November at 12 noon at mega mitre. our numbers are constant. we welcome more men to join us. Blessings to Ralph after his fall.

Have a blessed Christmas.

For more info phone Rex 5431606 or 027 2842317



Connecting Generations

St Enoch hosted an inter-generational seminar on Saturday 12 November.

Hamish Galloway, moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Aotearoa was the key presenter. Hamish focused on 'Connecting Old and Young' in the Church and 'Empowering the different generations. Each generation has subtly different world views and outlooks with different gifts as well as needs. Interestingly Hamish explained that the generation born between 1925 to 1945 is called Builders. One can see a vision of the Builders being the foundation on which the rest of the congregation builds. We are fortunate to have a mature congregation with wisdom and unique life experiences from whom we can learn so much.

It was a lovely social day with delicious food and we could connect with many people from neighbouring churches here in our community who also joined the seminar.



Combined Service ACK Tauranga and St Enoch's 20th November

Photos taken
during and after
the shared
service



???, Marylyn Smith and
Cynthia Herring



Jessie Scott, Joseph Toaroa
and Margaret Jackson

Callum, Odette, Wendy
Roberson, Joy Fisher,
Leon Roberson



Anel Reyneke, Willemien
Geldenhuis,
Poppie Engelbrecht,
Yvonne Krohn &
Eloise Mostert



Mens Choir



Geoff Tyrrell and Rex Eagle

Robyn Magowan and
Bernice Tyrrell



Mama Tu and
Anua Abbott

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

Behind the scenes.

A group of wonderful energetic people usually supports our Under the Stars Outreach, where St Enoch supports and feeds the homeless and less fortunate in our community once a month. But this is only half the story. So many supporters and cooks behind the scenes help and make it possible for volunteers to serve and participate.



Lyn Hartley arrives without fail, every Thursday with an enormous, piping hot lasagne, just ready to be served.

Kim (right) came and helped on Thursday

Diane and Richard Shattock are such behind-the-scenes stars. On Wednesdays, Under the Stars receives food from different donors. Diane and Richard then pick up donated food and prepare it at home. On a Thursday they drive back and deliver the food they prepared.



Kitty and Doug (left) are regular cooks who deliver delicious hot meals.

Julienne (right) is one of the usual helpers on Thursdays. But Julien took it upon herself

to be the official dishwasher. And we are all so glad, as she is the fastest and most efficient washer around, and always smiling.



Helena van der Spuy has a baking business and donated beautiful professional cupcakes that she prepared with the help of Corlene. These cupcakes turned the normal Thursday meal into a celebration!



Some of the youth, under the guidance of Leiona also joined during their school holidays.

A \$100 gift card was donated anonymously by one of our St Enoch members. This will be used to prepare a special meal over the Christmas period.



And the most important Under the Stars supporters is everyone praying for this mission outreach. Under the Stars outreach is a wonderful team effort by St Enochs.



Fun fact:
Our Intern Josh, is a very talented chef. Josh prepared two delicious quiches in record time during one of his visits to Under the Stars. Here he is taking a well-deserved rest and enjoying a meal with the other guests.



Homes of Hope

Carena Grant visited us from Homes of Hope. Carena is a social worker and shared her inspiring story with us.

Carena herself was adopted and she is incredibly thankful to her adoptive parents for the example of sacrificial love they showed her. They fostered more than 30 children and can still remember them all. Carene grew up in a home where children who needed care and help were always welcomed. Carena has insight into the struggles the children face. It was not until she was 30 years of age that she realised she was of Maori descent.



She however describes herself as a cycle breaker. Her own birth mother gave her up to be adopted. When she had her daughter at the age of 20, she managed to keep her baby with the support of her parents. Her daughter is now a grown woman and is a house mother at one of the homes. Carena explains that people often just need guidance and support on how to care for their children.

It was inspiring to hear Carena's life story and to hear how she attributes so much to God. During her visit, I felt very proud and privileged to be part of St Enoch. So many people came up to her for a chat after the service and Josh went out of his way to welcome her and honour her for the work she does. In the week after her visit, I received an e-mail from Carena stating that she enjoyed her visit and was made to feel very welcome by all.



Carena and Josh

Mission Aviation Fellowship

Mission Aviation Fellowship is one of the five mission outreaches that St Enoch supports. We intend to



continue supporting MAF, but we plan to have a more personal connection with a specific person in the organisation. The money that we usually donate will for this coming year be donated directly to a young pilot, Renee Brewer. Renee plans to move to Papua New Guinea in 2023 and we look forward to supporting her and hearing more about her work.

Louise Hediger
Mission Co-ordinator

Grandchildren

Two old ladies Dolly and Ruby were talking about their grandchildren

Dolly said, "Each year I send each of my grandchildren a card with a generous cheque inside. I never hear from them... never receive a thank you message."

Ruby replies, "I too send my grandchildren a very generous cheque. I hear from them within a week after they receive it. In fact, they each pay me a personal visit."

"Wow! How come?" remarked Dolly.

"Very simple solution... I don't sign the cheque!"

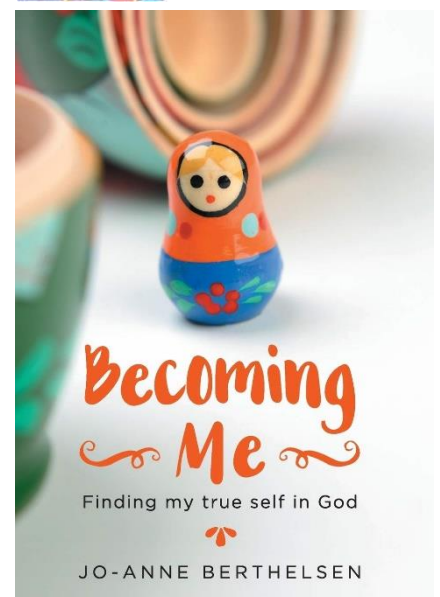
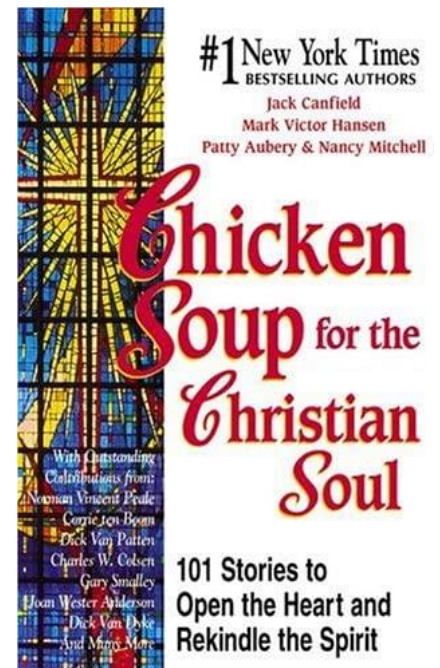
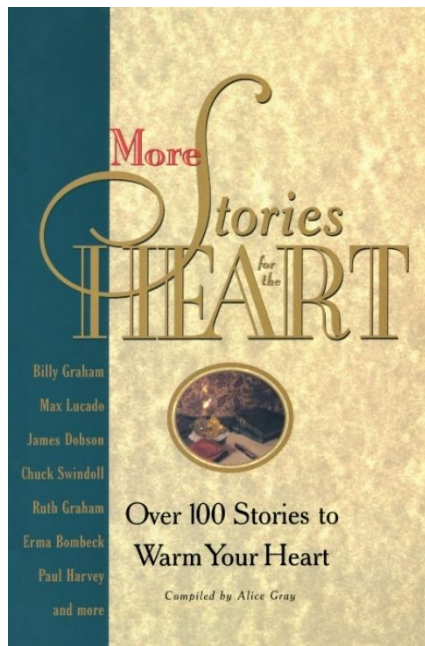


Library

The question has been asked: Do we really need a library?

So many people these days read online, use Kindle or audio books etc. That is great! But some of us like to hold a book in our hands. Then why are the books on the library shelves not moving out? We know the position by the door is not the best but there are wonderful new books still waiting for a reader.

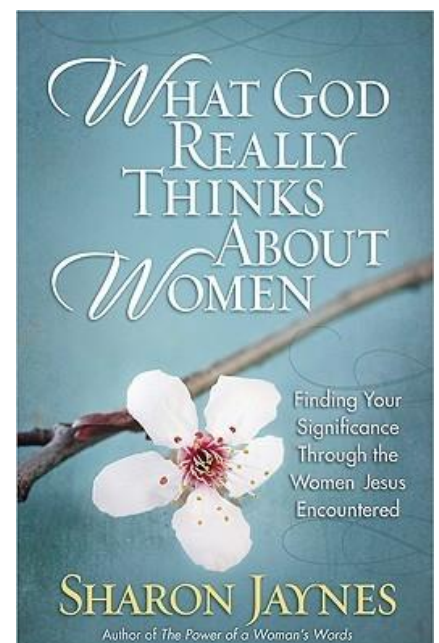
Stocktaking took place a few months ago and any yellow or unattractive books have been discarded. There is not a lot of money spent on new books as so many are donated in good or new condition. So, please take time to browse. Find a good true story or an inspirational book. But there is fiction too and helps for living the Christian way...and more!



Joan Bryant



Betty Cronin



Readers Group

Final Readers' Group Report for 2022

We are going well with sharing our reading, thoughts, and lives. There are seven of us and with absentees there is room for another member or two.

Biographies are the popular choice as well as the public library books which bear the cross on the spine, showing they have Christian values.

We meet mostly at Tricia Brown's but will have the final meeting back at 224A Welcome Bay Road on the final Wednesday of the month at 1.30 till 3pm.

For further info ring Joan 027 7733811



Worksite language

The foreman on a large worksite noticed a new labourer one day and barked at him:

"What's your name?"

"John." The new bloke replied.

The Forman scowled. "Look, I don't know what kind of wishy-washy worksite you were on before, but I don't call anyone by their first name. It's weak and wastes time. I call my employees by their last name only

Smith, Jones, Baker, that's all. If I want a job done, I yell, Baker, get this or Jones, do that. Now that we have that straight, what's your last name?"

The new bloke sighed. "Darling. My name is John Darling."

The foreman paused briefly for a couple of seconds, then said quietly...
"Ok John, the first thing I want you to do is.....!"



DUTY ROSTER – DECEMBER

December 4th - COMMUNION

Service Leader: Rev. Dr Jaco Reyneke
Vestry: Philip Temple
Servers: Josh, Carolynn, Aline and Tarquin Tepou
Kitchen Duties: Anua Abbott, Anel Reyneke
Door / Offering: Barrie & Marylyn Smith
Prayer Partner: Joan Bryant

December 11th

Service Leader: Rev. Dr Jaco Reyneke
Vestry: Philip Temple
Kitchen Duties: Beverley Cochrane, Bev Hayman
Door / Offering: Brian & Gail Walker
Prayer Partner: Lesley Ayers

December 18th

Service Leader: Rev. Dr Jaco Reyneke
Vestry: Philip Temple
Kitchen Duties: Cynthia Herring, Shona Giles
Door / Offering: Doug & Kitty Naude'
Prayer Partner: Gail Walker

December 25th

Service Leader: Rev. Dr Jaco Reyneke
Vestry: Philip Temple
Kitchen Duties: No morning tea today
Door / Offering: Gerald & Yvonne Krohn
Prayer Partner: Gaye Wilson

What does it mean to “hold space” for someone else?

It means that we are willing to walk alongside another person in whatever journey they're on without judging them, making them feel inadequate, trying to fix them, or trying to impact the outcome. When we hold space for other people, we open our hearts, offer unconditional support, and let go of judgement and control.

DUTY ROSTER - JANUARY

January 1st - COMMUNION

Service Leader: Rev. Dr Jaco Reyneke
Vestry: Sue Nelson-Davys
Servers: Lesley and John Ayers; Minette Soekoe
Kitchen Duties: Geoff & Bernice Tyrrell
Door / Offering: John & Ngaire Foote
Prayer Partner: Joan Bryant

January 8th

Service Leader: Rev. Dr Jaco Reyneke
Vestry: Sue Nelson-Davys
Kitchen Duties: Ken & Lyn Hartley
Door / Offering: Gloria Mouatt
Prayer Partner: Lesley Ayers

January 15th

Service Leader: Rev. Dr Jaco Reyneke
Vestry: Sue Nelson-Davys
Kitchen Duties: Jeanette Stewart, Jean Whiteman
Door / Offering: Joseph Toara
Prayer Partner: Gail Walker

January 22nd

Service Leader: Rev. Dr Jaco Reyneke
Vestry: Sue Nelson-Davys
Kitchen Duties: Gert & Marylyn Smith
Door / Offering: Louise Hediger
Prayer Partner: Gaye Wilson

January 29th

Service Leader: Rev Dr Jaco Reyneke
Vestry: Sue Nelson-Davys
Kitchen Duties: Richard Wilson, Robyn Magowan
Door / Offering: Mama Tu
Prayer Partner: Joan Bryant

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

This means you can listen to them any time you want.

www.stenochs.org.nz/reading-message

DUTY ROSTER - FEBRUARY

February 5th – COMMUNION

Service Leader: Rev. Dr Jaco Reyneke
Vestry: Louise Hediger
Servers: Ngaire and John Foote; Shona Giles
Kitchen Duties: Tricia & Keith Brown, Doreen Bunn
Door / Offering: Margaret Wakefield
Prayer Partner: Lesley Ayers

February 12th

Service Leader: Rev Dr Jaco Reyneke
Vestry: Louise Hediger
Kitchen Duties: Ken & Lyn Hartley
Door / Offering: Philip Temple
Prayer Partner: Gail Walker

February 19th

Service Leader: Rev Dr Jaco Reyneke
Vestry: Louise Hediger
Kitchen Duties: Geoff & Bernice Tyrrell
Door / Offering: Sue Davys
Prayer Partner: Gaye Wilson

February 26th

Service Leader: Rev. Dr Jaco Reyneke
Vestry: Louise Hediger
Kitchen Duties: Norah Miller, Robyn Dowdle
Door / Offering: Rob Brown
Prayer Partner: Joan Bryant

For
nothing is
impossible
with *God*
Luke 1:37

Contact People

Minister	Rev Dr Jaco Reyneke	544 0644 (home) 027 3259003
NOM Intern	Josh Tepou	022 3969769
Session Clerk	Philip Temple	570 2275
Treasurer	Ken Hartley	579 3477
Administrator	Marie Nilson	578 6902 (home)
Sunday School	Louise Hediger	027 2323481
Youth Group	Leiona Tupou	027 5051117
Envelope Secretary	Lois Rout	578 4956
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	572 2152

CONTACTS

Minister:	Rev. Dr Jaco Reyneke	544 0644 (home)
Hon. Asst Minister:	Rev. George Bryant	544 1669 (home)
NOM Intern	Josuha Tepou	022 3969769
Session Clerk	Philip Temple	570 2275 (home)
Treasurer:	Ken Hartley	579 3477 (home)
Administrator:	Marie Nilson	578 6902 (home)

SESSION

Lester Gray	021 757599	Robyn Dowdle	544 2231
Joan Bryant	544 1669	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 Betram	027 2381450		

Pastoral Care Leaders

Sue Davys (team leader)	027 4833113	Gail Walker	544 2179
Joan Bryant (team leader)	544 1669	Marion Bennett	578 8382
Minette Soekoe(team leader)	021 995875	Mersius Van de Spuy	07 348 4300
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
Norah Miller	543 4918	Bernice Tyrrell	578 2224
Ralph Morris	543 4868	Brian Walker	544 2179
Joseph Toara	0274404625	Robyn Magowan	572 2152
Robyn Dowdle	544 2231	Iris Stockwell	578 5148

Education & Youth

Louise Hediger	027 2323481	Leiona Tupou	027 5051117
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BOARD OF MANAGERS

Ralph Morris	543 4868	Richard Wilson	578 3894
Ken Hartley	579 3477	Geoff Tyrrell	578 2224
Robyn Magowan	572 2152	Tim Reed	021 1372262

Maintenance & Development

Richard Wilson	578 3894
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