St. Enoch's Church Community Manawa



Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa N.Z.

Phone 578-3040

www.stenochs.org.nz

A MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

WHO WE ARE AND WHO WE WANT TO BE

It is exciting to see our new identity statement permeating through our faith family as we constantly strive to take part in God's mission effectively and efficiently. As God sent Jesus Christ, we are sent to bring God's love and grace into our community. "For God was in Christ, reconciling the world



to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation. So, we are Christ's ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, "Come back to God!" (2 Cor 5:19-20)

We do not need to be anything but ourselves – with our unique personalities, interests, gifts, and skills. We just need to joyously and thankfully let our good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise our heavenly Father. (Mat 5:16)

To be **God honouring** we need to know God and understand God's expectations. This spiritual wisdom and understanding will help us live God honouring lives, which in turn will help us grow in our faith. With the apostle Paul, we ask God to give us complete knowledge of his will and to give us spiritual wisdom and understanding. Then the way we live will always honour and please the Lord, and our lives will produce every kind of good fruit. All the while, we will grow as we learn to know God better and better. (Colossians 1:9b-10)

To be **Christ Following** we need to know Jesus Christ well and be committed to the point that his love controls us (2 Cor 5:14). When Christ's love control, or compel, or rule us we can do good.

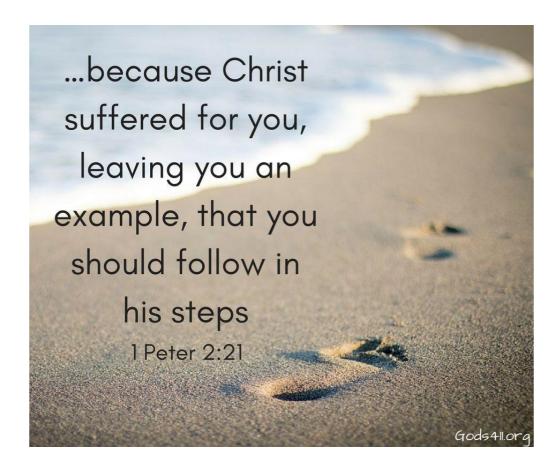
And God called us to do good, even if it means suffering, just as Christ suffered for us. He is our example, and you must follow in his steps. (1 Peter 2:21)

To be **Holy Spirit led** we need to know the Holy Spirit, be tuned into the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and have the courage to follow. The Holy spirit empower us to be faithful witnesses for God (Act 1:8), teach us everything we need to know and will remind you of everything Jesus taught us (John 14:26). Letting the Spirit control our minds leads to life and peace. (Rom 8:6)

By the grace of God, we are God honouring, Christ following, and Holy Spirit led. Because we live in the tension of being whole in Christ and yet imperfect in our humanness, we continually need to work at it to be more God honouring, better Christ following and more powerfully led by the Holy Spirit.

It is a privilege to be on this journey together as the St. Enoch's faith family.

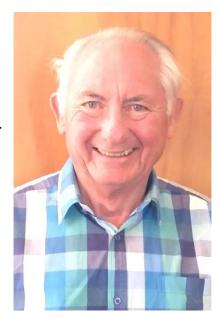
Jaco



SESSION REPORT

Welcome to another year in the St Enoch's faith family. Certainly, we are past January 1, but as every day is new so is every year and we can look forward to the many blessings that our God has given to us. We don't ask for them and the cost to us is our love and belief in our risen Lord.

Oh, how things change and yet they stay the same! While we as a country move from one type of Covid restrictions to the 'traffic light system', we still have to comply with rules



and legislation set out for us by our government. As your Session, we have been very conscious of the needs and challenges for many of you as you face the uncertain times. If we are to comply with what is safest for us, church, shopping and social activities can become problematic. To help with this, St Enoch's are having two morning services. The usual one at 9.30 for the fully vaccinated (controlled) and another at 11.00 open to anyone, however the numbers attending this one are limited to 25. These have helped everyone come and worship our Lord and Saviour in a warm, welcoming and safe way. Our Lord's rich blessings continue to surround us today and always. You are also encouraged to call any of your Elders if there is something they can do to help with the challenges of the moment.

Christmas was different for everyone as we faced the reality of the Covid pandemic. While the material aspects of our celebrations were curtailed, the reason for the season did not change, and never will change. However, sadly, for some of us, 2022 will be forever different. In particular we pray for Shona Giles, Steve Gurney, Ralph Morris, each of whom have had loved ones taken home to be with their Father in heaven.

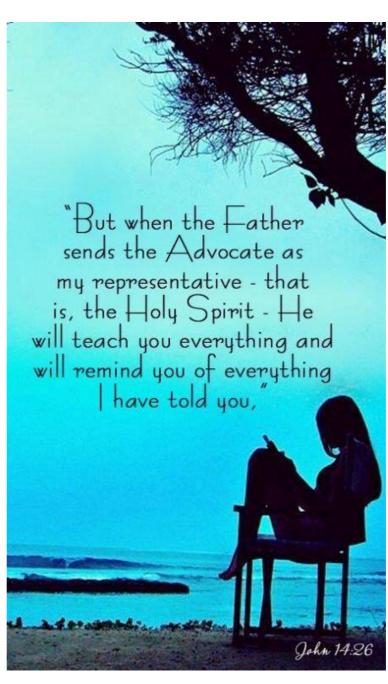
Again Chrissy and Chris Meyer started the year by taking a great bus trip to the Hamilton gardens. We are truly blessed having them in our midst but sadly it will not be for much longer. They are hopeful that by May this year they will move into their new home in Paeroa. 20 people joined in a happy outing surrounded by God's amazing creations of plants, flowers and sunshine.

Our first Session meeting for 2022, led by Jaco, began with Communion and some very salient points for us all to bear in mind. Based on our identity statement we must give thought and action to being God honouring – Colossians 1: 9b-10; Christ following- 1 Peter 2: 21; and Holy Spirit led John 14: 26. This set the tone for a good meeting in which plans were put in place,

within the constraints of Covid, for positive action in our faith family. This included a comprehensive plan for youth work and involvement.

May our loving Lord Jesus continue to richly bless you.

Philip P. Temple Session Clerk



Intern report

Greeting St Enoch's family,

It feels like it's been so long since I had the pleasure of being in the midst of the wider body of this St Enoch's fellowship. With the various issues that we as a community must navigate, followed by what I now know was a much-needed break, I am looking forward to this coming year with you.



Someone once said, "there is not enough time to do all the nothing we want to do." My time away felt like that, with the nothingness somehow feeling so busy!?! But God has been good, there was food and fellowship and food, and food, with so many loved ones who escaped Auckland and came through our home. It felt like a constant flow of different family members and friends, staying for a night or three, a week, and some even over a month. But in all of that, it helped me to realise what a gift it is to be in fellowship with one another and how refreshing that can be for us as bearers of God's image, a God who is relational, a God who is hospitable, a God who is loving. We miss you St Enoch's!

My year had commenced in the first week of February 2022 by taking the service at Radius Althorp on my first day back which was such a blessing to me. Being able to catch up with Jaco and Marie and do a little bit of planning with Jaco for the second year of my internship was great. Being able to get out and visit some of you in the few days before my summer block course was wonderful, and now post-block course (which unfortunately was online), I am looking forward to what God has instore for us this year.

It will be a busy year, the current state of affairs notwithstanding, and for me an exciting year, an exciting year for us all I pray. We are God's called people, a people who would honour God, who would follow Christ and who would be open to the leading of the Holy Spirit. With this as a framework of our being, we are given the privilege of partaking in the mission of God, so let our actions reflect our profession, that Christ our Saviour is Lord.

God bless you all

Joshua Tepou Intern Minister



Richard Cox 30.9.29 - 22.1.22

Richard came to St Enoch's as our treasurer in 2009 when Euan Campbell was our minister. He took over from Marion Bennett and Lois Rout who had been sharing the treasurer's job for the 9 years before that. Richard was our treasurer for 5 years and retired in 2014 at age 85. Jonathan Hudson took over from him in 2014.

Richard was ahead of his time and was responsible for getting St Enoch's onto a digital accounting system. This was a man in his 80s and he could work his way around any computer – he was amazing.

Thank you Richard – you were one in a million.

Richard also worked as a volunteer at Citizens Advice Bureau where he worked just about full time. I think he just about ran the place. He was a very busy man and loved to feel needed

Rest in Peace Richard



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

As with previous Manawa reports included is summary of St Enoch's Profit and Loss Accounts for the Year-to-Date January 2022 The actual figures are compared with the budget and the 2021 year.

It will be seen from the statement when compared with the budget and the previous year the Church is showing a reasonable profit of \$4945



Profit & Loss St Enoch's Presbyterian Church For the YTD ending 31 January 2022

Income	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Var	YTD 21 Actual
Intern Sponsorship Donations	6,250	5,000	1,250	
Giving				
Automatic Payment Receipts	52,958	46,195		47,819
Cash Receipts	6,148	6,139		6,069
Envelope Receipts	10,634	17,084		16,338
Total Giving	69,739	69,418	321	70,226
Sundry Income Property Rental income (Church, Hall, Grounds & Manse)	57,643	54,964	2,679	45,653
Total Income	133,632	129,382	4.25	115,879
Less Operating Expenses				
Administration Expenses	22,314	22,193		21,158

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Total Operating Expenses	132,755	128,528	4,227	112,097
Property Expenses	35,292	33,144	_	33,398
Mission Expense	4,712	6,992		3,082
Ministry Expenses	70,436	66,199		54,459

You will note from the report there has been a shift in giving by envelope to automatic bank payments, and we encourage this to continue. Please consider paying your offering each month via an Automatic Payment.

If you would like to change to make automatic payments, but need assistance please call myself or Marie and we will be only too happy to assist.

With the Banks phasing out Cheques and trying to reduce the amount of cash that they handle. APs are a good alternative to withdrawing cash to make a church donation.

This helps the church in the administration and the need to handle 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

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

Ken Hartley Treasurer

Board of Managers Dec 2021 - Feb 2022

Happy New Year to everyone. Trust you have had a break from normal routines and have been able to enjoy our lovely hot weather.

The last meeting of the year was hosted by Jaco, who put on a lovely brunch for us. The 12 painting projects have now been completed and under budget by \$720.00. Budget was \$17,000. Our church and hall are future proofed now for a good period of time.



Marie has been very busy in the office with bookings for the hall. It is so good that this great facility is being used by many groups in the community.

Not much else to report to you this time being holidays for most in January. We look forward positively to a great 2022.

Robyn M



Happy birthday Isabell Wenman 100 years old on 4th February



THE PROMISE

Three thousand were communing while seated in their pews. Passing trays of wine from hand to hand.

I decided this was so impersonal that I let myself get out of touch with what was going on.

Just starred detachedly, as the little glass of wine held in my hand.

I noticed the reflection of the lights from overhead dancing on the surface of the wine.

No matter how I tried, this dance could not be stilled.

Held lightly, or held tightly, the glass conveyed my heartbeat to the wine.

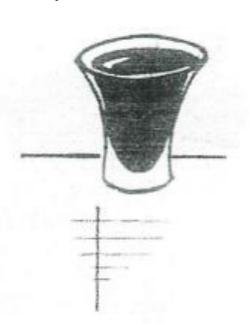
I placed the glass upon the pew, and only as it sat there out of touch, detached, did the light's reflection become still.

But with my slightest touch, the sparkling dance resumed.

A presence then took hold of me, and with the others I consumed the Promise: A continuing and everlasting dance for all who do not set themselves apart.







Pastoral Care

We are now into year three of Covid and a changed lifestyle. We have adjusted to two services and having to make appointments to visit rest homes etc. Now omicron is sweeping the country - so folk are very cautious.

We need to encourage phone calls and chats when we can for all of us. Please pass on to Gail any in hospital who need a visit or for inclusion on the prayer-chain.

Joan, Minette and Gail appreciate your help in making us a caring and supportive fellowship. Thanks to you all, especially those who deliver the Manawa's and keep contact with others.

Gail Walker (on behalf of Joan Bryant and Minette Soekoe)



Joan Bryant



Gail Walker



Minette Soekoe

An Obituary printed in the London Times Absolutely Dead Brilliant!!

Today we mourn the passing of a beloved old friend,
Common Sense, who has been with us for many years.
No one knows for sure how old he was, since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape. He will be remembered as



having cultivated such valuable lessons as:

- Knowing when to come in out of the rain;
- Why the early bird gets the worm;
- Life isn't always fair;
- And maybe it was my fault.

Common Sense lived by simple, sound financial policies (don't spend more than you can earn) and reliable strategies (adults, not children, are in charge).

His health began to deteriorate rapidly when well-intentioned but overbearing regulations were set in place. Reports of a 6-year-old boy charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate; teens suspended from school for using mouthwash after lunch; and a teacher fired for reprimanding an unruly student, only worsened his condition.

Common Sense lost ground when parents attacked teachers for doing the job that they themselves had failed to do in disciplining their unruly children.

It declined even further when schools were required to get parental consent to administer sun lotion or an aspirin to a student; but could not inform parents when a student became pregnant and wanted to have an abortion. Common Sense lost the will to live as the churches became businesses; and criminals received better treatment than their victims.

Common Sense took a beating when you couldn't defend yourself from a burglar in your own home and the burglar could sue you for assault.

Common Sense finally gave up the will to live, after a woman failed to realize that a steaming cup of coffee was hot. She spilled a little in her lap and was promptly awarded a huge settlement.

Common Sense was preceded in death,

- -by his parents, Truth and Trust,
- -by his wife, Discretion,
- -by his daughter, Responsibility,
- -and by his son, Reason.

He is survived by his 5 stepchildren;

- I Know My Rights
- I Want It Now
- Someone Else Is To Blame
- I'm A Victim
- Pay me for Doing Nothing

Not many attended his funeral because so few realized he was gone. If you still remember him, pass this on. If not, join the majority and do nothing



Hamilton Gardens Bus Trip

Thank you to Chris who organised the bus trip on 5th February to Hamilton Gardens.

20 people enjoyed a lovely day looking around the 23 different gardens over there.

Every time you go over to the gardens they seem to have opened up new ones. You could spend all day looking around this beautiful setting.

Chris and Chrissy are leaving Tauranga and shifting into a brand-new home in Paeroa.

St Enoch's wish you a happy and healthy retirement and we all look forward to hearing about your lovely new home and all your travels in your caravan.

A huge thank you to you both for the many wonderful trips and special events you have organised while you have been with us. We have loved them all.

God Bless you both.
St Enoch's will miss you both.







Tribute to the late Maide Belk

St Enoch's recently celebrated the life and work of Maide, a loyal and faithful worker for her Lord here at St Enoch's. She is first mentioned in the record book in 1955 as secretary of a social group — called Friendly Circle. This came into being through Helen Muir, wife of the then minister Rev Ivan Muir, who was the second minister at St Enoch's.

Maide's time on the Board of Managers was from 1976 to 1991. A total of 15 years.

Presbyterian Women's Association saw her serving as both President and later as Secretary



With the Bible being central in her life she volunteered to be St Enoch's representative on the local Bible Society organization. How long is not recorded but it was many years.

In the church scrapbook Maide is seen helping plant the garden after the present lounge was added in 1986 - helping to raise funds for the church at their annual Fairs – church concerts – kitchen duties. There was very little that she was not part of.

With a love of people, she along with others enjoyed the craft work at Have-a-go with its "Sales Table" for church funds. It was surprising just how much money they made in a year.

She faithfully attended church come rain or shine until ill health stopped her. She had two special friends, Jill Gray and Beryl Goodger and if you visited her at Althorpe her first words were always "How is St Enoch's going."

As Jaco said at her funeral - "Well done good and faithful servant."



HEAVEN

A cat died and went to Heaven. God met her at the Pearly Gates, petted her on the head and said, "You have been a good cat for these 40 years. Anything that you want is yours for the asking." The cat thought for a minute and replied, "All my life I have lived on a farm and slept on hard wooden floors. I would like a real fluffy pillow to sleep on." God said, "Say no more." Instantly the cat had a huge, fluffy pillow.

A few days later, six mice were killed in an accident, and they all went to heaven together. God met them at the gates of Heaven with the same offer He made to the cat. The mice said, "Well, all our lives we've had to run from dogs, cats and even people with brooms. If we could just have some little roller skates, we'd never have to run again." God said, "It is done!" All the mice had beautiful little roller skates.

About a week later, God decided to check on the cat. He found her sound asleep on her fluffy pillow. God gently awakened the cat and asked, "Is everything okay? How have you been doing? Are you happy?" The cat replied, "Oh, I've never been so happy in my life! My pillow is so fluffy, and those little meals-on-wheels you've been sending over here are delicious!"





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
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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	1.30pm
	(@ Joan Bryant's home)	
Musical Home Group	each Thursday in Church	12.00pm
STEWW Bible study Gr	^r 1 st Thursday	7.00pm
	(venue to be advertised in bulletin)	
Youth Group	Fortnightly on Saturday in hall	4.00pm

March 2022

Thursday 3 rd	7.00pm	STEWW Bible Study Group
Sunday 6 th	9.30am	Communion Service
Wednesday 9 th	9.00am	Board of Managers meeting
Thursday 10 th	6.30pm	Session meeting

April 2022

Sunday 3 rd	9.30am	Communion Service
Thursday 7 th	7.00pm	STEWW Bible Study Group
Wednesday 13 th	9.00am	Board of Managers meeting
Thursday 14th	6.30pm	Session meeting

May 2022

Sunday 1 st	9.30am	Communion Service
Thursday 5 th	7.00pm	STEWW Bible Study Group
Wednesday 11 th	9.00am	Board of Managers meeting
Thursday 12 th	6.30pm	Session meeting





Readers' Group This group of six (so far) shares about 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 224A Welcome Bay Road, 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)

A musical group is meeting in the church on Thursdays at 12 pm. This is a time to fellowship and worship together through a relaxed jam session. Josh is starting this group up again and invites anyone who loves to play or sing, or even if you would just like to sit and listen, as we express our worship of God through music (no musical ability needed – just a heart of worship). Contact Joshua (022 369 6769) for further details.

STEWW (St Enoch's Working Women) Bible study Gr: 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, has

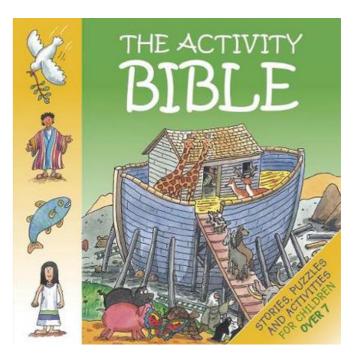
great plans for the year. Let us know if you know of someone who might benefit from engaging with our youth group. Please contact Leiona (027 505 1117) for more information.





It is difficult to describe a typical Sunday School class at St Enoch. As Sunday School teachers we always had to be prepared to accommodate all ages, from toddlers to teenagers. This turned out to work better than expected, as our wonderful older children are always willing to give a hand and to mentor a younger friend.

Jaco invested in beautiful Sunday School books for each child. The books contain detailed colour pictures that bring the stories of the Old Testament to



life, as well as the events of Jesus' life, death and resurrection. There are also word searches, puzzles, prayers and activities which the children enjoy. Each child was gifted a book which they will use throughout the year.

With Covid and the many restrictions, Sunday School turned from a busy class with sometimes ten children, to very few children and sometimes none or only one. This is understandable as many families opt to watch the services online during this time. As with all situations in life, there is always good that comes from it. During a discussion between us teachers about only having one child in class, we realised that the number does not matter. We all described wonderful interactions that we had in very small settings with maybe just one child during a Sunday school class. In Matthew 18:20 we read: "For where two or three gather in my name,

there am I with them". This quieter Sunday school time was a reminder that nothing is coincidence, and that God is in control and is with us when we gather together in His name.

Sunday School during the Red Traffic light system:

With the new system where we have two services on a Sunday, the Sunday School adapted and here below is the roster for Sunday School during this time.

First Sunday of the month:

Second Sunday of the month: Third Sunday of the month: Forth Sunday of the month:

Activity packs will be at the door on the library shelves, for smaller children to use in church during a service where there is no Sunday School. It is a privilege to be involved with the children in our congregation and we are looking forward to another year of Sunday School.

The Sunday School team Louise, Mativa, Carolynn and Aline All children join the Communion Service

Sunday School during 9:30 service Sunday School during 9:30 service Sunday School during 11:00 service





Louise Hediger

Mativa Ropati

Carolynn Tepou

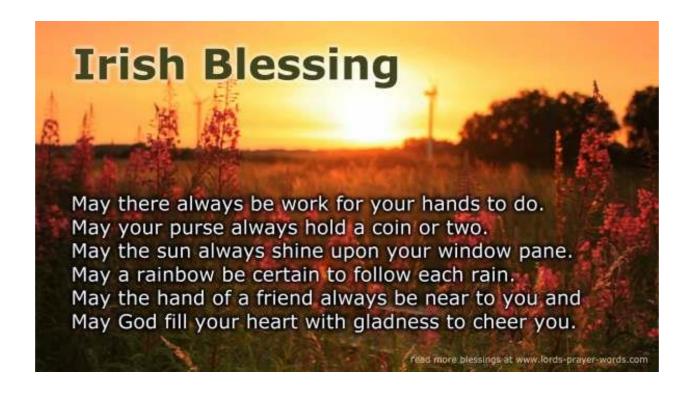
Aline Tepou

THE HEREAFTER

The new minister was visiting in his parish and found himself at the home of the oldest member, a lovely little old lady. As he looked at her, he thought he had better talk to her about her eventual "promotion to glory". So, he asked her if she had ever thought about the Hereafter "Oh yes" she said with enthusiasm. "I am always thinking about it" at this the minister was glad he was on the right track, and he had not caused any offence.

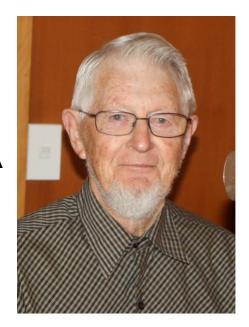
"Well, what does the hereafter mean for you?" said he. "Oh' she said "I think of it nearly every day. It's like this, I am in the kitchen, and I realise I need something from my bedroom. So, I go up the hall and stand in the doorway for a while saying to myself, "What on earth am I hereafter?"

After a chuckle or two the minister went on to tell her of all the blessings, joys and wonders of heaven, being with Jesus, seeing our Heavenly Father, fellowship with other Christians etc. He reminded her that heaven is our eventual home. After a joyful prayer he left, stopping at the front door to say to her, "Remember, that each night we pitch our tent a days' march nearer home".



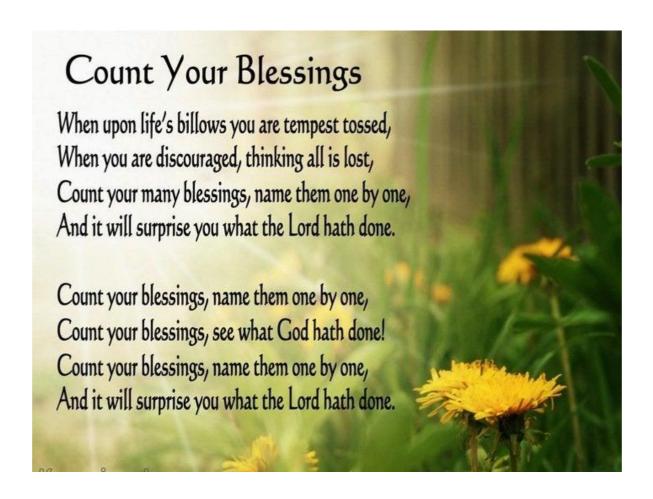
NO MIRACLE AFTER ALL!

The Bible story of Jonah and the whale is one which has proved a stumbling block to many, but Sir Francis Fox, in "Sixty-three Years of Engineering", tells the true story of a modern Jonah. The incident took place in February 1891, near the Falkland Islands, A sperm whale upset a whaling boat and a sailor was lost, The whale was harpooned and dissected, and on the following morning the missing man was found in the whale's stomach, unconscious, but breathing. He was a raving lunatic for a



fortnight afterwards, but recovered, though his hair and skin were bleached white by the gastric juices of the whale--- -The Cornhill Magazine

Newspaper cutting from my father's Scrapbook Rev. W T Brabyn





Youth group is planning the following events:

Fun Day out! Begin the year with a celebration!

Easter Camp

As Easter Camp will most likely be cancelled this year due to us being in Red Light, Kaimai Presbytery have decided to try and become creative in how we can approach Easter Camp. I would like to run a mini–Easter Camp



for St. Enoch's youth (and friends) from the 15th April to the 18th April 2022

- Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) visit and outreach.
- Hamburger Evening (Game: Hectic Hamburger)

• Mini Chefs 22

The youth compete in teams in a cooking/ baking competition (ingredients and recipe supplied).

Soulful Saturday

Ask Leiona for more information.

Blessings, Leiona



SPEEDING

A man gets pulled over for speeding!!!
As the cop approaches the car, the man asks if he can get out of the car and the cop says ok!

He asks the man why he was speeding!

The man says, "You see the woman sitting in the passenger side front seat? That's my wife! You see the woman sitting in the back seat? That's my mother-in-law! And she has been living with us for 3 months now and this morning they had a big fight and my mother-in-law insisted we take her home and I'm trying to get her there as quickly as possible before they make up and she wants to come back home with us!!!"

The cop looks at the man and says, "Get back in your car and I will give you a police escort with lights and siren and we will get her home.!!!"



St Enoch's Working Women's Group

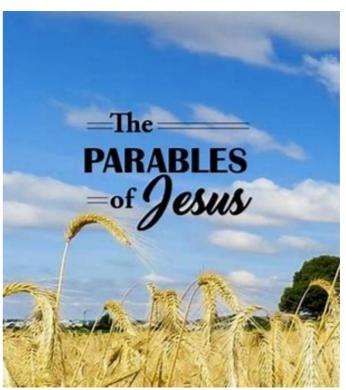
The St Enoch's Working Women's (STEWW) Bible-study group kicked this year off with our first meeting on Thursday 03 Feb 2022. Sharing news, experiences and general catch up, we started our new Bible-study series on the Parables. This is an online resource from the NZ Bible society https://biblesociety.org.nz/discover-the-bible/the-bible-good-for-life/group-studies/ A better understanding of the Kingdom of God, through the stories Jesus told, is our aim. It is amazing how the Word speak to us through listening, retelling and discussion.



We are very aware of our responsibility to protect and care for each other – although through protecting each other's health and wellbeing by being sensible and responsible within the COVID-19 pandemic.

We look forward to our next meeting on 03 March 2022. To be advised if this need to change due to COVID 19 restrictions.

Thanks Anel





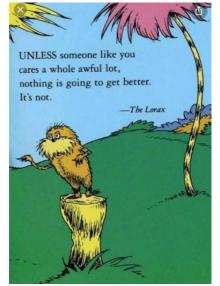
St Enoch's congregation supports the following mission organisations:

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

"Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not." - from The Lorax by Dr Seuss.

This quote from this much-loved Dr Seuss book, made me think of our caring St Enoch congregation. St Enoch **do** care and things **do** get better!!!

St Enoch's caring is outwardly evident in the missions we support. St Enoch supports four missions: Wycliffe, Mission



Aviation Fellowship, Hospital Chaplaincy and Homes of Hope.

St Enoch's caring is notable in the food baskets that so diligently gets filled and delivered every Sunday to Homes of Hope. St Enoch's caring was also evident in our support of the Hospital Chaplaincy over the Christmas period. The Hospital chaplain, Shelley, had the mission to give a small wrapped edible gift to each hospital worker over the Christmas period as a token of

appreciation for their work, especially now through this strange Covid period. We collected not only biscuits and chocolates, but also other handmade gifts which were neatly wrapped and delivered to the hospital.





Mission Partner rethink:

As a congregation we must be vigilant and open to where God is calling us. Session is discerning whether God is still calling us to support Wycliffe, Mission Aviation Fellowship, Hospital Chaplaincy and Homes of Hope, or whether there is another

organisation who would benefit from our support at this stage. Please pray about it and share your thoughts with an elder or with Jaco or Josh.

1 Peter 4:10, "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."



Louise Hediger Mission Co-ordinator



Men's Coffee Group

Meet every Tuesday at 10am at the new cafe at Mega Mitre, now a Columbus Cafe.

This is a really important group where 7-8 men meet each week and enjoy some much-needed social interaction. They call themselves "The knights of the glass table".

All men are welcome – come and join them.

Please contact Rex if you would for more info. Phone 5431606 or 027 2842317



Those that attend morning tea at Columbus Cafe on Tuesday morning

from 10.00a.m. to 11.00a.m. thoroughly enjoy the atmosphere, the coffee and the friendship. It's a look forward to so come and join us.

Cynthia Herring. Phone 0273241027

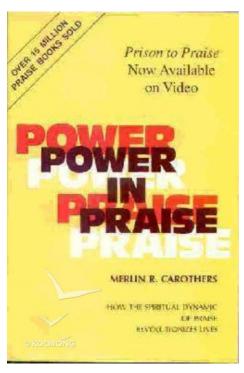




LIBRARY

It is good to see the library books being read. New books are being added, thanks to donations. Keep your eye on the top shelf.

Watch out for East Wind, a true story about Maria Linke and her horrific experiences early last century in Russia and Germany. "A powerful book" with a spiritual message. Also the classic Power in Praise by Carothers. Be inspired.



Just fill in your name and the title in the black book and return to the box on the bottom shelf. Please return books borrowed last year.

Joan Bryant and Betty Cronin



Joan Bryant



Betty Cronin

UNITY IN THE CHURCH

For church leaders, the last few years have presented a near-constant array of complex challenges related to shepherding a church during the COVID-19 pandemic.

As if the logistical details weren't challenging enough—how to maintain social distance and limit crowd size, whether or not to require masks, to sing or not to sing, what to do with children, and so on—the whole conversation is fraught with potential for division. If a congregation—and within it, a leadership team—is at all a microcosm of our larger society, it will likely contain a broad assortment of strongly held convictions. Some will be eager to meet in person and impatient to wait much longer to get back to normal. Others will insist it's unwise to meet at all until we are out of the current Red setting.

In such a precarious and polarizing environment, how can churches move forward in beautiful unity, rather than ugly division? It won't be easy. But by God's grace and the power of the Holy Spirit working to unify us in ways our flesh resists, the opportunity is there for us to be a countercultural model for the rest of the world.

At a time when self-idolatry is being exposed in ugly ways, the church has an opportunity to model love that places the interests of others above the self.

"Let us not pass judgment on one another any longer, but rather decide never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of a brother"? 1 Corinthians 8:9:

As hard as it will be to practice patience, remember that in the scheme of eternity this season will be but a blip.



DUTY ROSTER - MARCH

March 6th - COMMUNION

Preacher: Joshua Tepou **Vestry:** Gail Walker

Servers: Gail Walker, Barbara & Rob Brown, Minette Soekoe,

Kitty & Doug Naude, Robyn Dowdle, Anel Reyneke

Door / Offering: Cynthia Herring **Healing/Prayer Ministry:** Gaye Wilson

March 13th

Preacher: Joshua Tepou **Vestry:** Gail Walker

Door / Offering: Robyn Dowdle **Healing/Prayer Ministry:** Joan Bryant

March 20th

Preacher: Rev. Dr Jaco Reyneke

Vestry: Gail Walker

Door / Offering: Anel Reyneke

Healing/Prayer Ministry: Lesley Ayers

March 27th

Preacher: Rev. Dr Jaco Reyneke

Vestry: Gail Walker

Door / Offering: Doug & Kitty Naude **Healing/Prayer Ministry:** Gail Walker

DUTY ROSTER - APRIL

April 3rd - COMMUNION

Preacher: Rev. Dr Jaco Reyneke

Vestry: Peka Tautali

Servers: Peka & Tofia Tautali, George Bryant, Cynthia Herring, Gloria Mouatt, Sue Nelson-Davies, Lawson Stewart, Philip Temple

Door / Offering: Robyn Magowan **Healing/Prayer Ministry:** Gaye Wilson

April 10th

Preacher: Rev. Dr Jaco Reyneke

Vestry: Peka Tautali

Door / Offering: John & Lesley Ayers **Healing/Prayer Ministry:** Joan Bryant

April 17th

Preacher: Rev. Dr Jaco Reyneke

Vestry: Peka Tautali

Door / Offering: John & Ngaire Foote **Healing/Prayer Ministry:** Lesley Ayers

April 24th

Preacher: Joshua Tepou **Vestry:** Peka Tautali

Door / Offering: Louise Hediger **Healing/Prayer Ministry:** Gail Walker

DUTY ROSTER - MAY

May 1st - COMMUNION

Preacher: Joshua Tepou **Vestry:** Robyn Dowdle

Servers: Robyn Dowdle, Ngaire & John Foote, Lester Gray,

Louise & Marcel Hediger, Geoff & Bernice Tyrrell

Door / Offering: Ken & Lyn Hartley **Healing/Prayer Ministry:** Gaye Wilson

May 8th

Preacher: Rev Dr Jaco Reyneke

Vestry: Robyn Dowdle **Door / Offering:** Joseph Toara

Healing/Prayer Ministry: Joan Bryant

May 15th

Preacher: Rev Dr Jaco Reyneke

Vestry: Robyn Dowdle **Door / Offering:** Mama Tu

Healing/Prayer Ministry: Lesley Ayers

May 22nd

Preacher: Rev Dr Jaco Reyneke

Vestry: Robyn Dowdle **Door / Offering:** Mativa Ropati

Healing/Prayer Ministry: Gail Walker

May 29th

Preacher:Joshua TepouVestry:Robyn DowdleDoor / Offering:Philip Temple

Healing/Prayer Ministry: Gail Walker

PLEASE NOTE: there is no morning tea after our Sunday services at present.

We will advise you when morning tea duties resume.



Tensions, temptations and taunts

The temptation of Jesus speaks to me of our human condition stretched to the limit! That in turn speaks to us at this time, as we enter a third Lenten season under the shadow of Covid, with angry protestors camped outside Parliament, hospitality and tourism businesses going to the wall, and heightened anxiety in response to the fast-approaching Omicron wave. We are being stretched. For us, as for Jesus, there are tensions, temptations, and taunts to cope with. In my mind's eye I can see the tension on the face of Jesus as he came to the end of his 40 day fast. The biblical text simply says, 'he was hungry'. I read a quirky novel once that went into graphic detail about how a fast this long would actually affect him! The haggard tension on his face from the sustained deprivation would be palpable. We too know tension from sustained pressure. We face ongoing cycles of planning and cancellation, anxiety and relief, hope and despair. Most of us have relationships strained by differing opinions. At this point of extreme vulnerability for Jesus, he is tempted to take false paths. What are the temptations we face at this time of vulnerability? Early in the pandemic the temptations were around economy verses health. Now it comes to us in the form of demonizing those who disagree with us, and some proclaiming individual rights versus the good of all.

And there are the taunts. The devil saved this best for the last when it came to Jesus – "if you are the son of God...". I see this kind of behaviour on TV, and I hear it on the deck after a game of golf: politicians mocked and even threatened, police belittled, and school students teased for wearing masks! It is hard to deal with.

So how did Jesus deal with the tension, temptations and taunts? Huge resilience indeed. And the text gives two sources for this resilience, still available to us today. One was the filling of the Holy Spirit. The other, a deep and informed use of scripture that empowered him to combat the misinformed misuse that was thrown at him

As we navigate the tension, temptations, and taunts in our context this Lent, may we too draw on these deep spiritual resources to sustain us. In a season popular for what we can give up, I have always thought the emphasis should be more on what we can take up! Now, as much as ever, we need to be taking up spiritual practices which allow us to be more and more open to the sustaining power of the Holy Spirit and to the scriptures that carried Jesus through a time such as this.

Right Rev Hamish Galloway Moderator Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand moderator@presbyterian.org.nz

Contact People

Minister	Rev. Dr Jaco Reyneke	544 0644 (home) 027 3259003
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Session Clerk	Philip Temple	570 2275
Treasurer	Ken Hartley	579 3477
Administrator	Marie Nilson	578 6902 (home)
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Youth Group	Peka Tautali Joseph Toara Leiona Tupou	572-2329 027 4404625 027 505 1117
Envelope Secretary	Lois Rout	578 4956
Mission Motivator Homes of Hope	Minette Soekoe Robyn Dowdle	021 995875 544 2231
Lounge Kitchen Co-ordinator	Cynthia Herring	544-3053
Hospital Visiting	Gail Walker	544 2179
Musicians	Helen Temple George Bryant Ruth West Denise 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	Doug Naude	022 0885692

CONTACTS

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Joseph Toara	027 4404625	Louise Hediger	027 2323481
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Joan Bryant (team leader)	544 1669	Marion Bennett	578 8382
Minette Soekoe(team leade	r)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	Chris Meyer	576 3839

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Doug Naude'	022 0885692	Robyn Magowan	572 2152

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