

St Andrew's Presbyterian Church Newsletter

August 2022– September 2022



Pentecost Service at St Andrew's Church 2022

Our Vision

- ❖ **Accepting all people**
- ❖ **Striving for Compassion**
- ❖ **Seeking to live out Christ's selfless love until we see God's justice realised**



Jill's Musings.....

Kia orana to you all,

It has been a strange few months with so much covid around as well as many people experiencing the flu. It is alarming to know that New Zealand's death rate has been up 12% on what it usually is and has been this way since March. Although they have not been covid related we have three deaths over the past six weeks or so, Eddie Ross from Maraekakaho, Taiki Apu from the Cook Islands Community and Harry Trigg from St Andrews. Our love and our prayers are with Neta Ross, Christine Apu and Erin Levet and all of their whanau at this tough time.

Recently I preached about the way that we sing our theology and how we are actually more likely to be shaped by the words we sing than the sermons that are preached. This is partly because we might only hear a sermon once, but we will sing songs over and over again. I have just sent a questionn out to the people who participate in Sacred Space every Tuesday lunchtime asking them to reflect on a song that shapes their theology (their understanding of God).

The first song that popped up in my head was "*Christ Be Our Light*" by Bernadette Farrell.

1. Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
Light for the world to see.

Chorus:

*Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your Church
Gathered today.*

2. Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has power to save us
Make us your living voice.

3. Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water , many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
Shared until all are fed.

4. Longing for shelter, people are homeless,
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others
Walls made of living stone.

5. Many the gifts, many the people,
Many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
Making your kingdom come.

There is a lot I love about singing this song. In the first two lines we recognise our longing to be out of the darkness and in the light and we see that it is in Christ that we can experience the light. I love the fact that the hard stuff of life is named - our troubled world as well as people who are homeless and hungry. But what I love most about this song is the call for us to respond and participate in what Christ longs for, for our world. We are called to shine the light of Christ in how we live our lives. We are called to be Christ's living voice, to be servants to one another here and to help participate in making God's kingdom come.

It is a while since we have had anyone sharing your faith in worship, perhaps you would like to reflect on a song/hymn that shapes your understanding of faith and share that with us one Sunday morning during worship. Do let me know.

It has been so wonderful to be engaged in a Cup of Tivaevae, I have found a new hobby and am now on my second Tivaevae cushion. Who knew that sitting around sewing and talking with a group of women, or quietly sewing at home could be so much fun! Thank you so much to Berry and Oki for your tutelage! This has been a great initiative and as well as learning the beautiful Cook Islands handcraft, we have had so many rich conversations!



By the time you read this, the Hastings Church will have moved their drop in centre for the homeless into our church hall. We are looking forward to seeing what develops and how we can help in this important mission to some of the most vulnerable in our city. If you are interested in participating, do let me know! We really want this to be a missional partnership between us, Hastings Church and Anglican Care and the Hastings District Council (who the Hastings Church is partnered with), and not simply venue hire.

Watch this space!

Blessings

Jill

Jill has just completed five years as our Minister at St Andrew's Presbyterian Church. As a Church community we thank Jill for her ongoing ministry, leadership and introduction of so many new and exciting initiatives.

Notes from Parish Council Clerk...Jim Spall

Hi everyone.

I write this on a cold wet winter's day. As I get older it's not my favourite season. This year I know many of you have suffered from illness with colds, flu, and of course covid circulating widely in our community. The good news is that we will get through this phase just as winter will end. There is the promise of spring and already our magnolias are starting to burst into bloom and the daffodils are well on their way. Christine and I were fortunate in travelling to Europe in May where we spent precious time with our son, daughter in law and granddaughter. Everywhere we went people were once again enjoying events and warm summer weather with very little to remind them of the dark days of covid.

At Parish Council's late February meeting our focus was on having everything in place while Jill was on study leave. This proved prescient as for the next seven weeks we held online services to try and do our part in keeping everyone safe from the spread of the omicron variant of Covid.

At our April Meeting our focus was on what had been learnt from the online worship. For those able to take part in the zoom worship we learnt that we could still be together and have a service with those otherwise unable to attend, and that we were more interactive during worship. Jill has subsequently continued to hold an online service for those unable to attend in person worship. When we once again resumed worship in our building everyone attending appreciated being back worshipping and singing together. At the same meeting we learnt of progress to date with our St Marks Housing and associated Chaplaincy project. Those of us involved with the inclusivity proposal agreed after discussion with the Moderator, Hamish Galloway, to a modified proposal that would establish a dialogue group as a way forward rather than another possibly divisive debate at General Assembly.

At our May meeting Parish Council discussed The Maraekakaho Church Building. In spite of being in a rapidly growing area the building is receiving little use. It is limited by fixed pews, limited water, and a lack of toilets. At the same time The Presbyterian Church Property Trustees have laid down a challenge of creating buildings that are fit for the purpose of supporting ministry in the 21st century. Council felt that God was calling us to new initiatives for ministry in the community. A discussion would be organised with Focus Maraekakaho to discuss possibilities of moving forward.

Following contact from Warren Heke and Anglican Social Care, discussions had been held on whether St Andrews's Hall could be used for both worship by Warren's church and as a Drop in Centre. Council also learnt that both proposals originating from St Andrews and presented at General Assembly had been passed by substantial

margins. These were the Inclusivity Proposal and the Proposal on Church Property Sales whereby when a sale takes place it will first be offered to local iwi. Rev Wayne Te Kawa, the former Moderator of Te Aka Puaho, described the latter as the most significant development by the Presbyterian Church for Maori since 1953!

At the June Parish Council meeting the focus was on our Budget for 2022-2023. Increased revenue from a proposal to hire the hall for worship and a Drop in Centre, as well as increased usage of our other facilities meant we were looking at a budgeted surplus for the first time in many years. Subsequently at our congregational meeting on 19th June we agreed to hire the St Andrews Hall Complex to the Hastings Church for a term of ten years. This is an exciting development in the life of St Andrews as our facilities are used to meet community needs while a surplus also creates other opportunities for mission.

Our July meeting was brief as both Chris and Jill were recovering from Covid and we were also aware that Harry Trigg was gravely ill in hospital. Harry passed away the following day. I know many of you will have fond memories of Harry- always pleased to see people, witty and wise, brilliant at communication, always willing to help, and full of the Holy Spirit. He will join the other saints who we have sadly farewelled in recent times.

Finally some words from last Sunday's lectionary reading Psalm 30:11-12 "You have turned my mourning into dancing; you have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, so that my soul may praise you and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you for ever."

Arohanui, Jim

SUNDAY MORNING TEA ROSTER

More helpers are needed to serve morning tea after the service on Sunday. We encourage you to add your name to the Roster

Phone Alan Watkins 8734227

Email: agwatkins6@gmail.com

St Marks Community Housing Village

Over the last four months a workgroup consisting of Brenda Armstrong, Junior Macarthur, Patty Macarthur, Vicki Vaughan, Chris Lambourne, Rev Sally Carter and Rev Jill McDonald have been working together to explore both the missional and chaplaincy aspect to the St Marks Housing Village.

What follows is the plan we have created.....

The St Marks Community Housing seeks to provide transitional housing for whanau in need that is lived out within a community setting. Transitional housing is temporary accommodation and support for individuals or families who are in urgent need of housing. In addition to temporary accommodation, people in transitional housing are provided with support services to help them address their needs and move back into long-term accommodation. It is intended that families and individuals stay in transitional housing for around 12 weeks, however it is often for a longer period of time.

We believe that God longs for the flourishing of all people and are guided by the words from Isaiah 49:10

"They will neither hunger nor thirst, nor will the desert heat or the sun beat down on them. He who has compassion on them will guide them and lead them beside springs of water."

Our aim is that whanau will experience these springs of living water through Christ's love and compassion in the St Mark's Community.

We believe in community. To thrive and grow we need to be in relationship with one another. We seek to assist in building community with all whanau who live here. Key in this will be the role of the community chaplain. We acknowledge that life is tough, that building community is challenging and that we need the power of the Holy Spirit to help us.

Therefore, at the centre of community life there is a regular time of karakia, a community meal along with mihi whakatau (a welcoming ritual) to welcome new whanau as well as a farewell karakia to acknowledge and support the departure of whanau as they move into long term accommodation.

The Mission of the St Marks Community Housing Village

This ministry emerges out of St Andrews Presbyterian Church, Hastings, mission: *'Accepting all people, striving for compassion, seeking to live out Christ's selfless love until we see God's justice realised.'* Alongside the work at St Marks Community Village, another aspect of this role is to develop points of connection between the St Marks Community and St Andrews Church, so that each may learn from and support one other in innovative ways.

This might include St Andrews folk sharing a weekly lunch that they prepare together or joining in for regular karakia. There will be lots of possibilities to explore how we can connect with this community so that we may all grow and learn from one another.

Key in all of this will be the role of the St Marks Community Chaplain whose help will provide the scaffolding and opportunities for the residents of St Marks to experience the springs of living water and Christ's love. This role is incarnational in its purpose i.e. to be as Christ to those who are part of St Marks and to enable and support them to be Christ to one another.

The chaplain will be key in helping to facilitate the building of a loving community among the residents as well as providing pastoral care for them. Leading karakia and mihi whakatau to welcome new residents and farewell those who are moving on to permanent housing will be part of their role as well as helping to organise weekly community meals with the residents.

The chaplain would work in collaboration with the WIT navigator (see below) and would be part of the St Andrews worshipping community. The chaplain would be supported by a team from St Andrews and would meet week with Jill.

Partnership with WIT

St Andrews would partner with the Community Housing Provider Whatever It Takes (WIT) who already have much experience in working with people living in social housing and the myriad of issues that whanau face including mental illness and addiction. They are funded by the government to provide transitional housing and for St Marks this would include a funded 'Navigator' position to support the people living at St Marks to help them develop the necessary skills for moving into permanent housing.

WIT would be responsible for making sure the properties are well maintained. They will support the people living there to access services like MSD, budgeting advice and health services.

Jill and Chris currently rent their own house to WIT for transitional housing. WIT take care of all the maintenance as well as the gardens and are supporting the family who live there to do all they need to do to buy their own home. They are a working couple with five children, who had to move out of their rental home because it was being sold. All kinds of families and individuals find themselves in the situation of needing transitional housing because of the housing shortage. While some have underlying mental health or addiction issues, that is not the case for all people.

WIT are excited about this partnership with St Andrews and exploring how they can incorporate care for people's spiritual wellbeing into the work they do.

Saint Mark's Village: Social Housing

We have completed the feasibility study for the Saint Mark's Social Housing Mission. This will be available next Sunday for you to pick up from church.

The key points are:

- 1. The focus of the initiative is to offer a missional response to people needing housing (up to 6 months long.)**
- 2. We will reinforce the missional approach by placing a chaplain on the site as a 3 day a week job.**
- 3. We will build 11 houses over the 2 sites.**
- 4. One of the houses will be used as a community centre and office.**
- 5. The rent will be paid by the government for a 15 year period.**
- 6. The tenants will be managed by a Whatever it Takes (WIT) Trust under contract from the government.**
- 7. The maintenance and ground care will be undertaken by WIT.**
- 8. At the end on the lease period the houses will be refreshed as part of the lease contract.**
- 9. A mortgage of about \$3.7m will be taken out on the site and it will be largely repaid over 15 years.**
- 10. At the end of the 15 year period St Andrew's will have an asset that is worth at least \$5m and no debt.**

Our biggest risk to this project is cost blowouts due to rising construction costs. This has been a big issue over the last 2 years, but the expectation is that construction costs will become more manageable as the rate of construction slows down during this recession.

The Process

There are still many steps in this process before we determine whether we definitely go ahead.

After a **Congregational meeting on Sunday August 14** the proposal will go to Presbytery who will pass it to the Presbytery Mission Group, the Finance Work Group and Presbytery Council for their input and feedback. If they agree it would proceed to the Church Property Trustees for their input, feedback and ratification if they support it. This process will take us through to the end of the year.

After the Presbytery and national bodies approved the proposal we will get some funding proposals and bring these back to the Saint Andrew's congregation for its approval to go ahead. This meeting will be called close to the end of this year or the beginning of next year.

After that we would solidify the numbers and bring it back to the St Andrew's congregation to determine whether or not we want to proceed with this initiative or not.

Congregational Meeting - Sunday 14 August 2022

At this Congregational meeting on Sunday 14 August at St Andrew's there will be the opportunity for you to raise questions and any concerns.

At that meeting you will then vote as to whether or not you agree with this initiative being put before Presbytery.

CELEBRATING MATARIKI



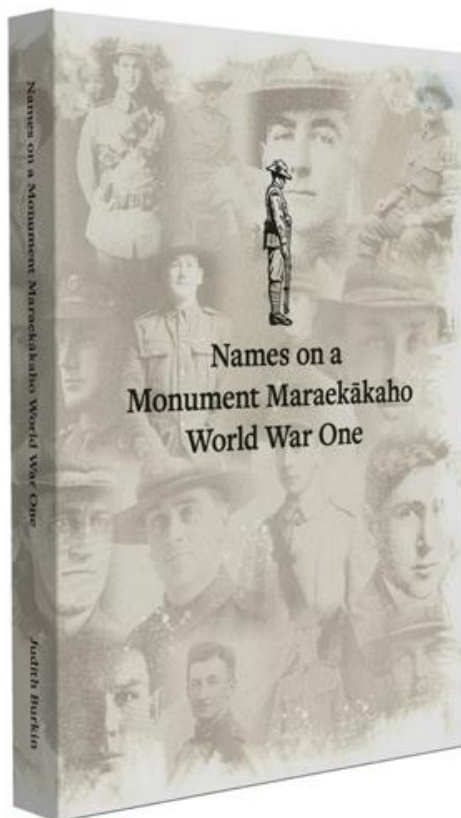
Matariki representation – at the front of St Andrew's Church on Sunday 26 June 2022

Māori believe the appearance of Matariki in the morning sky in mid- winter marks the Māori New Year, or Te Mātahi o te Tau. Matariki is the star cluster that is most commonly known as Pleiades or M45. The arrival of Matariki is a sign for people to gather, to honour the dead, celebrate the present and plan for the future. Hence the phrase, Matariki hunga nui meaning the many people of Matariki.

For our Tūpuna, our Maori ancestors, astronomy was interwoven into all facets of life. Meticulous observations of the movements of the stars and planets, the changing position of the sun, the phases of the moon and the appearance of anomalies such as comets and meteors were recorded and handed down from generation to generation as part of Maori oral tradition. This knowledge was connected to seasonal activities such as planting and harvesting, the flowering of plants, the spawning of fish and the natural cycles of the environment. This astronomical knowledge sits at the heart of our many regional ecological calendar systems that guided Maori from season to season.

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH BUDGET – JULY 2022 – JUNE 2023
As approved at a Congregational Meeting on 19th June 2022

REVENUE	TOTAL
Car Park Rental	19680
Weddings & Funerals	1050
Common Good	1650
Fund Raising	2000
Church & Hall Hire	16857
Hall Hire - PSEC	1500
Hall Hire - Hastings Church	83333
Offerings - Internet Banking	55560
Offerings- Envelope	8400
Offerings - Plate	4800
St Marks Manse Rental	12800
St Marks Hire - Church & Hall	16000
Dividends received	200
Interest Received	12000
GROSS REVENUE	235830
OPERATING COSTS	
ACC Levies	300
Advertising	260
Assembly Assessment	9600
Auditor/Reviewers Fees	1000
Bank Charges	30
Building WOF Levy	880
Cleaning Supplies	780
Common Good expenses	2270
Computer Expenses	940
Donations	200
General Expenses	2400
Insurance	25000
Internet	70
Light, Power, Heating	4800
Minister Stipend/Accommodation/Kiwi Saver/ Beneficiary Fund etc	99120
Relieve Minister	500
Music Copyright Licence	300
PO Box Annual Fee	200
Presbytery Levy	2538
Printing & Stationery	420
Rates	10304
Church - Repairs & Maintenance	640
Seminar & Conference Expenses	175
Telephones	1080
Wages - Host	24960
Staff Training	900
St Marks - Operations	2160
Grant to Hastings Church for Mission	12500
Extraordinary - Church Concept	4000
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	208327
NET SURPLUS	27503



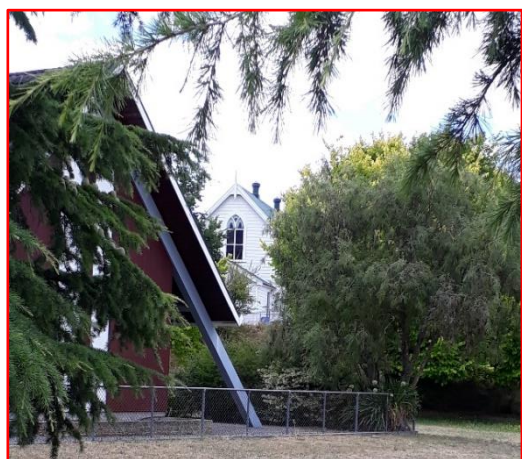
NAMES ON A MONUMENT MARAEKAKAHO WORLD WAR ONE

Since its beginnings back in the mid-19th century, the village of Maraekakaho has had close links with the Presbyterian Church and remains part of the parish of St Andrew's.

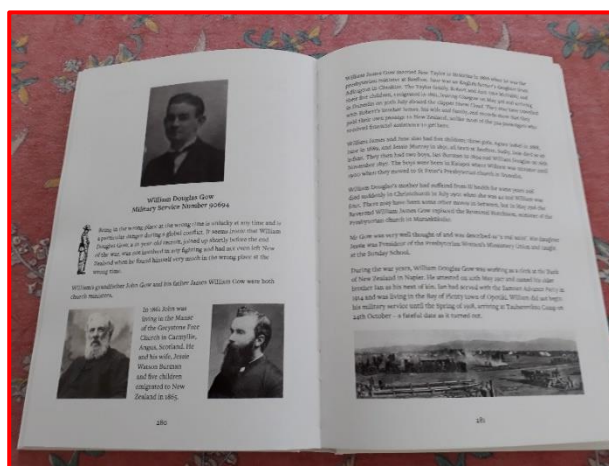
A book exploring the lives and families of the people living in Maraekakaho 100 years ago has uncovered many connections between this special part of Hawke's Bay and the Inner Hebridean islands of Tiree, Mull, Islay and Gigha as well as the Scottish mainland.

Many of the early inhabitants of Sir Donald McLean's huge Maraekakaho Station came from the Scottish Islands and brought with them their religious allegiance to Presbyterian theology.

Although focussed on the men and women who were caught up in a world war and whose names are on Maraekakaho War Memorial, this is a book about the individuals and families who left their homes and emigrated to New Zealand to find a better life. It combines local history with many poignant stories gleaned from military and other records.



The old Maraekakaho Church – as seen from outside the “new” church built in 1966



The story of Private William Douglas Gow, whose father William James Gow was Presbyterian Minister in Maraekakaho from 1916 to 1919.

If you would like a copy of this book please contact Judith Burkin at judith.kereru425@xtra.co.nz, call 06 8749612 or text or call 022 1501536.



Congratulations Yohanna!

Ms Rowe enrolled me in an online program called INVENTIONATOR. I had to complete six wereo (challenges), write my pepeha, and pitch an idea that I thought needed to be invented. My idea was to create a thing called: "Rat Trap n App" to solve the rat problem in New Zealand. There would be sensors in a trap that would notify the app when a rat has been caught, that way you could save time and make it fun by making it a competition with other app users. The actual Inventionator Competition took place over several days. The first day I went online we had to choose an idea. I chose to work on an idea called Riverview App. That is how I met the team I would be working with for the next four days: Angela, Kaia.P, Kaia.M, Lily and myself. We had mentor sessions where we learned what we needed to keep in mind when inventing and how to make a good pitch. A pitch is when you try to convince the judges that your idea is a good one. We decided that our app was going to be a place where people could check in on their local river's health and see if the river was okay to swim in or to walk dogs there. Our pitch was a 3 minute slide presentation, and explained what our invention would do. We were one of the six teams that went through to the finals! We spent the next day practising the pitch, improving our slides and getting a good group photo. In the finals, there were three categories along with the overall winner. We were very excited to find out that we won the category "Description"! It was a great experience and I learned a lot.



Congratulation Yohanna - the St Andrew's Church community are very proud of you.



A CUP OF TIVAEVAE

There was a lot of interest in the Tivaevae class going by the number - close to 40 who turned up on the first day. This included four men, a couple of children

and women. Since then, we have been averaging 10 - 12, a more manageable number.



The range of sewing experience varies from those who can do and enjoy hand sewing, to those who find hand sewing a struggle but persevere.

One woman has finished not only her first piece but, a second piece as well. These were made into two beautiful, colourful cushions.

We all agreed that Sunday afternoon is the best time. The afternoon has included sewing, relaxing, chatting, fellowship with other women over a cup of tea or coffee, teach each other new skills, learning a little more about the origin of tivaevae and about the Cook Islands, sharing cooking and gardening tips and the list goes on. Before you know it, it is time to pack up and head off home.

Berry Rangi

“WHINA” St ANDREW’S CHURCH FUND RAISER



On Friday 1 July 40+ supporters of St Andrew's Church joined in a special fund-raiser event for our church, and attended a special screening of the movie "Whina". We raised a fantastic \$674! The event was the result of the efforts of a number of people: Jill, for initiating the idea and making it happen; Carley, for a huge amount of admin and organisation; and Colleen, Berry and Glenys for those delicious treats in our Goodies Bags. Thanks to all of you for making a wonderful event even more special!!

There were also people who were unable to join us on Friday, but who just made a donation. Thanks for your generosity.

I think this movie was a wonderful choice for us to watch together, as it told us the story (through original footage and photographs, as well as some brilliant dramatic representation) of a life that many of us would have been familiar with, as much of it took place within our own life-times. Also, this is a story that touches on many of the social issues we have addressed at St Andrews: Maori - Pakeha relations; gender equity issues; poverty and housing challenges; and of course, with our inestimable Jill as our minister, the role of women as leaders.

But I suspect most of us were seeing these events from a new and insightful perspective.

The amazing and inspiring (and sometimes provocative and polarising) Dame Whina Cooper had immense energy and determination to support those in her community who were affected by these issues, and in many cases she succeeded in not only raising public awareness of the issues but even effected significant changes in attitude and law.

Everyone I have spoken to about their response to the movie has been very positive. I myself have been haranguing anyone who will listen, about the importance of this movie and how valuable I believe it can be in starting conversations about the issues. I am determined to take all of my grandchildren to see it so we can talk about it together afterwards (I reckon this is at least as valuable a way to learn about Maori history, values and tikanga, as the much-debated changes to the NZ Education curriculum).

Thanks again to everyone who made this happen, to all of you who came along on Friday,
Vicki Vaughan

IMPORTANT DATES

SUNDAY SERVICES FOR AUGUST 2022

August 7

August 14 – Congregational Meeting re St Marks Transitional Housing Village

August 21

August 28

10am: Sunday worship at St Andrews
EACH Sunday

11.30am: Zoom worship EACH Sunday

Contact Jill if you don't already receive
e-mails from us and want the Zoom link

SUNDAY SERVICES FOR SEPTEMBER 2022

September 4

September 11

September 18 – Lindisfarne join us for Sunday Worship

September 25

Common Good Wednesday 7pm - at the Common Room, 227 Heretaunga St East

August 17 Rizwaana Latif – *"Diversity Adds Dimension"*

September 28 Jon Fletcher – *"Pathways to a Restored Life"*

SPOT YOUR MINISTER



Jill along with four St Andrews elders joined the Twin City Pride Hikoi that went from Napier to Hastings. It was a wonderful event to be part of as we work towards becoming a church that includes and celebrates people who identify as part of the rainbow community.