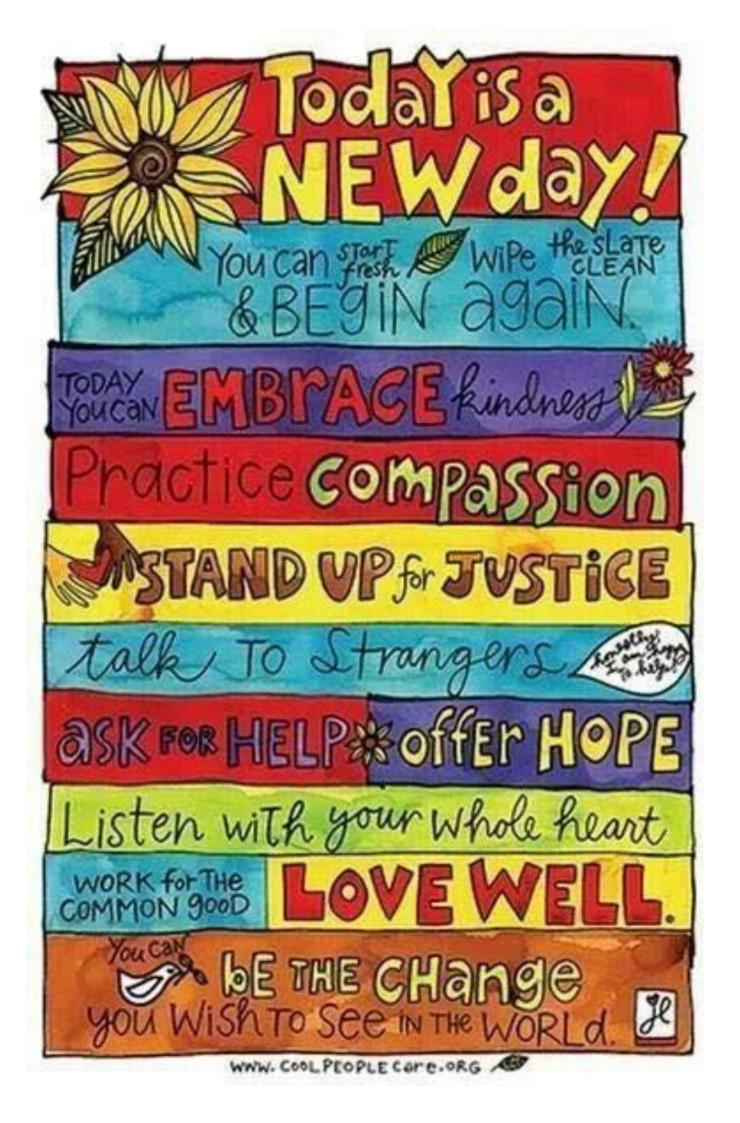
St Andrew's Church Newsletter

February - April 2021

CHURCH IS NOT AN ORGANISATION YOU JOIN; IT IS A FAMILY WHERE YOU BELONG, A HOME WHERE YOU ARE LOVED AND A HOSPITAL WHERE YOU FIND HEALING.

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

As I write this, I have just returned from a wonderful week's holiday in Tokomaru Bay and Gisborne. I hope you have enjoyed a lovely time of restoration and recreation ready to face whatever 2021 brings.

These continue to be very strange times that we are in, watching history unfold before our very eyes. The recent events in the US, as well as the mounting number of deaths by Covid, is alarming and we

anxiously watch our borders in the hope that all the precautions that border and MIQ staff are taking will keep the virus at bay. Yesterday a woman in Northland tested positive and by the time this newsletter comes out we will know which way that has gone – whether it is a one off, or whether we find ourselves back at Alert Level 2 or more. It highlights for us that it is essential that we continue to do all we can to record the locations, wash our hands meticulously and refrain from going out if we are feeling ill.

Our world feels particularly broken right now, so it was particularly heartening to come

God uses broken things. It takes broken soil to produce a crop, broken clouds to give rain, broken grains to give bread, broken bread to give strength.

-Vance Havner

It is such a good reminder to us all that God does indeed use broken things. I would also add that God uses broken people too. Throughout scripture we find again and again how God works through very broken people. Moses had a speech problem; Joseph was bullied and abused by his brothers; Samson was a womaniser; Rahab was a prostitute; David was a murderer and very probably a rapist; Martha worried about everything; Zacchaeus was money-hungry; and Paul persecuted followers of Jesus before his dramatic transformation.

across this wonderful meme by Vance Havner.

We sometimes get into thinking that we need to have everything sorted before we can possibly be any use to God, but as all these examples show, we don't need to be perfect for God to work through us. Jesus engaged with and encouraged so many flawed people to share hope to a broken world. It is in God that we find renewal, healing, and purpose. Jesus didn't call the equipped, He equipped the called. Often, it is through our brokenness that God somehow enables us to better engage in God's purposes for the world.

Over the holidays I met a woman who, having been the victim of domestic violence, has taken that experience and through God's redemption is now using it to help others going through the same thing, to enable the people she is working with to make good choices that lead to fuller lives.

I wonder what brokenness you are experiencing in your life right now, what are the things that you are struggling with most and how God might help redeem this in you to help in bringing about God's purposes for our world. *Psalm 147:3 God heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.*

Jill

Notes from the Parish Council Clerk

Hi everyone. A new year is upon us and I hope you had a joyous Christmas and time for a rest over the holiday period. Christine and I had the great joy of seeing our new grandson Harrison who arrived on the 18th of December. We also had the opportunity to walk the Queen Charlotte Track in the Marlborough Sounds in glorious weather. I for one feel truly privileged to live here with freedoms that many in the world cannot experience at this time. While many are just pleased to put the trials of 2020 behind us, my hope is that the lessons we learnt will stay with us. We needed our neighbours as much as they needed us.

At our Parish Council meeting in November our strategic focus was on our community engagement. This is a regularly active area for St Andrews, and Council reviewed some of these developments and their implications for the work of the church. Examples include:

- The hosting of the play "As the Day Draws in." in St Andrews Hall as part of the Hawkes Bay Arts Festival
- The **Common Good** Series held at The Common Room
- An approach from **PSEC** to partner with St Andrews in the use of the hall
- An approach from the **Hawkes Bay Soul Choir** to come under the umbrella of St Andrews
- The **Playgroup** in the hall
- Approaches from the Maraekakaho Community on increasing usage of the church at Maraekakaho

Perhaps many of these initiatives could be described as "people of good faith connecting with people of goodwill".

At Council's December meeting we reflected on an inspiring Elders' Retreat in November with our facilitator **Rev Erin Pendreigh**. The biblical basis for both the retreat and the meeting was **Isaiah 54: 2-3** - "Enlarge the site of your tent and let the curtains of your habitation be stretched out; do not hold back; lengthen your cords and strengthen your

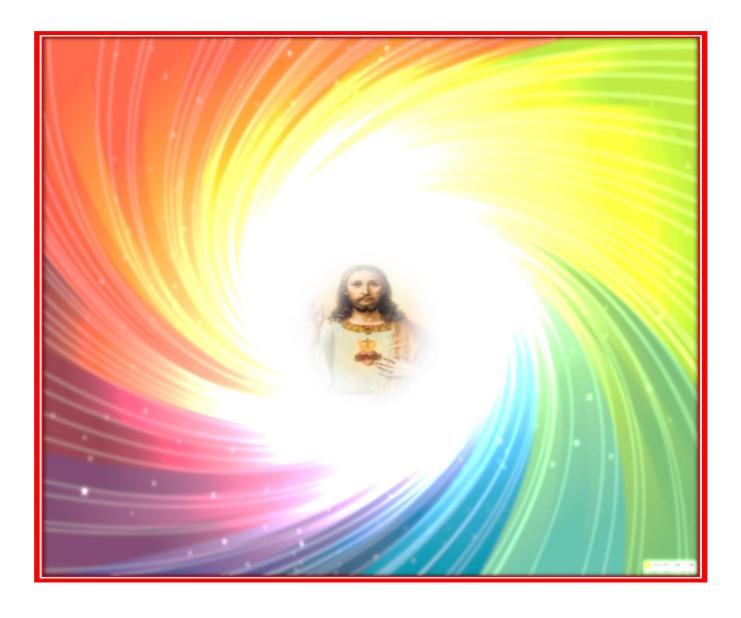
stakes". This reading challenges us as much today as it did when written. As Elders we were reminded that Eldership is a state of action and not just being!

Many of you will have enjoyed our services over the Christmas/New Year period. Highlights were the carol services at **Maraekakaho** and **Kereru** with a significant musical input from both these communities. With February almost upon us all the weekly events are up and running, including:

- Sunday evening at 7.30 Online meditation led by Ken Hutchison
- Tuesday 12.10pm Sacred Space held on Zoom
- Thursday 10am Study/Discussion Group in the lounge
- Thursday 7.30pm Meditation in the Blue Room led by Ken Hutchison

To end: perhaps you, too, were moved by **Amanda Gorman's** poem at the inauguration of President **Joe Biden** which included these words shared by Ken Hutchison: **"There is always light. If only we're brave enough to see it. If only we're brave enough to be it."**

Arohanui, Jim



<u>Presentation to Elijah loane</u>

On the 7th of February Elijah Ioane was presented with a cheque of over \$3000.00 to go towards his education at Victoria university. He plans on studying Education Psychology, Theatre and Minor Film. We wish him all the best on his new venture and may everything go well with him.

God Bless, from your St Andrews Family.



Prayers for Elijah



Rev Jill Presenting Elijah with the Cheque



Victoria University



Elijah and Family

Church Notices

Saying Goodbye

Over the last six weeks we have lost three of our St Andrews family: elders Jean Rosenberg and Ivan Peirce, along with Maraekakaho member Jean Berkahn. Our prayers and our ongoing love are with Barry, Lynne, Ian, and family; Dliss; and the Berkahn family. Our love and prayers are also with Teina and Taraani. Teina's brother's funeral was at St Andrews in early January.

The Common Good

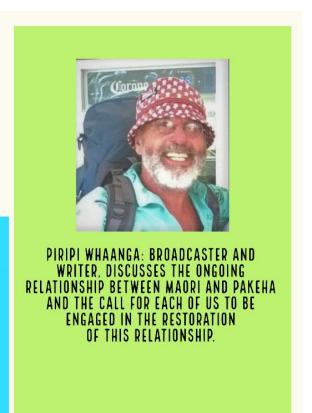
THE COMMON GOOD

PUBLIC THEOLOGY: CONVERSATIONS ABOUT ISSUES THAT MATTER

COMMON ROOM 227 HERETAUNGA STREET EAST 7.00PM

MERCY & MANA: RESTORING THE KIWI SPIRIT

WEDNESDAY 10TH FEBRUARY TICKETS FROM COMMON ROOM OR FACEBOOK



Worship

The word liturgy means 'work of the people' and it describes the format of worship that we engage in. As we worship God together it is so much better to have a variety of people involved whether it be leading prayers; reading scripture; preaching; doing the children's focus; sharing your faith; choosing the music or decorating the worship space for special occasions. If you are feeling a sense of wanting to be more involved in helping with worship this year, please let Jill know. She is happy to provide any training or resources you might need.

Financial Report St Andrew's Presbyterian Church Hastings

| | 31 Dec 20 | 30 Nov 20 | 31 Oct 20 | 30 Sep 20 | YTD Actual | YTD Budget |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| Income | | | | | | |
| Angel Tree Appeal | \$75.00 | \$350.00 | \$100.00 | \$0.00 | \$525.00 | \$0.00 |
| Car Park Rental | \$1,885.00 | \$1,885.00 | \$1,885.00 | \$1,885.00 | \$9,425.00 | \$11,310.00 |
| Church - Weddings & Funerals | \$291.31 | \$0.00 | \$1,050.00 | \$0.00 | \$1,341.31 | \$1,248.00 |
| Common Good | \$0.00 | \$172.90 | \$329.90 | \$2,051.00 | \$2,553.80 | \$0.00 |
| Donations - Church | \$100.00 | \$1,000.00 | \$1,000.00 | \$0.00 | \$2,100.00 | \$252.00 |
| Elijah loane | \$705.00 | \$910.00 | \$1,000.00 | \$0.00 | \$2,615.00 | \$0.00 |
| Fundraising Church | \$2,000.00 | \$40.00 | \$13.30 | \$0.00 | \$2,053.30 | \$2,502.00 |
| Hire - Church | \$1,669.85 | \$1,986.59 | \$1,277.24 | \$2,235.72 | \$10,160.90 | \$6,000.00 |
| Hire - Hall | \$1,317.83 | \$1,481.73 | \$2,272.61 | \$2,739.56 | \$10,775.21 | \$12,000.00 |
| Offering - Golden | \$0.00 | \$100.00 | \$20.00 | \$1,130.00 | \$1,265.00 | \$5,000.00 |
| Offering - Internet | \$3,102.00 | \$3,604.00 | \$2,867.00 | \$3,820.00 | \$20,209.00 | \$8,280.00 |
| Offerings - Envelope | \$1,813.00 \$1,310.00 | \$1,457.00 | \$2,120.50 | | \$9,597.50 | \$14,502.00 |
| Offerings - Plate | \$780.80 | \$547.00 | \$583.90 | \$680.40 | \$4,817.70 | \$3,000.00 |
| PSS Offering - Guardian Angel | \$116.20 | \$63.00 | \$24.20 | \$63.50 | \$351.10 | \$180.00 |
| Total Income | \$13,855.99 | \$13,450.22 | \$13,880.15 | \$16,725.68 | \$77,789.82 | \$64,274.00 |
| Plus Other Income | | | | | | |
| Dividends | | | | | \$690.00 | \$0.00 |
| Interest Received | \$2,681.61 | \$0.73 | \$0.67 | \$2,669.80 | \$5,356.63 | \$6,874.00 |
| Total Other Income | \$2,681.61 | \$0.73 | \$0.67 | \$2,669.80 | \$6,046.63 | \$6,874.00 |
| Total Income | \$ 16,537.60 | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| | | 13,450.95 | 13,880.82 | 19,395.48 | 83,836.45 | 71,148.00 |
| Less Operating Expenses | | | | | | |
| • | 13710.92 | 14145.57 | 20519.64 | 12703.85 | 111434.78 | 108004 |
| Surplus/Deficit | \$ 2,826.68 | -\$ 694.62 | -\$ 6,638.82 | \$ 6,691.63 | -\$ 27,598.33 | -\$ 36,856.00 |



Can you please give your reports/notices (or preferably email them) to me by 11th April 2021? So, that I can type everything up and email them to Wendy for printing and for Nga for her to download it on our web page.

I would appreciate any feedback you have about this newsletter. Negative or positive it does not matter.

To contact me my email address is:

•Email: denise@standrewshastings.org.nz

•Phone: 8769632

St Andrews has a Facebook page!! This is a great way to quickly share news and information. So if you are on Facebook already it is a great way to connect! Our Facebook page is **St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Hastings** or contact Nga on:

- Private message on facebook
- •Email: <u>ngaioanetauranga@gmail.com</u>
- •Ring and leave a voice message on 8706901 or 0275112619
- •Text on 0275112619

PASTORAL CARE GROUP

Convenor Di Romans Phone 873 3067 Nancy Bixley Phone 878 7843 Barbara Stokes Phone 878 3541 Roro Taki Phone 844 2191

If Parish Members have any pastoral concerns please contact any of the above

ST ANDREW'S TEXTING CARE CIRCLE



If there is someone with a need, contact the Pastoral Care Group, the Minister a member of the Parish Council, or self-refer by phoning or texting Ken Hutchison on **021 078 4923**

Ken will text members of the Texting Care Circle to keep the person or need in their thoughts and prayers.

CHURCH INFORMATION

Minister: Rev Jill McDonald Ph 0274070489 email: jill@standrewshastings.org.nz

Parish Clerk: Jim Spall Ph 8760924 email: jimspall15@outlook.com

Cook Islands' Secretary: Berry Rangi Ph 844 4735 email: tbjrangi@gmail.com

Treasurer: Jane Herries Ph 027236028 jane@tasc.co.nz

Church Office: Wendy Mangan PO Ph 8788247 info@standrewshastings.org.nz

Finance and Property Chair: Chris Lambourne Ph 02758822134

Postal Address Box 494, Hastings 4156

Website: www.standrewshastings.org.nz

The Church Office is open Tuesday to Friday 9:30am - 2:30pm

February @ St Andrews

NB. Sacred Space at 12.10 each Tuesday, You can either join Jill in her office or (via Zoom)

Thursday Morning Study Group 10am in St Andrews Lounge – come and join us

Meditation Group each Thursday eve @ 7.30pm in the Blue room

Fridays 9am Dwelling in Scripture (via Zoom see Jill)

Monday Evening Study Group (**The Fourth Monday in the month**) @ Gerda Pronk's home-see Ken Hutchison for details: 8710213 or c: 021 078 4923

| Tuesday | 2 nd | 7pm | Parish Council Meeting |
|-----------|-------------------------|--------------|---|
| Sunday | 7 th | 10am | Congregational Meeting to discuss PSEC lease of the hall |
| Sunday | 7 th | 11am | Combined Holy Communion Worship |
| Wednesday | 10 th | 7pm | Common Good: "Mana and Mercy – Restoring the Kiwi Spirit." with Piripi Whaanga @ the Common Room |
| Sunday | 14 th | 10am | Worship Service led by Jill |
| | | 12pm | Kuki Airani Worship |
| Wednesday | / 17 th | 7pm | Ash Wednesday Service. @ Sacred Heart Church in Heretaunga St Jill Preaching |
| Saturday | 20 th | 8am | Men's Breakfast @ Summerset in the Orchard |
| Sunday | 21 st | 10am 12pm | Worship Service led by Jill Kuki Airani Worship |
| Sunday | 28 th | 10am | Worship Service led by Jill |
| | | 12pm | Kuki Airani Worship |

March @ St Andrews

NB. Sacred Space at 12.10 each Tuesday, You can either join Jill in her office or (via Zoom)

Thursday Morning Study Group 10am in St Andrews Lounge - come and join us

Meditation Group each Thursday eve @ 7.30pm in the Blue room

Fridays 9am Dwelling in Scripture (via Zoom see Jill)

Monday Evening Study Group (**The Fourth Monday in the month**) @ Gerda Pronk's home-see Ken Hutchison for details: 8710213 or c: 021 078 4923

| Tuesday | 2 nd | 7pm | Parish Council Meeting |
|----------|-------------------------|--------------|--|
| Sunday | 7 th | 10am 11am | Morning tea combined Holy Communion |
| Sunday | 14 th | 10am | Worship Service led by Jill |
| - | | 12pm | Kuki Airani Worship |
| Saturday | 20 th | 10am | The Gathering in Palmerston North |
| Saturday | 20 th | 8am | Men's Breakfast @ Summerset in the Orchard |
| Sunday | 21 st | 10am | Worship Service led by Jill |
| | | 12pm | Kuki Airani Worship |
| Sunday | 28 th | 10am | Worship Service led by Jill, including Mark and Tina's Wedding |
| | | 12pm | Kuki Airani Worship |

April @ St Andrews

NB. Sacred Space at 12.10 each Tuesday, You can either join Jill in her office or (via Zoom)

Thursday Morning Study Group 10am in St Andrews Lounge – come and join us Meditation Group each Thursday eve @ 7.30pm in the Blue room

Fridays 9am Dwelling in Scripture (via Zoom see Jill)

Monday Evening Study Group (**The Fourth Monday in the month**) @ Gerda Pronk's home-see Ken Hutchison for details: 8710213 or c: 021 078 4923

| Thursday | 1 st | 7pm | Maundy Thursday Service |
|----------|------------------|------|--|
| Friday | 2 nd | 10am | Good Friday Ecumenical Worship and Walk. Venue to be advised |
| Sunday | 4 th | 10am | Morning Tea |
| | | 11am | Combined Holy Communion Worship 'Easter Sunday' |
| Tuesday | 6 th | 7pm | Parish Council Meeting |
| Sunday | 11 th | 10am | Worship Service led by Jill |
| | | 12pm | Kuki Airani Worship |
| Saturday | 17 th | 8am | Men's Breakfast @ Summerset in the Orchard |
| Sunday | 18 th | 10am | Worship Service led by Jill |
| | | 12pm | Cook Islands Worship |
| Sunday | 25 th | 10am | ANZAC Day Service |

At the close of each day, reflect on one of these sets of questions

For what moment today am I most grateful? For what moment today I am I least grateful?

When did I receive and give the most love today? When did I give and receive the least love?

When did I feel most alive today?
When did I most feel life draining out of me?

When today did I have the greatest sense of belonging to myself, others and God? When did I have the least sense of belonging?

When was I the happiest today? When was I the saddest?

