

PRESBYTERIAN LINK

October-November 2017 No 91

The Monthly Newsletter of the
Timaru Presbyterian Parish



TPP Plant Sale 16 September

Our ladies are ready to welcome
the rush of customers

Plant Sale 16 September





Alpine Presbytery Gathering at Trinity

Over the weekend of 6-8 October our parish had the privilege of hosting the Alpine Presbytery Gathering. The Alpine Presbytery is our regional body which stretches from the Waitaki River to Cook Strait. There are 59 parishes in the Presbytery. Twice a year we gather to encourage each other in worship and mission, and to conduct any business that is necessary. This month, for the first time since the Presbytery began in 2014, it was Timaru's turn to host. It was great to make full use of the Trinity Hall which is taking on a new lease of life.

What a wonderful occasion! Over 80 people gathered from as far away as Seddon and Hokitika, and we enjoyed sharing signs of hope with one another. One of the highlights was Robin Humphreys, our new Kidsfriendly coach, leading the whole gathering in Godly play around the story of Noah and the ark. Rev. Dr. Steve Taylor and Dr. Rosemary Dewerse from the Knox Centre for Ministry and Leadership shared their research and asked for our feedback on areas we need to grow and learn as a church to encourage more signs of hope into our future. There were presentations from PSSC, the Lindisfarne Camp trust, and many more.

The biggest gift of a weekend like this is the chance to eat, worship, laugh and talk together. As the young Alpine Presbytery matures, I think that we can feel grateful and blessed that we are developing a real culture of celebration and fellowship together.

One final thing I'd like to draw your attention to. We had an inspiring mural painted by a team of our people. It was a scene of a braided river flowing from Aoraki/Mt. Cook to the sea with the legend "Behold, I am making all things new" emblazoned on high. The mural featured three themes braided together. The motto of the Alpine Presbytery is "Resourcing the braided river". The theme for the Gathering was "signs of hope". And our own Chapel of Renewal at Trinity carries the same legend from Revelation 21:5.

The Gathering was a huge team effort, and there is not enough space here to thank you all individually. I came away tired, but truly inspired with hope for our future together in God's name here in Timaru, and throughout the Alpine region. What a blessing!

Rory

Parish Council 4 October Meeting Report

Hermann led our devotions: we sang two verses of "How Great Thou Art" (Stuart Hine) followed by prayer.

Apologies were received from Helen Carter and Stephanie Holland.

Minutes from September meeting were discussed.

We had a discussion and prayer about nominations for moderator of General Assembly.

Correspondence was dealt with.

Administration Report

- * Discussion about AGM.
- * Two comments were " It flowed well as part of our service" and "It was a bit rushed"
- * Unfortunately we somehow missed out general business.
- * Some difficulty in getting an auditor.
- * We aim to have 2018 AGM in August .

Property Report

- * Quote for painting south and west walls of Trinity Hall.
- * We will aim to co-ordinate the painting and the plumbing to make the best use of the scaffolding.

- * Technical group recommends that we purchase a new worship computer for St Stephen's.— with pre-approval from Parish Council.
- * Health and Safety groups to meet soon.

Worship: Presbytery gathering is well organised for Friday – begins 2 pm. Other services as normal.

Mission Group: Many practical community activities- we are blessed to have this group of people working for God's Kingdom.

Ministry Reports received.

Best wishes to Brent with the cycling (CSI Charity Bike Ride).

Concert in aid of Women's Refuge – at Trinity 29 October.

Rory will be conducting two weddings and a baptism soon.

Stephanie Holland to be ordained as an elder on Sunday 29 October.

Report on General Assembly legislation. There was good support for the "We Say Yes" document.

General Business:

- * Jim Garden reported a problem with the roof of St Stephen's hall- building paper needs replacing. Roof is in good condition- to be screwed down rather than nailed. Parish council pre-approved this.
- * Trinity Hall – bricks above windows have been expanding and metalwork is rusting. Gary littler recommends action. Pre- approval from Parish Council.
- * Carpet for stage and front of St Stephen's church samples were displayed and discussed.
- * St Stephen's. Quote for redeveloping foyer was perused and discussed. It was agreed to seek two more quotes and express our interest to the Administration Committee
- * Planning a meeting/ barbecue / meal with the Trinity community. Invitations through Hanan Kindergarten, South School, as well as mailbox flyers etc.
- * We are looking for a co-ordinator for a Market Day, in March, at Trinity.

Murray Facer

Cartwright's Daffodils

For many years a group of parishioners, many from the former Washdyke congregation, have picked, bunched and sold bunches of daffodils to businesses around Washdyke and Timaru raising significant funds for the parish.

This year proved to be more challenging than usual. Wind, hail and slugs affected the blooms with the result that the crop was much smaller.

While well down on previous years, \$563 was still raised.

Many thanks to Pat Cartwright and her team of helpers .

Toiletries for Women's Refuge

The Mission Group are asking for donations such as soap, face cloths, toothbrushes, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, tampons and playdoh for the children. Sponge bags are not required as the Refuge has a supply of these at present.

Also, a reminder about donations for the Food Bank. These can include toiletries as well as food items. The need in our community is great and your assistance is appreciated.



Prayer Breakfast

Saturday 14 October

8am to 9am

St Stephen's Lounge

Come and pray for the church

All welcome



Timaru Presbyterian Parish,

PO Box 110, Timaru 7940

Supporter ID: 11778852

Dear Margaret,

Thank you for joining thousands of others around New Zealand and making an incredible difference to children affected by the Syria Crisis.

On behalf of World Vision and those we support, I want to congratulate Timaru Presbyterian Parish for raising a grand total of \$653.00.

These funds are helping to support Child Friendly Spaces in Jordan where children who have fled conflict can start to heal from the trauma of war through arts, music, sports and play. Most importantly, these safe places are helping to give a generation of Syrian refugee children education and hope for the future.

To acknowledge and thank all of you for your hard work, I've enclosed a Church Award certificate. Display it proudly, because it means your church did a fantastic job in this year's 40 Hour Famine.

I want to thank you personally too. I know your enthusiasm and dedication as 40 Hour Famine Organiser definitely helped motivate Timaru Presbyterian Parish's fundraising efforts. At World Vision we recognise the hard work that all our volunteers put in to this event and are very grateful for your support. Without you, our work wouldn't be possible. Thank you!

Get your 40 Hour Famine participants to share their voice

Over the next few weeks, World Vision is providing a platform for our young Kiwis voices to be heard by key members of Parliament. We are asking students to send us their thoughts and ideas by answering this question, "If you were New Zealand's next Prime Minister, what would you do to help children and families affected by the Syria Crisis?". We'll collate responses into one summary report and share it with our newly elected New Zealand Government in October.

If you think your 40 Hour Famine participants would be interested, we have a number of resources available to help. Please go to worldvision.org.nz/40-Hour-Famine/Advocacy-Resources for more information.

Warm regards, Philip Sapsford, Church Partnership Manager

PS. The 40 Hour Famine 2018 will be held on the weekend of 8-10 June (end of week 6, Term 2). Mark it in your church calendar now!

WORSHIP @ TIMARU PRESBYTERIAN PARISH

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|--------------------|---|
| 15 October | 9.00am Journey 21, C-Bay car park 9.30am Worship @ Trinity, 22 College Rd 10.30am All Age Worship & Communion @ St Stephens, 349 Wai-iti Rd 7.00pm Celtic Worship at Trinity Chapel |
| 22 October | 9.30am Worship & Communion @ Trinity, 22 College Rd 10.30am All Age Worship @ St Stephen's, 349 Wai-iti Rd |
| 29 October | 10.30am Combined Worship @ St Stephen's, 349 Wai-iti Rd |
| 5 November | 9.30am Worship @ Trinity, 22 College Rd 10.30am All Age Worship @ St Stephens. 349 Wai-iti Rd 2.30pm Communion Service in Trinity Chapel followed by afternoon tea |
| 12 November | 9.30am Worship @ Trinity, 22 College Rd 10.30am All Age Worship @ St Stephens, 349 Wai-iti Rd |

Be still and know that I am God

Psalm 46:10

We listen to God

Through the Bible

In the voice of other people

In silence

In nature

**When walking, washing dishes, waiting in a queue,
driving, tramping, gardening, serving . . .**

Lynne Baab



Presbyterian Support
South Canterbury Incorporated

AGM

The 99th Annual General Meeting of
Presbyterian Support Services
South Canterbury Inc.

will be held on

Thursday 19th October 2017

at **7:30 pm**

In the main lounge of

Family Works

Campbell Cleland Centre

26 North Street, Timaru.

Minutes of the 98th AGM are available on our website
(<http://pssc.org.nz/resources>).

All members, supporters and friends
welcome to attend.

Supper will be provided.

Michael Parker
Chief Executive Officer

Two Medieval Mystics

Taken from a Journey 21 reflection presented by Anne Miles

A medieval mystic is commonly a person who has had a vision, usually of Jesus and usually of Jesus' suffering on the cross. Two examples of mystics were Julian of Norwich (1342-1416) and Margery Kempe (1373-1438). The medieval world was much closer to suffering and death and to the fear of death, than we are today.

Julian of Norwich was an anchorite, a person who lived in a room attached to a church. People brought her food and came for advice and help. She may have lost her husband and children in a plague. Julian lived in a time of turmoil, but her theology was optimistic and spoke of God's Omni-benevolence and love in terms of joy and compassion. Her book "Revelations of Divine Love" is the first book known to have been written by a woman in English.

Margery Kempe was filled with an awareness of her own sin and desired to bridge the gap between her own sin and God. She was an orthodox Catholic and believed she was summoned to a "greater intimacy with Christ" as a result of multiple visions and experiences she had as an adult. After the birth of her first child, Margery went through a period of crisis for nearly 8 months, claiming she envisioned numerous devils and demons attacking her. Margery was tried for heresy multiple times but never convicted.

Both women were galvanised towards trying to live holy lives and an intense relationship with God and Jesus by extreme experiences. In Julian's case, a near death experience, in Margery's it appears as an attempt to cope with a mental illness. It is striking that for both of the women Christ appears as a comforter and not as condemning or judging. Christ's advice to Margery always appears to steer her towards the rational, sensible and kind.

These women were influenced by the culture of their time and their lives were expressed in their experience of God. They can inspire other spiritual seekers with their insight into the limitless wonder of both human and divine experience.

Journey 21 meets at C-Bay Car Park at
9am on the third Sunday of the month.

For further information contact
Ellen 688-8107 or a_emcc@xtra.do.nz

Bible Society Sponsored Spring Walk

Saturday 14 October 1.30pm at Temuka

Meet at the Baptist Church in Temuka and walk to the Catholic Church, Salvation Army Hall, the Anglican Church and the Presbyterian Church, where afternoon tea will be served.

The history of the different churches will be explained at the walk.

Please walk with us or sponsor the walkers.

*Sponsorship cards and information from your church representatives:
Alison Linscott, Margaret Hughes, Fay Bailey and Evi Frank
or the Christian Super Store.*

Getting to Heaven

I was testing children in my Dublin Sunday school class to see if they understood the concept of getting into heaven.

I asked them, "If I sold my house and my car, had a big garage sale and gave all my money to the church, would that get me into heaven?"

"NO!" the children answered.

"If I cleaned the church every day, mowed the garden, and kept everything tidy, would that get me into heaven?"

Again, the answer was "NO!". By now I was starting to smile.

"Well, then, if I was kind to animals and gave sweets to all the children, and loved my husband, would that get me into heaven?"

Again, they all answered "NO!".

I was just bursting with pride for them.

I continued, "Then how can I get into heaven?"

A six year-old boy shouted out: "YUV GOTTA BE DEAD!"

It's a curious race, the Irish.

Thanks to those who supplied photos for this issue of TPP LINK. They include Mollie Thomson, Elaine Falconer, Rory Grant and Lynley Garratt. Ed

TIMARU PARISH EVENTS

Youth & Children's Events

KidzTime 10.30 am Sundays at 349 Wai-iti Rd

Youth Group meets at St Stephens on Sunday nights during term time from 6.30pm. For more information contact Margaret 688-8840

Boys' Brigade 3.15pm & 6pm Mondays at 22 College Rd

Contact: Fiona 688-0375 or 021-1702930

Girls' Brigade Juniors 3.15pm Tuesdays at 22 College Rd

Girls' Brigade Seniors 6.00 pm Tuesdays at 22 College Rd

Contact : Fiona 688-0375 or 021-1702930

Regular Events

Study Group: Monday, 2.00pm, Wai-iti Rd, Estelle 686-3220

Study Group: Monday, 7.00pm, Isabel 684-4485

Prayer Group: Tuesday 9.00am, Wai-iti Rd, Rory 686-1575

Rhythm Kids: Tuesdays, 10-11am, Trinity Hall, College Rd

Community Club: Tuesdays, 1.30-3.30pm at Wai-iti Rd

Eat Well Co-op Packing: Tuesdays, 11.30am, Wai-iti Rd

Eat Well Co-op Pickups: Tuesdays, 3-4 pm at College Rd and Wai-iti Rd

Study Group: Tuesdays 7.00 pm, Hermann 684-5399

Coming Up

Holiday Programme Planning: Tuesday, 17 October, 10am in St Stephen's Lounge. Meeting to organise dates, activities etc for the next Holiday Programme in December. Contact: Catherine 686-1382.

Presbyterian Women's Lunch Group: Wednesday, October 18, 12.30pm in Room 1, Trinity Hall. Please bring lunch food to share. Sales table. We will share with each other about where we were brought up. If possible, please bring a photo of one of your early days!

Elders Gathering: Thursday, 2 November 6.30-9pm at St Stephens. Contact Helen 684-6403.

Good Companions: Thursday 9 November 2pm at St Stephens. Juliet Crawford will speak on the recent National Council of Women results. All welcome.

rhythm

music and
movement
for 0-5 year olds

Kids



Every Tuesday morning during school term

10-11am Trinity Hall College Rd

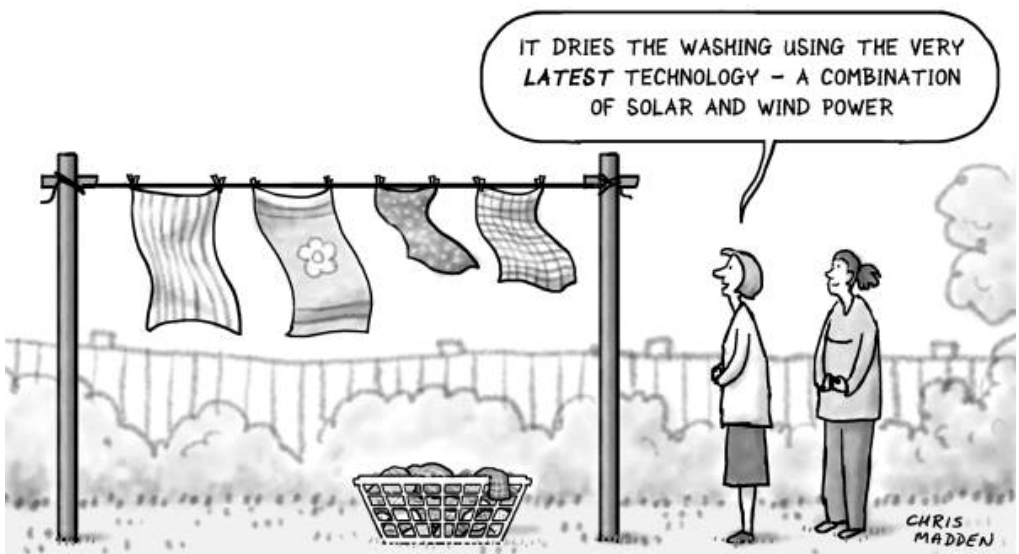
Gold Coin Donation - Morning Tea Supplied

Eat Well Fruit & Vege Co-op

Pick-up Tuesdays 3 - 4 pm at 22 College Rd & 349 Wai-iti Road

Family pack \$15 Small pack \$8

Orders 022-123-3663 or email eatwell@timarupres.org.nz



TIMARU PRESBYTERIAN PARISH

Worship Centres

349 Wai-iti Rd, Glenwood, Timaru

22 College Rd, Timaru South

www.timarupres.org.nz

Parish Office

349 Wai-iti Rd Phone: 686-0981

email: oneoffice@timarupres.org.nz

Financial matters: finance@timarupres.org.nz

Office hours: Tuesday to Friday 9am - 3pm

Closed 12-1pm Tuesday & Wednesday

PARISH CONTACTS

Ministry Team Leader

Brent Richardson 686-1382, 0274221892 brent@timarupres.org.nz

Not available Mondays

Minister

Rory Grant 686-1575, 0275705156 rory@timarupres.org.nz

Not available Fridays

Parish Clerk

Helen Carter 684-6403 parishclerk@timarupres.org.nz

LINK DEADLINE

Copy for the November-December LINK should be sent to the Church Office or emailed to hughes-d@xtra.co.nz by Friday 3 November



Musicians and choir lead worship at Trinity on 8 October with members of Alpine Presbytery Gathering attending

Life Members Honoured

On 3 September a function was held at Community House to mark the 40th anniversary of the Citizens Advice Bureau serving South Canterbury. In attendance the Mayor, senior staff from the Mid and South Canterbury Community Trust and a number of past and present volunteers.

The two life members, TPP parishioner Margaret Clifton and Marian Blanchard were invited to cut the anniversary cake.





Nona Johnston and her team produced their usual amazing arrangements for the Spring Flower Service at Trinity on 17 September. Posies (lower right) were distributed to parishioners unable to attend.