

PRESBYTERIAN LINK

March-April 2022 No 137

The Monthly Newsletter of the
Timaru Presbyterian Parish



STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN



Rev. Brent, Ken F and Jim G needed to access the bell tower at Trinity to find a way to the copper sheeting on the steeple (checking for hail damage). Brent and Ken got to the bell housing area (small balcony at the top), but the final climb to the summit was not for us! Jim decided to 'stand guard' on ground level. The comment was made that with the view and elevation this was potentially a good spot for 'meetings.' Some however may find the perpendicular ladder system somewhat daunting!

Ken

See Pages 12 & 13 for details on Reflection Study Group, Easter services, the next Recycle or Upcycle and other events.

What's been happening?



For more
photos go
Pages
5, 11 & 16



Top: Rhythm kids with master story teller Rory. See page 5 for more.

Above: World Prayer Day at St Stephens. For more photos and info See page 11.

Right: Boys Brigade night at the beach. For more see page 16.

MODERATOR'S 2022 SEASON OF LENT MESSAGE



Tensions, temptations & 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

see The Temptation of Christ by the Devil, 13th century fresco



March Parish Council Report

Margaret Littler led devotions from Psalm 131, reading from the Bible, and then also from Silvia Purdie's paraphrase titled "Calm & Quiet" which finishes with the reassuring words "Trust in the Lord for this moment and forevermore." We prayed that these words will carry us through these difficult times.

We have systems in place to contact congregation members if a positive COVID case attends one of our services or gatherings. Please call the church office if you do test positive for the virus.

Please continue to keep up healthy habits - stay home if you are unwell, wash your hands regularly, wear a mask, keep scanning in, get your booster.

Services will continue as per usual for now. If overall numbers at worship go below 50 people in total at both services, then we will consider holding one combined service, or move to online worship only until the Omicron wave winds down.

In the meantime we will not share morning tea at worship. This is in line with recommendations from the South Canterbury Public Health unit.

The tech group will look into problems with the radio microphone at Trinity.

Pastorally, we want to be able to support people who are struggling for support as we go through the COVID pandemic. Please contact the Pastoral Elder, Lois Shipley, if you or someone you know is in need of support at this time.

With COVID restrictions, we are unable to hold the combined TCMA Good Friday service. This year we encourage you to join with the congregation of St Mary's on Good Friday for either the 10am family friendly service (with hot cross buns!) or the 3pm Celebration of our Lord's passion which includes a full reading of the passion narrative.

The meeting closed with prayer for peace in Ukraine and in our own nation.

Rory

Snippets from the Mission Group Meeting

With COVID 19 starting to become rampant in our community, the need for food parcels is increasing. On Sunday 6th March our Mission Project was **supporting Family Works' food bank needs. This means we collected both** food items as well as money for this cause. Here are a few suggestions from Family Works to help with your shopping for our regular weekly Foodbank donations. They are : Spreads, small blocks of cheese, muesli bars, biscuits, toilet soap, and shampoo. If you can help with this project it would most appreciated.

Late summer is a time for harvesting fruit and vegetables - if this is something you do at this time of the year, you may consider giving any surplus to Eatwell. Just recently we have been able to bag up cooking apples and pears, as well as sticks of rhubarb. Lemons would also be a welcome addition to our bags, if you have some to spare. These little **"extras" help to make our Eatwell bags really special and are certainly much** appreciated.

Eatwell packing takes approximately one hour at St. Stephens every **Tuesday morning. If you think you'd like to join the team on a regular or** relieving basis please ring Joy for more information.
Her number is : 686-1656 or 027-372-7449.

The money raised on our two Buy and Supply tables will now go to **Christian World Service's humanitarian crisis in Ukraine.**

Elaine

Rory doing 'the story'

Rory is the master children's story teller engaging both the children and adults with his animated voice and expressions as can be seen here with Mera absolutely captivated as are the other children.

The Rhythm Kids team are looking forward to the time when the covid restrictions are relaxed so we can encourage new families to become part of the RK family. We have a core group of 8 families currently.





Services are live streamed.
Or want to listen to it again?



Do you have any used batteries that you aren't sure how to dispose of safely?

To help solve this issue there is a bucket in the foyer at each church.

WE NEED YOU!



At Trinity we would like a little help with the data projector and sound desk operation.

If you are keen to help please contact the office 686-0981

No experience required. Training is available.

In Memoriam



Fay Bailey
Olive Henderson
Margaret Shearman

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God”



Lenten Bible Reading Plan

Gospel of Mark

Mark 1:1-20
Mark 1:21-39
Mark 1:40-2:12
Mark 2:13-28
Mark 3:1-19
Mark 3:20-35
Mark 4:1-20
Mark 4:21-34
Mark 4:35-5:20
Mark 5:21-34
Mark 5:35-6:6
Mark 6:7-29
Mark 6:30-44
Mark 6:45-56
Mark 7:1-23
Mark 7:24-37
Mark 8:1-21
Mark 8:22-33
Mark 8:34-9:13
Mark 9:14-29

Mark 9:30-37
Mark 9:38-50
Mark 10:1-16
Mark 10:17-31
Mark 10:32-45
Mark 11:1-25
Mark 11:27-12:12
Mark 12:13-34
Mark 12:35-44
Mark 13:1-20
Mark 13:21-37
Mark 14:1-26
Mark 14:27-42
Mark 14:43-65
Mark 14:66-15:15
Mark 15:16-39
Mark 15:40-47
Mark 16:1-8
Mark 16:9-14
Mark 16:15-20

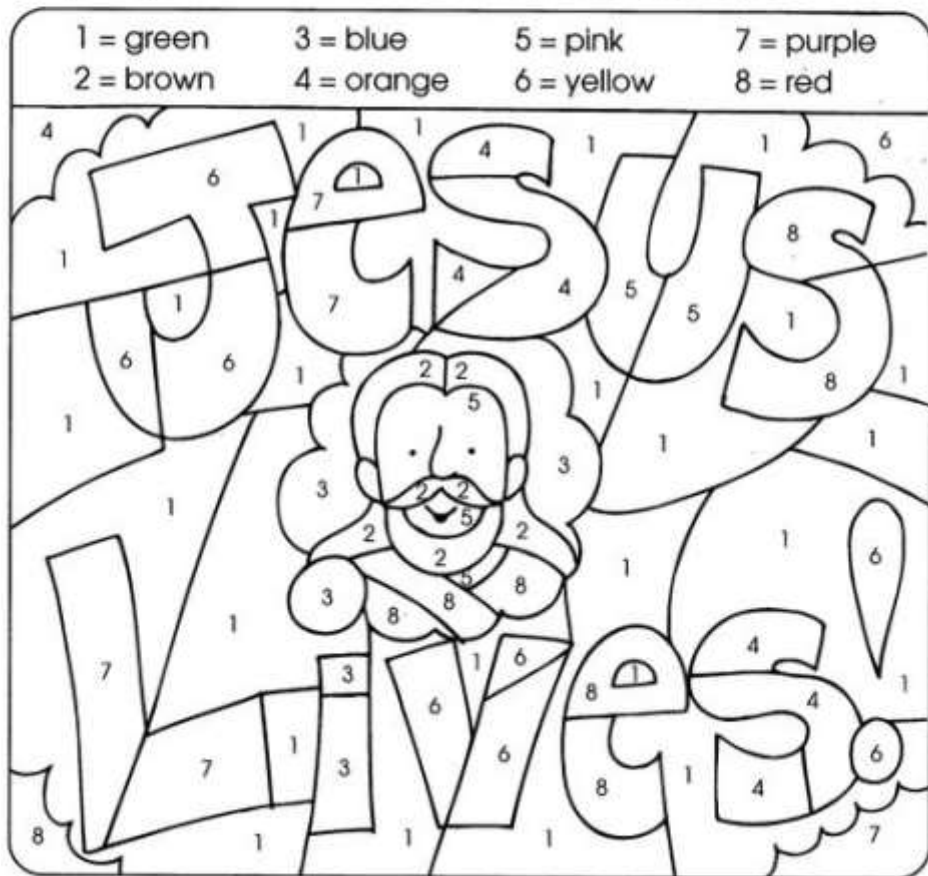
I have always thought of Lent as a time for giving up something... chocolate, screen time or a 'vice' of some description. I was listening to the radio the other day and they were discussing Lent and the understanding that it is actually about making space for God.

Jesus Is Alive!

(John 20)

At the empty tomb, Mary Magdalene talked to a man. She thought he was a gardener. But then she saw that the man was really Jesus! He had risen from the dead and was alive again!

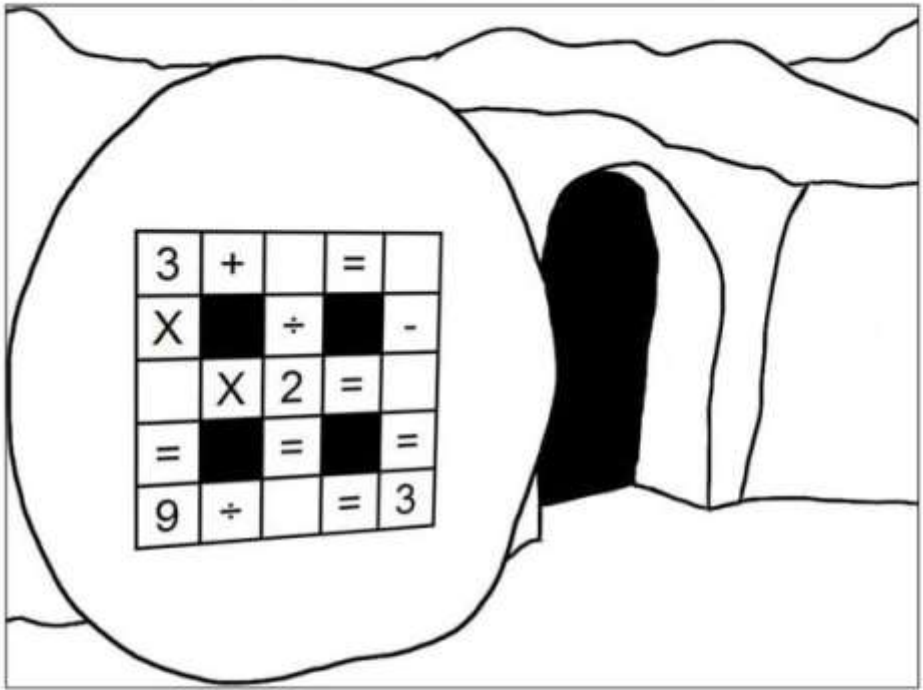
Color the picture using the code. Cut it out and tape it up so you can be reminded of this wonderful truth!



Romans 6:8-11: "Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. "

Jesus is Risen!

Complete the sums on the tomb stone...



... then find the hidden message from Luke 24 v 6



-N



-FH



-K



+RE
-EL

B+



-H



-T



-AN

+

7-VE



Presbyterian Support
South Canterbury



enliven
PRESBYTERIAN SUPPORT
SOUTH CANTERBURY

Presbyterian Support South Canterbury provides a range of aged care and retirement options under Enliven Services, including:

- Residential rest home care
- 3 Resthomes, The Croft, Margaret Wilson & Wallingford
- Hospital level care
- Specialist dementia care
- Independent retirement village options
- Respite care
- Palliative care
- Too Easy Meals

Community based Care includes:

- Home Support
- Community First
- Homefirst
- Day Centre & Saturday Club



Call us 03 687 7945
Email admin@pssc.co.nz
www.pssc.org.nz



Presbyterian Support
South Canterbury



Family Works
A PRESBYTERIAN SUPPORT SERVICE
SOUTH CANTERBURY

PSSC – Family Works is a child-centred and family-focused social service, providing a wide range of strengths based services to support children and families to learn, grow and thrive.

Family Works helps families and whānau to be:

Safe – children and young people feel secure and protected

Strong – whānau/families have the resources to and skills to face challenges with hope

Connected – people feel support and included in communities

We offer social work support and counselling for children and families along with a range of extensive group and individual programmes.

Services include:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| - Family Social Workers | - Buddy Mentoring Programme |
| - Counselling | - Strengthening Families |
| - Social Workers in Schools | - Co-ordination |
| - Family Start Service | - Grandparents Raising |
| - Parenting Through Separation | - Grandchildren |
| - Family Violence Programmes | - Foodbank |
| - Parenting Programmes | |
| - Children's Programmes | |



Call us 03 688 5029
Email familyworks@pssc.co.nz
www.pssc.org.nz/family-works

COMP-03/08

Serving South Canterbury for over 100 years.

Volunteers & Donations always appreciated - to find out more
www.pssc.org.nz

World Day of Prayer

World Day of Prayer held on Friday 4 March at St Stephens Worship Centre at 2pm.

Seven Timaru Parishes were represented and participated in the Service entitled "I know the Plans I have for you". Women from England, Wales and Northern Ireland prepared the Service. Overheads of the respective Countries landmarks were brilliant for their colour. The Lords Prayer was sung by a Welsh Male Choir *(via Overhead) - spectacular. After the Service afternoon tea was served and it was noticeable the genuine friendship amongst the Parishes.

Thank you to all who participated especially the Timaru Presbyterian Parish members.

Dianne



WORSHIP @ TIMARU PRESBYTERIAN PARISH

Live streaming every Sunday, 10.30am via YouTube.

<i>13 March</i>	9.30am Worship @ Trinity, 22 College Rd 10.30am Worship & Communion @ St Stephens, 349 Wai-iti Rd
<i>20 March</i>	9.00am Journey 21 C-Bay Car Park 9.30am Worship @ Trinity, 22 College Rd 10.30am Worship @ St Stephens, 349 Wai-iti Rd
<i>27 March</i>	9.30am Worship & Communion @ Trinity, 22 College Rd 10.30am Worship @ St Stephens, 349 Wai-iti Rd
<i>3 April</i>	9.30am Worship @ Trinity, 22 College Rd 10.30am Worship @ St Stephens, 349 Wai-iti Rd
<i>10 April</i>	9.30am Worship @ Trinity, 22 College Rd 10.30am Worship & Communion @ St Stephens, 349 Wai-iti Rd
<i>15 April</i> <i>Good Friday</i>	10.00am Family Friendly service @ St Mary's, 24 Church St 3.00pm Celebration of Lord's passion @ St Mary's, 24 Church St
<i>17 April</i>	7.00am Dawn Service 10.30am Combined at St Stephens, 349 Wai-iti Rd
<i>24 April</i>	9.30am Combined at Trinity, 22 College Road TBC

TIMARU PARISH EVENTS

Youth & Children's Events

Youth Group Contact: Margaret ph 688 8840.

Boys' Brigade 3.15pm - 4.30pm Mondays at 22 College Rd
Contact : Fiona 688-0375 or 021-1702930

Rhythm Kids: Tuesdays, 10-11am, Trinity Hall, College Rd.
Contact: Helen 684 6403 or 021768 973

Girls' Brigade Juniors 3.15pm Tuesdays at 22 College Rd

Girls' Brigade Seniors 6.00pm Tuesdays at 22 College Rd
Contact : Fiona 688 0375 or 021 170 2930

TIMARU PARISH EVENTS

Regular Events

Study Group: Monday, This group is meeting in the *Summer months only*. Contact Isabel 684 4485

Prayer Group: Tuesday 9.00am, Wai-iti Rd, Brent 686 1382

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 & Wai-iti Rd

Study Group: Tuesday, 7.30pm, Hermann 684 5399

Yoga for Seniors: 2pm on Thurs in Room 1 at Trinity. Leigh Marsden takes this 'not on the floor' exercise programme . This is for men and women. \$3 donation to assist with expenses is appreciated. Would you like to attend these classes? Or for more information, please contact Helen ph 684 6403 or 021 768 973.

Coming Up

Eatwell - Bags \$15 large and \$10 small. Place your order Thursdays by 8pm, pick up Tuesdays 3-4pm from Trinity Community Centre, 22 College Road or St Stephens Church, 349 Wai-iti Road.
Ph 022 123 3663 .

The Community Club: Tuesdays, 1.30-3.30pm at St Stephens for Cards 500 and bowls. New members welcome. Contact: Sid & Hazel 684 3478.

Reflections Study Group: starting on Monday 7 March at 10.30am in the church at St Stephens, running for 6 weeks

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN LUNCH GROUP There will be no lunchtime meeting of the above group on Wednesday 16 March as the ladies of the Parish organised and attended the World Day of Prayer service at St Stephens on Friday 4 March. Thank you to all who participated.

Jam Session is on Wednesday 16th March at St Stephens, 7.00 to 8.30pm.
Contact: Brent

Journey 21: Meets at C-Bay carpark. 9am, Sunday 20 March.
All welcome. Contact: Ellen ph 027 7723 146

Upcycle/Recycle market: Saturday 26 March at Trinity Hall, starting at 9am. \$20 for a table. There will be a cake, pickles & jam stall, and if you would like to make and donate, that would be wonderful. Subject to Omicron. Contacts: Dawn ph 686 0595, Bev ph 686 0858 or Helen ph 684 6403 Vaccine Passes required.

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 Fridays

Minister

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

Not available Fridays

Parish Clerk

Judith Begg 688-6004, parishclerk@timarupres.org.nz

LINK DEADLINE

Copy for the April-May LINK should be emailed to link@timarupres.org.nz or sent to the Church Office by Friday 8th April.

Reflections study group

starting on
Monday 7 March
at
10.30am
in the church
at
St Stephens,
running for
6 weeks.

Eat Well Fruit & Vege Co-op

22 College Rd & 349 Wai-iti Road



Family pack

\$15

Small pack

\$10



**Orders 022-123-3663 or
Email: eatwell@timarupres.org.nz**



Boys brigade started with a night at the beach with a variety of activities including paddle boarding, body boarding, go carting, general running around and swimming. Finished the evening with pizza and a drink.

Fiona



RECYCLE OR MARKET DAY

Saturday 26 March at Trinity Hall,
starting at 9am. \$20 for a table.

There will be a cake, pickles & jam stall,
and if you would like to make and donate,
that would be wonderful.

Subject to Omicron.

Contacts: Dawn ph 686 0595,
Bev ph 686 0858 or Helen ph 684 6403



This issue of "PRESBYTERIAN LINK" is delivered to you

by.....

Phone.....