

# PRESBYTERIAN LINK

July – August 2022 No 141

The Monthly Newsletter of the  
Timaru Presbyterian Parish



## Chosen



## **What's coming up?**

24-26 July— Presbytery  
Retreat in Hanmer.

31 July—Bible Society  
Quiz, @Wilson St Baptist  
Pg 16

7 August—Community  
day Pg 10

August—Bible Society  
Cheese Rolls Pg 13

September—Plant Sale  
Pg 10

**Brent and Catherine  
"Chosen" by their World  
Vision child on the 12th  
of June.**

*Looking for new ways to sign off your emails? Pg 8*

# What's been happening?



Above: The Recycle/Upcycle Market day (more photos on Pg 11)  
Below: The TPP Choir sing at the Combined Worship Service.



Thank you to Rory, Ken, Helen and Fiona for sending through photos.

# Editorial

This year, for the first time, our nation has paused to celebrate Matariki together. Matariki is the Maori New Year celebration, observed at the first new moon after the Matariki constellation rises in the early morning on our northern horizon.

This constellation is well known all around the world. In the English speaking world they are known as the Pleiades. In Japan they are the Subaru. In Welsh the

**Tŵr Tewdws, to name just a few. Whatever name we give them, these stars** have been a significant marker of the seasons and the turning of the year.

**In te Ao Māori, Matariki is a time for reflection, a time for memorial, a time for contemplation.** We give thanks for the people and events that have marked the last year, we care for those who are in need, and we make plans for the year ahead.

What are you grateful for, from the last year? Who are the people that you are thankful for? The people you remember fondly? What are you looking forward to in the year ahead as the days lengthen and new life waits for its moment to spring forth?

Matariki is also a time of planting new seeds to bear fruit in the year ahead. What are the seeds of hope we want to see grow among us as the seasons turn?

*Rapua te kai hanga o nga whetu e whitu, ratou ko Matariki;  
e riro ke ana hoki i a ia te atarangi o te mate hei ata,  
e whakapouritia ana e ia te ra hei po;  
e karangatia ana e ia nga wai o te moana,  
a ringitia ana e ia ki runga ki te mata o te whenua:  
Ko Ihowa tona ingoa:*

He who made the Pleiades and Orion,  
who turns midnight into dawn  
and darkens day into night,  
who calls for the waters of the sea  
and pours them out over the face of the land—  
the Lord is his name.

Amos 5:8

Manawatia a Matariki!

Welcome the New Year!



Rory

# July Parish Council Report

Murray Facer opened our meeting with a prayer, seeking God's blessing on our meeting, our parish and our mission.

We discussed and approved two proposed legislative changes to the Book of Order regarding parish reviews and dissolution, as a result of the recent National Special Assembly 22.

Correspondence was received and approved. It included notifying the Administration Committee and Alpine Presbytery that the congregation has approved the repairs to the hail damaged rooves at the Trinity Site. We **received a letter from Catherine Richardson who is stepping down from Girls' Brigade chaplaincy, her valuable contribution to the Girls' Brigade was acknowledged.**

Replacement of a faulty water heater at the Trinity Centre was approved.

Highlights from the group reports:

Rory has given figures for our You Tube service viewings in the last month, they vary from 32-60 viewers.

The Mission group reports a great response to the knitting project with two lots already sent to Family Works and Hannan Kindergarten and one more to come.

The Market Day was a great success, and the Plant Sale is scheduled for 17<sup>th</sup> September.

Boys Brigade reports good numbers, 19 boys currently. Fiona Blissett has attended training on the Child Protection Act. The Company Section have been busy fundraising to buy a bike to be given away by PSS at Christmas. She reminds us of the positive impact on the boys from achieving things at **Boy's Brigade when they may not achieve much at school.**

Rhythm Kids and TP Kids playgroup have completed another term. There have been challenges with a drop in numbers of participants, leaders being unable to come and of course covid, but there is still a dedicated team supporting these ministries. Rhythm kids is hoping to have Hannan Kindergarten join them once a month.

Yoga for seniors is going well, and they look forward to getting the large TV screen and laptop to assist. Plans for a community day at the Trinity Community Centre in August are underway. We are also planning to break the ground for the new community garden on the same day. Rory is keen to build a team to start exploring how the new Whanau Friendly course can help us build further new missions.

Worship highlights include the World Vision Service on 12<sup>th</sup> June lead by

Grant Norsworthy, who also had been taking workshops with the St Stephens music team. Our choir and Andrea also joined the music team for the **combined church's service on the Sunday night.**

On June 26 we learnt about Matariki and its meaning: how we learn from the past, give thanks and look forward to new growth. For our parish we are prayerfully considering our mission and how we might grow a new congregation in the future.

A combined service on the 17<sup>th</sup> of July at Trinity at 9:30am was confirmed.

The use of the Trinity Community Centre was discussed. While we are always open to allowing community groups to hire our facilities, the importance of having our facilities available for our parish mission work was agreed upon.

We spent some time discussing the upcoming budget, which is to be finalised and then put to a congregation meeting for approval on 21<sup>st</sup> August. This year we are trying a new system of approving the budget separately from the AGM, to allow us to move forward with our financial planning earlier in the year.

We lastly discussed exploring the opportunity of being able to take on a ministry intern. If this were to happen the intern would work parttime for two years with our ministers whilst also completing their ministry studies. This would be funded by PCANZ.

## From the Mission Group

Another successful round of Buy and Supply has wound up for the season with **\$158.60 being raised for Christian World Service's humanitarian aid in Ukraine.** Buy and Supply will resume again in the spring when our gardens are starting to flourish again.

**June's bucket mission raised \$168.50 for Refugee Assistance, and July's** collection of \$152.60 will be used for the establishment of a small community garden at Trinity in conjunction with Family Works. These will be followed in August with contributions to **help support our church's two 'World Vision children from Sri Lanka.**

Our annual knitting project this year has been a great success with two deliveries already been made to Family Works and Hanan Kindergarten, with final delivery planned for the end of July. Along the way there have been a few lovely surprises happening during this project. One being five beautifully knitted baby



Hi Ho, Hi Ho, it's off to  
Family Works we go!

singlets by a person not involved with our parish. This same person was at Timaru Library recently helping with the Peggy square challenge when a little 4 year old girl came into the library with her father. She told the group in a very excited fashion, 'That a kind lady had knitted a pair of slippers especially for her'. The father also expressed his thanks for our efforts. This little girl went to Hanan Kindergarten. This shows our efforts are REALLY APPRECIATED!

Finally, if you have any plain large brown paper bags with handles (without advertising) Eatwell would appreciate them. These can be left in either church's foyer.

Elaine

## 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](mailto:eatwell@timarupres.org.nz)

## In Memoriam



Barbara Purcell

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

# SHARE THE GIFT OF GIVING THIS CHRISTMAS



## THE FAMILY WORKS CHRISTMAS

Angel project will enable your staff/group or school to buy gifts/gift vouchers, experiences etc for a local family in need this Christmas. Many local families are really struggling and providing **Christmas for their children seems so unattainable... just a dream**—you can help their dreams come true.

## HOW IT WORKS

Family Works will identify the families most in need in our community and will give you a profile of this family (e.g Mum & 3 kids, their ages and interests). You and your staff then shop for the family based on the profile (presents, Supermarket and petrol vouchers, warehouse vouchers, movie tickets, swim passes, edible treats, books, board games, puzzles). Family works will collect the gifts from you or you can drop off on designated delivery dates. These gifts will then be delivered to your family just before Christmas—**anonymity is the key to this project and everyone's privacy is protected.**

You can decide how this would work best for your business, group or school and how involved your staff/ group will become in the project. Support some of **South Canterbury's most vulnerable families** and become a Christmas Angel today.

## EXPERIENCE THE JOY OF GIVING

Christmas can be a joyous time, it can also be a time of extreme struggle and stress for some South Canterbury Families. With your help these families can have a magical Christmas.

## LET'S CHANGE LIVES TOGETHER

Family Works - Sponsor a family for Christmas project



Go on line to register at:  
[pssc.org.nz/the-christmas-angel-project](http://pssc.org.nz/the-christmas-angel-project)  
or email [ChristmasAngels@pssc.co.nz](mailto:ChristmasAngels@pssc.co.nz)

# **In His Grip: A guide to Christian email sign-offs**

– Martin Saunders

'Kind Regards' just doesn't do it for Christians. When we're concluding an email, we God-botherers like to insert a final flourish of encouragement, blessing, or just good-old-fashioned Christian weirdness. You'll undoubtedly have your own go-to phrase, a couple of words which you hope will redeem the meeting cancellation you just sent, or the fact you've declined a close friend's wedding invitation. You'll either be a 'blessings' or a 'Grace and peace' kind of person

For the sake of variety though, I want to encourage us all to mix it up a little. There's a whole range of creative (and occasionally crazy) sign-offs out there, so why limit ourselves to just one? Here's a field guide to some of the best, weirdest and most wonderful ways that Christians have genuinely ended their e-communications, split into some general categories. Perhaps you'll find a new favourite – and if you think we've missed a cracker, tweet us @ChristianToday with your best faith-based email closer.

## **The final blessing**

Undoubtedly the most popular category within the genre, and the easiest way to offer the secret Christian handshake in an otherwise formal communication. 'God Bless' is my favourite, partly because it's nicely unspecific about who exactly you're hoping he'll bless (The Child? America?), whereas others prefer a simple 'Blessings'. A friend of mine goes with the more flamboyant 'Massive Blessings', but I think you need to be selective about who you wish that kind of heavenly favour on.

## **In and under**

Another hugely popular area is those sign-offs which communicate that this message, or those reading and sending it, are safely held in the hands of the almighty Potentate of Time. This begins with the more sensible 'In Him', and moves through the gears of the slightly more manly 'In His Grip', but starts getting a bit weird with phrases like 'Under Aslan's Paw.' I honestly once received an email which ended with the words 'Covered by the lamb's blood', which just makes me picture a scene from a Stephen King movie.

## **Throwaway Christianese**

Sometimes you're aware that because of who you're writing to, 'Blessings' just isn't going to cut it. If you're writing to the sort of person who listens to worship music 24/7 and does Bible-verse cross-stitch in their spare time, you're going to have to bring your A-game. That's when we might resort to those slightly meaningless Christian phrases like 'Grace and peace', 'Travelling Mercies', 'Double-portions of blessing' or even the possible cry for help 'On Fire'. A rad new version of this involves creating an Ichthus-style

fish emoji out of the greater-than and lesser-than keys: <><. If I've just changed your life with that little tip, you're welcome.

## Latin

If you really want to impress your reader, try a bit of God-infused classical language. Catholics swear by the 'Pax' series of sign-offs (it's the Latin for Peace): 'Pax Tecum' is Peace be with You, while 'Pax Christi' means Peace of Christ. Don't get confused with Paxo though; that's a British instant stuffing mix. If you're not feeling quite that peaceful, you could also try 'Soli Deo gloria' (Glory to God alone). This is how I assume seminarians and Christian academics write to each other.

## Pentecostal jargon

Communication always has a context, and when you're writing to someone at the more pentecostal or charismatic end of the church, your language needs to bend accordingly. Luckily in this situation, we have the pentecostal lexicon to thank for some brilliant words and phrases which can turbo-boost your sign-off. 'Uncommon blessings' is a good start, or you could try 'The Kingdom Now.' If you really want to stick your neck out, try 'Awaiting the Latter Rain'.

## 'Shalom'

I mean honestly. Get over yourself.

## End Times-based

For some Christians, the end of the world is always nigh – and not just because of President Trump. For these people, every email needs to be pregnant with the impending rapture and tribulation. Some favourites in this category: the more straightforward 'Until He comes', and the slightly menacing 'Staying light as the days grow darker'. 'We will meet him in the air' is pretty much a direct quote from Scripture (1 Thessalonians 4 v 17), but your email about car parking capacity does seem like an odd moment to bring it up.

## The Apostle Paul

The father of modern Christianity was also the king of the sign-off, and more mature believers may want to ape his style with an end-of-letter phrase like 'The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you' (1 Thessalonians 5:28) or even 'To the only wise God be glory forever through Jesus Christ! Amen' (Romans 16:27). Don't however use Colossians 4:18 – 'Remember my chains' – unless you want to worry people.

*Martin Saunders is a Contributing Editor for Christian Today and the Deputy CEO of Youthscape. Follow him on Twitter @martinsaunders.*

***This article is printed with Martin's kind permission.***

***Thank you to Ken for discovering this article and seeking Martin's permission.***

ST STEPHEN'S CHURCH, 349 WAI-TI ROAD



**PLANT SALE**

Flower plants, vegetable plants,  
All the usual stalls, and some surprises

## Plant Sale coming up in September:

Do you have time to help with potting up plants for the Plant Sale? Can you help by growing or giving a plant to pot up?

Do you have any potting or seed mix to spare?



Seeking the Christmas Cactus (Zygocactus):

Have you this plant in your house and can spare bits of it. This plant has become very popular.

I want to grow it for the PLANT SALE.  
if you can help please contact Bev 686 0858.



**We have a wonderful opportunity** to connect with the Parkside Community at our Trinity Community Centre. Did you know that we are one of the only churches in that part of town?

**On Sunday 7th August, 2pm, we have a double feature planned:**

- A community day to listen to the needs of our neighbourhood
- The launch of our new community garden

***You are most welcome to come along and join in the fun!***

### How else can you help?

- **Pray.** It is always good to know we have people praying for us - we are God's people and we want to work in harmony with God's will
- **Lend a hand.** Do you have green thumbs? Perhaps you'd like to be involved.
- **Donate tools or plants.** You might have some extra tools lying around that would make all the difference: A hose and timer; trowels; spades, forks, shovels and hoes; even a rake would come in handy.

Talk to Helen Carter if you'd like to help with plants or other supplies, or if you'd like to know more.

# RECYCLE OR SUPPORT

There was a generosity of spirit amongst the stall holders and market day purchasers saw close to \$1000 received to go toward the TV / stand and laptop for Trinity Community Centre.

A sincere thank you to everyone involved.

**Right:** Katrina McTague with some of her awesome items, many crafted by her.  
**Below:** Some of the other stalls.



# WORSHIP @ TIMARU PRESBYTERIAN PARISH

Live streaming every Sunday, 10.30am via YouTube.

Type **Timaru Presbyterian Parish** in the Search bar.

17 July	9.00am Journey 21 C-Bay Car Park 9.30am Combined Worship @ Trinity, 22 College Rd
24 July	9.30am Worship & Communion @ Trinity, 22 College Rd 10.30am Worship @ St Stephens, 349 Wai-iti Rd
31 July	9.30am Worship @ Trinity, 22 College Rd 10.30am Worship @ St Stephens, 349 Wai-iti Rd
7 August	9.30am Worship @ Trinity, 22 College Rd 10.30am Worship @ St Stephens, 349 Wai-iti Rd
14 August	9.30am Worship @ Trinity, 22 College Rd 10.30am Worship & Communion @ St Stephens, 349 Wai-iti Rd

## TIMARU PARISH EVENTS

### Youth & Children's Events:

**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

### Regular Events:

**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

**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

# TIMARU PARISH EVENTS

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. New members welcome. Contact: Sid & Hazel 684 3478.

**Journey 21:** Meets at C-Bay carpark. 9am, Sunday 17 July.

All welcome.

Contact: Ellen ph 027 7723 146

**Jam Session** is on Wednesday 20 July at St Stephens, 7.00 to 8.30pm.

Contact: Brent

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN LUNCH GROUP** Meets Wednesday 20 July at Wai-iti Worship Centre starting at 12.30pm with a shared Lunch. Sales Table. Guest Speaker: Snr Constable Jan Gibbs of the Timaru Police speaking on Youth Aid/Youth Justice. This talk was presented to an Anglican Womens Group recently and was excellent. Apologies or rides please contact Dianne 6860440, Dawn 686 0595, Robyn 686 1948

**Community Lunch** this month is Tuesday 26 July. Please come and join us at St Stephens Church Hall at 12noon. Cost for the 2 course meal \$10 payable at the door. Please contact Bev ph 686 0858, Sid ph 684 3478 or the church office ph 686 0981.

**Bible Society Quiz:** We will have our yearly Bible Society Quiz on **Sunday 31 July at Wilson street Baptist Hall.** We will start at 2pm. Cost: \$5 pp or \$20 per family. Teams can have up to 6 persons.

Afternoon tea provided

**Bible Society Cheese-roll fund raiser:** We will make our famous cheese rolls on **Saturday 13 August** and **Saturday 27 August** for distribution at church on the following Sundays. Besides the usual white and brown bread we will use Molenberg bread as a third option. But because it is more expensive and there are less slices per bread, it will be \$1 more per doz.

**Prices:** Normal white or brown bread: \$7 per doz, \$ 25 for 4 doz;  
Molenberg bread: \$8 per doz and \$30 for 4 doz. For more information ring Evi Frank on 684 5399 or email me on [mama@newfrankland.org](mailto:mama@newfrankland.org)

If you are able to help making the cheese-rolls, we would welcome you from 9am at St John's church hall, Wai-iti Rd. Evi

# TIMARU PRESBYTERIAN PARISH

## Worship Centres

349 Wai-iti Rd, Glenwood, Timaru

22 College Rd, Timaru South

[www.timarupres.org.nz](http://www.timarupres.org.nz)

### Parish Office

349 Wai-iti Rd Phone: 686-0981

email: [oneoffice@timarupres.org.nz](mailto:oneoffice@timarupres.org.nz)

Financial matters: [finance@timarupres.org.nz](mailto: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](mailto:brent@timarupres.org.nz)

*Not available Fridays*

### ***Minister***

Rory Grant 686-1575, 0275705156 [rory@timarupres.org.nz](mailto:rory@timarupres.org.nz)

*Not available Fridays*

### ***Parish Clerk***

Judith Begg 688-6004, [parishclerk@timarupres.org.nz](mailto:parishclerk@timarupres.org.nz)

## LINK DEADLINE

Copy for the August-September LINK should be emailed to [link@timarupres.org.nz](mailto:link@timarupres.org.nz) or sent to the Church Office by Friday 5th August.

Here are some photos from the Installing of the new technology desk at St. Stephens Church on Wai-iti Road.



10-11am Thursday

See you there

Trinity Community Centre  
22 College Road

Bring a healthy snack for your child  
Morning tea for carers supplied  
Contact Helen 021768973 for more info  
[www.timarupres.org.nz](http://www.timarupres.org.nz)

Gold Coin Donation

**PLAYGROUP**  
play & learn for preschoolers

Every Tuesday morning  
during school term  
10-11am Trinity Hall College Rd  
Gold Coin Donation  
Morning Tea Supplied  
Helen 021 768 973



## Girls Brigade

The Girls Brigade celebrated the Queen's Jubilee with afternoon tea, badge making and dressing up for the occasion



## Bible Society Quiz:

We will have our yearly Bible Society Quiz on **Sunday 31 July at Wilson Street Baptist Hall**, We will start at 2pm. Cost: \$5 pp or \$20 per family. Teams can have up to 6 persons. Afternoon tea provided.

This issue of "PRESBYTERIAN LINK" is delivered to you

by.....

Phone.....