

# PRESBYTERIAN LINK

*November-December 2023 No 156*

The Monthly Newsletter of the  
Timaru Presbyterian Parish



To learn more about the  
fascinating visitor to Delta section  
have a look on page 16.

# Church Life



On Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October we were treated to a spirited and moving message from our Ministry Intern Luke.

He actually *became* Aaron when preaching on Exodus 32 “The Golden Calf,” and presented one of those sermons that stays in your mind for months afterwards. Well done Luke!

Ken.

## Have you ever dreamt of a South Pacific Island experience?

You are invited to come to Oban on Stewart Island for something really different. There is the opportunity for those who are willing to lead a service of worship at the Presbyterian Church. You do not need to be an Ordained Minister or a Lay Preacher, just keen and able. For six months—November to April—there is a service every week and during the other months, once a week (Anglicans do one every month). Your accommodation is provided in the manse, which sleeps four. A service outline and tourist adventure information is provided by the parish.

You only need to book a date with Rev. Heather Kennedy [rev.heather.kennedy@gmail.com](mailto:rev.heather.kennedy@gmail.com) and then go ahead and book your ferry or flight, at the workers concession fare. This is your golden opportunity for a lifetime experience that is truly unique and amazing. Whether you like bush-walks, listening to the birds, or eating freshly caught blue cod, this is the island for you. You might even like to include the world-famous Stewart Island Pub Quiz, held every Sunday night.

# Editorial

If I were to ask you what was distinctive about Timaru, **I wonder what you'd say. What about what is distinctive about the neighbourhood where you live? What has changed, what do you like about it, what don't you like?**



**I've heard it said and it has been my experience that you can get almost anywhere around Timaru in ten minutes in a car. We have adapted to this 'spread out' type of living where the people and places we know and go to are not always close by and so we don't always pay attention to what is close by where we live. We can miss what is changing in our neighbourhoods, people, culture, needs, and questions.**

As people of faith, we are interested in things that make humans flourish. But we can think that sometimes it's just up to us to make a difference in communities. As if we take God in a backpack or handbag with us wherever **we go with the hope that some of God 'spills out' on those we meet. The wonderful thing about God though, is that the Spirit is already at work 'out there', in all different places in our community, renewing and recreating.** Rather than jumping in our backpacks, the truth is God stands at the door and invites us to come and see what he is doing already and then join in.

**We've just wrapped up a small group that, over the last couple of months, has been engaged in listening and observing in our neighbourhoods. Every week people would take a walk around their neighbourhood and 'listen', making observations. It was really amazing all the things we seemed to notice that we hadn't seen before or had taken for granted. We didn't move particularly quickly, so had time to chat with people we met along the way and listen to what they thought about their neighbourhood. At first, this all seemed very ordinary but as we shared what we had observed there was a sense that we could see God at work in our community.**

God often seems to use the language of the ordinary to communicate with us. As we become familiar with the ordinary everyday things around us and in our neighbourhoods it can help us express God to others. So, the next time you are out for a walk, or sitting in a peaceful spot, maybe **have a 'listen' and look around, what do you notice? Have a wonder where God may be at work and how Christ is inviting you to join him in that moment.**

Luke

# November Parish Council Report

Devotions were led by Brent on 1 Thessalonian 2. 1-7. In this Paul lays out his motivation for the gospel and dispels the accusations made of him. Some of the accusations were that he was a criminal on the run from Philippi, preaching came from delusions and his motives were impure. He set out to show that his motives were pure - glorifying God. This leads us to think how do we establish credibility with our community in order to present the gospel as a compelling message?

AGM planning is under way. Murray Facer and Joy Elliott finish their term this year. We have received nominations for Murray Facer and Janie Hart. Joy has decided not to seek another term, so we thank her for her work she has done on the council over the years.

Each Parish is required to have a Child Protection person. If anyone is interested in this role, please see the Parish Clerk.

## Group Reports

### Administration

Some minor maintenance work will be done in the St Stephens kitchen. The Trinity pulpit monitor repair is a work in progress. We will assist a Family Works client with some art supplies for a child. The Infoodle programme for recording the parish roll will replace our old recording system in the new year once we have done some reviewing of our roll.

### Mission

The October mission bucket funds of \$221.50 was a welcome boost for the postage costs of the Operation Christmas Child boxes. The buy and supply table is now known as The Harvest Table and funds to Christmas will go to Riding for Disabled. Eat well is seeing a growth in orders. Planning is under way for Stir-up Sunday on 26 November (Also AGM date). It is planned to have a BBQ/potluck and pizza lunch (\$2) after that service.

### Trinity Centre Outreach

The Rhythm Kids group are still doing well. Luke has been leading the term four programme with assistance from Brent. Luke has been able to sort out some of the technical issues with the programme, so they now have a library of premade programmes to pick up and run with. They could always do with some more helpers. The TP Kids playgroup is going well after

coming out of recess due to some good support and the attendees. Yoga continues to be well supported. The community garden still needs support. Pastoral Elder has also been kept busy with visiting and phone calls, attending funerals, pastoral work for Pleasant Point and Girls Brigade and updating our rolls.

### **Minister and Intern**

Brent this month has been really busy with leading five funerals and pastoral visits to senior members of the parish. He has enjoyed participating **in Luke's listening to the neighborhood assignment. He also was pleased to** be able to participate in contemplative prayer at the Salvation Army Timaru. This was a welcome space of spiritual refreshment in what has been a busy season.

Luke is in the middle of a large block of assignments and reports which will keep him busy until December. He also spent a week on the Ohope Marae with his fellow Interns.

Brent will be taking the 17-19 November as his term weekend break and on annual leave 26 December to 14 January. Luke has to use his 2023 leave allocation or lose it. He will also be taking leave 26 December to 14 January. Rory will be back by then.

Luke presented his report on his assignment of Listening in the Neighbourhood. Like in Luke 10:1-12 a group of church members together with Luke went forth and walked around various neighbourhoods observing everything and did engage with some people along the way. The findings were collated under several headings. The findings will be used for his Mission assignment paper. One of the findings confirmed that we need to be listening to our community. Our parish is not bound by the report but would be wise to give its observations some consideration.

As you know we are currently assessing the current situation in relation to buildings, ministry, finances and our roll. The Administration group joined our meeting this month to discuss our issues. Martin Stewart Executive Officer, Alpine Presbytery moderated the meeting. These discussions are to enable us to find a way forward. It will take some time for this but at some time in the future we will bring the ideas to the Congregation.

Judith

Joy standing beside some of the vegetable/fruit crates.



Thursday 10-11am

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



Tuesday Mornings 10 to 11am  
During School term  
Trinity Community Centre,  
22 College Road  
Gold Coin Donation  
Morning Tea supplied for Adults.  
Bring your own morning tea for  
your children  
Come along for a fun time!



Contact:  
Helen Carter  
Ph 021 768 973

# SNIPPETS from the Mission Group Meeting

St.Stephen's is a hub of activity each Tuesday with the packing and distribution of many Eatwell bags.

The continual supply of clean, washed bags needed for the Eatwell project is sometimes a challenge, and sometimes we have to resort to the use of paper bags.

One of our dedicated Eatwell helpers has made over 100 cloth bags, and we sometimes wonder where have they all gone to ??? Moral to this story - please return your bags promptly !!!

**Even though we've** become more efficient with the ordering and distribution little hiccups do occur. Just recently capsicums were to be included in our delivery - we ordered 22, and WOOPS 22 kilos arrived!

**What an amazing effort!**

**I'm referring to the New World coupon promotion, which has been running for the last few months.**

At the time of writing your generous response to our appeal for coupons has resulted in 25 saucepans and 3 frying pans, along with 3 set of matching tools being acquired.

All these very useful kitchen pans and accessories have now been forwarded **on to Family Works' Refugee Programme.**

The final Bucket Mission Collection for the year will be for Family Works Christmas Angel Project. Last year we raised over \$500 for this initiative, which resulted in a lovely selection of gifts and vouchers for a family of four consisting of a grandmother who was caring for 3 teenaged grandchildren.

Elaine.





30/10/2023

Timaru Presbyterian Parish  
C/- Linda Fraser  
349 Wai-iti Rd  
Glenwood Timaru 7910  
New Zealand

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your generous gift for Operation Christmas Child. Each gift-filled shoebox brings joy and hope to a child in need. The power of a simple gift makes the child realise that someone cares and loves enough to reach out in this very special way.

Thank you for helping us to reach out to so many financially disadvantaged children and communities with a practical demonstration of God's unconditional love. The aid and assistance we provide is given without regard to the race, creed, gender, religion or ethnicity of the beneficiaries.

May God bless you,

Mark Bennett  
Executive Director  
Samaritan's Purse Australia/New Zealand

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**Samaritan's Purse Australasia – Operation Christmas Child Ltd**

THIS DONATION IS NOT TAX DEDUCTIBLE

**Official Receipt:** 579095 **Date:** 30/10/2023  
**Gift received from:** Timaru Presbyterian Parish  
**The amount of:** \$221.50 **Contact:** NZ20823

**At your request, your gift has been allocated as shown below:**

24/10/2023 \$221.50 Operation Christmas Child Shoe Boxes

**AUSTRALIA**

Samaritan's Purse Australasia - Operation Christmas Child Ltd  
103 Gwyne Road, Kings Langley NSW 2147 • Ph: 3300 884488  
Web: [operationchristmaschild.org.au](http://operationchristmaschild.org.au)

**NEW ZEALAND**

Samaritan's Purse Australasia Limited NZ DCRN: C0366419  
PO Box 870, Shortland Street, Auckland 1145 • Ph: 0900 736 974  
Web: [operationchristmaschild.org.nz](http://operationchristmaschild.org.nz)



**9th**  
**DEC**  
**2023**  
**3-5pm**

at the  
**CAROLINE BAY**  
**SOUNDSHELL**

**Harcourts**  
 Blackham & Co

**FamilyWorks**  
 PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT  
 SOUTH CANTERBURY

**THE BREEZE**

**Industrial**  
 controls

**South Canterbury**  
 Toyota

**TIMARU**

**DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
 Te Kaunihara ā-Roha  
 o Te Tāhira Matu

**Venture Timaru**  
 DISTRICT - ECONOMIC & TOURISM AGENCY

**The Courier**

**PRIMEPORT**  
 TIMARU

**The Timaru Herald**  
**Stuff**

Couplands Stockfeed

Hirepool Timaru

TRUST **AORAKI**

Spark Business Hub

Timaru Top 10 Holiday Park

**Alpine**  
 ENERGY

**Fulton Hogan**

**AUDIO**  
 DYNAMITE



Thank you

A very big "Thank you!" from Timaru Family Works and Refugee Settlement services for the New world AOS donated to us. The AOS have been distributed among the new Refugee families that have recently arrived in Timaru. Every little bit helps when setting up a new home. So Thank you again! 🙏  
From: Family Works & Refugee Settlement Service.



Combined Stir-Up  
Sunday 26 November  
at Trinity 9.30am

With the Festive Season rapidly approaching it is time to make our Christmas cake.

'STIR-UP' Sunday will take place at a combined service to be held at Trinity Church on Sunday 26th November, when we will be making our very own TPP Christmas Cake.

**If you wish to be a 'Stir-up' Helper, (and we need 9, maybe more), be at church extra early to get your instructions.**

# 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.

We are taking registrations now for the Christmas Angel Project that supported 180 local families last year and with the cost of living crisis this will increase for 2023.



## 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](https://pssc.org.nz/the-christmas-angel-project)  
or email [ChristmasAngels@pssc.co.nz](mailto:ChristmasAngels@pssc.co.nz)

# WORSHIP @ TIMARU PRESBYTERIAN PARISH

Live streaming every Sunday

<i>12 November</i>	9.30am Worship @ Trinity, 22 College Rd 10.30am Worship & Communion @ St Stephens, 349 Wai-iti Rd
<i>19 November</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>26 November</i>	9.30am Combined Communion, Stir up & AGM at Trinity, 22 College Rd
<i>3 December</i>	9.30am Worship @ Trinity, 22 College Rd 10.30am Worship @ St Stephens, 349 Wai-iti Rd
<i>10 December</i>	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** 6.00pm - 7.30pm 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**

6.00pm - 7.30pm Tuesdays at 22 College Rd  
Contact : Fiona 688 0375 or 021 170 2930

**TP Kids Playgroup:** Thursdays, 10-11am, Trinity Hall, College Rd.  
Contact: Helen 684 6403 or 021768 973

### Regular Events:

**Nosh & Natter:** Monday 6.30pm, 349 Wai-iti Road, bring your own meal.  
Janie 021 0279 3076 (text is better than phone message)

**Prayer Group:** Tuesday 9.00am, College Rd, Brent **686-1382**

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

**Eat Well Co-op Packing:** Tues, 10.30am, Wai-iti Rd.

**Eat Well Co-op Pickups:** Tues, 3-4 pm at College Rd & Wai-iti Rd

# TIMARU PARISH EVENTS

Yoga for Seniors on chairs: 2pm on Thurs in the hall at Trinity.

Leigh Marsden takes this 'not on the floor' exercise programme. This is for men and women. \$3 per session. 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. New members welcome. Contact: Hazel 684 3478.

**Journey 21:** Meets at C-Bay carpark. 9am, Sunday 19 November.

**The theme for November 'The Season of Light—Enlightenment @ Christmas'**  
All welcome. Contact: Ellen ph 027 7723 146

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN LUNCH GROUP:** The monthly meeting of the Lunch Group will be held on Wednesday 15 November at 12 noon at Benny's Again. Apologies or rides please contact Dianne 686 0440, Dawn 686 0595 or Robyn 688 1948 by Monday 13 November.

**Jam Session** 15 November 7 pm Contact: Brent for more information.

## THE COMMUNITY LUNCH - *CHRISTMAS FEAST.*

Our final lunch for the year will be held 28th November.

St Stephens Hall starting at 12 noon.

We extend a welcome to all our diners and welcome **any that wish to join us...**

COST \$12 payable at the door.

To confirm your place at the table, Contact Bev Ph 686 0858  
or Church office Ph 686 0981



*CWS Christmas appeal flyer in the next Link*

# 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 December-February LINK should be emailed to [link@timarupres.org.nz](mailto:link@timarupres.org.nz) or sent to the Church Office by Friday 8 December.

# 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)



## Girls Brigade



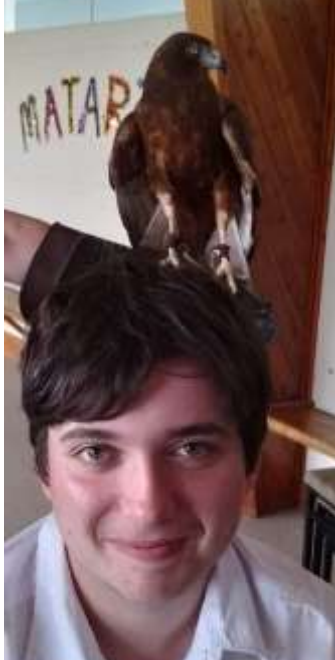
These amazing young ladies have been learning to play Christmas carols for our break up.

I joked that maybe we should start up a guitar group next year and they all wanted to be part of it.. oops Fiona watch what you say.

Girls Izzy MacKenzie, Molly -Grace and Kassi White.

Fiona - leader

# Boys Brigade



Just recently we were visited by Ron from the Raptor Trust with Tom the hawk. This was part of our paws and claws badge. The boys were given lots of information about the trust and loved meeting Tom, who is a girl. Tom was in the TV programme One lane Bridge.

Fiona

Top left is Jackson with the arm protector  
Top right Ron and Tom  
Lower left Tyler with Tom behind

This issue of "PRESBYTERIAN LINK" is delivered to you

by.....

Phone.....