



Timaru
Presbyterian
PARISH

The Monthly Newsletter of the
Timaru Presbyterian Parish



Jeevaratnam family -

50 years at Trinity.



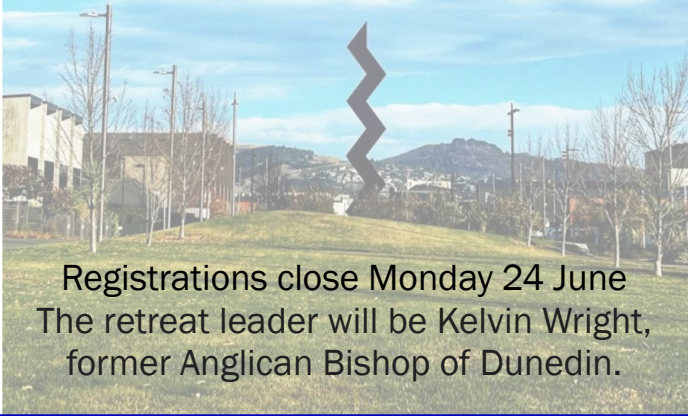
Sunday the 26th of May at Trinity was the last Sunday before the onset of winter that we worshiped in the main nave before transferring to the chapel to keep warmer and save electricity usage. Attendees may remember another truly special event this was a full pew on the choir side occupied by a family with interesting and long-standing connections with Trinity.

"Indi and Jeeves with their three daughters at Christchurch Airport, seeing off Jeeves' sister and brother-in-law who spent Christmas 1974 with them"

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Events

Presbytery Retreat
Views Along the Way: Photography
as an Aid to Awareness
Thursday 4th—Saturday 6th July
Hanmer Springs Memorial Hall



Registrations close Monday 24 June
The retreat leader will be Kelvin Wright,
former Anglican Bishop of Dunedin.

Combined Service 23 June
at 10.30am
at St Stephens

Editorial

Welcome to this edition of the LINK.



Our month of pre-service prayer meetings to discern the future direction of our parish in light of its sustainability issues have come to an end. Rory gave a good summary of what we have heard in his sermon from Sunday 2 June (available on our You tube channel - well worth a listen) and I have highlighted some key points below. The participation in this process has been encouraging; it feels like we are being responsible in our approach to addressing the looming challenges.

No one is surprised by the need for this discussion. There is high awareness of the financial challenges and the decline in members is obvious to see. Many of us have been bracing for and expecting change realising the improbability of continuing on as we have been. Change is inevitable.

There is some confusion around the ‘new thing’ we have in mind. Why would we try and do something new when we are struggling to keep what we already have afloat? At the same time there is acknowledgement that new ways to reach people are needed but we are uncertain as to what will work.

Anxiety was expressed that any change like this will mean we lose people along the way. This is born out of past experience from the closure of Chalmers and St Paul’s.

Some have suggested that our congregations are too different to ever be melded into one. Theological and worship style preferences make this too difficult.

While we wanted to test the idea of going to one site this naturally led folk to ask which site is best? This is a big question with lots of variables that require care and attention to a well thought out process to help us decide. It is fair to say that each site has its merits but each will also require investment to meet our needs in the future.

These observations provide us a helpful starting point in identifying key issues for us to think through. The next step is for Parish council to seek a vision for where God is leading us, and to call our congregations to join us in that vision. This will involve ‘family forum’ meetings where concrete proposals can be discussed before any formal decisions are made. The first of these will be held at a combined service at St Stephen’s on 23rd June. See the Parish Council report for more details.

Nga manaakitanga ki a koutou katoa (Blessings to all)

Brent.

Parish Council Report

Steph led us in devotions based around Phil 1:6: *“Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.”*

Steph reminded us that everything big starts small and that is it God who grows it and brings it to maturity. This is particularly applicable to our Parish at this time as we remain confident that God began a good work in our Parish and will carry it on. And that God may be beginning something new that’s small, but God will carry it on to completion.

The variety of reports from the Admin Committee, the Mission Enabler, the Pastoral Elder and ministers about various activities shows there's been a wider variety of activity in the last month. With services at Trinity moving into the Chapel for the winter, a special plug-in heater has been put on a timer to come on earlier in the morning to ensure the chapel is warm and inviting for worship. Please leave it switched on at the wall otherwise the service will be cold!

The Gleniti Playcentre is repainting its building and kindly consulted the Parish Council about its chosen colour scheme. The Council was more than happy to endorse a bright and cheerful colour scheme that will continue to make the Playcentre a fun and friendly place for children to play and learn.

We received a variety of correspondence this month, including from members of our Parish who shared ideas and considerations about whether or not we should move our worship to one site. The Council is happy to receive people's feedback this way and we will include it in our discernment process.

The Parish Council discussed the idea of subdividing the land with manse from the main church, granting it an independent title. This process was investigated by the Admin committee and included quotes for the work. Subdividing the manse off would be a necessary step if the congregation ever wished to sell the manse. This would be a significant decision and would need the congregation’s approval. However, after a considered discussion, it was decided that we would put this aside until there was more clarity discerning whether we should move to one worship site.

The Council devoted a lot of time considering the next steps after our month of prayer and discernment and while we have had feedback from those at the prayer meetings and those who've talked to us, we wanted to hear more from the congregation. There will be a 'Church Family Forum', following a combined service at St Stephen's on the 23rd of June at 10:30. This is a chance for a deeper discussion about the questions we've been praying about. The same weekend, the Fijian Congregation will be using Trinity Church for a significant gathering for their congregation.

Luke

SNIPPETS from the Mission Group Meeting

Our recent successful Bucket Mission, held in the first Sunday in June was for World Vision's 40 hour famine appeal. Our total was \$312.10. This well known appeal was raising funds to help mitigate the disastrous effects of Climate Change in Timor Leste where 90% of the original forests have been lost.

Our winter knitting programme is well underway with a selection of lovely garments appearing in both foyers. The first delivery has been made, and very much appreciated by the three kindergartens and Family Works. Slippers certainly seem to be the most popular choice for our keen knitters, as 13 pairs went in the first delivery, and there is now quite a few new arrivals waiting to go in the next.

Our two Harvest Tables will finish for the season on Sunday 9th. June. The funds raised during these last few weeks will go to Family Works, enabling them to put a meat item or two in some of the food bank parcels.

Here are some Harvest Table totals from the last few months giving you an idea just how effective our little sales tables are, so please keep up your support!

- Riding for the Disabled - \$426.10
- Children on the Bay. - a Family Work's programme - \$490.40
- 24/7 school programme at Mountain View College and Ocean View

Heights - \$284.80.

- Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service - \$382.00



Elaine.

Knitting from the north and the south - Nelson and Timaru!

Bible Society Cheese-roll Fundraiser:

It's cheese-roll time again.

We will deliver them on Sunday 23 June.

We will make them on the Saturday before that at St John's kitchen and hall, beginning at 9 am.

Orders have to be in by Sunday 16 June.

Please order in Church on the order sheet or email Evi at mama@newfrankland.org or ring me at 6845399 or 0210509065 .



Prices are the same as last year:

white and brown bread

1 doz \$7.00

or 4doz \$25.00

Molenberg bread

1 doz \$8.00

or 4 doz \$30.00.

Jeevaratnam family - 50 years at Trinity cont.

In May 1974, 50 years ago to the day, the Jeevaratnam family walked to Trinity church from their first home in nearby Edward Street with their three girls, Prem, Nimi and Shya aged 10, 9, and 8. The main impetus for leaving Sri Lanka was the violent uprising that was occurring, and the safety of the Tamil community was at risk. Racial problems were intensifying, and many were leaving for jobs abroad and resettling in many parts of the world.

It was a joy to see the whole family together at Trinity 50 years on, all looking well and happy, involved in their special celebration. Some folk were musing that it may have been the same pew that they sat in all those years ago!

They did get a chocolate each but deserved more! Thankfully, as set out in Indi's wonderfully written memoir of their time over the years, it was a 'win-win' situation, with the family making many lifelong friends and receiving valuable support. And in return the church receiving selfless gifts stemming from the many talents of the family, and still doing so through Indi's and Jeeves' retirement years.

Jeeves had arranged a position as consultant anaesthetist at Timaru Hospital and once settled Indi carried on with her school teaching career, initially at Timaru Technical College, and then for many years teaching mathematics at Timaru Girls. The whole family settled into the new surroundings well and loved exploring new places and holidaying, a favourite being Wanaka, but there were numerous others. There is so much more to tell of their many adventures; the girls first experience with snow, the 2-kilometre walks to music practice. The many things the family was not used to when in Sri Lanka like heaters, TV and many outdoor pursuits.

We thank the family from the bottom of our hearts for being here with us and for the inspiring example they have laid before us, including their absolute humility and faith in God!

I can think of no better conclusion than the footnote to Indi's memories

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"Great is thy faithfulness, O God my father; there is no shadow of turning with thee. All I have needed, Thy hand hath provided. Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me."

WORSHIP @ TIMARU PRESBYTERIAN PARISH

Live streaming every Sunday

16 June	9.00am Journey 21 C-Bay car park 9.30am Worship @ Trinity, 22 College Rd 10.30am Worship @ St Stephens, 349 Wai-iti Rd
23 June	10.30am Combined service and Family Forum @ St Stephens, 349 Wai-iti Rd
30 June	9.30am Worship & Communion @ Trinity, 22 College Rd 10.30am Worship @ St Stephens, 349 Wai-iti Rd
7 July	9.30am Worship @ Trinity, 22 College Rd 10.30am Worship @ St Stephens, 349 Wai-iti Rd
14 July	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: Trinity Hall, College Rd.
Contact: Helen 021 768 973 or Robyn 027 251 8474

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

TP Kids Playgroup: Trinity Hall, College Rd.
Contact: Helen 021 768 973 or Robyn 027 251 8474

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

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

TIMARU PARISH EVENTS

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 021 768 973 or Robyn 027 251 8474

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: Marian ph 684 4351
Dorothy ph 686 2265

Journey 21: Meets at C-Bay carpark. 9am, Sunday 19 May 2024
All welcome. Contact: Ellen ph 027 7723 146

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN LUNCH GROUP:

The monthly meeting of the Lunch Group will be held on Wednesday 19 June 2024 taking the form of the usual Mid Winter Luncheon to be held at Harlau House Cafe, 253 Beaconsfield Road, Timaru, starting at Noon.
Apologies or rides please contact Dianne 6860440, Dawn 6860595, Robyn 6881948 no later than Monday 17 June.

Jam session: Wednesday 19 June 7pm Contact: Brent for more information

Community Lunch will be starting again on the June the 25th midday at St Stephen's Hall. We appreciate the support we had for our last lunch with 53 meals being served. We invite all to return on the 25th for our next meal at St Stephens Church hall.

The cost will be \$13 and this payable at the door.

We have a team of helpers but are looking for more help especially in the preparation of food. This can be done on a Monday afternoon or join us on the Tuesday morning. To reserve your place at the table please contact Phone Bev on 686 0858 or church office 686 0981

Bible Society Cheese-roll Fundraiser: Delivery on Sunday 23 June. We will make them on the Saturday before that at St John's kitchen and hall, beginning at 9 am. Orders have to be in by and Sunday 16 June. Please order in Church on the order sheet or email Evi at mama@newfrankland.org or ring me at 6845399 or 0210509065 . Prices are the same as last year: white and brown bread 1 doz \$7.00 or 4doz \$ 25.00 , Molenberg bread 1 doz \$ 8.00 or 4 doz \$ 30.00.

Evi

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 July-August LINK should be emailed to link@timarupres.org.nz or sent to the Church Office by Friday 5 July.

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



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

Thursday
10-11am

See you
there

TOP KIDS

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

Gold Coin Donation

PLAYGROUP

play & Learn for preschoolers

Girls Brigade



Over the last 6 weeks Lois, Luke and Brent have been coming along to answer some Bible based questions the 14-16 year old's have been asking.

A big thank to Lois, Brent and Luke for their time and being available for us

Fiona

Rhythm Kids



It was a wonderful morning with 15 pre-schoolers enjoying the RK programme and the Dr Seuss counting story.

This issue of "PRESBYTERIAN LINK" is delivered to you

by.....

Phone.....