



# **Mairangi & Castor Bays Presbyterian Church**

## **NEWSLETTER**

**June 2019**

**Minister: Rev Dr Tokerau Joseph**



**Scottish Country Dancers**

**Luncheon Group, May 2019**

# **CHURCH DIRECTORY**

## **Minister**

**Rev Dr Tokerau Joseph**

**Email: [tokerau.j@gmail.com](mailto:tokerau.j@gmail.com)**

**Ph: 478 6180**

## **Administrator**

**Jo Wyman-Macer**

**Office hours:**

**Wednesday via phone and email**

**Thursday—Friday 9am to 1pm**

**Ph: 478 6180**

**Email: [office@bayspc.nz](mailto:office@bayspc.nz)**

## **Street Address**

**10 Hastings Rd**

**Mairangi Bay**

## **Vehicle Access**

**Between 8 & 10 Penzance Rd**

## **Postal Address**

**PO Box 65299**

**Mairangi Bay**

## **Website**

**[www.bayspresbyterian.org.nz](http://www.bayspresbyterian.org.nz)**

## **Parish Clerk**

**Stewart Milne**

**Ph: 478 5786**

**Mobile: 027 293 8499**

## **Treasurer, property and finance**

**George Wyman**

**Ph 478 6411**

## **Support worker for the elderly**

**Margaret Pont**

**027 225 8893**

***This month's newsletter has a range of photos of some of the community outreach undertaken by the church.***

***Many thanks to Yoshiko Tregathan and Karel Lorier for sharing.***

## REGULAR PARISH ACTIVITIES

- **ACTIVITIES MORNINGS** - 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month  
10am - 12pm, Boardgames, Rummikubs, Cards etc  
For further information Margaret Pont 4893176 or 027 2258893
- **GIRLS' BRIGADE** - Tuesdays during School term. Church Hall 6.30-8pm.  
Kay Barbour Ph 478 7603
- **LADIES HOME GROUP** - Wednesdays 10.15am.  
Contact Heather on 479-8822 for further details.
- **GARY SYME'S BORN AGAIN BODIES**  
Wednesdays Church Hall. 1.00-2.00pm  
Further information Gary Syme Ph 479 2212
- **ENGLISH CONVERSATIONS**  
1pm—2.30pm Wednesdays New Meeting Room 2.  
Further Information Stewart Milne 478 5786
- **HOUSE GROUP**  
Wednesdays 7.30pm at the Shadbolts  
Contact Dorille Shadbolt Ph 479 3953.
- **LUNCHEON GROUP**  
2nd Thursday of month 12-2pm in Church hall  
Further information Jill Wyman 021 066 1059.
- **DEE'S SOCIAL GROUP**  
Thursdays 10am-2pm Mairangi Bay Church Hall  
For further information Stewart Milne Ph 478 5786.
- **FRIDAY NIGHT DISCUSSION GROUP**  
Meeting 3rd Friday 6.30pm shared meal.  
Venue circulates. For further information contact  
Jenni & Allan Jones Ph 478 5694.
- **MAINLY MUSIC**  
Fridays during the school term. Church Hall 10-11am  
Ph Tangi Joseph 0226573223



## AN UP-DATE FROM TOKERAU

Recently we celebrated Mother's Day. It's a time to honour our biological mothers and those who are a mother-figure to us. All have mothers who birthed and helped shape our life. We ought to be extremely grateful for our mothers.

Our Mother's Day service provided an opportunity to worship God through the focus of mothers. The introit hymn for the entry of the Bible set the tone for the rest of the service:

*Loving Spirit, loving Spirit,  
you have chosen me to be,  
you have drawn me to your wonder,  
you have set your sign on me.  
Like a mother you enfold me,  
hold my life within your own,  
feed me with your very body,  
form me of your flesh and bone.*

The service incorporated many of our womenfolk in the congregation who contributed something special of their faith that enabled us to consider the mother-heart of God. For example, Margaret Callaghan performed a very moving liturgical dance to the song "You lift me up." As a mother tirelessly upholds the children in her care, so God does the same for us. Testimonies by Zarah Foote and Tangi Joseph highlighted real experiences of motherhood and how the prayerful faith of their respective mothers shaped them and, in-turn, shaped their response to their own family. Kaye Barbour read a poem entitled "When God created mothers" calling to mind the invaluable tasks of mothers and her preciousness to God and families. I'm very grateful to all the women who led different parts of the service.

A prayer for mothers by Tom Cheatham:

O God of grace and love, we thank you for all that you have given us through the loving care and hard work of our mothers. We pray for your richest blessing upon all mothers:

for first time mothers and experienced mothers, for those who are mothers by surprise and those who have planned carefully for children;  
for women who long to conceive and cannot and for those who do not want the children they have;  
for those with difficult homes, whose children present constant challenges and perennial problems and whose husbands are not much help;  
for those who must raise their children alone and find that the father or fathers of their daughters and sons are distant, uninterested and uncaring;

for those who are ready to scream because their own mothers and their in-laws are constantly giving unsolicited advice;  
for those who are at the end of their rope with stress over money or do without what they need so their children may have a meal;  
for those who are examples of faith, hope, and love to their children and other parents;  
for those whose marriages are strong and whose husbands care deeply for their children, sharing fully in responsibilities;  
for those with plentiful resources, whose children have never known want, and who use their funds and talents to help others;  
for those who teach the faith by word and deed to their children, making Christ real to their families.

For each one according to her need, hear our prayer, and draw all mothers closer to you today.

All these things we ask in the name of Jesus, who in even in his agony on the cross cared for his mother's well-being. Amen.



## **YOUNG MUM'S GROUP - 12 June, 7:15pm**

A time for mums of young people of all ages to get together and share fellowship. Hosted by Heather Gibson on the second Thursday of the month.  
Phone Heather, 027 499 9808; email: [gibsonfamily@xtra.co.nz](mailto:gibsonfamily@xtra.co.nz)

## **Fellowship Group**

We are organising a group booking to go to hear the Albany singers on June 23rd at 2pm at Holy Cross Church Albany. They are singing show tunes which sound like a wonderful collection. Bronwyn will be the person to contact.

## **KAREL LORIER'S REFLECTIONS**

### **That Word "Love"**

A few weeks ago, I was waiting in my dentist's waiting room and grabbed the first magazine on top of the pile. When I opened it, the first words that leaped out at me were, "I left Mark because I did not love him anymore." Flicking through the pages to look at the pictures (my photographer's habit!) I noticed frequent uses of the word love, "You'll love the new fra-



grances we have added ...,” “You will fall in love with our range... and “reviewers have commented that ‘You will love the new layout of our instrument panel....’” We fall in love, love ice-cream, love our children, love the colour of the flowers, love Green policies and love new designs. In English the word “love” can mean many things, apply to different senses with different levels of intensity. In my Dutch dictionary there are 8 different Dutch translations words or phrases. In English it is used in relationship to food, things, colours, ideas or people -all with essentially different meanings.

The word “word” love is used frequently in the English translations of the Bible, both in the Hebrew Bible, our Old Testament, and in the New Testament. It is a key word for our faith. I did a rough count in a Hebrew/English concordance There are at least 11 Hebrew words, all with slightly different meanings, but all translated “love” in our English version.

In the New Testament, three Greek words are translated “love” in English. Agape, phileo, and storge as well as other words eg philadelphia which is sometimes translated “brotherly love” and sometimes “love.”

This make a difference as to how we understand the New Testament. I start off with the word used very infrequently and usually in its negative form. “Storge,” means “family or whanau affection” and in the New Testament it is used only negatively (“astorgos”) meaning heartless - to show a lack of family affection.

Now the two most frequent words translated love:

“Phileo,” is less common than the word” agape,” and means the affection between friends, the strong bond between people who have common values. For example in John 21:15-19

when Jesus asks Peter, “Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these others do?” The word “phileo” is used. The conversation is about affection. We could also translate it, “Peter are you on the same page as I am?” Read in this way the story makes much more sense.

“Agape,” is the most frequent word translated “love” in our English New Testament. It means unconditional caring, not based on attraction. This is the love that Jesus teaches about as our love for God, neighbour and enemies. This love is a choice rather than a feeling. Martin Buber, a Jewish philosopher, writes this “agape” love “is not an emotion but an attitude of will.” We must not confuse it with liking a person. We cannot like everyone. This love is non-possessive. What Jesus tell us to do is to “agape” love our neighbour as we “agape” love ourselves” There are times when do not like ourselves, but we continue to seek what is good and best for us.

This “agape” love is often confused and misused in our understanding of Christian faith. When we read Paul’s poem on love I Corinthians 13 at a wedding many people confuse it with romantic love. Now “agape” love in a marriage is a good thing, but it is not the love the starry-eyed couple are thinking of at the time. Romantic love, the Greek “eros”, is not used in the New Testament. Some of our hymns and songs add to the confusion using the word love possessively, “Jesus is mine,” or “My Jesus I love thee.”

At a conference I attended there was a paper entitled, “Jesus is not my boyfriend,” an attempt to address the misunderstandings created when we confuse “agape” love as being motivated by attraction and romantic love. “Agape” love is a choice, a discipline, a decision of the will. Affection, friendship, and attraction may grow out of “agape” love but liking someone is not necessary for “agape” love.

In the parable of the Good Samaritan, the Samaritan who saw the robbed man on the side of the road was “filled with pity.”

Undoubtedly the Priest and the Levite, if they were at all human, would experience pity. But they made choices not to “agape” love. The Samaritan made his choice to “agape” love when he helped the robbed man. Possibly a friendship could form between the two men afterwards although their culture dictated that they should be mortal enemies - “agape” love could lead to “phileo” love as a result of the encounter.

We do not need to like someone to “agape” love them. “Agape” love also carries the sense of accepting everyone as a valued human being. Acceptance does not mean agreeing with them.

“Agape” love is much more than a warm fuzzy feeling.

To be a follower of the way of Jesus, the way of “agape” love is to decide about how we will live our life. It is a discipline which will take lifetime to develop using our heart, soul, strength and mind.





*Scottish Country Dancing at the luncheon group*

*Liturgical dance:*

*Margaret  
Callaghan*



## **LUNCHEON GROUP**

The next meeting on JUNE 13<sup>th</sup> from 12- 2pm is our MID WINTER CHRISTMAS LUNCH.

Bring a PLATE OF FOOD TO SHARE.

The ALBANY SINGERS will entertain us after lunch.

If you have any surplus items including baking these would be very much appreciated for our  
TRADE TABLE.

Be in to win a RAFFLE too.

Donation to help with entertainment expenses.

## **ROD ORAM: THREE CITIES –**

### **SEEKING HOPE IN THE ANTHROPOCENE**

**Thursday, 30 May 2019 - 7:30pm at St Lukes**

Rod Oram talks about his travels to London, Chicago and Beijing to get a sense of what is being done about our environment and protecting our planet. He meets some of the pioneers who are seeking new values, systems and technologies and reports on their setbacks and progress. Rod Oram is a columnist for the Sunday Star-Times; a regular broadcaster on radio and television; and a frequent public speaker on sustainability, business, economics, innovation, creativity and entrepreneurship.

**Cost: \$10**



## **UPDATE FROM PARISH COUNCIL**

At the May meeting of Parish Council we :

- Spent time on pastoral matters
- Had a visit from Rev Paul Fransham of Hibiscus Coast Presbyterian Church who outlined this year's joint project to assist the Vanuatu Presbyterian Church . This will involve renovating flats for vulnerable families in Port Vila. Following the visit Parish Council decided on a donation of \$5,000 towards this joint project (HBC and Albany are also contributing) . Ian Watson has agreed to serve on the Planning Committee for future joint projects.
- Made decisions on the coming (9 June) joint worship service with Yedarm Church who use our facilities. The time for the Service has been set at 11am for this one occasion . This is a compromise between our normal time of 10am and theirs of 1230. After the service there will be a shared lunch . This will be a great opportunity to meet and share with our Korean friends.
- Consequent to the above our Communion Service will be held on 2 June rather than 9 June
- Agreed to the Minister's leave (9-23 July) and to his participation in the Cook Islands Students Association Annual Conference and gathering which is being held in Dunedin 28- 31 August.
- Decided that with the current satisfactory level of offerings and the heavy use of buildings providing a good level of donations there is no need for a Special Offerings Appeal for this Financial Year
- Confirmed that there will be a considerable number of our congregation attending the Indian Cultural Event on Saturday 29 June. This is to be further advertised to the congregation with a list in the foyer to get a reasonable assessment of numbers for catering purposes.
- Agreed that with the coming (next year) referendum on freeing up Cannabis availability it would be beneficial if we could identify the facts from the assumptions and unsubstantiated information that is available. Karel has agreed to work through this for further consideration.
- Suggested that the Church and Community Committee consider organising a series of sessions covering an understanding of the key beliefs of other faiths including Islam, Hinduism and Buddhism.

Stewart Milne

## **FAMILY GAMES EVENINGS**

To be held on the **first Friday of every month**

**June 7, 6:30-8pm**

All ages welcome

## **Joint Service With Yedarm Congregation**

**June 9, 11am**

The service will involve some changes to our usual patterns:

Beginning at 11 am (a compromise between the two service times)

The collections will be collected at the door on entry to church and the two congregations will be collected in separate containers.

The service will be conducted in a mixture of Korean and English with translations

After the service there will be a shared lunch – bring a plate - details to follow.

The Yedarm band will contribute to the worship

Come and meet our wider church family .

## **Indian Cultural Event**

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June 5pm onwards**

This is your opportunity be part of an Indian themed family event. If you have Indian dress wear it and come and watch Indian dance and listen to Indian music. There is also a free meal but we do need numbers for catering purposes so please sign the list on the clip board at the back of the church. All are welcome so bring friends and family.

## **MATTHEW FOX IN AUCKLAND**

Creation Spirituality: Reawakening Mysticism, Protecting Mother Earth

Thursday 4th July, 7.30pm, Holy Trinity Cathedral, Parnell

Friday 5th July, 7.30pm, St David's Presbyterian Church, Khyber Pass.

Saturday 6th July, 2pm, St Luke's Presbyterian Church, 130 Remuera Road.

Saturday 6th July, 7.30pm, St Luke's Presbyterian Church, 130 Remuera Road.

Sunday 7th July, 9.30am, Preaching at St Luke's Presbyterian Church, 130 Remuera Road.

Cost for lectures: \$10 each, or \$30 for all four.

Registration: email [pamela@stlukes.org.nz](mailto:pamela@stlukes.org.nz) to specify which lecture(s) you are interested in.

## **Communion Service June 2**

The usual communion service (second of the month) has been swapped to accommodate the Joint service with Yedarm so is on

## **ROAST MEAL – MONTROSE 21 JULY 2019.**

We will be having our annual roast lunch on **Sunday, 21 July 2019 at 12.00 noon** at Montrose Café in the Mairangi Bay Village, so please put this date in your calendar.

The cost will be:

Small size meal	\$15
Medium size meal	\$18
Large size meal	\$21

There will be an additional cost for dessert, drinks and coffee/tea.

Please contact Dorille on 479 3953 before Wednesday, 17 July 2019 so that she can confirm numbers with Montrose. Come and enjoy a fun time of fellowship. Let's see if we can beat last year's number of 34 people!!

## **Church Giving**

There are a number of ways people contribute financially to support the running of the church and our ministries to the wider community:

- Cash or cheque donations into the Sunday plate
- Regular giving through the Envelope system. We will soon be preparing numbered offering envelopes for July – December 2019.

If you would like to be added to the system for income tax donation purposes **contact Norma Baker on 443 3108 before June 23**. If you have spare envelopes you can use them and just change the date. Please let Norma know if you have plenty so we don't print more for you.

- The Automatic Payment system. This is particularly good for busy people and can be used for intermittent or regular donations. The account number of the church is **03 0180 0052341 02**.
  - Contact Norma to set this up.

Receipts are issued annually for regular giving and can be used for tax deductions.

## CALENDAR OF PARISH EVENTS FOR 2019

EVENT	TIME	PLACE	FREQUENCY	CONTACT
Youth and children	10am Church	Mairangi Bay	Sundays	Pauline Gulliver <b>021 0244 9616</b>
Girls Brigade	6.30pm - 8.00pm	Mairangi Bay Church Hall	Every Tuesday in school term	Kay Barbour <b>478-7603</b>
Parish Council	7.30pm	Mairangi Bay Church Lounge	3rd Tuesday of the month	Stewart Milne <b>478 5786</b>
Born Again Bodies	1 - 2.00pm Church Hall	Mairangi Bay	Every Wednesday	Gary Syme <b>479 2212</b>
English Conversations	1 - 2.30pm	Mairangi Bay	Every Wednesday Meeting Room 2.	Stewart Milne <b>478 5786</b>
Ladies Home Group	10.15 am	10A Newhaven Tce Mairangi Bay	Wednesdays	Heather Gibson <b>479 8822</b>
Luncheon Group	12.00 noon	Mairangi Bay Church Hall	2nd Thursday of the month	Raewyn Henderson <b>410 4423</b>
Church Choir	7.15pm	Mairangi Bay Church	Thursdays leading up to special services	Norma Baker <b>443 3108</b>
Dees Social Club	10am -2.00pm	Mairangi Church lounge	Every Thursday	Margaret Pont <b>021 670 019</b>
House Group		22A Hastings Rd	TBA	Dorille Shadbolt <b>479-3953</b>
Friday Night Discussion Group	6.30pm	To be Advised	3rd Friday of the month	Karel Lorier <b>414 6321</b>
Mainly Music	10.00-11a m	Mairangi Bay Church Lounge	Every Friday in school term	Tangi Joseph <b>0226573223</b>
Transportation	Arranged as required and as requested			Norma Baker <b>443 3108</b>
Activities Mornings, Board and Card Games	10am-12noon	Mairangi Bay Church Hall	1st & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues	Margaret Pont <b>021 679019</b>
Young Mums Group	7.15pm	10A Newhaven Tce, 2nd Thurs Mairangi Bay		Heather Gibson <b>0274999808</b>