



Mairangi & Castor Bays Presbyterian Church

NEWSLETTER

August 2016

Minister: Rev Karel Lorier

***Your invitation to the Open Day 6th August and Dedication
7th August is inside***



***And it's from the old I travel to the new;
keep me travelling along with you.***

Sydney Carter

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Minister:

Rev Karel Lorier

Mobile 021 903 762

Telephone 414 6321

E-mail: karellorier@gmail.com

Administrator:

Jo Wyman-Macer

Office Hours:

Wednesday : via phone and email

Thursday - Friday: 9am - 1pm

Telephone: 478 6180.

Email: preschurch.mairangi@xtra.co.nz

Street Address: 10 Penzance Rd,
Mairangi Bay.

Postal Address: PO Box 65299,
Mairangi Bay.

Website: www.bayspresbyterian.org.nz

Parish Clerk:

Stewart Milne

Telephone: 478 5786.

Property & Finance:

George Wyman

Telephone: 478 6411.

Social Worker

for the Elderly:

Melinda Gama

Mobile: 027 308 5015.

Youth Intern:

Josh Dunne

Mobile: 021 08 334478

E-mail: jdonovandunne@gmail.com

SUNDAY SERVICE: 10am

WEDNESDAY COMMUNION: 10.30-11.30am

Coffee together followed by Communion

PARISH ACTIVITIES IN AUGUST

- GIRLS' BRIGADE**
Tuesdays during School term. Church Hall 6.30-8pm.
 Newcomers welcome.
Kay Barbour Ph 478 7603
- GARY SYME'S BORN AGAIN BODIES**
Wednesdays 1.00-2.00pm Mairangi Bay Church Hall.
 Simple exercises to strengthen muscles and bone density.
Gary Syme Ph 479 2212
- LUNCHEON GROUP**
Thursday August 11 at 12pm bring your own lunch with
 entertainment supplied by the Pearlies
Raewyn Henderson Ph 410 4423.
- HOUSE GROUP**
Wednesdays 7.30pm at the Shadbolts.
 We are looking at "Hope." All welcome.
Contact Dorille Ph 479 3953.
- FRIDAY NIGHT DISCUSSION GROUP**
6.30pm every 3rd Friday of the month.
 For further information
Jenni & Allan Jones Ph 478 5694.
- DEE'S SOCIAL GROUP**
Thursdays 10am Mairangi Bay Church Hall
 For further information
Stewart Milne Ph 478 5786.
- MAINLY MUSIC**
Fridays 10-11am during the school term. Mairangi Bay Church Hall
 Pre-schooler music and movement. All members of the community are welcome. No waiting list.
Pauline Gulliver Ph 478 4051
- TGIF - Friday Nights**
Starting 29th July. 6pm start in the Hall
 Games, meal & chat
 All ages welcome.



FROM THE MINISTER

Dear Friends

We are building up to the excitement of sharing the opening of the refurbished church and new building with the congregation and surrounding community. Much planning, fund raising and decision making has gone into this project by a large number of people. There will be many people to thank at the opening functions.

However, as I reminded the children at the service, the church is the people, an assembly of people following the way of Jesus. We are called, as the Christian mystic C.S. Lewis put it to be “Little Christs” bringing love and healing to all the people we contact. We will have a splendid family home for this church family in which to welcome and provide hospitality to others. The buildings will be dedicated by the Moderator of the PCANZ, The Rt Rev Andrew Norton. We offer a warm welcome. A number of people have remarked how cosy the church is on a cold winter’s day with the new heat pumps going.



Now it is up to us to use the buildings and resources well.



We were all shocked with the death, after a brief illness, of Olwyn Barbour.

Many of us knew she spent a great deal of time serving the church in caring for people in many ways. We were staggered when Raewyn Henderson read out at Olwyn's funeral just how many tasks she was doing. Someone else remarked we will need ten pairs of hands to carry the load Olwyn was carrying. She will be greatly missed. We particularly think of Kay, Bruce and David and their family at this time.



It was wonderful the way church members supported everyone else over the time of Olwyn's funeral. We managed with the assistance of the Girls' Brigade, to welcome a large crowd estimated by a number of people to be between 200 to 250 people. Thanks to all who made a special effort.



Please let me know if you require a visit or know of someone who is sick and housebound who needs a visit. One of the marks of a Christian community is that we care for one another as well as for the surrounding community and others who are in need.

Karel Lorier

UPDATE FROM PARISH COUNCIL

At the July meeting of parish Council we :

- Spent time on pastoral matters. We are still grieving over Olwyn's death and are marvelling over what she achieved. During and following the constitution of our meeting many tributes were made. She will be sorely missed. Her spirit lives on.
- Received feedback from Karel who attended a meeting of North Shore Presbyterian Ministers which was convened by Presbytery to consider the future configuration of the Presbyterian Church on the Shore. In April there will be 5 vacancies in parishes. Many suggestions have been floated and a further meeting is planned for 9 August.
- Agreed on a revised budget to be recommended to the AGM which is to be held on 28 August
- Noted that the Hardie family have moved out of the manse and agreed that it be leased on a short term basis.
- Noted that the appeal for additional items associated with the development project has now reached \$33k and that it will be closed off after the Open Day on 6 August and the Dedication Service on 7 August.
- Received advice from Pauline that the Quiz Night will be proceeding at 4:45pm on the evening of Sunday 28 August and agreed that the proceeds will go towards the Vanuatu rebuilding project
- Were advised that the Certificate of Practical Completion for the development has been issued although there is still a list of items to be finished off
- Set the date for the next mid week communion service followed by lunch for those folks who have difficulty getting along to church on a Sunday morning
- Agreed to the development of a children's play area by the back fence above the courtyard. The Property and Finance Committee is to be satisfied over costs and a grant is being sought for a piece of equipment.

Stewart Milne



Photo from Lifewise web site

Rev John MacDonald, Superintendent of the **Lifewise** organisation will be coming to speak at our Sunday service on 4th September

Here is a list of their needs from their web site, If you can help talk to John on Sunday or bring your contribution.

WANTED LIST

We have an urgent need for the following:

- Beds, in good condition
- Blankets
- Men & women's clothing and shoes
- Warm winter clothing, including mittens, hats and socks
- Fridges
- Washing machines

KAREL LORIER'S REFLECTIONS

Jesus as Mentor

A mentor is defined as “a person who gives a younger or less experienced person help and advice over period of time.” Recently I have read two books, both from the conservative evangelical tradition of Christianity, which deal with this idea. N.T.Wright's book, “How God became King; the forgotten stories of the Gospels” and Ray Hollenbach's book “The impossible Mentor: finding courage to follow Jesus,” raise the same important question “What does it mean to accept Jesus?”

Popularly, Christianity has become understood to be almost exclusively concerned with personal salvation. This focus has been on what is one interpretation of Paul's letters while ignoring others. The emphasis on salvation has been at the cost of ignoring the teaching of Jesus as told in the four gospels and particularly in the first three - Matthew, Mark and Luke.

Wright uses a good metaphor. He writes of having a surround speaker system that has not been correctly tuned. One of the speakers is extraordinarily loud, while the others are inaudible. The speaker that is loud is the one of salvation – personal salvation in the evangelical tradition. This is the one we will find proclaimed in tracts in our letter box or hand outs at the supermarket and from many pulpits. Many of our well known hymns reflect this point of view

Not only is this a misunderstanding of the meaning of Jesus, but it ignores his teaching of love and the way he lived his life. Jesus central teaching of the Kingdom of God is ignored, or postponed to sometime in the future, or to a future life. Both authors within their evangelical tradition make an effort to correct this by showing that Jesus expected his followers to live a different life style – that of the Kingdom of God, or ‘God's sphere of influence’.

My point of view is somewhat different from these authors. Their Biblical literalism sidesteps current scholarship, but I agree with them that greater emphasis needs to be placed on Jesus' teaching. His challenging teaching questioned both the religion of his time and the might of the Roman Empire. This led to him being crucified. For Jesus, love and human need were paramount and trumped religious laws and customs.

Jesus as a moral example to be followed, was a major emphasis in the Christian faith until the reformation, and is still the norm in some strands of Christianity.

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Diverse in faith: together in love

Open Day Saturday 6th August

09:30 and 12 noon and 2pm to 4pm

Dedication Sunday 7th August

Sunday Service 10am

MAIRANGI & CASTOR BAYS
PRESBYTERIAN PARISH

Minister: Rev Karel Lorier Ph. 414 6321 or 021903762 **Postal Address:** PO Box 65-299, Mairangi Bay AK 0754
Manse: 6 Clemow's Lane Albany Auckland 0632 **Office:** Vehicle access 10 Penzance Road Ph. 478-6180
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July 2016

Greetings,

Open Day and Dedication of our Refurbished and Extended Church

The development of our church site (buildings and grounds) which was started last October has reached the stage where it is an appropriate time to celebrate and mark the occasion with an Open Day on Saturday 6 August and a Service of Dedication on Sunday 7 August.

The Open Day on the Saturday (between 09:30 and 12 noon and 2pm to 4pm) will provide the opportunity to view the premises and see to see some of the activities we are involved with. An invitation is also going out to community groups to join us for the Open Day and/or the Sunday Service.

The Sunday Service of Dedication for the refurbished and strengthened Chapel will be led by the Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in New Zealand the Right Reverend Andrew Norton.

These are important occasions and we do hope you can join us for one or both of them.

Yours sincerely,



Reverend Karel Lorier
(Minister)



Stewart Milne
(Parish Clerk)

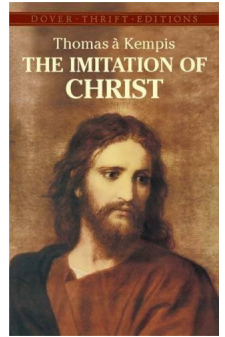
Diverse in faith: together in love



Diverse in faith: together in love

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There were a number of books written to assist people to accept Jesus as a mentor; the most well known is by Thomas à Kempis, "[The Imitation of Christ](#)," a book of devotion. This book was written for those living a monastic life; it is an inward journey rather than world facing. Despite that it is still well worth reading for its insights. However, it does not reflect the fact that Jesus was engaged with the issues of the world of his day - to use current jargon he was "community facing" or "world facing."



Jesus' major teaching was about the kingdom of God – the domain of God or sphere of God's reign in which love ruled paramount (including love for one's enemies). Enormous courage was required to teach and live this in a country occupied by the Romans. It was a political hotbed of conflicting parties, religious zealots and unbending Roman rule.

Jesus resisted both the power of the empire and dehumanising religion, with the power of love. He taught in parables and short pithy saying that puzzled and challenged his audience. They still challenge us today.

Jesus is our mentor on living life in the kingdom of God. Such a life resists non-violently all those things which dehumanise our world. To be his follower we need to live a life in which love for God and neighbour are closely intertwined. As Jesus showed in his parable of the Good Samaritan our neighbour could be someone who is our hated enemy and may not even welcome our love and help.

The title of the book, "The impossible Mentor; finding courage to follow Jesus," sums it up. Following Jesus and loving like him is impossible. There is always more we could do to love and live like Jesus. We find ourselves getting in the way of loving others. We find ourselves caught up in systems which are unjust and dehumanizing. The challenge is to resist those systems without compromising Jesus' way of love.

We can however be encouraged by our mentor, Jesus, when he says :

"Come to me all of you who are tired of carrying heavy loads, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke and put it on you, and learn from me, because I am gentle and humble in spirit, and you will find rest, for the yoke I will give you is easy, and the load I will put on you is light." Matthew 11:28-30

Karel Lorier

ACTIVITIES WITH CHILDREN OVER THE YEAR

MAINLY MUSIC this year has been fantastic. We have had a wonderful group of helpers in Olwyn, Kay, Raewyn, Norma, Karen and Jennie. George has been a recent member of our team and we are enormously grateful for him. Both the team and the mums will miss Olwyn terribly. She was a stalwart!

With a constant group of around 8 families attending, we have frequent visitors, some of whom become regular attendees while others drop in periodically.

While the loss of access to a set of children's music appeared to be a significant challenge at the beginning of the year, it has encouraged us to expand our repertoire and embrace Te Reo more substantively in our more recent music choices.

Mainly Music provides a wonderful opportunity for us to engage with the wider community. It brightens my week every week, and I am really grateful for the fellowship opportunities provided through it.

Pauline Gulliver

SCHOOL AIDING When we were working on our first mission (strategic) plan back in 2009 we asked speakers in to bring us up to date on what was going on and what the needs were in the community. That was when the Principal of the Mairangi Bay Primary school brought us up to date with issues facing the primary school sector and the need for volunteers as teacher's aides. We started off with 6 from our parish and the numbers have fluctuated since then but some of us have stayed on and found it most rewarding. From the school's point of view they are fulsome in their appreciation.

Altogether this is a community links activity which is recommended. Anyone willing to give it a go should contact Colin Nicholas on 478780. Colin is the school liaison person from our parish. He is one of the original "aiders" and is still going.

Stewart Milne

GIRLS' BRIGADE have had another good year in Girls' Brigade this year. Twelve girls are attending regularly. Three girls left during the year for family reasons. There are 3 Pioneers, 4 Seniors and 5 Juniors. The girls have enjoyed following a programme of subjects chosen by their groups. In June at a North Shore Church Parade Emma Smith and Catherine Horgan were commissioned as leaders.

In May, Amy became a mother to a baby son named Ashton.

Three girls are planning to attend a national camp called a Fono marae in January of 2017.

My thanks go to the leaders for the commitment and enthusiasm they have shown the girls. The girls enjoy being led by the three young officers.

Kay Barbour

**TGIF - FRIDAY NIGHT
ALL AGE GET TOGETHER**

6pm-8.30

Church Hall - during the school term

This is planned as an experiment to reach out to families in the area. It is not only for children and youth but for anyone who would like to drop in for a chat, some board games or table tennis etc.

We will order in takeaways for those present and the evening would be

All are welcome.

Starts 29 July.

CHURCH AND COMMUNITY

Annual reports

LUNCHEON GROUP It has been another successful year for the Luncheon Group. An average of 40 –45 attend each month and great fellowship and varied entertainment are enjoyed by all, especially our Midwinter and Christmas shared lunches. Our numbers included the Dees Group and Oronga Home visitors. Age and illness have prevented our regulars from attending at times and we have room for new members.

We have celebrated some 90th birthdays but sadly lost our highly esteemed member Rae Rankin and we miss his great sense of humour. We have also now sadly lost Olwyn our wonderful worker from the Luncheon Group and the Committee.

We'd like to thank Peter, Ross, Albert and other fit men for their help in setting up and clearing the hall, as well as the volunteers from Dees Group who help on a regular basis. We couldn't cope without them. We'd also like to thank Truus for her great music contribution each month.

With contributions for the trading table and the attendance fee we have continued to make a healthy profit despite increased fees in some instances for the entertainers.

Thanks to the committee members, Yoshiko, Jill, Olwyn, Carole, Anne and Elaine who do so much to make this a very enjoyable activity in our church.

Raewyn Henderson

DEE'S SOCIAL GROUP Dee's is a social group that began back in 2009 as a partnership between the Mairangi and Castor Bays Presbyterian Church and Enliven which is a Presbyterian Support Northern (PSN) Service for the elderly. Our church provides the facilities and the volunteers and PSN employs a Co-Ordinator. We gratefully acknowledge grants from the North Shore Presbyterian Hospital Trust which helps towards meeting expenses. Dee's Social Group provides a fun, friendly and stimulating environment for those with early to mid stage dementia who are living at home. A secondary purpose is to provide some respite for caregivers.

Members and the church volunteers meet each Thursday from 10am to 2pm for social engagement participating in a program of light exercise, games, chat, music and singing.

A further Dees Group started up at St Georges Church in Takapuna and Margaret Pont (the PSN Co-Ordinator) also runs that group. Margaret does a wonderful job and has become a favourite of the Dees Members and the Volunteers. This is another church activity where Olwyn Barbour will be sadly missed. Olwyn was a volunteer at both the Mairangi and Takapuna Dees Groups as well as providing transport for some.

The maximum number of Dees members has been set at 12. We currently have the capacity to have another 3 members join and would also welcome more volunteers

Stewart Milne

FOODBANK Presbyterian Support Northern (PSN) has many service divisions. The one which interfaces with families who are experiencing major problems is called Family Works. Family Works has a foodbank which is sited behind St David's Church in Khyber Pass. This foodbank provides substantial food parcels to families who have been recognised as needing food support by social workers from the main hospitals, Women's Refuge, other social agencies as well as Family Workers from PSN itself. Along with the food goes budgeting advice.

Our parish contributes on average about \$50 worth of food each week – all donated by members. This is delivered to the foodbank which gets donations from some other parishes, the Presbyterian Colleges and various companies (eg Fonterra and Hubbards). During the year our young people also help with stacking shelves and making up parcels.

Another item that we have been providing is knitwear. Olwyn Barbour has been responsible for producing a lot of this and also bringing together knitted garments (beanies, jerseys and other garments) knitted by others. All are distributed by family workers to those in need. With Olwyn's death who will take on this task ?

In addition at Christmas time we make a special feature of seeking donations of treats as well as basics and Christmas wrapping them together with greetings as gifts. We usually manage about 60 large Christmas parcels.

The foodbank is another valuable community service link that we have in conjunction with PSN.

Stewart Milne

BORN AGAIN BODIES (BABS)

What a great time for a Born Again Bodies report. This week we had 21 people at our exercise group at Mairangi Bay. That's a record. A number are parishioners, but the majority are not.

There are now 7 community groups and 4 Retirement Village groups, with two new groups this year in Orewa with big numbers of participants.

Gary Syme

MISSION BIRTHDAY GIFTS AND MISSION BOXES

The numbers of people who are participating in these two activities has reduced and we welcome newcomers to both activities which provide funds for global mission through the PCANZ.

Jean Allan

FRIDAY NIGHT DISCUSSION GROUP The discussion group has met most months of the year and has circulated around the homes of the participants who range in number between 12 and 20. The group includes people from Mairangi and St Georges as well as others from the community. The shared meal provides a great opportunity to enjoy each others' company and is followed by robust discussion on a range of philosophical and current affairs articles which have been circulated beforehand. Thanks go to Allan and Jenni Jones for arranging the selection and circulation of the articles.

Erica Brash

Reminder Choir members :

We will be having 2 short choir rehearsals on **Thursdays July 28 and August 4 at 7.15 pm** to prepare an anthem for the official opening of the “new” church building

Favourite hymns Sunday August 21

If you have a favourite hymn you would like us to sing write a note giving :

- Your name and phone number
- Your favourite hymn
- Preferred verses (2 only)
- Optional brief comment



Put your request in the box in the foyer before Sunday 14 -earlier if possible to give Patricia time to do research !

OPEN DAY AND DEDICATION OF THE BUILDING

Open Day Saturday 6 August 9am-12 and 2-4pm

Dedication of building by the Moderator Sunday 7 August 10am

All are welcome to both events. Please invite family, friends and anyone you know who has any history with Mairangi/Castor Bays church or who may be interested in looking round the building.

Let's make a special effort to greet and be welcoming to our Visitors

On Saturday, some Mairangi/Castor Bay parishioners will show visitors around. The Fellowship Committee is making Devonshire teas available for a gold coin donation.

On Sunday, the congregation will include people with past connections to the church, some of the Korean congregation as well as community members. It will be followed by a light finger food lunch.

Please contact Raewyn, Sue or Bronwyn with any offers of help

In support of VANUATU rebuild



Mairangi Castor Bay Presbyterian Church QUIZ NIGHT

August 28, teams to arrive 4:45pm for 5pm start

\$10 per person

Teams of 4-6 people

Please pre-enter teams by contacting:

Pauline Gulliver

(pgulliver@vodafone.co.nz, 02102449616)

BYO drink and nibbles

Gold coin raffles and spot prizes

QUIZ NIGHT IN AID OF VANUATU

Outing to Auckland Botanic Gardens Sunday 11th September

Come and join us for lunch and a walk around the gardens at
Manurewa.

The rhodos, magnolias and azaleas will be at their Spring best.
There's a lovely café onsite where we'll have lunch on arrival.

We'll carpool from church after the service and a cuppa, about
11.45am, returning about 3.30pm.

Postponement date will be the following Sunday 18th – we'll make a
decision at church on 11th.

If you would like a lift, please call
Glennis French on 4101.464, or 021 0757555.

CALENDAR OF PARISH EVENTS FOR 2016

EVENT	TIME	PLACE	FREQUENCY	CONTACT
Youth	10am-12pm	Mairangi Bay Church	Sundays	Josh Dunne 021 08 334478
TGIF evening	6.00-8.30pm	Mairangi Bay Church Hall	Fridays starts 29 July	Karel Lorier 414 6321
Born Again Bodies	1.00—2.00pm	Mairangi Bay Church Hall	Every Wednesday	Gary Syme 479 2212
Church Choir	7.15pm	Mairangi Bay Church	2 Thursdays in lead up to Dedications	Patricia Campbell 476 0377
Dees Social Club	10.00am	Mairangi Church lounge	10.00am-2.00pm Every Thursday	Stewart Milne 478 5786
Fellowship Group	To be advised	To be advised	To be advised	Dorille Shadbolt 479 3953
Friday Night Discussion Group	6.30pm	To be Advised	3rd Friday of the month	Jenni & Allan Jones 478-5694
Girls Brigade	6.30pm - 8.00pm	Mairangi Bay Church Hall	Every Tuesday in school term	Kay Barbour 478-7603
House Group	7.30pm	22A Hastings Rd	Every Wednesday	Dorille Shadbolt 479-3953
Luncheon Group	12.00 noon	Mairangi Bay Church Hall	2nd Thursday of the month	Raewyn Henderson 410 4423
Mainly Music	10.00am-11am	Mairangi Bay Church Hall	Every Friday in school term	Pauline Gulliver 478 4051
Parish Council	7.30pm	Mairangi Bay Church Lounge	3rd Tuesday of the month	Stewart Milne 478 5786
Transportation	Arranged as required and as requested			Norma Baker 443 3108