

SIGNPOST AUGUST 2020 Gisborne Presbyterian Parish

www.standrewsgis.org.nz

Minister

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MESSAGE FROM OUR **MINISTER**

Dear friends in Christ



Recently I was contacted by a family who had a dying mother, who wished to have her funeral at St Andrew's church. It was Friday, and I was busy with the preparation for the Sunday service. It was raining hard and I had two meetings to attend that afternoon. But I felt that there was an urgency, so I responded to the call. I wrapped up everything that I was doing and went to see the dying mother. The family members were already gathering at her place. When I saw her, she smiled at me and wished to say something. I could barely hear her voice, as she was trying to say that St. Andrew's used to be her grandmother's church. Yet she remembered the church quite well. I was deeply moved by her when I heard that she wanted to resume her faith in Christ by coming to the church. But her wish hasn't been realised by the COVID 19 lockdown. I prayed for her and her family, and promised her to come again the next day. But she passed away that night.

The family told me later that she was in great peace and comforted by the readings from scripture during the last part of her life. It has made me feel not only humbled but very

thankful as we are working as the hands and feet of God through Christ Jesus, whom we always depend on. Everything - small or big, we do in the name of Christ is used to be built into the one spiritual house of God.

May God bless you and keep you from any harm including flu and colds and many more. Shalom!

Jin Sook

WEEKLY PARISH EVENTS TO WHICH ALL ARE WELCOME

WALKING

GROUP - meets at the community hall 9 am every Monday





to enjoy a leisurely walk around town. Everyone, any age is invited to join the group and to enjoy a cuppa together afterwards in the lounge.

OPEN DOOR

is our Parish weekly get together on Tuesday mornings from 10am in St Andrew's Lounge for a cuppa, friendship and chat please come and join us!

PASTORAL CARE

If you have a pastoral need please phone Rev Jin Sook Kim: 021 02952589

MAINLY MUSIC



Wednesday mornings are a time of organised chaos in the church lounge when pre-school and their

parents & grandparents enjoy a musical time together. There is still room for a few more families if you know someone who would like to come.

MATAWHERO GARDENERS



Members of GPP and friends are weeding, prayer/discussion 2nd Monday each month at 9.30am Matawhero Church. Next date

Monday August 10th.

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR **AUGUST**

August 2 Pentecost 9: Gen 32: 22-31 Ps 17: 1-7, 15 Rom 9: 1-5 Mt 14: 13-21

August 9 * Pentecost 10 Gen 37: 1-4, 12-28

Ps 105: 1-6, 16-22, Rom 10: 5-15 Mt 14: 22-33 **August 16** * Pentecost 11 Gen 45: 1-15

Ps 133 Rom 11: 1-2a, 29-32 Mt 15: (10-20), Mt 15: 21-28

August 23 * Pentecost 12 Ex 1: 8-2: 10 Ps 124 Rom 12: 1-8 Mt 16: 13-20

August 30 Pentecost 13 Ex 3: 1-15

Ps 105: 1-6, 23-26, Rom 12: 9-21 Mt 16: 21-28



HOLY COMMUNION

Iin Sook Kim would like to offer the elements of Communion after a Sunday Communion Service in your home, for those who are unable to attend church that day.



TREASURE HUNT - URGENT!

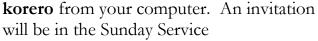
Please look for some picture books or short stories for children, using the weekly Lectionary



readings, which might go well with the appropriate bible passages. These stories will then be used for Sunday services and prayer.

ZOOM KORERO ON FRIDAYS

Join in the fun every Friday at 10.30 am for **ZOOM**





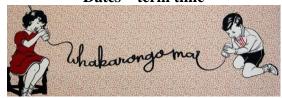
A Celebration Service will be held for the 40TH LICENSING ANNIVERSARY OF REV DR CLIVE YATES on 27 September 2020. The national church Moderator Right Reverend Fakaofo Kaio will preach a sermon during the service.

WHAKARONGO (Listent) and Fellowship

Combining Drawing for Spirituality and bible study. Thursdays from 5.30pm.

Registration on clipboard in church foyer for Term 3. If there are any changes (e.g time and dates, it will be notified before Term 4)

Dates - term time



Thurs 06 August 5.30pm Matawhero lounge Thurs 13 August 5.30pm St Andrew's lounge Thurs 27 August 5.30pm St Andrew's lounge Thurs 03 Sept 5.30pm Matawhero lounge Thurs 10 Sept 5.30pm St Andrew's lounge Thurs 24 Sept 5.30pm St Andrew's lounge

Store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal.

Matthew 6:20

Gisborne Presbyterian Parish Assisted by Assisted by Marjorie Redstone Trust, J.N. Williams Memorial Trust.

H.B. Williams Turanga Trust proudly presents as part of the St Andrew's Concert Series

Gisborne Concert Band

conducted by Matthew Lee

Saturday 15 August 2.00 pm

St Andrews Presbyterian Church, Cobden Street Koha entry, tea & coffee provided

SUNDAY 23 AUGUST AT 2.00 PM

<u>Choral Capers concert</u> – led by Gavin Maclean.

Can you Handel it? The Gisborne Choral Society's upcoming concert promises a Handel sandwich with a meaty middle of Mozart-sprinkled tasty surprises (Handel is said to be noted for his appetite). Organist Sean provide some Scanlen will A new vocal quartet of accompaniment. Catherine Macdonald, Maddy Jones, Mary-Jane Richmond and Coralie Hunter, with a bracket of pre-classical and romantic items. There will be lots of well-known pieces and a song or two to sing along to. All followed by afternoon tea in the hall.

AN ORDINARY WOMAN'S JOURNEY THROUGH FAITH

I guess like most people of my generation, my childhood was very much the same. My parents were both brought up in the church, but by the time me and my siblings came along they weren't "Church goers" We were all however baptised, and from there I did the usual, Sunday school, Church, Youth Groups, Easter Camps, just the usual things. In all this time we were told what to believe, and in fact did believe, just a simple faith with no questions asked, and I guess there is no harm in that. I now call it a Sunday School Faith.

I didn't actually join the Church (confirmation) until I was 21 and about to be married. So, from the farmlands of the Waikato, I moved to Gisborne and thus to St. Andrews, my first experience of a big city Church, and it was indeed big with people when I came, as it was still the thing to do on a Sunday, to go to church, and along came a lot of newlyweds and then babies.

The minister who was here when I first arrived was Kingsley Fairburn, he moved on a couple of years after I came to Gisborne. Ever since I became a member of St. Andrews congregation, I have been made very welcome and was brought in to be part of a very special family. It is a family with a big heart and no matter where you are on your Faith Journey, your opinions are listened to with respect even if you are at distant places.

Ian Dixon became our minister after Kingsley and that is when my real faith journey began. He was truly inspirational. He taught us to delve, listen, and question. It was during Ken Walls tenure that our Wellspring group began. It has been a real blessing and for me a leap into Spiritual Growth. We have studied the Mystics of generations ago. Many teachings on Wisdom

(Sophia: the feminine God: Jesus) to question, and above all to learn.

We have had a parade of ministers since, some good, some not so good, and some truly inspirational, but no matter what they were I could always learn something. I have come to know that I am a contemplative. Meditation brings me to a quiet place, where I can dwell on that sacred place within me. I am of course still in a "Cloud of Unknowing" but that is okay. Fellowship has always been a part of the mission of St. Andrews and when able, I have always joined in and felt at home. As I moved deeper into my sacred space, several of us realised how important Prayer was in the life of our congregation. It was when John Franklin was our minister that we set up our prayer link, it has now been going for many years, and will I'm sure continue long after those of us have long gone, it is so important to the life of our Church Family

Over the years some not very nice things have happened to me (as I'm sure other people have experienced) I know that I am not alone on that score and have done my share of shouting at God. But what I have learned is that it's not what happened, it's how you deal with it that counts. For me, God is ultimate **LOVE** that passes all understanding, and I find myself at peace, mostly I have been able to let go and let GOD handle it.

My Journey goes on, new things to learn, new blessings to receive, and above all finding GOD in the people I meet, and in our ordinary everyday lives. As I have become much older, I am learning that it is okay to be vulnerable and to be gracious in accepting help when I need it. It's been a hard lesson for me who has been fiercely independent. So I go on learning.....

Gwenda Crawshaw

KORERO ME KAI (CONVERSATION WITH FOOD)



KAI & KORERO Sharing food and conversation is an important part of our lives. The idea of korero with kai was

first raised by Jin Sook as a means of involving the congregation in sharing a meal together and discussing topics of interest. During Covid-19 lockdown this idea could not be attempted.

Over the Covid period we asked the agencies working from the hall if there would be anyone who would benefit from receiving a meal, we received one referral and started providing three meals per week to this person who was living alone. The meals were very much appreciated but it raised some questions about what more could we offer that would involve some skill sharing, teaching, cooking ideas, food preparation and eating together.

Parish Council has supported the idea that Gisborne Presbyterian Parish look at reaching out to our own parishioners and the wider community to offer food and conversation once weekly. It has also been discussed with some of the groups using our Hall space as we thought this would be a good place to start. The plan is to invite people who are part of these groups along with those who use the grounds around St Andrews to come and share a meal with us.

As a starting place we will invite parishioners who would like to support this project and agencies working from the hall to come to a korero me kai on **Monday the 3 August at 12:00**. This will enable us all to share food and talk about how we see this project will work. We will provide simple fare such as soup and bread and this will be the intent for all meals.

The people we wish to focus on will be those who live alone, have a disability and are keen to participate in a shared meal and conversation. There will be no charge for these lunches but a koha will be accepted if people wish to contribute. It is hoped those who attend will in time assist in all stages of a meal.

It is possible the other groups using the hall may well assist in leading these korero with kai sessions.

We will open and close with a prayer or blessing and will also include a 5 min gospel message. A topic for discussion will be introduced and might be led by a diverse range of people. This project could develop in any way depending on what the group may wish. The important part is that we have members of GPP present and participating in korero me kai

We will need volunteers, help and support in getting this project up and running so please consider what part you might be able to play. If you would like to come along to the korero me kai discussion on 3 August please do so, just let Liz know so we can have an idea of numbers. Any ideas or questions you might have please contact me and have a chat.

The korero me kai will start officially on Monday the <u>10 August at 12:00</u> so if you or others you know might enjoy such a gathering please come.

Jan Ewart 8627505/0273481434 email: ewartjc14@gmail.com



ANNUAL PARISH GARAGE SALE SEPTEMBER 5TH





OVER 80's SPRING FLOWERS

To be dedicated and distributed after Church on SUNDAY 13 SEPTEMBER.

Assistance with assembling of flowers on Saturday 12th 1.30 pm would be a great help, please let Seton Clare 868 5665 or the office know if you can help.

Donations are requested from those under 80 towards costs and can be left with Liz in the office. Or pay online: 03-0638-0462917-00 ref: flowers. Thank you

"Sometimes
the smallest things
take up the most
room in your
HEART"



Winnie the Pooh

Kupu Whakapono (Confession of Faith) of Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand

From this land of Aotearoa New Zealand we confess that we believe in and belong to the one true and living God, who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit, Love before all love.

We believe in God the Father, sovereign and holy,
Creator and nurturer of all,
Father of Jesus Christ,
sender of the Holy Spirit,
and Judge of all the earth.

We believe in God the Son, Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour, truly human and truly divine, who lived among us full of grace and truth. For our sin he was crucified and by the power of God was raised from death, forgiving us, setting us free and bringing to birth God's new creation.

Now ascended, he calls us to repentance and faith and restores us to God and to one another.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit, the giver of life at work in all creation, who inspired the Scriptures and makes Christ known, who transforms hearts and minds and gathers us into the community of Christ, empowering the Church in worship and in mission. We belong to this triune God, women and men, young and old, from many nations, in Christ he iwi kotahi tatou, [we are one people] witnesses to God's love in word and action, servants of reconciliation, and stewards of creation.

As God's people, we look forward in hope and joy to the return of Christ, to the new heaven and earth, where evil and death will be no more, justice and peace will flourish, and we shall forever delight in the glory of God.