

SIGNPOST MAY 2021

Gisborne Presbyterian Parish

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Minister

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MESSAGE FROM OUR MINISTER



A spirituality of mending the old socks

Nowadays, we don't seem to care much about the socks when they have stretched ankles and holes in the sole. Without much thought, we may just chuck them

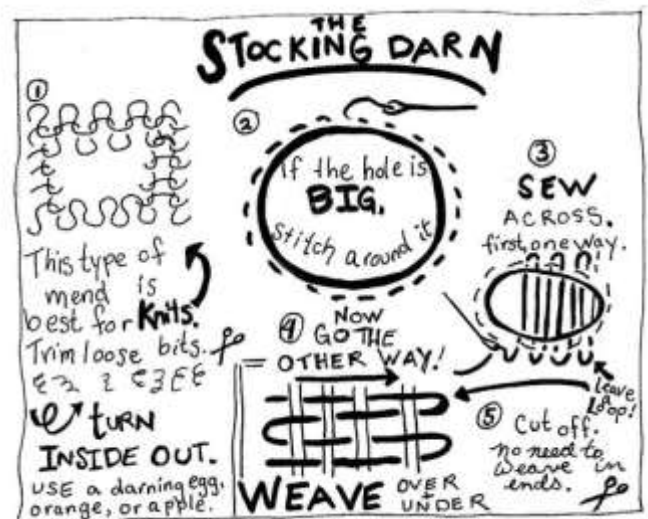
away as socks are cheap and easy to buy.

For me, mending the old socks have been the space for practising spirituality. Whenever any socks become old and have holes and need mending, the first thing I would do is to keep them in a cotton bag safely for the next stage. Sometimes the next step doesn't come easily as it usually means that I feel very low for some reason - it may be caused by bad weather, work, family, people, aging or just me. When I reach that stage, I would take the bag out and have a good look at those socks. In most cases, only one of the pairs may have holes. The other one has to stay with the damaged one until it is mended simply because they are a pair. Next, I choose a thread that is matched with the socks by colour and textures. Even though I don't have a good skill, I may do it successfully as YOUTUBE has been a good teacher.

For mending the hole in the sole, I use an old light bulb. The life of the light bulb is long gone. But the old light bulb is happy to offer its body to be used for

other purposes. While mending, I would focus on each stitch. Watching the hole(s) become smaller gives me pleasure and peace. Mending socks doesn't need rocket science. Yet, it leads you to the next level of spirituality like Easter, where life and death converge in the open tomb. Easter has changed our view on life and death totally. We may die one day physically, but God will raise us to be a new creation where no trace of old life can be found. As long as we live by this wonderful God story, grace, peace, and love will be abundant in our lives. To this, we say amen to that!

(PS – here is one of the patterns for mending socks that I found from the Internet.)



Maybe you would like to try it some time?

Jin Sook Kim

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 10 am 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



mainly music est. 1990

Wednesday mornings are a time of organised chaos in the church lounge when pre-school children and their parents and grandparents enjoy a musical time together. **Cost is \$4 per family.**

MATAWHERO GARDENERS

Members of GPP and friends are weeding, prayer/discussion together on the **3rd Monday** of each month at 9.30am Matawhero Church.



Please note this new date. Next meeting is on **Monday 17th May**. Anyone welcome to come along and help.



ZOOM KORERO ON FRIDAYS

Join in the fun every Friday at 10.30 am for **ZOOM korero** from your computer. A link and passcode number will be sent out with the Order of Service each week.

PLEASE COME AND JOIN OUR CHOIR (and make new friends)

The Choir meets once a week on Friday at 1.00 pm in St Andrew's Church.

'CELEBRATION POT LUCK' SERVICE

is held in the community hall on the 4th



Sunday of the month at 10.30 am. Please invite friends and family also

bring a plate to share or koha if preferred. We are getting together, sharing stories and a meal.



MY FAITH JOURNEY

“And now these three things remain, faith, hope and love, the greatest of these is love”

My faith journey has been shared with many very special people.

I was born in Napier in 1932 to my parents James and Ellen Jackson and I am now in my 90th year. My father was a carpenter and went to Napier to help with the rebuild of the city following the Napier earthquake. We all returned to Gisborne the following year and I have lived here since that time.

I attended St Andrews Church services with my mother, and in my teenage years helped Mr John Waugh to provide Sunday School programmes for the many children who accompanied their parents to the Sunday Church Services.

I remember that in those days, one had to arrive at the church early in order to get a seat.

In 1951, I was married at St Andrews by the Reverend Kingsley Fairbairn. My husband Ken and I purchased land on Aberdeen Road and our house was built there by my father, with help from my husband Ken, his dad George and my grandfather John. The house has been our home for over 70 years.

During 1960, a church was built on land located on the corner of Kowhai and Abbott Streets and I became part of the Te Hapara Parish. The following years were busy at Te Hapara Church, with the congregation watched over by caring faithful ministers and the long serving parish clerk Mr Bill Hudson.

In the year 2000, the Te Hapara church closed its doors for the final time and the congregation returned to the St Andrews Parish, where everyone was made to feel most welcome.

I was asked to take on the role of Parish Clerk at St Andrews along with Jocelyn and Tom Stevens. I also enjoyed helping support many other services the Church made available in the following years, including the “Open Door” gatherings on Tuesday mornings where people meet in fellowship, sharing stories and kindnesses for a few hours.

During the 1980’s I was asked to join the team who started the Palliative Care Terminal Cancer Patient service in Gisborne. Palliative Care, now Hospice Tairāwhiti, was a major part of my life for many years and I feel deeply privileged to have shared the lives of many families in the district.

I consider my time with the service, to be a journey of love and care, with my Christian faith helping to sustain me throughout all those years.

I developed strong bonds of friendship over that time that remain unbroken to this day.

Like everyone, I have experienced great sadness in my life at times. My faith was a great comfort to me in October 1995 when my dear husband Ken passed away. I miss him every day, but like to believe that I notice his spirit echoed in the lives of our family, our grandchildren and great grandchildren.

“Now thank we all our God, with hearts and hands and voices, who wondrous things has done, in whom his world rejoices...”

Shirley Robertson

OVER 90'S MORNING TEA

This enjoyable function was held in the church lounge on Saturday morning 27th March. Thanks go to the Sunshine Bus driver David Dewar who volunteered his services to bring people from Leighton House and Ryman village. This was much appreciated by the Pastoral Care Committee.

Thanks also go to the people who provided food and transport. Those attending really enjoyed the opportunity to get together and reminisce with old friends. Unfortunately, the 2020 function had to be cancelled because of the Covid lockdown.

The Pastoral Care Committee is of the view that it is important to keep in contact with the more elderly members of our Parish.

They are appreciative in the knowledge that they are not being forgotten.

Seton Clare

Convenor

Please note that some people in the photos are the helpers (*not yet 90!*)

Seton is retiring as Pastoral Care Convenor in May



WANTED....Tools to sell at the Car Boot sale this Month. Please drop off at the office or phone 868 5513 and we will arrange for someone to come and collect them. N.B. Baking always sells well, if you are baking, please make a little extra for us to sell.

Gisborne Civic Orchestra
presents
Carnival Of The Animals

SUNDAY MAY 9TH
3.00 pm
at St Andrew's Church



**Gisborne Presbyterian
Parish**
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 Sean Scanlen***

Saturday, 15 May, 2.00pm
St Andrews Presbyterian Church

Admission free; Koha or Donation
to performers gratefully accepted
Complimentary tea and coffee at the door

BRIEF REPORT FROM PARISH COUNCIL (APRIL MEETING)

Ruth McLennan has agreed to come onto Parish Council.

Our thanks to Pat Flockhart and her team for the Anzac Floral Display.

More fund raising is still required.

The Parish has agreed to become members of the Tairawhiti Community Voice. This will help us to be in touch with community communications via their newsletter i.e. to advertise our community hall facilities.

A social outing to be arranged.

Plans to set up a group to implement the recommendations suggested by the previous Strategic Planning Group to develop a plan for the sustainability of the parish into the future.

All options to be looked at for the hall and back of the church.

There is still an office space available for rent.

The national church has a Quality Survey Tool online for all churches to take part in to assess our congregation and Parish activities etc.

Jin Sook will be on annual leave from 17th- 30th May.

Parish Council

AN ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATION IN PICTURES

*Thank you to Pat Flockhart who organised & assisted in this event
Many talented Gisborne Floral Artists contributed to the Anzac Day Commemoration
with displays depicting Peace and Harmony.*

*Exhibitors from Gisborne Presbyterian Parish were: **Joan McKay:** Lest we forget.*

***Lynnor Cooke:** Peace is born in the heart (and also the beautiful pew hangings)*

***Berys McDonald & group:** From Hell to Harmony. **Colleen Skuse & group:** A tribute to Anzac.*

***Barbara Larsen:** A tribute to the NZ Forces.*

Held on Anzac Weekend in St Andrew's Church



*They shall grow not old, as we that are left
grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years
condemn
At the going down of the sun and in the
morning,
We will remember them*



Lest we Forget



Poppies made by the congregation at the Celebration Service on Anzac Day

