



Gisborne Presbyterian Parish

www.standrewsgis.org.nz

Transitional Minister:

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Administrator: Liz Lyell

Office Hours 9 – 1 pm weekdays

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MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

Dear
Friends



Communication is vital for connection with each other; sharing what matters to us; and the smooth working of any group or organisation, including families, committees and churches.

The means of communication have changed dramatically in the last 150 years. Think about the impact of the development of motorised transport, whether that is on land, on sea or in the air; of the telephone; of radio and television; and of computers and digital technology in general. We can connect with people much more quickly, in fact instantly, and in some ways life is safer because of that. If something bad happens we can summon immediate help with a mobile phone. Yet constant communication, particularly through social media, can also be intrusive – as well as misleading and even destructive. We need to use wisdom and discernment.

Communication for connection and information sharing is part of life.

The world -wide web did not exist 25 years ago but now we can be connected with information, and misinformation, whenever we want to. Many Churches now have websites to attempt to communicate well with their members and anyone else who might be interested. Have you explored the Gisborne Presbyterian Parish website www.standrewsgis.org.nz ?

The website includes a gallery of photos of various activities, a calendar of activities for the coming month, as well as information about what happens regularly and special events. Explore the depth of the various tabs as well as the pages you can see immediately!

If you are not able to come to worship services, you can still listen to the whole service if you wish, from the church website. Services at St Andrew's, and occasionally from other locations, are recorded each week and can be located on the website under the tab for 'Worship Life'. There is also a section there that includes the Orders of Service and the words of the Reflection each week.

Alternatively, printed copies of the Reflection for services are available. Please ask for them.

Communication in the sense of sharing what happens to us and how we feel about that is an important part of developing relationships. Each month there is an opportunity within the St Andrew's service to share special news with the church family. **November 10 at St Andrew's** will be the monthly Communion service and opportunity for sharing your celebrations. Because this is also one year on from the special service for the 150th anniversary of the Matawhero Tragedy, that will be acknowledged in the service as will the 101st anniversary of Armistice Day.

Communication with God, as I have emphasised recently, is not necessarily about using particular words but **about living in an attitude of prayer – so that we are always aware of God with us.**

If you want to understand and consider more about prayer, please come to the **Exploring Prayer time in St Andrew's chapel on 14 November, at 1.30 p.m.**

May God bless you in all your communication and give you wisdom and discernment.

Mary Petersen



*“Don't shine so others can see you.
Shine so that through you others can
see Him.”*

C S Lewis

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 need transport to the Church Service at St Andrews or if you



would like someone to visit you, or your family or friends, or have another pastoral need, please phone the office: 868 5513

MAINLY MUSIC

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



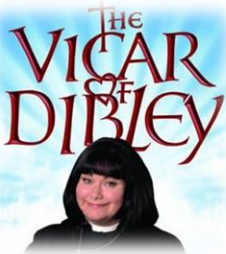
MATAWHERO GARDENERS



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

SOCIAL GROUP OUTING

to -



“The Vicar of Dibley” is a musical adaptation based on the well-known TV series. It features favourite characters from the hugely popular show, including Alice, Hugo,

Owen, Jim, David and of course, Geraldine. Music has been chosen and, in some places, written by director Gavin Maclean, and is performed with the backing of a small choir.

If you would like to go as a group to the performance at Lawson Field on Sunday 24th November at 2.00 pm please let Mike Willis or the office know as soon as possible. Tickets \$37.50 for seniors.

Thanksgiving Offering to support future ministry. The total offering banked on 6 October was \$6493 which indicates that almost \$6000 was contributed for the Ministry Fund. Thank you to all who contributed and to those who have reviewed their usual giving. God bless you.

On a church notice board:

‘Beep if you love Jesus. Text while driving if you want to meet him.’



Everyone is invited to EXPLORING PRAYER



Thursday November 14th 1.30pm
in the St Andrew’s Chapel

- what is prayer?
- if you sense there is a desire or need for prayer when you visit or are talking with someone, how do you do that ‘off the cuff’?
- practical ideas and resources provided

CAR BOOT SALES ON:

Saturday November 9th
and November 23rd

Baking for the stall is always very welcome and any household items you no longer need which are saleable.



A big thanks to our bakers last month and to people who provided ingredients. We are so grateful for all the support we get for the Car Boot sale – every little helps. If you would like to **VOLUNTEER** on the stall in any way, or making cups of tea, then please add your name to the roster in the office.

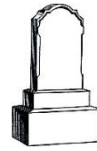
REMEMBERED AT CHRISTMAS

A special service offered by
Gisborne Presbyterian Parish at
Matawhero

Wednesday December 11th 7.00 pm

Christmas can be a sad time when you have lost significant people in your life. Everyone else seems to be celebrating joyfully but you find that difficult because someone special to you is no longer physically with you. Or maybe there is a challenging situation in your family that brings pain, not celebration.

Come to remember someone important to you, or otherwise reflect in a quiet meditative way. This service *Remembered at Christmas*, includes a time when, if you want to, there will be the opportunity to light a candle to honour and remember your special someone or light a candle to symbolise shining light into / praying about a particular situation.



Blessing and Rededication of the headstone for Rev John McAra took place at Makaraka Cemetery on 25 September. On a cold and very windy afternoon, the ten people present acknowledged the ministry of Rev John McAra and heard the story of his "Induction Soiree" and of his untimely death, as well as other information about him, his family and his ministry, gleaned from the archives of the *Poverty Bay Herald*. The text of the "eulogy" presented and a recording, affected slightly by the wind, is available on: www.standrewsgis.org.nz under the tab for 'Worship Life'.

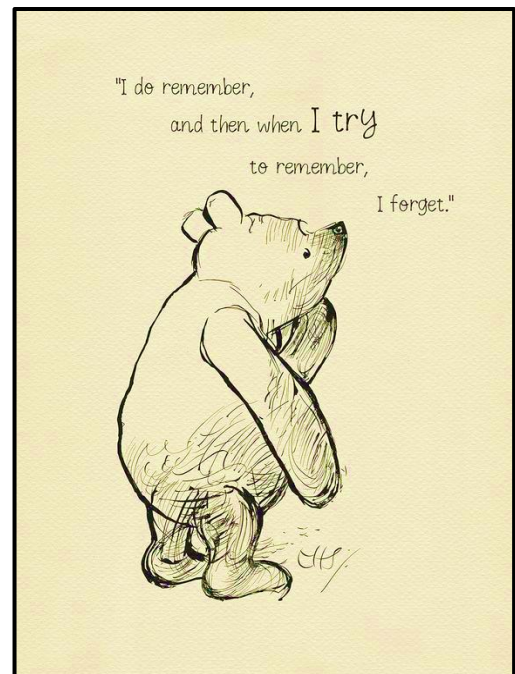
The next *Signpost* will be the December-January edition, published by 22 November. If you have information you want included for those two months, please give it to Liz before the cut-off date. Thank you!



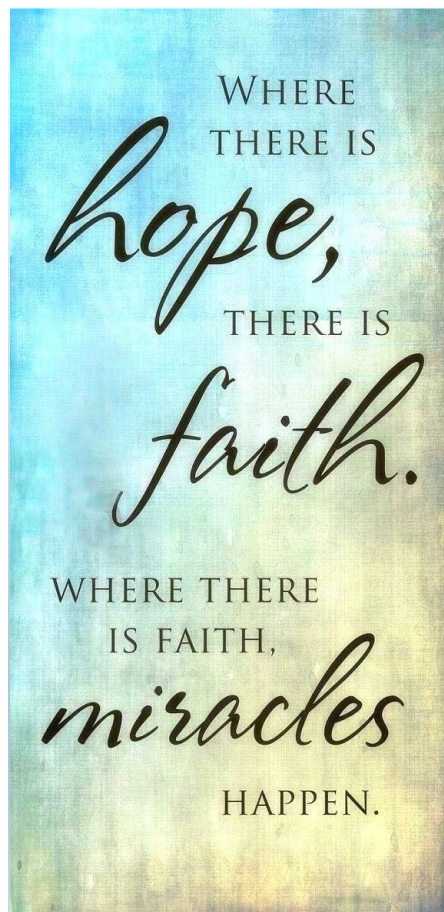
ADVENT STUDIES



Monday December 9th and 16th Advent
Studies in the lounge starting at 5.30pm.
Rev Mary Petersen



The Calling Process for the next Minister of Gisborne Presbyterian Parish is under way. Very positive congregational meetings at both Matawhero and St Andrew's on 20 October, agreed to call someone. That person is now considering her response. Presbytery Central and the Presbytery the potential minister is in at present, also have to agree before any confirmation can be given. "Progress" will be reported in worship services when available, and in the next edition of *Signpost*.



ST ANDREWS DINNER
SATURDAY NOVEMBER 30th

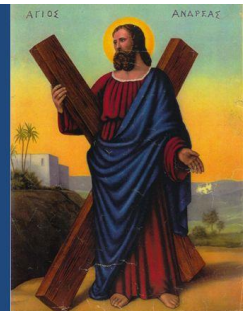
from 5.30 pm in the hall –
fun & entertainment provided
\$10 pp payable in advance
 – numbers attending no later than
Monday 25 November please

****essential for catering purposes****

A clipboard will be available after church for names & numbers attending (Cash please or pay online). The clipboard will also be available in the office.

Who is St. Andrew?

- St. Andrew is the patron saint of Scotland.
 - He is also the saint of:
 - Romania, Russia, Greece, Poland, Ukraine
- He was a fisherman and one of the 12 apostles.
- When he was crucified his cross was X-shaped, and that is why the Scottish flag is the Saltire.



IF I HAD MY LIFE TO LIVE OVER

by Erma Bombeck

If I Had My Life To Live Over.....

I would have talked less and listened more.

I would have invited friends over to dinner even if the carpet was stained and the sofa faded.

I would have eaten the popcorn in the 'good' living room and worried much less about the dirt when someone wanted to light a fire in the fireplace.

I would have taken the time to listen to my grandfather ramble about his youth.

I would never have insisted the car windows be rolled up on a summer day because my hair had just been teased and sprayed.

I would have burned the pink candle sculpted like a rose before it melted in storage.

I would have sat on the lawn with my children and not worried about grass stains.

I would have cried and laughed less while watching television and more while watching life.

I would have shared more of the responsibility carried by my husband.

I would have gone to bed when I was sick instead of pretending the earth would go into a holding pattern if I weren't there for the day.

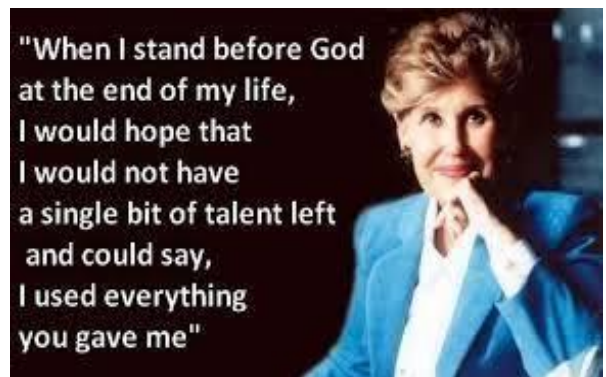
I would never have bought anything just because it was practical, wouldn't show soil or was guaranteed to last a lifetime.

Instead of wishing away nine months of pregnancy, I'd have cherished every moment and realized that the wonderment growing inside me was the only chance in life to assist God in a miracle.

When my kids kissed me impetuously, I would never have said, "Later. Now go get washed up for dinner."

There would have been more "I love you's".. more "I'm sorry's"

But mostly, given another shot at life, I would seize every minute...look at it and really see it... live it...and never give it back.



Erma Bombeck