Gillian Whitley, CEO, NZ Leprosy Mission, speaking at Christ the King Church





Mott, our winner of the Christmas hamper - delivered by John Sarah

# CHURCH LIFE MARCH 2021



A Carpark Attendant and a Wise Man! Combined Carol Service at Christ the King Church

# Magazine for Mangawhai Mission District

St Paul's Kaiwaka St Michael's, Hakaru Christ the King, Mangawhai

## **Mission District Contacts**

### Minister's Musings

As I was thinking about what to write for this issue of our magazine I reflected that although we made plans last year for Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Easter, none of it happened – because of Covid. Covid and Level 4 Lockdown changed everything.

Last Palm Sunday was really strange. For the first time since I can remember there were no palm crosses. We sang the usual hymns, each in our own place; and I led an online time of worship. But it wasn't the same.

However that was nothing compared to the following Sunday – Easter Sunday. The greatest event in our life as Christians: the resurrection of our Lord. We somehow had to celebrate this while being locked down; separate; on our own. And yet we did. It was the strangest and most unusual Easter ever for me. Yet because of our shared faith and hope and love there was a real sense of connectedness and celebration. God is amazing. In the darkest of places there is light, hope and new life – because that is what Easter and Resurrection is all about.

So in this magazine we are advertising our planned Holy Week and Easter services. But as we do I am very conscious that it could all change. It could all be different. I need to, we all need to, be prepared for that.

Then – boom! - what do you know, it did all change! Having written notes and begun writing this column, on Saturday night February 27, we were told that as from 6am on Sunday 28 February Auckland would be at Level 3 and the rest of the country would be at Level 2. That's how quickly it can happen. That's how fast things can go pear shaped. And we just have to cope.

Actually we can do more than that. As followers of Jesus we can get out in front of all this, holding the banner of "Hope" founded in a God who is with us, no matter what. Shining with the light of Christ who shows us how to love our neighbours, no matter what. Showing how to enjoy life and express joy in any situation, no matter what.

I really, really, really hope and pray that we will be able to celebrate Easter as "traditionally" as possible. Together in church singing, praying, sharing. However, no matter what, I am planning to celebrate the Good News that Jesus lives, and because he lives we can too.

Paul in his letters outlines the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit. (1 Corinthians 12 and Galatians 5). Brilliant. Now after the last year and our current experience I believe there are two new fruits/gifts of the Spirit: "flexibility" and "resilience".

For the remainder of this Lent Season I invite you to do something a bit different with me. Focus, think, reflect, plan, prepare for how you can be flexible to cope with and shine through whatever happens with this Covid stuff. And alongside that, work on developing your resilience. Your ability to bounce back, better than before, with grace and a sense of humour.

Flexibility. Resilience. Easter.

We've got this.

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The Resurrection

We hold so close to our hearts The cross where Jesus stied, But so much more than the blood stained cross Is that Jesus came back to life

> The stone's been rolled away; The tomb lay open and bare y looked for Him, and then the angel said That He is no longer have

Oh what joy they must have felt. To see Him just once more. To eat with Him, to drink with Him, To receive Him back as Lord

So much did He accomplish through His death upon the cross And in His rising from the dead, He recording us back to God

Nothing else could bridge the gap That sin had wrenched apart — Now we can freely go to God And receive Christ in our hearts.

Roburt O Tyer Greyleg www.co.dlittlonuitpicture1.n Nets O M.L Lawride





### Christ the King, Mangawhai

December was a busy month at Christ the King with the lead up to Christmas. We had a very successful Combined Churches Carol Service with the Catholics and Baptists on 13<sup>th</sup> December which was well attended, as were our services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. The many Christmas gifts that were left under the tree in the church were distributed to needy families and brought joy to many children in our area.

Our congregation numbers swelled over January with holiday makers attending our services and it was good to see many new faces. Our various church activities took a break over the holiday period but have commenced again at the beginning of February. Rhythm'n Riggle had a good attendance for the first session of the year. We had our first coffee morning on 4<sup>th</sup> February at the home of Alan and Margaret Whitaker. It was nice to see some Parkview Waters residents at this. These mornings will continue throughout the year on the first Thursday of the month. Our craft group has recommenced meeting at the church on Thursday mornings. On 17<sup>th</sup> February we held an Ash Wednesday service together with our Catholic neighbours and will commence a Lenten Bible Study on 24<sup>th</sup> February. We have held some very successful fundraising activities during the last couple of months. The sale of calendars raised \$3469 profit after the printing costs were deducted and a Christmas hamper raffle made \$965. On 30<sup>th</sup> January we held a mini market at Christ the King that made over \$1200. We extend our grateful thanks to Jo Sarah and her helpers for organising the calendar printing and Christmas raffle and for selling these and to everyone who helped with the mini market by donating goods to sell and running the market on the day.

Daniel Twinn has been appointed as Privacy Officer for the Mission District in accordance with a recommendation from the Diocese to comply with the Privacy Act. Thank you Daniel for accepting this position. Unfortunately David Stacey has felt unable to act as Treasurer for the Mission District and has resigned, so we are still seeking someone to take his place.

It is with great sadness that we note the passing of two long time members of our congregation Elspeth Cooze and Sibyl Canning. Services for them have been held in Auckland.

Our Annual General Meeting will take place at St Paul's Kaiwaka on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> April after the morning service and will be followed by a shared lunch. Mark this important date on your calendar and please give prayerful thought as to whether you could join the Governing Body and help to run our Mission District.

Lynda Wintle Warden

#### Mangawhai-Kaiwaka Calendar

We still have a few copies of this beautiful calendar for sale at \$8 - contact Jo, Wayne or Fay to purchase a copy.





### LENTOPOLY???

Lent is a very "traditional" season, and we may think we know all about it and have done it all before. So here is something different - you can print it out and play it as a board game. Or you could just work your way around from square to square, one each day, and follow the instructions on the square. Food for thought, prayer and action.

# The Case of the Empty Tomb

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. John 20:1 (NIV)

Based on John 20:1-18 (NIV)



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Y	В	R	J	J	Е	D	R	V	Е	Q	V	Е	Е	V	

CRYING	STRIPS	HEAD	DEAD	STONE
WEEK	ANGELS	FIRST	BURIAL	LORD
RISE	REMOVED	TOMB	FOLDED	MARY
BELIEVED	LINEN	DAY	DARK	CLOTH

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### St Paul's, Kaiwaka

Our Carols by Candlelight Service on 20<sup>th</sup> December was well attended – the church sparkled with Christmas lights and candles and many beautiful carols were sung by the congregation with Brahms Lullaby sung by Isobel McClean and Janis Martin and musical accompaniment by Christine and Margot. Our thanks to Rev. Derek Christensen for organising a team to decorate the church, and for taking the service. A collection was taken up for the Kaiwaka Foodbank and over \$300 was donated. Those attending were treated to a Christmas themed supper to finish the evening. Rev. John McClean took the Christmas Day service, with music provided by Anneliese and Andrew Allen.

During January a number of our congregation helped celebrate a special birthday for Anneliese, at the Allen's residence, and enjoyed the beautiful views overlooking the Kaipara inlet.

Rev. Wayne continues to provide a livestream service at St Paul's on the first Sunday of the month with Rev. Derek taking the third Sunday family service. With Anneliese and Andrew away in February, we once again sang from songsheets, with music provided by Margot.

The Archie Bull Hall continues to be utilised by local community groups and we are grateful to Sara McAulay for handling the bookings.

The Lenten season is now with us, and we look forward to an Easter Sunday service at St Paul's on 4<sup>th</sup> April led by Rev. John McClean.

Fay Burnett



### St Michael's and All Angels, Hakaru

It has been a relatively busy time lately for our beautiful church, sitting in such lovely rural surrounds.

Sadly the funeral for Gabrielle Pearl Alispahic was held on the 30<sup>th</sup> December 2020, but on a much happier note, two weddings have been held since. The first was held on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021 and the second on 27<sup>th</sup> February. I have to say what a stunning place to celebrate both a life and a marriage.

We were fortunate to hold one of our "fifth Sunday in the month" services on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2021, followed by a shared lunch at the Hakaru Hall. Both the service and the lunch were enjoyed by all attendees. A big thank you to Gwen Lawrence's granddaughter Aila, who was a great help in the kitchen afterwards, rinsing all the plates before they were washed. Oh, and by the way, don't ever get Jo Sarah to make a bacon and egg pie. She leaves the bacon out!!!

Our Sexton, Bevan Lawrence, has been recovering from a heart operation and our thoughts go out to him for a speedy recovery.

I would like to pass on our thanks to David Lusty, who quickly eradicated a wasps' nest, which was recently discovered on a tree near the church.

Jo Sarah



After leaving the Air Force he joined the General Post Office for several years as a rural postman, senior grade. Government downsizing led to a change of profession once again - a true teaboy to boss story, this time into car inspection and delivery, as transport manager for ECM for 25 years, overseeing some 425 car transporters, going full circle and finishing his working life in his home town of Grimsby.

He is now retired in Kaiwaka and spends his time mowing lawns, pruning trees, clearing gutters, fixing engines and anything that needs repairing, feeding chooks and planning his next project – setting up a model railway.





### Fay & Peter Burnett

Fay was born in Christchurch (NZ) and spent a very happy childhood on a market garden in Burwood, the family living in her grandmother's farmhouse. She went to Burwood Primary School and her first church service was at the Burwood Anglican Church. The house, school and church have now all been demolished. After three years at Mairehau High School, and six months at Digby's Commercial College she started work as a shortand-typist with the Forest Service, aged 16 years - the Forest Service building has now been demolished!

She married a naval officer at a very young 18 years, and moved to Bayswater to live in a naval house, working first for Social Security, then a pharmaceutical company as office secretary. After a move to a new home in Sunnynook three lovely children arrived, Nigel, Bridget and Gregory. This led to 8 years involvement with Totaravale Play Centre and some years as the North Shore Play Centre librarian. A marriage breakdown brought about a move to Torbay and a new job with an import-export company. Another marriage followed and another beautiful child, Louise - then a further 5 years at Play Centre training to be a supervisor. Fay joined St Mary's by the Sea Presbyterian/Anglican Church, became a Christian and had a full-immersion baptism at the neighbouring Long Bay Baptist Church (St Mary's didn't have the necessary baptismal pool). The Presbyterians then moved to a church in Browns Bay (BBP) where Fay took on the role of church secretary for some years. After a second marriage breakdown (sorry, didn't seem to get this marriage thing right) she moved to a new home in Torbay and took on a full-time position with the Electoral Office becoming Registrar for the Northcote Electorate. At the same time she became Presbytery Clerk for the North Shore Presbytery.

Then she met Peter Burnett on the internet, and after a couple of exchange visits they decided to get married. Pete came out to live in NZ – they sold their respective houses and bought a lovely farmhouse in Kaiwaka. Fay visited Christ the King Church in Mangawhai and St Paul's in Kaiwaka and was given a very warm welcome. She enjoys working in the church office, helping out at Kaiwaka Library, spending lots of time in the garden, and loves to catch up with her grandchildren, Amy and Jackson on the North Shore, and Levi and Tiana on the Gold Coast (when allowed to travel).

Peter was born in Grimsby, Lincolnshire, 26 October 1953 into a deep sea fishing family. His schooling was in Grimsby, finishing at Immingham after the family moved there due to work in 1963. He started work as an apprentice autoelectrician, sadly the company went out of business. He spent a couple of years working in a warehouse before joining the RAF where he trained as a aeronautical engineer, travelled widely, being stationed at Germany, the Far East, Hong Kong, Singapore, Goose Bay, Canada, amongst others.

# MANGAWHAI MISSION DISTRICT

## **EASTER SERVICES 2021**



## Holy Week Communion at Christ the King Church, Mangawhai

Palm Sunday Sunday 28 March 9 am

Wednesday 31 March 9 am Thursday 01 April 9 am

Services of devotion and reflection leading up to the great events of Easter.

> **Good Friday Family Service** 2nd April 9.00 am at Christ the King

Easter Day Family Communion Sunday 4th April 9.00 am at Christ the King 9.00 am at St Paul's, Kaiwaka

## Christ the King—Nativity Play - NZ version

Mini-market at Christ the King, Mangawhai





Mangawhai Singers at Combined Carol Service, Christ the King Church





Carols by Candlelight at St Paul's, Kaiwaka









