

**Watering Can Raffle Winner**



# *CHURCH LIFE*

*DECEMBER 2022*



**Rev. Peter Minson and Pepe at St Francis  
Animal Blessing service**



**Kaiwaka-Mangawhai Garden Club Christmas Afternoon Tea**

## **Magazine for Mangawhai Mission District**

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



## Minister's Musings

### A Christmas Message 2022.

As I set out to write this message I am struggling to put words on the page.

Where does one start, especially today in a world that appears in many ways to have turned away from our Lord, who I personally worship and in whom I truly believe.

He is alive and totally in control. Praise God daily for all the blessings we very easily take for granted.

I have lived and worked in two healing centres over a period of fourteen years and during that time we witnessed numerous miraculous healings by Jesus, whose birth we celebrate at Christmas. Today I often ponder, has the Church forgotten the miraculous Power of Jesus available today, 2000 years later.

Remember, without faith miracles don't happen.

Over the next three weeks, we will gather at our three churches and join together in singing Christmas carols, old and new. What a joy that will be, to be uplifted in the true Christmas Spirit.

On Christmas day, we will mostly be gathering as family groups and what joy that will be, giving and receiving from one another. I remind all who read this message that the greatest gift of all in life, is knowing Jesus and sharing his love.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all the members of Mangawhai Mission District who have given their time and talents to keep this church active in our community. I for one am proud to be a member of this church.

Blessings to all and a Merry Christmas.

Rev. John McClean.

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### ***Christ in Christmas***

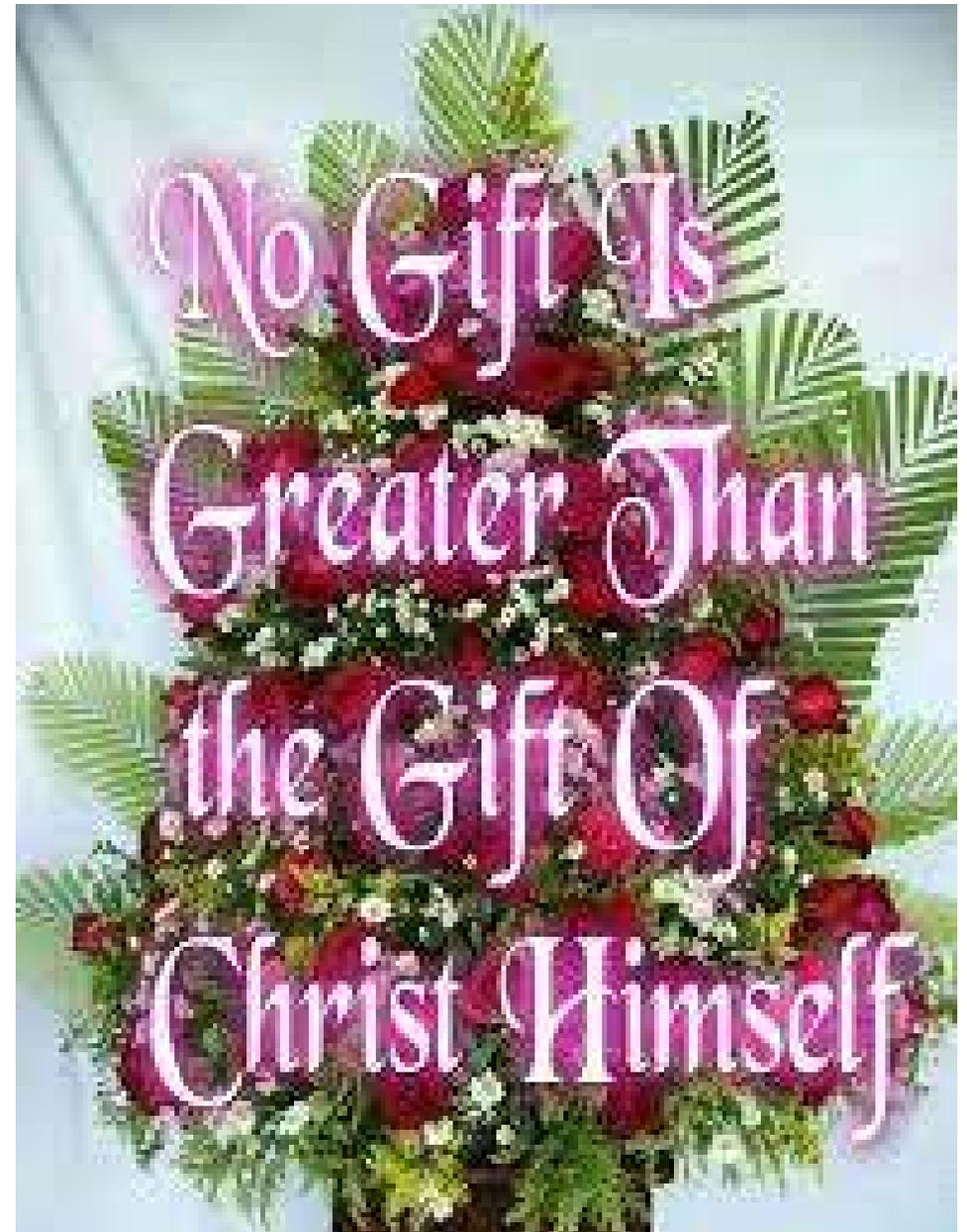
For us, as Christians, Christmas is a time to celebrate the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ, over 2000 years ago.

For me, the peace that comes with knowing that I am loved, and always will be, as I wait for His return, increases every day.

There are many trials and tribulations for us in this modern, sometimes scary, world. But although they sadden me, they will never completely overcome me, for I know that HE is with me. EVERY DAY.

I truly believe that accepting our Lord as our personal saviour, we can achieve anything, even if it takes a while, long or short.

God bless us all as we move through this special season, and may God's Grace be with us and help us to increase our faith to that of innocent children. .





# CHRISTMAS GIFTS

Help to make this Christmas special for  
children less fortunate



Please leave gifts at Christ the King Church,  
9 Molesworth Drive, Mangawhai Village between  
9 and 11 am, Fridays and Sundays.

Label your parcels, boy or girl and age.  
Gifts will be distributed in the Kaiwaka/Mangawhai area.

Enquiries: Mangawhai Ph 09 431 5913  
Kaiwaka: Ph 09 431 2449

## St Paul's, Kaiwaka

Rev. Peter Minson continued preaching and offering Communion at St Paul's, up until 2<sup>nd</sup> October.

His final service was the St Francis' Animal Blessing at Christ the King, Mangawhai, on 9<sup>th</sup> October which several St Paul's members attended. We enjoyed his sermons, and especially his singing – (and his two little dogs), we're sorry he couldn't stay longer.

Anne Connolly-Munt organised a fundraising concert on 25<sup>th</sup> September to help pay for a new electric piano. Visiting organist, Denis McCombe played a selection of tunes, titled 'Down Memory Lane' – the concert was enjoyed by church members and a number of visitors, with \$300 being raised for the piano.

Through Oct-December we have enjoyed some excellent sermons from Rev. John McClean, Anneliese Allen and Christine Bygrave. Thank you to Margot Christie-Linnell and Anneliese Allen for planning our services in the absence of a Priest-in-Charge. We have had two weddings at St Paul's recently.

Sadly, we have lost two members of the Jaques family, Brian Jaques on 23<sup>rd</sup> September – Brian's funeral was held at St Paul's on 29<sup>th</sup> September, with Rev. Peter Minson taking the service.

His son Gregory Jaques passed away soon after on 13<sup>th</sup> October. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Brian and Greg's family following these sudden losses.

We are grateful to those people who have given generously, to help pay for a new projector screen, a rolling platform for the electronic organ and towards the purchase of an electric piano. Thank you also to those who regularly donate groceries to St Paul's foodbank basket. The groceries and vouchers are given to the Te Pataka O Kaiwaka Foodbank.

Our annual Carols by Candlelight will be held on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December, at 7.30 pm – a lovely service followed by refreshments in Archie Bull Hall. There will be a Christmas Day service on 25<sup>th</sup> December, 10 am, then following a break in January, the first service in 2023 will be Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> February at 10 am.

Thank you to all our church members who have volunteered their time this year to keep St Paul's services running smoothly, our retired clergy, those who plan services, preachers, readers, intercessors, musicians, welcomers, flower arrangers, cleaners, bakers, gardeners, general handymen & women! You are simply the best!!

We wish you all a very blessed Christmas and New Year and a well-earned time of rest and relaxation.

**Fay Burnett**



**Rev. Peter Minson's last service at St**

### **ST MICHAELS & ANGELS, HAKARU**

Recently the graveyard at St Michael's was 'drone mapped'. Once this has been loaded onto our website, future generations will be able to log on to find the exact location of family gravesites. Thank you to Martin Arrowsmith and Bevan Lawrence who organised this and Daniel Twinn who carried out the work.

Fay Burnett has managed to buy some new candlestick holders from Trademe, to replace the ones which were stolen when the church was broken into last year. Thank you Fay. We just now need to replace our lovely church bell which was also stolen at the same time. Me thinks this will be somewhat more difficult.

St Michael's continues to be a well-maintained place of serenity and beauty, thanks to our Sexton, Bevan Lawrence.

On Christmas Eve at 7.00 pm, we are having a Lessons and Carols service at St Michael's. I hope that everyone will come along and make this a joyous evening, leading up to the celebration of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Jo Sarah**

and then returned to Auckland shortly after. Moved out of the technical repair side of the company and became manager of service parts support for NZ. Continued in this role until being made redundant in 2009 when the parts warehouse was outsourced and the help desk move to India. Numerous visits to Mangawhai to stay with good friends convinced me that this may be a good place for retirement. Section purchased, house built, in 2018 I retired from my position at Draw Art Supplies where I was purchasing artists materials from all over the globe. Shortly after moving here it was time to continue my enjoyment of the outdoors so a caravan was purchased and off Ellen and I went. Best thing we ever did.



## Church Profile:

### Ellen Thomlinson

Born in Auckland 13 August 1956, older of two children to Ray and Betty Rosenberg. My younger brother, Paul, was 60 years old when diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in 2019 and passed away three weeks later. Unfortunately we were unable to get to Christchurch to see him before he passed, very sad and a big shock.

I went to Prospect Road Primary, Glen Eden Intermediate and Kelston Girls High. Left school at sixteen and started work at the BNZ in New Lynn. Met Kevin and was married at the Oratia Church on 2 October 1976.

Kevin's job at NCR transferred us to Blenheim where I started work in the Bernina sewing machine retail shop. After approx 6 years Kevin was on the move again and back to Auckland, this was a quick stop as after 18 months it was down to Palmerston North for 5 years. Daughter Amanda was born here on 20 August 1983. Then it was back to Auckland again and stayed with Mum and Dad for a few months until we were able to purchase a property in Glen Eden.

Started part time work as merchandiser with Hallmark Cards, this allowed me to be home when Amanda finished school each afternoon.

Unfortunately I had to stop work after 18 years due to health issues. Good friends who lived in Titirangi had a holiday home in Mangawhai and most long weekends were spent with them, our children growing up together from an early age. We liked the area so much we decided it would be a nice place to retire to. Purchased a section in 2016 and had a house built. Put our Glen Eden house on the market in 2018 and sold in three days, lucky we had somewhere to move to. Now enjoying life in Mangawhai and spending time out and about in our caravan.

### Kevin Thomlinson

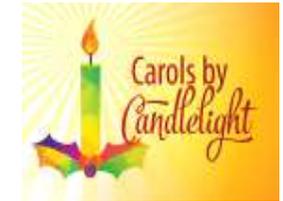
I was born in Auckland 7 Dec 1952, the third of four children to Jim and Mavis Thomlinson. Dad was born in Scotland and came to NZ in 1926, Mum was born in NZ of Irish descent. Had a happy childhood growing up in Titirangi, spent a lot of time playing outside in sun, hence my current issues with skin cancer. Dad also enjoyed the outdoors and we spent many days fishing and camping together and as a family. Educated at Titirangi Primary, Glen Eden Intermediate and Kelston Boys High. Started work in 1969 with NCR as cash register technician.

During one of my repair visits to the BNZ New Lynn, I met a young lady named Ellen, and as they say, the rest is history. Married in 1976 and was posted to sole charge position in Blenheim to look after the Marlborough region. Returned to Auckland for a short stint and then down to Palmerston North as Branch Manager. Was blessed with daughter Amanda in 1983

## MANGAWHAI MISSION DISTRICT



**Carols by Candlelight**  
**Sunday 18th December 7.30 pm**  
**St Paul's Church, Kaiwaka**  
**Refreshments to follow**



## CHRISTMAS EVE

**Saturday 24th December**  
**Carol Service 7.00 pm**  
**St Michael's & All Angels Church, Hakaru**

## CHRISTMAS DAY

**Sunday 25th December**  
**Communion Family Services**  
**Christ the King Church, Mangawhai 9.00am**  
**St Paul's Church, Kaiwaka 10.00am**

St Francis Animal Blessing Service



Christ the King Mini Market

