

The Gateway



Isaiah 9:6: For unto us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

The bi-monthly magazine for the Anglican Parish of Upper Riccarton – Yaldhurst
St Peter's and St Luke's Churches
December 2018

Advent
Christmas
New Year
2018 - 2019



St. Peter's Church
Church Corner, Upper Riccarton

St. Peter's Church

Sunday 9 December - Advent II

8 am - Holy Communion

9.30 am - Holy Communion followed by the parish family picnic on the
Vicarage lawn.

7 pm - **Remembrance** Service - a quiet time amidst the bustle of the
Christmas season to remember loved ones who have died.

Please bring a flower.

Sunday 16 December - Advent III

8 am - Holy Communion

9.30 am - Carol Service. Afterwards a special morning tea on the lawn with
Christmas cake, sherry and lemonade.

Please bring some Christmas cake or mince pies to share.

6.30 pm - Community Carol Service, Crosbie Park.

Sunday 23th December - Advent IV

8 am & 9.30 am - Holy Communion

Christmas Eve - 24 December

11.15 pm - Candle Lit Carol Singing & Holy Communion

Christmas Day - 25 December

8 am - Festive Communion & Carols

9.30 am – All Age Christmas Celebration & Communion.

Sunday 30 December

8 am & 9.30 am - Holy Communion

Sundays in January 2019

8 am & 9.30 am Holy Communion

Wednesdays

10 am - Holy Communion (no service on 26 Dec).

St. Luke's Church
School Road, Yaldhurst

Sunday 16 December - Advent III

9.30 am - Carol Service. Afterwards a special morning tea on the lawn with Christmas cake, sherry and lemonade.

Please bring some Christmas cake or mince pies to share.

Christmas Eve - 24 December

5 pm Service - Children may take part, costumes provided.

Christmas Day - 25 December

9.30 am - Festive Christmas Celebration & Carols

Sundays in January - 1st and 3rd



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***The Staff wish all a blessed Christmas
And a Happy New Year.***

**The office will close on Monday 24 December 2018
And re-open on 23 January 2019**

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FROM THE VICAR: THE EXCITEMENT IS BUILDING

At this time of year the excitement is building. It is building as we get ready for Christmas and it is building as we build! Let me explain. This year was set aside by Vestry as the “year of building.” I am pleased to report that work has begun on our beloved St Peters, and also on our Pre-school. We still need to raise money for our restoration but I think when people see the work beginning, they, like me will get excited and want to see it paid for.



One of the ways that Christians build excitement at this time of year is to have a nativity scene. The little figurines are fun to arrange. At home we always keep the baby out of nativity scene until Christmas Day and the three kings off at distance until Epiphany. (Epiphany is twelve days after Christmas, hence the twelve days of Christmas). This way the kids both young and old learn the story.

The very first nativity scene was made by St Francis of Assisi back in the 11th century in Italy. He used it as a tool for teaching, mostly illiterate peasants, the story of Christmas. Today many of us can read and write but how many of our community know the meaning of the story?

A second way that Christians build excitement towards Christmas is through the Advent wreath. Made in a circle to remind us that God's love is without end, and decorated with evergreen leaves, to remind us that God's love is “evergreen,” the Advent wreath has five candles. One each to be lit on the Sundays of Advent and the final Christ candle is lit at Christmas.

A third way that Christians build excitement towards Christmas is by using an Advent calendar. This has little windows that are opened each day of Advent, beginning on the 2nd of December this year. Traditionally these have Christmas scenes like Mary and Joseph on their journey, more recently they have Thomas the Tank engine and Barbie! Christian World Service has advent calendars that have glue on each day, so you can put a coin on each day and give the filled calendar to help people in poverty. This is much more in keeping with the season than getting a chocolate each day.

As we come to Christmas this year I am excited, not just about our pre-school and rebuild but also about this time of year. I love its music, the drama of the worship, the advent candles and the carols by candlelight. Most especially I love the children's dress up service at St Luke's Church. Your Parish is offering you a wonderful Christmas celebration this year. An addition to last year's programme is the combined churches carol service in Crosby Park on the 16th of December at 6pm. Our own, 'Keeping Good Company' drama team will help presents the story at the picnic carol service. Good coffee will be served along with sausages.

A long time ago Jesus was born to us. God's love wrapped in human flesh. He grew up to embody; love and hope and peace and joy. My hope is that all that your church family parish offers, in word and song; in sermon and in play; enables the excitement to build in your heart this Advent Christmas season.

Rosemary and I wish you a very happy Christmas.

Nick

Ven. Nick Mountfort
Vicar Upper Riccarton, Yaldhurst
Archdeacon Selwyn Tawera

GATEWAY EDITORIAL

Christmas season has a special charm of its own that draws family and friends together to celebrate, traditionally or otherwise. During this season, it can also be a difficult time for some people who may feel lonely and/or in need of God for a breakthrough in their life. Whichever the case, we know that God, who is Emmanuel, (literally meaning God is with us) sees us exactly just as we are. God hears our prayers and He will continue to fulfil His promises He has made beginning with His Son, Jesus Christ.



To help us prepare for Advent and Christmas, the St Peter's Church team has put up a schedule of services, music and related events over the month of December leading up to Christmas Day. The service page **(Page 2-3)** and notice page **(Page 24)** give the details for us to pen them into our diaries.

This will be our final issue of Gateway for 2018. As we reflect on the year, we count our blessings, name them one by one and see what God has done. We are thankful to our Lord God for His faithful love towards us - how our faith and relationship with the Lord has been strengthened, encouraged and challenged in 2018. In this issue, you will read about the restoration of St Peter's Church, the opening of St Peter's Anglican Preschool; both of which will commence in the first quarter of 2019. In addition, be encouraged (especially those who were confirmed in July this year) by an article from Bishop Coles - this and other snippets of news at Peter's & St. Luke's Church in 2018.

With all the hustle and bustle of Christmas preparation, sometimes it can be easy to overlook the reason for the season. Christmas really is about the birth and gift of God's only Son, Jesus Christ, being born in the heart of believers. Therefore, like the wise men of old let us all come, worship and adore the new born King Jesus this Christmas. Jesus said:

John 3:16: For God so loved the world that He gave His One and Only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life.

John 10:9-10: I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. A thief comes only to steal and to kill and to destroy. I have come that they may have life and have it in abundance.

Such is the amazing grace of God. What a privilege to be sons and daughters of the King!

Father God, as we celebrate Jesus's birthday, we celebrate Your gracious and lavish forgiveness. Thank You for the precious gift of Jesus Christ, our Saviour and King and for the peace and freedom it brings us as we enjoy a family relationship with You, Lord.

Wishing all Gateway readers, friends and supporters:

A meaningful Christmas & a new year of love, peace, joy, blessings and safety.

To those celebrating Chinese New Year, a Wonderful Lunar New Year comes February 2019.

Gateway's next publication will resume in April 2019.

Adeline Hill

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Gateway Easter issue: Closing date **15 March 2019**. Kindly email your articles, and what you would like to share to adeline1232010@gmail.com.



1st Advent Sunday 2018 at St Peter's Church: L to R: John, Kathy, Adeline, Haydn, Margaret Kent.

A Word of Thanks

St. Peter's Church Choir: Haydn

2018 has been another busy year for the choir and I am sure we are all looking forward to holiday time and having a break after the Christmas services. Thank you to all choir members for your good work in leading worship during the year.

We would like to encourage the parish and visitors to join us in singing the Christmas carols and music this Christmas season. So come along, with family and friends, join the choir singing carols and praises.

After Christmas, the choir takes a break and will restart again on Thursday 31 January 2019.

We are finishing the year with three visits to rest homes bringing Christmas carols and cheer to the residents. Parishioners are welcome to join us. Please see the notice page **(Page 24)** for the detail.

Last but not least, my wife (Adeline) and I wish one and all a Happy & Blessed Christmas and a fruitful 2019.

Garage Sale 29 September 2018: Gwen & Jo

On that day a total of \$5,477.50 was collected but more has been added, so it should exceed \$6,000. Money raised is used for the church restoration fund. A big thank you to all - our Electrician, those who have worked tirelessly on Friday mornings, with set up and pricing, on Saturday those who baked, helped at the stalls, and clearing up after that .

Mission Table: Irene & Peter Coman

The Missions Table of St Peter's Church has been well patronised by the Parish in 2018. This year, a total of **\$4,763.50** (more than last year) were collected and distributed among several overseas missions and local missions. Thank you to all who have contributed to the Missions Table. Best Wishes for a very Happy Christmas & a New Year of Happiness. ~ Irene & Peter.



Dec 2nd marks the first Sunday of Advent which is the beginning of the new Church Year. The Gregorian year begins on January 1st, which marks days of the week on the calendar of a secular year.

FEATURE

AFTER CONFIRMATION – WHAT NEXT?

Bishop David Coles writes...

I was honoured to come to St Peter's on 1 July for the Patronal Festival and Confirmation when Abbey, Sophie, Kathryn, Sophie, Caed and Ethan committed themselves to be Disciples of Christ in Confirmation.

At our local supermarket, we sometimes buy a block of tasty cheese. I like good strong tasting cheese, and you can buy different levels or degrees of taste – Vintage tasty has been maturing for 24 months and comes in a black wrapper. Then there is a 'younger' variety which has been maturing for only 18 months. It is cheaper and comes in a red wrapper. I often wonder how we can measure levels of maturity on the journey of Christian faith.

When St Paul wrote his two Epistles or Letters to Timothy, he addressed him as "My loyal child in the faith". His father was a Greek and his mother was a Jew. He is probably a young convert from Paul's first Missionary journey, but he impresses Paul who asks him to join his missionary 'team'. He encourages Timothy to keep the faith and the elders laid hands on Timothy, rather like we do in confirmation. He writes to Timothy : (1 Timothy 4:12) *"Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity...Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you through prophecy with the laying on of hands by the council of the elders..."*

I can remember using this reference when I was a young Christian – "Let no one despise your youth...", though now I am 75, I haven't used it so much lately! But the truth is, no matter how old we are, we all need to continue to grow in faith until our journey ends. The older I get, I realise there is still much I don't yet understand. I realise I must rely on faith. But Christian maturity is not about how much knowledge you have, nor is it about how many times you go to church on Sunday. Nor is it like a maturing Cheese, sitting on a shelf getting mouldier and tastier!

For me, I know that the best way to grow in maturity as a Christian is to cherish and recognise my place in the family of Christ. That place is given to me at my baptism. And so, in the Communion Service we always exchange the Peace. The

priest uses the words “E te whanau, we are the body of Christ”, and the people reply “By one Spirit we were baptized into one body”. Whenever I am with other Christian people, anywhere in the world, in any culture, I still celebrate the reality that I am with Christ’s family and I am welcomed and affirmed there. And it is that wider family of Christ that encourages and guides me, that comforts me and challenges me. In short, it is that family, where Christ is present that leads me on my journey towards maturity. Towards what St Paul in his Letter to the Ephesians (4:13) describes as a journey “to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.” May God bless you as you journey on!

Missions: Irene & Peter Coman

CWS (Christian World services) against poverty

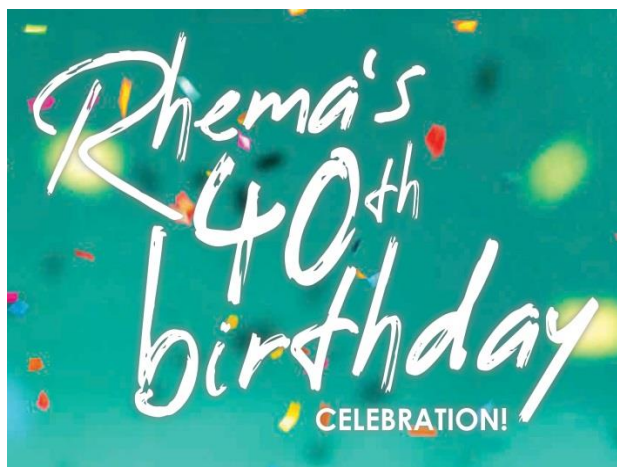
“Be the Lifeline.”

The 2018 Christmas Appeal focusses on the United Nations Agenda for Sustainable Development, more commonly known as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In 2015, the UN made a commitment to the 17 SDGs which follow on from the eight Millennium Development Goals. This Appeal highlights some of the contributions CWS partners are making to achieve the SDGs. These include ending hunger, taking action on the climate and significantly reducing violence. For more information please go to <http://christmasappeal.org.nz> for the details as well as donation form. Donors can also use the CWS envelope to donate.

Examples from our partners’ plans for 2018/2019:

In the **Philippines**, \$2536 will buy approximately 6000 new trees and root crops to improve food security and boost income for 200 households.

In **India**, \$637 will enable EKTA to run training for college students who want to monitor public facilities like bus stations as part of their Safe Madurai campaign.



Rhema is the **Kiwi Christian broadcast** available in NZ. It's been 40 years since it started broadcasting gospel messages and songs. The broadcast is supported by the viewers and listeners. Tune in to **Shine TV (free view)**. And on radio **Star @ 612 AM** to sing along.

FEATURE

Celebrating 125 years at St. Luke's Church, Yaldhurst: Sue Chappell

The foundation stone was laid on Friday 23 June 1893 in the presence of a large number of people from the district. The service was conducted by the incumbent, the Rev W T P Winter. St Luke's Church, School Road, Yaldhurst was consecrated and opened debt-free on 18 October, 1893. The church grounds were given and church planned by Mr John Taylor.

St Luke's Patronal Festival and 125th Anniversary service was held on Sunday 21 October 2018 and this was a very special occasion to have so many people attending.

Messages were received from past clergy: - Stephanie Robson, Shirley Hawke, Phillip Robinson, Gerard Jacobs, Carole Graham, Helen Roud and David Boyd, who were unable to attend for various reasons.

It was wonderful to have Rev Chris Parry-Jennings and Mrs Helen Parry-Jennings, Rev Marcia Hardy and John Hardy attending. Also it was great to have Arthur and Julia Northcote attend, they travelled from Nelson to be with us.

Apologies were also received from past parishioners Peter and Bev Clayton and George and Isobel Morrow.

Family members Adriana de Groot representing organist the Late

Mrs Noeline de Groot (nee Chappell), Audrey South representing organist (for 37 years) the Late Mrs Edna Payne attended. Past organists Ngaire Russell (nee Blank), Brian Cleland and our current organist Audrey Armstrong were at the service.

I wish to record thanks to Haydn Hill and the St Peter's Church Choir for the music during the service, Rev Nick and Kathy Doughty who prepared the service.

Our Methodist neighbours from Christchurch West Methodist Parish - John and Pam Cookson also attended the service.

Following the service we enjoyed a special morning tea and the cutting of the anniversary cake. After this 32 parishioners and friends continued the celebrations over lunch at the home of Sue Chappell.

Prior to the weekend a working bee had been held and the lawns were mowed a few days before the service so the grounds were looking just great.

On a personal note for me it was an emotional weekend as 40 years ago at Labour Weekend my Dad passed away. Dad had been at St Luke's since the Chappell family moved to Yaldhurst in 1923 and he served on Vestry for many years!!

Thank you to everyone who made the weekend so special and it was

such a lovely day too!



Top: Arthur & Sue cutting the Anniversary Cake. Bottom: Parishioners of St Luke's Church, St Peter's Church and guests enjoying the day after morning service celebrating 125 years of God's faithfulness to the Church.



From L to R: Carol, Audrey, Nick, John McLister, John Hardy and Haydn.

History of St. Luke's Church, Yaldhurst

This little country church was built in 1893. However, before it was built, the Revd. Mr Hare, had been holding services in people's homes, including that of Mrs. Anne Sherwood and later in the Yaldhurst Schoolroom. Mrs. Anne Sherwood taught not only her 10 children but others in the district until the school opened in 1876. She ran Sunday School and Bible classes as well as being the local midwife. Clio Herriott, who lived in Yaldhurst for many years, was her granddaughter. Mr. John Taylor, who owned a few acres of land and lived in Yaldhurst, gave the land on which the Church is built. He also drew plans for the church, carved the alter, built the chancel rails and pews and

collected donations towards the building. There is special brass plaque in his memory. Outside to the left of the door on the later extension, is the foundation stone with the date '1893'. The total cost of the building was about \$NZ 550. The bell, fencing materials and font was \$NZ80. The children of Yaldhurst raised \$NZ15 to buy the font. 50 years on, a pot belly was installed to warm the church in winter. And an extension with kitchen and toilet was built and completed in 1994. On Sundays, before the church service begins, the bell installed in the garden is rung All are welcome to this cosy country church. For service timings please, refer to **Page 2** of Gateway.



FEATURE- OUTREACH

ST PETER'S ANGLICAN PRE-SCHOOL

"A child's step into their Christian future through our doors"

The excitement is building as completion date draws near. The building will hopefully be onsite the second week of January. What a fantastic job Simon Winfield is doing along with the Major Project Committee!



As you will see by the photos the building is coming along nicely. It is not surprising how long the process has been when you take into account all the processes we have had to work through. This includes: Parish consultation, Council planning, heritage and educational requirements and finding the right people to partner with in the day-to-day running of the Pre School. At this stage

Tony Bracewell General Manager of Manukau Community Christian Trust is planning to open the Pre School no later than Term 2, 2019, subject to the Education Department sign off. It is reassuring to know that Tony is the General Manger and God is CEO of the Trust! Choosing the best design for our requirements and controlling cost, as there are always unexpected things that crop up. Keith Hay Homes have been fantastic to deal with and share Vestry's excitement about the project.

As we think of the history of the early education programme run at St Peter's, did you know that Riccarton Primary started at St Peter's? It's exciting to think we are reconnecting with our past and moving into the future with leadership and learning for a new generation!

*Article & photos by Heather Caspersen
Graphics and title by Corin Murfitt*

THE KEYS TO A CHILD'S FUTURE



Onsite Visit by Vestry & Projects Manager

FEATURE- OUTREACH

English Conversation Class: Fay Mangos

The class has settled well into our new venue at the Bowden Hall. Thanks to the hard work of Brian Anthony who separated the chairs from groups of two or three into single chairs. (It is very difficult to hold a conversation in a straight line!) Thank you Brian.

A highlight this year has been the employment of Karen Koid for 15 weeks. Karen is an amazing young Malaysian woman who speaks ten languages and holds a Master's Degree in teaching languages to second



language students. Karen has now gone to Laos as a missionary/ teacher of English at a school for girls. Her last email told us how well she has settled in. How she has managed the art of cycling with an umbrella in the rain. There is no limit to her talents!

Our student roll has maintained a steady core of people who have been coming for

several years. We have others coming for a short time while in Christchurch. We have a Mexican family with us for a year while Antonio (father) is on sabbatical.

One of the many rewards for me is to see some of our young women who started in the English Class who now have babies and come to Mainly Music. Pejmam from Iran has joined the "A Team" on a Friday morning and also has a small garden in the Glebe. Oscar a young



Chinese lad who comes to the class with his dad also plays the flute in the orchestra.

We are a very diverse and happy group. The photographs were taken on Karen's last day with us at her "Surprise Farewell Party".

FEATURE

Special General Meeting (SGM) on 28 October 2018 Vestry's treasurer, Bruce William reports.



The excitement is “BUILDING” – our Parish theme for this year is materialising as a result of the resolution passed unanimously at the special general meeting on the last Sunday in October where parishioners gave the ‘go ahead’ for the restoration of St Peter’s Church building to proceed. This was achieved by

the agreement to commit \$500,000 of Glebe funds to the project should the present shortfall of that amount not be raised in the required timeframe.

It is seven years since the 2011 earthquake forced us to evacuate the building. In that time fundraising has been intense. The generosity of parishioners past and present, people associated with St Peter’s through family or other connections, parish groups, local businesses, and other Anglican parishes throughout the world have added to the capital grants from Lottery, Environment & Heritage, Canterbury Earthquake Heritage Building Trust, Christchurch City Council, Hornby-Riccarton Community Board, Rata Foundation, Lion Foundation, Antiss-Garland Charitable Trust and David Ellison Trust to go most of the way to covering the restoration costs. This does not mean the fundraising can stop as we need to repay this \$500,000 if it is drawn, so that ministry in the Parish can be maintained at an acceptable level.



From L to R: Nick, Denise, Bruce, Corin

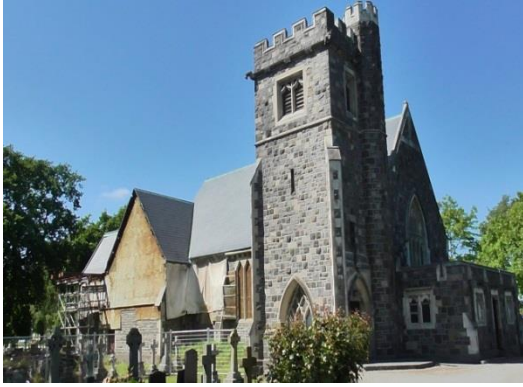
An outline of the restoration cost and funding is as follows:-

	<i>\$000's</i>
Restoration costs	4,400
Costs paid by the Parish from Glebe	<u>300</u>
	4,700
Insurance proceeds	2,057
Capital grants	1,392
Donations	741
Sundry receipts	<u>10</u>
	<u>4,200</u>
Shortfall	<u>500</u>



CPT (Church Property Trustees) informs the parishioners that tender for work on the Church restoration will begin in November 2018 with the target for starting work on site in February 2019.

ST PETER'S RESTORATION FUNDRAISING: David Winfield



A major milestone was reached recently when a Special Meeting of Parishioners unanimously agreed that Church Property Trustees could hold \$500,000 of our Glebe funds for the task of restoration (the parish still receives the income from the investment for ministry use). This means that CPT can now proceed to call tenders for the work and that we will start to see progress early in the New Year. ***What a joy that will be!***

As our Treasurer, Bruce, has outlined previously in this Gateway this money will only be called upon towards the end of the rebuild and we would earnestly hope that ongoing fundraising would have raised most of it by then. So we must redouble our efforts to achieve this goal. Obviously some major gifts would be extremely helpful but other smaller projects will continue to play their part.

In that respect we would encourage you to keep restoration in mind during this run-up to Christmas. We have coming up:

1. a Christmas trivia quiz night was held on Friday 7 December . It was a great success.
2. a grand Christmas raffle will be available (sellers required please) at \$5 a ticket and with multi-draw prizes
3. a new supply of our specially engraved pens will be available and along with our packets of cards and the A4 Brasell prints of the church these make for ideal small gifts

We continue to commend our Living Bequest programme which will leave a legacy of support for all those who follow to cherish and appreciate. By committing to donate \$25 per week over sixty months participants' generosity will be acknowledged in several ways in the restored church, grounds and website and, in addition, will receive an A2 print of John Brasell's painting of the church as a thank-you. Should you prefer, this commitment take the form of a full one-off payment as some have chosen to do. Information brochures are now available or you can contact one of the committee.

The "Blocks and Stones" scheme continues very positively and we would also encourage folk to participate in this way. Gifts of \$500 or \$1000 (or more!) will ensure that donors' names (or the names of loved ones) can be given a permanent record in the restored Church. Further details are on the

website or descriptive brochures available in the Parish Office.

David Winfield, Corin Murfitt, Paul Rhodes, Bob Shearing, Jo Winfield, Nick Mountfort.

As we draw near to the end of 2018 we offer a sincere thank-you to all who have contributed over the course of this year in so many ways. Your thoughtfulness and generosity have been truly remarkable.



Furthur enquiries on donation contact David Winfield Ph: 3228723.

The Church Halls can be used for your event

~Please Do Enquire at the office ~

Donations for Church Restoration Funds ~ www.stpeterschurch.nz

If you wish to visit the church or have queries in our events, please contact the church office for information at stpeter@world-net.co.nz

or

call 348 5653/3485608.

REPORT

AAW St Peter's Church - Barbara Fleming

Our October meeting was '*Stir Up Wednesday*' when we made our Christmas cake to hopefully enjoy at our Christmas meeting.

Perhaps buying a new stove the week before was not a great idea. The proof will be when we cut it.

November is AGM time with election of officers and reports with no surprises anticipated.

Our final meeting for 2018 will be our Christmas meeting on 5th December. The first meeting in 2019 will be on 3rd February 2019.

Barbara Fleming, ph. 342.8982.

Healing Service: Barbara Clarke

The second Healing Service at St. Peter's Church was held in the Bowden Hall on Sunday 30th September at 11am.

This Service is intended for all those who need God's loving embrace especially at this time. The Service is of 20 minutes to half an hour duration, during which those who wish are able to be anointed with Blessed Oil on their foreheads and hands while the Vicar says a prayer for them. No one is asked as to why they may feel the need to have this healing.

At our last Healing Service two hymns, with a healing theme, were sung while being accompanied by Ethan Wilson-Bruce quietly on his guitar.

These Healing Services will be held at 11am on the 5th Sunday of those months which have a 5th Sunday.

A reminder for the Healing Service dates will be in the Sunday Church Bulletin or on the Church website.

CAPTURED

GARAGE SALE – 29 SEPTEMBER 2018

So many things! Where shall I start?



See what I've got!
Good buys Yaeko,
Joseph, Caeli.



Stalls inside the church and outside church grounds - Clothes, toys, books, sausages, furniture, books, china, linen, and lots of many of things.



China store- from L to R Margaret Kent, Pam Austin, Ila Tod



Margaret Mahan
serving food to helpers



Thanks to Gwen, Dennys ,
and Jo - the Garage Sale
organizers.

CAPTURED

Bike to Church Sunday (14th Oct 2018) encourages biking to reduce our carbon foot print .



Remembrance Sunday (11 November 2018) in remembrance of those who perished in WW1. Their sacrificial act is being remembered by many who came to place a cross with a message of love and peace at the altar. Sermon at www.stpeterschurch.nz.



From L to R: Ian, Dorothy, Helen, and guests from the Navy.

CAPTURED

Baptism of baby Lucy Shirley Veint, on 25 November 2018, supported by her family and friends... Lucy is the great granddaughter of Shirley Rhodes. Sermon at www.stpetrschurch.nz.



Stir up Sunday at St Peters (25 November 2018):



Stir up Sunday on 25 November. Parishioners get a go to stir up the delicious fruit cake mix. In picture from L to R: Margaret Kent, Bobbity Murfitt, Adeline Hill, Corin Murfitt, Margaret Kent, Bobbity Murfitt. Picture by Haydn Hill.

Collect: Stir up, O Lord the wills of your faithful people that, richly bearing the fruit of good works, they may by You be richly rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

NOTICES

Caroling 2018 outreach

Join St. Peter's Church Choir in bringing Christmas Carols and cheer to the residents of the homes mentioned below. Music will be provided. All are welcome.

Interested? - Just meet at the venue itself on the stated dates and time or call Haydn and Adeline on ph. 3257464.

ILAM LIFECARE: 17 Dec 6.30 PM

ILAM HOMESTEAD: 18 Dec 6.30 PM

PARKSTONE: 16 Dec 11.20 AM



GRAND CHRISTMAS RAFFLES DRAW

Thursday, 20th December

7.30pm in the Parish Hall

20 prizes to be won!

Lots of prizes to be won including Dinner, bed and breakfast at the Commodore Hotel, Large Hamper, Boccia wristwatch, Wedgewood plates, Gold Bag and more

All proceeds going to St. Peter's Church Restoration



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## LIGHTER MOMENTS

***Proverbs 15: 13-A merry heart makes a cheerful countenance: but by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken.***

Give me a sense of humour dear God, to understand a clean joke and have a good laugh.



The day finally arrived. Forrest Gump goes to Heaven. He is at the Pearly Gates, met by St. Peter himself. However, the gates are closed, and Forrest approaches the gatekeeper.

St. Peter said, 'Well, Forrest, it is certainly good to see you. We have heard a lot about you I must tell you though, that the place is filling up fast, and we have been administering an entrance examination for everyone. The test is short, but you have to pass it before you can get into heaven.'

Forrest responds, 'It sure is good to be here, St. Peter, Sir. But nobody ever told me about any entrance exam. I sure hope that the test ain't too hard. Life was a big enough test as it was.'

St. Peter continued, 'Yes, I know, Forrest, but the test is only three questions.'

First: What two days of the week begin with the letter T?  
Second: How many seconds are there in a year?  
Third: What is God's first name?'

Forrest leaves to think the questions over. He returns the next day and sees St. Peter, who waves him up, and says, 'Now that you have had a chance to think the questions over, tell me your answers'

Forrest replied, 'Well, the first one -- which two days in the week begins with the letter 'T'? Shucks, that one is easy. That would be Today and Tomorrow!' The Saint's eyes opened wide and he exclaimed, 'Forrest, that is not what I was thinking, but you do have a point, and I guess I did not specify, so I will give you credit for that answer. How about the next one?' asked St. Peter.

'How many seconds in a year? Now that one is harder,' replied Forrest, but I thunk and thunk about that, and I guess the only answer can be twelve.'

Astounded, St. Peter said, 'Twelve? Twelve? Forrest, how did you come up with twelve seconds in a year?'



Forrest replied, 'Shucks, there's got to be twelve: January 2nd, February 2nd, March 2nd... '

'Hold it,' interrupts St. Peter. 'I see where you are going with this, and I see your point, though that was not quite what I had in mind....but I will have to give you credit for that one, too. Let us go on with the third and final question. Can you tell me God's first name'?

'Sure,' Forrest replied, 'it's Andy.'

'Andy?' exclaimed an exasperated and frustrated St Peter.

'Ok, I can understand how you came up with your answers to my first two questions, but just how in the world did you come up with the name Andy as the first name of God?'

'Shucks, that was the easiest one of all,' Forrest replied. 'I sing this my favorite song everyday...."  
Andy walks with me, Andy talks with me, Andy tells  
me I am his own....."



**St. Peter opened the Pearly Gates, and said: 'Run Forrest, run.'**

### **Forest's Song**

#### ***In the Garden (Elvis Presley)***

I come to the garden alone  
While the dew is still on the roses  
And the voice I hear  
Falling on my ear  
The song of God discloses....

He speaks and the sound  
Of His voice  
Is so sweet the birds hush their singing  
And the melody  
That He gave to me  
Within my heart is ringing. Repeat Chorus

#### **Chorus:**

And He (Andy) walks with me  
And He (Andy) talks with me  
And He (Andy) tells me I am his own  
And the joy we share  
As we tarry there  
None other has ever known.



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