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Whakawhetai koe (thank you!) to Academy Funeral Services for printing this edition.

the Gateway

Magazine of the Anglican Parish of Upper Riccarton—Yaldhurst

Autumn / Ngahuru 2024



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|--------------------|--|
| Reflections | the Vicar, the Editor, Dr Lucy D'Aeth |
| Reports | Preschool, Christian outreach through social media, St Luke's, A-team |
| | Inter Anglican Liturgical Consultation |
| Parish News | Easter services and events, new service |
| Historical | Light & Life |
| Activities | "A-Mazing" & "Colour-me-in" |

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Facebook: www.facebook.com/stpeterschurchcorner

Usual Sunday services

St Peter's...

8.00 am Holy Communion
9.15 am Holy Communion
10:45am Good News service

St Luke's...

9.30 am Holy Communion every 1st and 3rd
Sunday of the month

← Cover—St Luke's (Yaldhurst) church and grounds.

From the calendar

- 28th April—Sunday parish AGM
- 12th May—Petersgate service
- 14th June—Book Sale
- 23rd June—Preschool service
- 30th June—St Peter's patronal service
- 7th July—Nurse Maude service
- 1st September—Spring service
- 4th August—Racing service
- 1st September—Spring service
- 8th September—Preschool service 5th birthday
- 5th October—Plant & garden sale
- 6th October—Pet service / St Francis day
- 12th October—Garage sale
- 20th October—St Luke's patronal service
- 27th-30th October—Parish retreat



St Peter's Church Corner
- Serving since 1858 -
www.stpeterschurch.nz

New Service!

Starting
7th April, 10:45am

You're invited!

Good Music
Good Kids programme
Good Coffee
GOOD NEWS!

Baptisms

- Isabella Karen Abbot—Date baptised: 10/01/2024
- Gemma Marie White—Date baptised: 17/02/2024
- Sophie Rose White—Date baptised: 17/02/2024
- Charlotte Clara White—Date baptised: 17/02/2024

Funerals

- Oliver Michael Renwick 01/03/2024
- Charlotte Joy Dolden 01/03/2024

Weddings none

Spectacle drop-off

Many thanks for the spectacles that have been dropped off in the marked drop-off bag in the back of the church. They will be sent to the Fred Hollows Foundation NZ to be passed on to those who need them across the Pacific islands.



Thank you - keep them coming!

Leigh Craythorne (03)342 9110

Got a story idea?

We encourage you to submit stories or ideas for stories, comment on any article, or send feedback by emailing the editor. **We would love to hear from you!**

Vicar's message / Karere a Minita

The Emperor's new gateway

Ven Nick Mountfort



On a recent trip to South Korea to represent the church at the *International Anglican Liturgical Consultation*, I was invited to walk through a gateway. Legend has it that if you walk through this gateway you lose ten years. It was in the Emperor's palace and he got younger every year. Well, certainly no one had the courage to tell him he was looking older! Anyway it must have worked because I was asked to show my ID at Woolworths. Should have gone to spec savers!



The Emperor's gate

This is the Easter edition of the Gateway magazine. It takes its name from the little wooden lych gate at the entrance to the cemetery. Originally this gateway was the porch of the very first St Peter's in 1858. But this magazine also serves as a "gateway" to all the exciting events your parish has to offer.

Easter provides another gateway. Jesus describes himself as the gate to new life in John's Gospel. The context is the discourse about Jesus the Good Shepherd. He had in mind not a mystical Korean gate nor a wooden lych gate, but the shepherd's job of lying across the opening in the sheep pen. Thus, he became literally the gate to the sheep fold.

Easter celebrates the resurrection of Jesus from the dead; a real and tangible sign of the resurrected life that Jesus offers us through him.

But the news gets even better. The new life we have in Christ begins now. This is the whole point of the sacraments and worship and church and the body of Christ. We can enjoy the new life that starts today.

We bring you this Gateway magazine so that you can live that new life right now.

~Nick 

Sing praise to the Lord!

Heather Cox

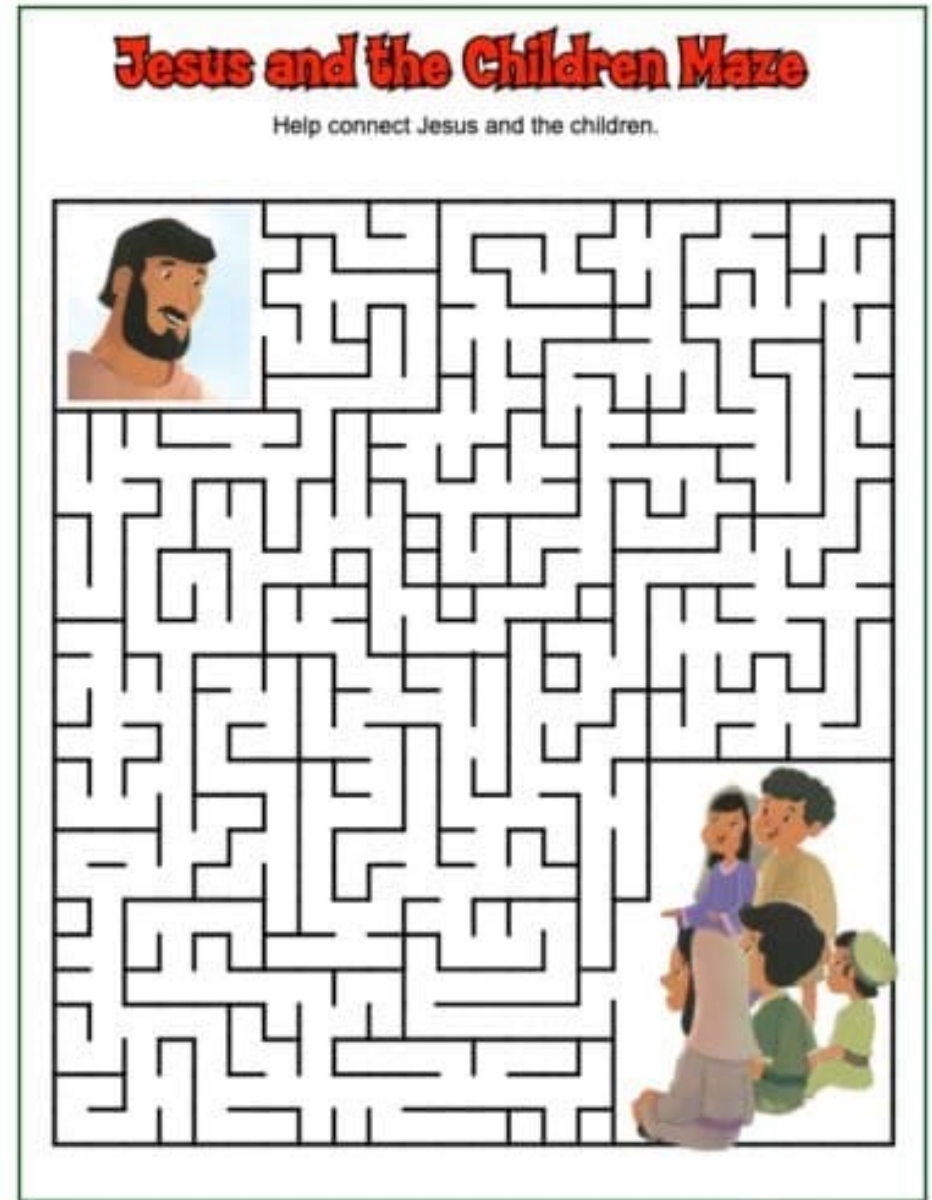
Hymnody—what an intriguing word that is. I first heard it when St Peter’s choir was invited to a hymn concert organized by the Royal School of Church Music (RSCM), which was held in February at the beautiful Knox church. The Oxford dictionary gives the meaning of hymnody *as the singing or composition of hymns*, but it is so much more than that. It is the marriage of lyricism and music, where each component complements the other to create a meaningful and spiritual experience. So often we go through the motions of singing along to the hymns without thinking about the words, but hymn singing provides the opportunity for us all to proclaim our faith together. It is so easy to come to church every Sunday and to take each part of the service for granted because it is all so familiar. There is a comfort to that (because change can be disconcerting), but it is important to remain focused on the beauty and meaning of the words of the service as well as the hymns.

This year there is a change being made to our service times, and, with the new 10.45^{am} service, a change of style as well. For many, making these adjustments will be hard. I am not a morning person, so having to get up a little bit earlier will be a challenge! However, this is a minor sacrifice when we consider the importance of growing the church. Somehow, we need to infuse the younger generation with the joy of belonging, not just to Christ, but to a caring, supportive community which encompasses all ages and cultures. It is particularly encouraging to have some of the younger members of the Victory Church joining us.

We have just completed Easter, which is a time of reflection and celebration. It is worthy to note that the life of Jesus, his death and his subsequent resurrection changed the world.



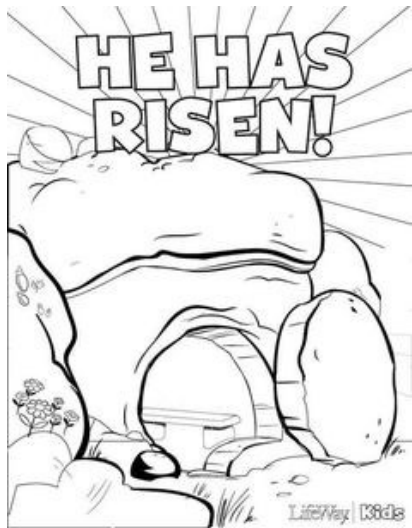
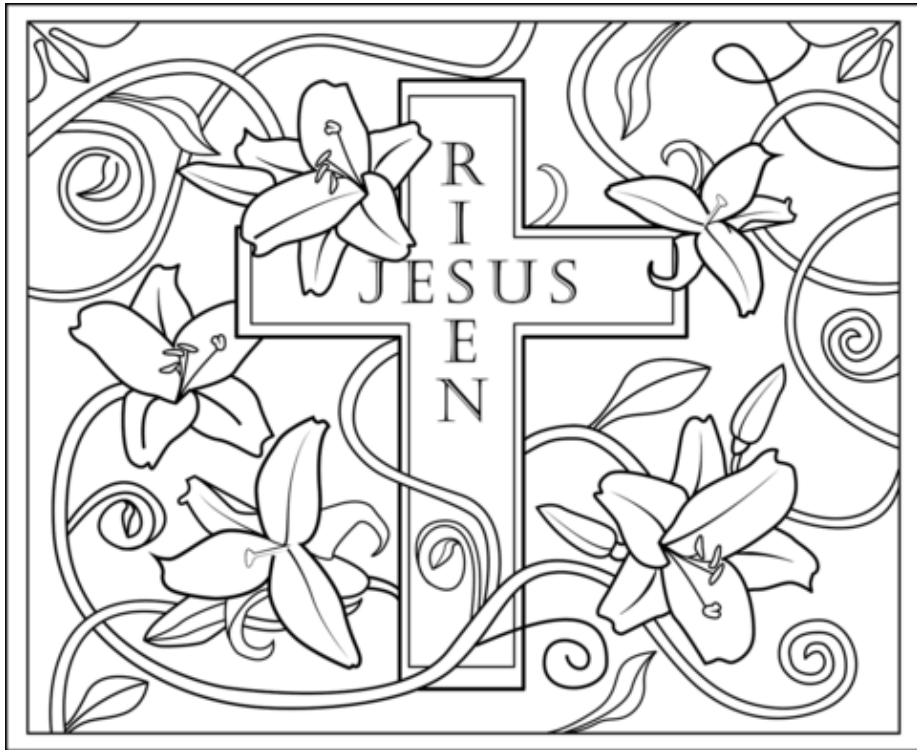
AMAZING



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COLOUR ME / TAE AHAU



Historically time is divided into BC, meaning Before Christ, and AD, Anno Domini, which is Latin for in the year of the Lord. Millions of Christians have lived and died knowing the best is yet to come, with the promise of eternal love and rest steadfast in their hearts.

Christ is alive! Alleluja!

The secret of change is to focus all of your energy not on fighting the old, but on building the new—Socrates



Easter Sunday



Greening the cross



Chocolate eggs for the choir



Greening the cross

Greetings from St Luke's

Carol Carryer

The cooler mornings have started, but that has not put people off from attending our church service or our Coffee and Chat mornings. There was a great turnout on Christmas morning, and we ran out of service sheets, which was a good sign, I think. Thank you David Winfield for taking the Christmas Service.

January started well with a service led by Gerard Jacobs on the 7th. As always, his sermon was insightful. At this service we also finally managed to give a formal thank you to Janet Noonan for her long-standing assistance at St Luke's. We are blessed that we have such able people taking our services in such varied ways. As always over the summer holiday period the numbers were up and down throughout January but we are seeing old and new faces at our 9.30^{am} service. One such old face was Audrey Armstrong who came out to play for us while Anne-Marie, our regular organist took a break. Thank you Audrey, it was great to see you and thank you to Barbara for bringing her out to us.

Maintenance Thank you to James Cliff for being our liaison person with regards to all things that need to be fixed. As with all old buildings there is always something to be done, whether it be bulbs that need changing, wires to be reconnected or ants that need to be got rid of; the list of jobs is endless. The ceiling of the vestry is one such job. It is hoped that painting the ceiling white will lighten the room and make it nicer to use. Another such job is the huge rubbish pile at the back of the church property. Sue Chappell and her brother John have this in hand once the harvesting of crops is completed and the fire ban is lifted. Along with the A-Team, they are making plans to get this big job done.



(L-R) Janet Noonan & Sue Chappell

Clumping plants (herbaceous perennials) including asters, hostas, peony roses, ornamental grasses, and also bulbs, will grow better if thinned out. Use a sharp spade to separate out a clump and remove excess soil. Place in a bucket of water and plant straight away. Water in well.



Dividing a hosta clump

The website aucklandbotanicgardens.co.nz has some great tips to help.

Last year some people planted daffodils, tulips and other bulbs in decorative pots which made lovely gifts to purchase. There are numerous videos on YouTube which provide many useful tips and suggest a range of plants which can be grown easily.

We also sell tools, garden ornaments, outdoor furniture, vases, mowers, stakes, large pots and so forth and these can be dropped off on a Friday morning at the garage sale container. While you may be cleaning out garages, sheds or cupboards do keep us in mind, as these usually sell very quickly.

We have many experienced gardeners in our parish so if you need help please ask and we will do our best. We would love to grow and expand our gardening community, so if interested please get in touch. No experience is needed!

Fiona, Ann, Diane and Angela (Plant Sale Team)



October 7th 2023

Annual plant sale (5th October)

Fiona Gilmore

Many people have already started potting up plants for this year's plant sale. Potting mix can be collected from the shed (behind the main hall) and there is an abundance of pots available, so please help yourself. We are looking for more people to prepare plants for sale and even if you are able to do a couple that would be greatly appreciated.

Now that we are in autumn, this is a great time to pot up some plants. When potting up any plants remember to record the colour and plant name. Plants such as hydrangeas, winter roses, fuchsias, lavender, buxus, succulents and hebes and many indoor plants can be grown from cuttings.

Tips include: Make sure the cutting is about 15cm long and remove leaves from the bottom half. Place cutting in water or a cutting mix which is free draining, until roots appear. A rooting hormone can be used but is not essential. Keep the water clean and full. Plant in potting mix and place in a shady area away from too much sun. Covering the plant may also promote growth. You will know that the plant has begun to root when new leaves appear.

The diagram below comes from *thespruce.com* website which has some great advice on how to propagate and grow a range of plants. Check it out as it is really practical and easy to navigate.



Sue Chappell's brother John, and his tractor, load St Luke's garden rubbish into the truck (Photographs from Sue Chappell)



Brian Anthony replacing a rotten window frame at St Luke's

John Chappell operating every man's ultimate toy!



Grounds maintenance We will be having an autumn clean up soon, so if you would like to join us, keep your eye out on the weekly bulletin for details.

St Luke's is now fully fenced on three sides due to the building projects going on around us. From the church's perspective, it is a shame they are businesses rather than residential. God moves in mysterious ways, so who knows! Unfortunately, we can no longer see the St Luke's sign from the main road. We are going to have to come up with a plan to rectify this. I will keep you informed as I learn more.

Coffee and Chat After a successful trial run with the Coffee and Chat mornings it was decided that we would continue. They are held on the 3rd Monday of the month, now starting at 9.30^{am}. All are welcome. We have met a number of new people and they have all been enthusiastic about what we are trying to accomplish. The weather has been kind to us, so we moved the food laden table to the foyer into the beautiful sunshine to have our coffee and morning tea outdoors.

House Group A small group met once a fortnight at James and Robyn Cliff's home for Lenten studies. We appreciated their hospitality and the shared fellowship.

Photographs from Carol Carryer

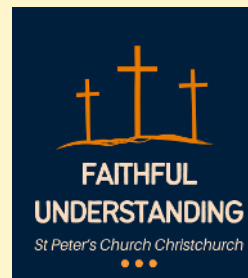


A happy bunch of chatters at Coffee & Chat on 18th March.

I believe this can be achieved through podcasts. I believe the younger generations desire to see a reality coming from the church, for depth in conversation, and for authenticity. It is hard to show this through our old 2023 digital plan. The power of the podcast is that it is a long form conversation. This means that it is impossible to be anything but genuine in these conversations. People will get to see that Christians do struggle, they make mistakes, they can be wrong about things, and they can be upset. But they are aiming for something good, and doing so in love. This is the real human experience, which is so missing from today's world.

At the time of writing we have three episodes out. These can be found on our YouTube channel

<https://www.youtube.com/@stpeterschristchurch>



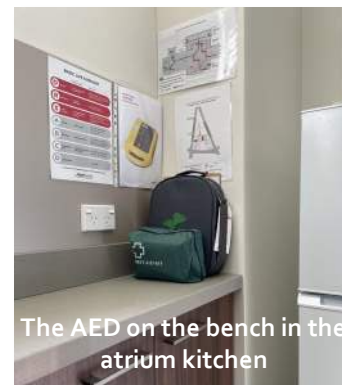
We are always searching for people to speak to. So, if you have a passion or a concern, whether you are a Christian or not, we want to offer you the opportunity to come and have a chat.

Just send me an email:
ewilsonbrucew@gmail.com



Health & safety / Hauora & marutau

Reminder!



The AED on the bench in the atrium kitchen

We have two defibrillators in the church buildings.

- One mounted on the wall beside the kitchen in the main hall.
- The other sitting on the left-hand bench in the kitchen in the atrium.

It is important that each and every one of us is aware of where they are kept—you never know when you may be the one called on to save a life!

The power of conversation

Ethan Wilson-Bruce

2024 sparks a new endeavour for our digital ministry at St Peter's Church Upper Riccarton. In what seems to be an increasingly divided world, with wars, climate divisions, and a hostile political landscape, the search for common ground and a united front seems to be a lost idea today. So at St Peter's, we have started a podcast called *Faithful Understanding*, in the hopes of seeking common ground, finding peace and unity amongst divisions, exploring what faith means, and helping those recognise the peace that Jesus wishes for us all.



Through Jesus' ministry, there were many times where his one-on-one conversations brought understanding, encouragement and learning. One of my favourite moments was Jesus speaking to the woman at the well. Jesus lets her speak about her understanding of the divisions in the culture at that time, and how Jews did not associate with Samaritans. Throughout their conversation together, Jesus is able to speak and reflect with her about her marriage and then offer her peace and encouragement through faith going forward. This is what we aim to do with our podcast. We seek to bring understanding to divisions, peace to personal turmoil, and the hope of the Good News going forward.

In 2023 we were able to have significant outreach through our digital ministry, with millions of people seeing our content. As exciting as this was, it became clear that those who were watching our content were not engaging with the content but becoming "an audience" of consumers. This is not why we started our digital ministry. Instead, we seek to create community through the digital medium, to reach out to those without physical connections, so that they may at least be able to find connection digitally.



Anne-Marie Manzano plays the keyboard during Harvest Festival

Coffee & Chat
3rd Monday of the month
9:30am - 11:00am

19 February	17 June	21 October
18 March	15 July	18 November
15 April	19 August	16 December
20 May	16 September	

Join us while you catch up with friends over your morning coffee

St Luke's Anglican Community Church
43 School Road, Goldhurst
Contact: Carol 027 686 2803



The decorated St Luke's altar at the Harvest Festival service on 17th March.

The 10:45^{am} Good News service

Heather Cox

April 7th saw the introduction of a new service at St Peter's. The informality and warmth from this service, which is aiming to attract those between the ages of zero to thirty-five, was immediately apparent. Emphasis will be placed on the 4 Gs—Good kids' programme, Good music, Good coffee and Good news. It is very much a learning curve at present, both for the clergy and parishioners, but this introductory service left a good feeling, and is definitely worth supporting by everyone, regardless of age.



Nick talks with the children



Musicians at their work



Stones with the cross



Laying our stones before the cross symbolizes sharing our problems with God



Children's activities in the atrium

Community hymn singing of favourites and some new to members enhanced a memorable afternoon, but many acknowledged the highlight being our own choir conducted by Bob Gaudin (who shared a very erudite description about each of our pieces) and Bill Grubb at the organ.



The St Peter's choir singing in the Knox church, at the Royal School of Church Music meeting.

Thanks to the RSCM New Zealand website for some of this material. Refer to: <https://rscmnz.org.nz/2024/02/22/rscm-director-hugh-morris-in-nz/>



Choir at RSCM meeting

David Winfield

Hugh Morris, director of the Royal School of Church Music from the UK, visited New Zealand in February and concluded his tour with a special event in Christchurch at Knox Church in Bealey Ave. St. Peter's provided the featured choir and represented us with distinction.

Hugh enthralled those attending with the story of the RSCM yesterday, today and in the future, describing NZ and Australia as two of RSCM's finest partners. He went on to say that some of his best experiences had come as a result of singing hymns. Once he had asked Rowan Williams (a past Archbishop of Canterbury) "What shall I do?" The response was "Get the people to sing".

Hugh emphasised that the RSCM was reliant on tens of thousands of volunteers. The help that RSCM gives includes its website, music resources from the publishing arm, and *Voice for Life* training. It was essential that RSCM should also focus on young people.

A survey of church choirs, their member numbers, ages and composition (ie SATB, SA, unison only etc.) had been conducted recently. It revealed various percentages of fully staffed cathedral choirs to the many churches without any choirs. It was an RSCM aim to encourage and support the latter so music could flourish.

As host of the occasion, the Revd Dr Matthew Jack, minister of Knox Church, shared his insights about *Hymnody*. The essence was a combination of "text, music and faith". He confessed he had once written the lyrics for a hymn which was set to music by one of his friends. It was well received and NZ Television One from time to time would play it in their regular Sunday programme, *Praise Be*. For this, Matthew would receive each time the princely sum of three cents.



Hugh Morris

The Whitcombe-Stevens window

Graeme Cox

In the Chapel's North wall, illuminated by late morning light, is the Whitcombe-Stevens window. It is a colourful and detailed window in three parts.

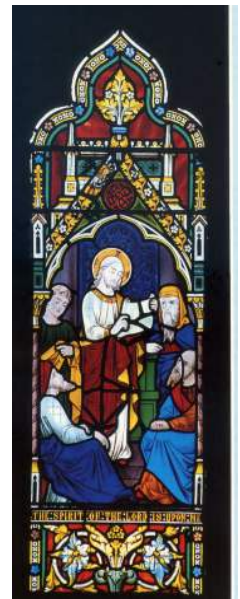
At the top sits a trefoil representing the Holy Trinity. Just below, we see Mary and Joseph finding Jesus in the temple in discussion with Jewish teachers. In the lower section, Jesus is in the Synagogue, reading from the book of Isaiah.

In 1869, Maria Whitcombe, having previously been widowed and left with five children, including her daughter Catherine, married Edward Stevens in St Peter's church. A son Herbert was born in 1872, but died five months later. Further tragedy struck just over three years later when daughter Catherine died, aged fifteen. This window was given in memory of Herbert Stevens and Catherine Whitcombe by their parents.

Edward Stevens made a significant contribution to the history of Canterbury. He regarded his greatest achievement as the establishment of the Public Trust Office. He loved cricket, playing for Canterbury for twenty years, and organised the first visits from English teams.

Errata: In the previous edition, we misspelled the name of the person who designed and created the Audrey Storer window. His name was Stephen Bélanger-Taylor.

*Information included here is from Audrey Storer's book, **Light and Life**, available for purchase from the parish office for \$25.*



Parish events

World day of prayer



Margaret Bourne

Every year on the first Friday in March, the *World Day of Prayer* service is held in countries all around the world. Each year it is prepared and written by a different country. This year it was the turn of the WDP Committee of Palestine, and it was entitled *I Beg You ... Bear With One Another in Love*. As the service takes a few years to plan it was written before the present conflict.

It is always an ecumenical service, and this year on March 1st St Peter's hosted it for four local churches—the Catholics, Presbyterians, Methodists and Anglicans.

On arrival for the service each person was given a twig from an olive tree and a book mark with a picture of olives on it. The sanctuary was decorated with olive branches, jasmine and a cactus plant. Those taking the service processed into the church carrying baskets of citrus fruits, olives and olive oil and added them to the other symbols. The service was very thoughtful and meaningful and was appreciated by those who attended.

During the service we heard the personal stories of three Palestinian women—an older one, a middle aged one and a younger one. They were read by three women from the local churches. Their stories told us how difficult their lives were and were very sad and moving stories.



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Contact: Shyuan
E: stpeterspreschool@mcctrust.nz
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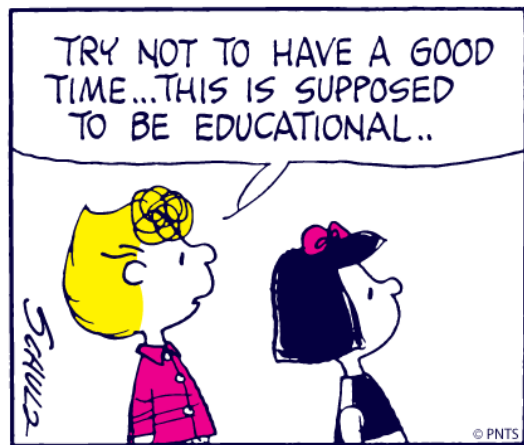
Enrol today!

Our partnership with the parish of Upper Riccarton-Yaldhurst continues to deepen as we find new ways to add to the relationship. The parish and preschool staff regularly discuss ways we can add value to our wonderful partnership. We will again invite parish staff to join in our termly staff communion (and parish staff tea when they start up again).

Thank you to the clergy and parishioners for your ongoing prayer and support of the preschool. It is valued far more than you realise. Prayer is one of the foundations of our preschool and our hearts are eager to do the Lord's work in this special place. We are excited to see what the Lord has for us in the months and years ahead.

I have been hearing and reflecting a lot lately about Jesus' sacrifice for us at Easter. Two things have stood out to me:

1. On Palm Sunday, when Jesus rode into Jerusalem, he knew that Good Friday was coming and did it anyway. To know that horrendous suffering is on the horizon and to keep your eyes on the course—pretty amazing!
2. When Jesus washed the disciples' feet, he washed the feet of Judas, who was soon to betray him. Jesus knew Judas was going to betray him, yet served him in this humble way. That is love! I wonder if I would have the strength of character, humility and love to do that—that is my challenge for all of us this Easter. ~**God bless!**



The music for the hymns was unfamiliar. The words were in Arabic and in English. We sang some in English and said others with the pleasant music in the background.

The collection this year was for support for Christian World Service, the Bible Society and the Interchurch Council for Hospital Chaplaincy in NZ. The collection taken was \$516. After the service we enjoyed a time of fellowship over morning tea.

We were very grateful to Ethan and Bill Grubb for their help with the overhead projection and music.



Meditation on the cross of Jesus

Dr Lucy D'Aeth



Dr Lucy D'Aeth from the Christchurch West Methodist parish

What language shall I borrow, to thank you, dearest friend, for this your dying sorrow, your mercy without end?

It is a daunting thing to speak on this day, when we remember the death of our God. It is painful to hear that long gospel reading—so many moments when God reveals Godself to us—so many encounters between Jesus and the people around him. Each encounter a powerful lens shedding light on the mystery of our God.

You've just heard it—which bits spoke to you? Did anything sound fresh or unfamiliar?

Tell me the story slowly, that I may take it in—tell me the old old story of Jesus and his love.

The great dynamic between the storyteller and the listener is never static. I'm calculating that between us we will have heard these gospel passages thousands and thousands of time. Many of us have been singing these hymns since we were little. These ideas percolate through our lives and reveal fresh meanings as we grow in experience. Now that I'm the mother of grown sons, the encounters between Jesus and his mother take on a new power for me—how can anyone bear to watch the authorities torture their boy, humiliate and break him?

Which of the many encounters we've just heard resonate with you today because of what is happening in your life? Today is the day to really focus on that, and to ask God for insight and healing through the gospel lens. If a phrase or image touches our heart, today is the day to sit with it and see what it reveals of God.

I've read the passages several times over the past couple of weeks and I'll tell you what was fresh and revealing for me—it was the bureaucratic wrangling between the authorities, the legal arguments, the trading off between the two legal systems, the Jewish theocracy and the Roman Empire.

Your faithful prayers for our ongoing roll growth are being answered this year. Our roll has dipped a little but God is faithful and is slowly filling our spaces. Roll growth is important for two reasons:

1. It gives more opportunities for more families to hear the wonderful news of Jesus' love.
2. It helps the preschool financially to help pay the staff and the other bills we have.

One of the highlights for term 1 was the staff bi-annual hui, where all staff from all the MCC Trust preschools join together for fellowship and professional development (over a delicious meal). The focus of our hui in March was an innovative new way of documenting children's learning (created by God through the Trust's education adviser Melitta Henry) that is going to CUT DOWN on teachers' paperwork—that is revolutionary!



Our children enjoyed preparing for our family Easter celebrations—at church for Palm Sunday and on Friday April 5th when we take the older children to visit the St Allisa rest home. We had a small but enthusiastic turn out of children join in the service for Palm Sunday, and some even rode Edmund the real donkey, then walked behind him around the church (just like the crowd of people did on Palm Sunday when Jesus rode into Jerusalem as a king).

Head teacher's update

Liz Orr

Greetings from the management, staff and children of St Peter's Anglican Preschool to the clergy, vestry, and parishioners of St Peter's and St Luke's. **Namaste, Kumusta, Ni Hao, Selamat, Hi, Vannakkum, Bula, Kia Ora, Asalamo Alaikum, Talofa, and È nlé o.** That is "hello" in eleven languages that represent our cultures at preschool.

Term 1 The preschool has had two distinct parts. The first four weeks were a time of transition for children and staff. We farewelled fifteen children who graduated for primary school, which significantly changed the child dynamics. It took the children a few weeks to get used to a new normal, and for new friendship groups to establish and new leaders to emerge.

We also farewelled Teacher Ariana in January to new adventures in her Christian journey. We welcomed two new teachers at the beginning of the year. Becca joined our team in January as our specialist Under-two's teacher. She has quickly established lovely relationships with our youngest children and their families. Esther joined us in February as part of the Kowhai Room team. Esther is Korean and quickly formed wonderful relationships with our Korean parents. We are looking forward to increasing our connections with the Korean church and cultural communities in our local area with Esther's support.



Teacher Esther



Teacher Becca

The end of the first term is on the horizon and, as I write this, we are starting week eleven (out of thirteen) of the term already. We have welcomed nine children and their families this term, and three children have left during the term, as well as seventeen that have graduated.

It's pitiful—we can't kill him because your legal system outranks ours, say the Chief Priests. Anyway, we can't kill him because of our religious observances coming up to Passover. And we can't kill him, says Pilate, because what he's said isn't a crime for us. And anyway, I don't want his blood on my hands because he unnerves me.

It's ugly, hardball, bureaucratic negotiation. It's seeking small print to get rid of a problem, without creating more problems. It's *Yes, Minister* stuff but without the laughs. It smacks of the relentless bureaucracy of all authoritarian regimes—the Nazis and the Stasi and Guantanamo Bay, the British Empire and the slave trade. Evil disguised in red tape, filing cabinets and protocols—the banality of oppressive systems. They even argue about the wording of the press release—*Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews*. Pilate refuses to change it.

Before the crowds are whipped up to bay for Jesus' crucifixion, there is this legal haggling which chills my soul, because casual, bureaucratic cruelty is still at large today—on death row, in refugee camps, in remand prisons, in hospital waiting lists. It's not an easy machine to interrupt—inexorable illogical power smothering healing and liberation.

Continued next page...



Why, what has my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite? He made the lame to run. He gave the blind their sight. Then crucify is all their breath, and for his death they thirst and cry.

Today we are bearing witness to the systematic execution of Love itself. Not just in the old, old story, but in the basements of Gaza, in the apartments of Ukraine, and in the streets and homes across Aotearoa.

As we sit here, there will be people in their own Gethsemanes, carrying their crosses and feeling the shame and terror and pain of violence, of addiction, of loneliness and bitter grief. There's still plenty of rage and spite out there, and I fear possibly in here as well.

There's no point in contemplating the cross in here, if we aren't also acting in solidarity with those people, across the world and in our neighbourhoods, our people, perhaps even ourselves. We are here to remember that our God, the source of all love and joy and hope, went to death, allowed himself to be extinguished, literally went to hell and back to reveal how much he loves us.

Tis mystery all, the immortal dies! Who can explore his strange design?

Well certainly not me. As you'll have noticed, I'm very reliant on the hymnwriters who have gifted us ways to meditate and sink our roots into this mysterious life giving story.



This reflection from Dr Lucy D'Aeth was presented as her sermon in St Peter's at the Good Friday service.



Brian, Gwen and Joe unloading topsoil for the glebe



Morning tea with the A-Team.



- Annually bag up potting mix for plant sale plants
- Paint and repair items on the vicarage and rental houses, and on both halls
- Repair rotten windows and framing in St Luke's church
- Repair signage at St Luke's and St Peter's
- Empty the three waste wheelie bins around St Peter's cemetery
- Remove the recyclable cardboard, cans, plastic and glass from St Peter's and deposit them at the transfer station
- Repair sunken ground in the cemetery by filling with trailer loads of topsoil from Tai Tapu, donated by Paul Rhodes
- Lay topsoil from the formation of the preschool carpark on the low parts of the glebe and resow with grass seed
- Rake and transport trailer loads of acorns to the Arion Farm Park to be used as animal food

Do the maths! In order to estimate the annual value of A-Team to the parish, I have taken the average number of attendees (six), multiplied this by the average number of days per year (40), multiplied this by three hours per day, and multiplied this by \$22 per hour = \$15,840. So, if we did this for the twelve years we have been going, the value would be \$190,080. But, in addition to this, the minimum call-out fee to get a tradesman these days is \$100. I hate to think what the true cost to the parish would be without an A-Team to do the work.

What is our reward? Well, it comes in various forms, such as the scrumptious morning tea we share each Friday morning, the satisfaction of a useful job well done at minimal cost, and the friendly thanks given us by parishioners and random strangers.

If you would like to join us, please come on a Friday morning at any time, and at least join us for a delicious morning tea!

Services / Karakia

Recent celebrations

Palm Sunday



Rev Peg reads about Dave the donkey



Maundy Thursday



Vicar washes feet



Stripping the sanctuary at the end of the service

- Build a new paling fence between the vicarage and the parish garden
- Regularly maintain the parish garden to produce vegetables and fruit
- Repair and maintain fences, including the boundary fence along Curletts Road, the bollards and chain along Yaldhurst Road and Main South Road, and the fence between Petersgate and 27 Yaldhurst Road
- Repair the drainage coming from the hall by diverting it from a defunct soak pit, into a stormwater drain at the back of the Vicarage, and laying Novaflo drainage along the access road between the cemetery and the two halls
- Periodically waterblast the Bowden Hall and the glass veranda of the Main Hall
- Periodically collect scrap metal and exchange for cash from the metal recyclers
- Repair leaking taps and blocked drains
- Replace the rotten wooden gates to the vicarage with wrought iron gates, refit the wrought iron gate onto Yaldhurst Road, and refit the gates to the church at Main South Road
- Periodically, trim (prune) all trees on the whole property (both St Peter's and St Luke's), and chip the waste or cut the larger material into firewood. Note, nothing goes to the dump—all is recycled as compost or chip or firewood
- Annually rake the leaves during leaf fall and compost them in the parish compost bins
- Annually empty compost bins by selling compost, and putting the rest on the parish gardens
- Regularly maintain the rose garden
- Attempt to maintain the Priest's Walk
- Regularly replace blown light bulbs in the halls or churches, and fix the locks when they stop working
- Lay gravel on the roads and tracks at St Peter's and at 27 Yaldhurst Road
- Build a garden shed kindly donated by Peg Riley and David Lewis.

Time to do the maths!

Dennys Guild

The A-Team has been going for some years, so it is time to take stock of its achievements and recount a bit of its history.

For those of you who do not already know, the A-Team is a group of volunteers who meet on Friday mornings to undertake odd jobs around the parish buildings and grounds, including St Lukes, in order to reduce the expense of having tradesmen or handymen come in to do the work. We also help out the paid groundsman by undertaking some of the jobs that are more easily done by a group rather than a person on his or her own.

I was reminded recently that the A-Team started about seventeen years ago, when Arthur Mahan and Brian Anthony used to meet on Wednesday mornings. I found that Friday mornings were more convenient when Gwen used to open the garage to receive and sort goods for the twice-yearly garage sales. This meant that the two teams involved could get together for a shared morning tea.

Over the twelve years we have been meeting on Friday mornings, we have had a number of men and women on our team including: **Max Anderson, Brian Anthony*, John Robb, Dennys Guild*, Roger, Fergus Gillon*, John Hendy, Joe Motoi*, David Winfield, Courtney Ellis, Gill Olliver/Schroeder, Keith Marshall*, Peji, Roger Merriweather, Gwen Guild*, Fred Chung*, Chris Sinclair*, David Lewis*, Peter Troon***

(* denotes current active members)

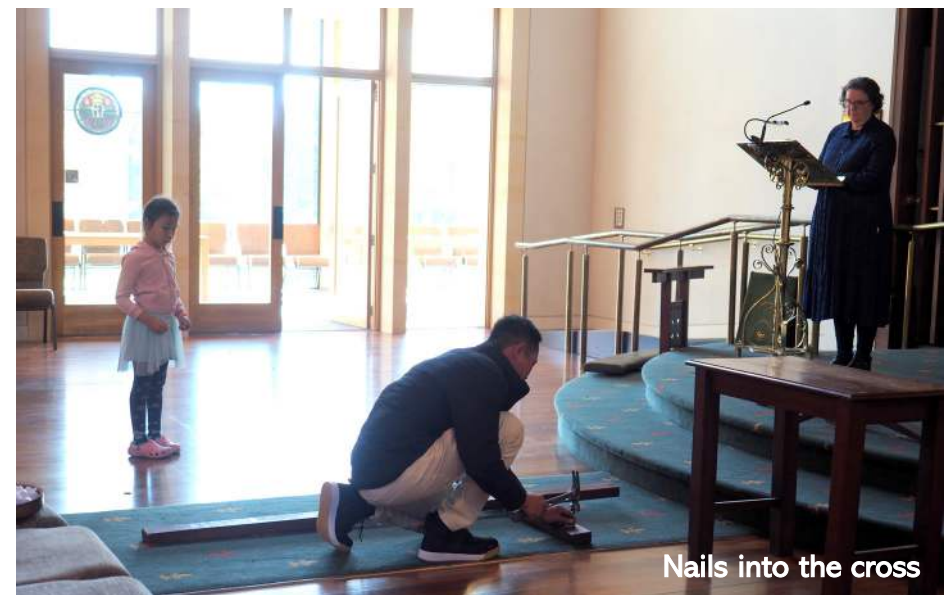
Here is a selection of some of the jobs we have done over the years:

- Annually, trim the hedges around the Vicarage and elsewhere
- Annually (until it got too difficult for us) clear leaves from the spouting of four houses, two halls and two churches

Good Friday



Placing candles



Nails into the cross

Inter Anglican Liturgical Consultation

from the Anglican Communion News Service

The International Anglican Liturgical Consultation (IALC) met in Seoul, Korea [from 19th-23rd February]. IALC is the official network for liturgy in the Anglican Communion, reporting to the ACC, bringing together liturgists and worship leaders from around the communion, to consult, study, and pray together, and to offer resources to the Churches. Consultations are held at least every three years. The Seoul meeting has shared a Communiqué.

Forty two members were present from seventeen Churches of the Communion. This was the first in-person meeting of the IALC since 2019, having met online during the pandemic.

The Consultation was hosted by the Anglican Church of Korea and The Cathedral Church of St Mary the Virgin and St Nicholas, Seoul. The Most Revd Kyong-Ho Peter Lee, Bishop of Seoul and Primate of Korea, welcomed the consultation and presided at a celebration of the Eucharist during the week.



This is the conference that our Vicar recently attended. (Where's Wally—whoops—Nick)

Important role of the Eucharist in Anglican Liturgy

The consultation in Seoul heard reports from different churches about the ways in which changing contexts impact the worshipping life of churches. Their joint Communiqué covers several themes including the impact of the global Covid pandemic and resources available for liturgical work; the growth of material now being provided through web-based access and the ways churches are approaching the translation of liturgical materials.

The Communiqué also comments on the importance of renewal of the Eucharist in the Churches of the Communion, that considers the significant cultural, social and technological changes that have happened in the past 30 years. It says: “Throughout the Communion there have been significant changes in the way we gather and understand worship, and worship leaders and churches need support in managing the diverse challenges that all face.”

The Communiqué quotes work undertaken by the 5th IALC in 1995 which said: “In the future Anglican unity would find its liturgical expression, not so much in uniform texts as in a common approach to eucharistic celebration and a structure which will ensure a balance of word prayer and sacrament.” The 2024 Communiqué notes: “That future is now here.”

Following this consultation, further work will be undertaken by a Steering Committee to consider how to promote the work across the communion. IALC Consultations are held at least every three years, and each Consultation appoints a steering committee that coordinates liturgical thinking between those meetings.

The Revd Neil Vigers, Programme Executive for Unity, Faith and Order at the Anglican Communion and Secretary to IALC said, “It was a delight to meet together as Anglican brothers and sisters here in Seoul. We had a wonderful welcome from the Diocese of Seoul, and they supported us in our work together. It has been a richly blessed week.”

