

Church on the Hill

Sunday 2 April 2017



Theme: Speaking life
Vicar: Susan Gill
Preacher: Susan Gill

Readings: Ezekiel 37:1-14, John 11:1- 45

Sentence:

I will put my Spirit in you, and you will live again and return home to your own land. Then you will know that I, the Lord, have spoken, and I have done what I said.

- Ezekiel 37:14

Prayer for the day:

God of hope, in Jesus we see a life that never dies. Surrounded by death and violence may we never give in to despair, but rest in you, our resurrection and our life.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Following Jesus, Building Community



Random thoughts on AGMs and church a Community Life

AGM time is when we celebrate all the Lord has done in and through us over the last year. We also look forward to what our God will do.

We've been using a three-pronged focus as we examine our life together and try to set some goals.

UP

Our first priority is to worship God and everything else flows from our relationship with him. The style of Sunday worship is helpful but it is far from the most important thing. God delights in children and adults waving flags in worship as much as in NZPB liturgy. All forms of worship are acceptable when we worship from a genuine desire to bring him praise and I think we get that. Overall we are quite accepting of our differences and well as our similarities. And yet, how can we be more multicultural, more inclusive, in our worship?

IN

I've been wondering a lot about community, and how we genuinely live that out, lately. Do people need a community to belong to rather than a church to go to?

OUT

I was delighted when Hilary Ellena approached me to write an article about our community-facing ministry for the Witness. I was very clear with her that I didn't want the article to be a patting ourselves on the back kind of page. Rather, I wanted readers to be able to think "Maybe we could give a shot" knowing that the world doesn't end if it doesn't work out.

I was also very aware that with the limited number of words I was given, it was impossible for me to do justice to everything that our parish does. If I missed out your special area of ministry, please forgive me.

Of course, church ministries, are a tiny part of what many of you do in our wider community. Some mentor others, serve in op-shops, deliver meals on wheels, belong to service groups, volunteer at school etc.

And we all connect with so many people through our hobbies: art, craft, physical exercise, etc. The connections we make in 'ordinary life' are just as important as any other.

I am very proud of our church (hopefully in a good way) and the way in which we are taking hold of the three-pronged focus of our church and community life. Each one of us is blessed to be a blessing. Each one of us has so many around us who we can bless, and who can bless us too. Lord continue to lift our eyes off ourselves.



Well, that is a whole bunch of fairly random thoughts! Take what is useful and discard the rest.

Learning together in love,

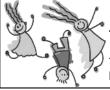
Susan

Church open for Prayer - Join in on Monday from 9.00am to 2.00pm to pray for your personal needs, our parish, our community and the world. Coffee and prayer. All welcome. Feel free to come and go.

Maundy Thursday Passover Meal - It was no accident that Jesus was crucified at Passover time – He deliberately chose a Passover meal to institute Holy Communion. John & Jean Palmer are organising a Passover celebration at 6.00pm on Thursday 13 April which will include a shared meal and an adapted Jewish Passover service. If you would like to learn more about the origins of our Communion service and why Jesus chose Passover then we would be delighted for you to join us at 149 Queen Street, Richmond. Please contact us on 544 4275.

Combined Richmond Waimea Churches Cross Walk – 11.00am Good Friday 14 April. Starting Wesley Centre (Methodist Church) walking as cross is carried, stopping on route for bible reading and prayer finishing at Holy Trinity for *A Reflection of the Cross* a time of singing and prayer. All welcome, for those unable to walk join at Holy Trinity at approximately 11.20am.

= KIDS' CHURCH CALENDAR =



Today Sunday 2 April - Craft activities relating to Jesus in the wilderness Focus on storing up the Word of God in our hearts.

The toy box and baby change facilities are available anytime at the rear of the Church. Prayers and offers of help are appreciated. Catherine 022 647 9810

Preserves - A great big thank you to everyone who has provided fruit, jars and encouragement! We have some delicious Black Boy peach jam, it is like nectar, and some chutneys as well as the usual preserves. We have already made over \$100 in just a month! Keep buying guys!! If you would like some jams specially labelled and packaged to give as presents I am happy to do this, just ask. Many thanks again, Shiona.

Fabrics wanted - Grace Martin is looking for suitable material to sew the bags she makes for the boxes we fill every year. The children put their gifts in these bags. Any fabric suitable for children would be gratefully accepted. Ph 544 2744. Thanks Grace for this wonderful sewing ministry you have!

Missions Newsletter - The latest (and last) Newsletter from the Sussexs' is on the Missions Noticeboard.

Building Fundraiser - Honey 500gms \$7.00 // 1kg \$13.00 // 2kgs \$25.00 See Anne Askin (542 3284)

Offering Envelopes - Envelopes for 2017-2018 are at the back of the church. Please collect yours.

AGM Agenda and Reports - Available at back of the Church.



Richmond Parish 2017 Annual General Meeting 5.00pm Shared Tea in Lounge 6.00pm AGM in Hall

Prayers for the Week

World - Sovereign Lord, you are Lord of all creation. We pray for heads of government across your world asking that wherever there is corruption, dishonesty or self-serving, that you bring those things out into the light so they can be dealt with. We pray for Russia and those who are pushing for democracy. We remember the citizens of China and North Korea and other places where freedom is a faint hope. We remember those in Northern Africa who desperately need food and clean water. And we ask for your comfort for the folk in Northern Queensland. Bring your shalom to your world please.

Church - We thank you for the leadership of Tim and Nicky Mora in the church at Cobden – Runanga, asking for your blessing on them and their folk. Please help Savita to settle well into the church there. We also pray for Father Seph Pijfers and Merrick Mitchell who minister in the Catholic Church. Be with the parishioners as they work towards Golden Bay, Motueka and Richmond all becoming one parish. Please bring a sense of unity and common purpose.

Mission - Thank you for technology that has enabled us to support Allan and Christine in prayer recently and for the excellent medical care Allan has experienced. We pray for him back home after his dramatic time away, asking for complete restoration of his health.

Community - We pray for the Tasman and Nelson District Councils and Mayors. Please help them to work together for the good of our region. Give wisdom regarding our infrastructure in their planning for growth. Help them to care for this beautiful environment in which we live and for the people who can be the most disadvantaged by economic growth.

Parish - We pray for the AAW as they plan to host the area day here on 12th April. Thank you for their dedication in caring pastorally for so many in our church. Thank you also for their support of mission and Kingdom growth. Thank you for answering our prayers for a Going Deeper leader. We pray for your healing touch for Chris, Anne Green, Shirley, Pam Butler, Lisa Arrandale, Sonja and others we know.

This Week...

Monday 3 April

7.30pm Weekly group (K. Peterson)

Tuesday 4 April

10.00am Fortnightly group (M. Silke)

10.00am Fortnightly women's group (B. Page)

10.30am Fortnightly group (J. Payne)

11.30am Lunch on the Hill

7.30pm Fortnightly women's group (S. Frengley)

Wednesday 5 April

10.00am Wednesday Service

10.00am Tea and Talk

Thursday 6 April

12.00pm Weekly Study group (W. Wilkinson, J. Lines)

7.00pm Fortnightly group (J. Palmer)

7.30pm Fortnightly group (N. Pritchard)

Sunday 9 April

9.00am Holy Communion* 10.45am Praise on the Hill*

*Morning Tea between services in the Hall

Coming up...

Friday 14 April Good Friday

11.00am Cross Walk from Methodist Church, finishing at Church on the Hill with sung worship and prayer for the community

2.00pm Choir Service

Sunday 16 April Easter Sunday

10 00am Combined Service

Tuesday 16 May

Alpha Course

For more information about services or groups contact the office Ph. 544 8844.

St Albans' Appleby Services 10.30am

Sunday 9 April Sunday 23 April Holy Communion Morning Prayer

If you wish to give financial support to Holy Trinity Church, our bank account number is: 03 0751 0146369 001 Westpac Richmond

Roster for 9 April - Thank you for serving us all!

Leader: Reader:

9.00am | Price

9.00am M Gibson. D Dav

9.00am M Gibson

9.00am J McConachie

10.45am 10.45am 10 45am

10.45am

M Tillev M Tilley

S Gill

S Lvon

Welcomer: Tea: Chalice: Flowers:

Sidespeople:

M Watson, M Evans

9.00am G Thomas, M McRae

10.45am

N/A.

M Brosnahan

Creche:

M Martin

A right royal welcome Theme for Next Sunday:

Readings for next Sunday: Psalm 118:1-2,19-29, Matthew 21:1-11

Parish Contacts

Vicar Susan Gill 544 8827 Children's Ministry Catherine Barak 022 6479810 Priest Assistant Jean Palmer 544 4275 Friends 'n Fun Carol Sardella 544 9237 Senior's Ministry Yvonne Smyth 544 8844 Parish Administrator David Cowdrev 544 8844

Youth Leader Antonio Sardella 027 3525598

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Office Hours Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10.00am - 5.30pm

Wednesday 10.00am - 1.00pm