



Church on the Hill

Sunday 7 May 2017



Theme: Abundance
Vicar: Susan Gill
Preacher: Susan Gill
Readings: Acts 2:42 – 47, John 10:1 - 10

Sentence:

Jesus said "I have come that they might have life and that life abundantly."

- *John 10:10b*

Prayer for the day:

We give you thanks, God of Abundant Life, for bread and friendship and hope. With these gifts of Your grace we are nourished. With these signs of Your presence we are able to stand in solidarity with those across the globe

who struggle for their daily bread. Continue then to nourish us, inspire us and call us that we might help make Your reign more of a reality in our day.

Amen.

Following Jesus, Building Community

Reflections...



Good stuff doesn't happen in a vacuum

We are enjoying a great sense of optimism engendered by some of the lovely things God is doing in our midst:

- our Sunday thanksgiving service for the hall was very encouraging
- during Easter week over 340 people attended our various services
- Alpha is beginning soon at Lunch on the Hill
- Going Deeper is restarting this week for older high school students upwards

These are exciting times. They haven't happened in a vacuum. Many people have been praying for many years for the Lord to reach out through us. He has done so consistently and now appears to be doing so in more noticeable ways.

Prayer is the vital foundation of all we do. Cardinal John Dew has recently asked all his leadership to bathe the everything they do in prayer, lest they just 'go about the business'.

I'm hardly in his league but certainly echo his sentiments. As I came to the end of my day on Thursday I was very conscious that almost every human encounter I had included spoken prayer. And it wasn't just me doing the praying. Often the one I met with prayed aloud too. At one meeting, there was no obvious intention to pray but there came early on in our conversation a 'sacred pause.' We

both sensed God's invitation to acknowledge the Lord in our midst and to focus more intentionally on the Spirit's work through our time together.

I know you are a praying people and urge you to pray more often, more simply, daringly and directly, for more people, more situations, more positive outcomes, that the Lord may be honoured and people touched for him.

One way we are trialling is the blue noticeboard on the left as you enter church. It's a prayer noticeboard. There are cards there. We invite you to record a prayer request and stick it to the board. During the service those gathering the collection will also gather the prayer cards and we will offer them to the Lord during the services.

...pray for each other so that you can live together whole and healed. The prayer of a person living right with God is something powerful to be reckoned with.

- James 5:16, *The Message*

God is on the move. We need the Spirit's protection, provision, motivation, guidance, enthusiasm, courage

Don't burn out; keep yourselves fuelled and aflame. Be alert servants of the Master, cheerfully expectant. Don't quit in hard times; pray all the harder. Help needy Christians; be inventive in hospitality.

- Romans 12:11 - 13, *The Message*

Let's pray

Learning together in love,

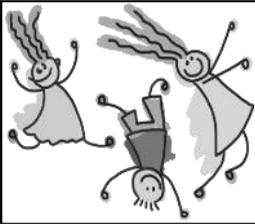
Susan

Alpha Update - We are set to begin on Tuesday 16 May after Lunch on the Hill. From then on after every Lunch on the Hill, we will have an Alpha session. This will take us through until Tuesday 21 November. The sessions will be about an hour and a half, DVD and discussion. The first session is *Who is Jesus?* I have left the remainder of the invitations at the back of the church, please take one for yourself or to give to someone. We are praying for 30 people to attend, please help make this happen by praying and inviting. Please pray for this course and all the Alpha courses in our diocese, that many will come to faith as a result. If you are planning to come it would be helpful to let Yvonne know.

Preserves - We have two new jams for you to try, blackberry and apple and feijoa and ginger. Feedback is welcome! We have also been offered a second hand chest freezer to store the fruit we are offered, and need to move it. If you could help please phone Shiona on 544 4155.

Ticking the Boxes Seminar - The next seminar in the Ticking the Boxes series is 12.00pm Wednesday 17 May, St Barnabas Stoke. The topic is Legal facts, Information on Power of Attorney, Wills and Legal considerations for seniors. Dallas Woods from Senior Law will speak after a finger food lunch, All most welcome - Gold coin donation.

Office Volunteers Wanted - We are looking for some office volunteers to fill positions while some of our existing volunteers are unable to help. If you would like to help from 10.00am to 1.00pm during the week, please talk to Evelin Epoi or contact the office.



= KIDS' CHURCH CALENDAR =

Today Sunday 7 May -

Preparation for Mother's Day..

Next Sunday 14 May -

Mother's Day

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

AA Senior Driver programme - If you are an AA Member over 74 years old with a driving licence the AA is offering you a FREE coaching session, designed to help keep you confident and safe behind the wheel. This coaching session is a great way of checking up on your safe driving skills and road rule knowledge. The Senior Driver programme covers / Vehicle check / Cockpit drill / Friendly and relaxed check of your driving style / Communicating and signalling / Car control Hazard identification / Tips, hints and feedback. To enrol visit: www.aa.co.nz/drivers/fullly-licensed-drivers/aa-senior-driver/

Prayers for the Week

Our World - Loving God, we honour your incomparable wisdom and renew our thanks for your never-failing guidance and the inspiration you provide for us through the teachings of Jesus. We rejoice that these have been preserved through the centuries by the Holy Bible for our understanding and motivation. In these perplexing times on the international stage please direct our politicians to deal peacefully with problems that confront them, and remind them that war represents futility and failure, as well as a retreat into dark places for humanity. Help us to find sanctuaries for the growing numbers of refugees forced to flee broken countries. Let us find ways to spread the world's bounty more fairly and to provide hope for the afflicted. Please protect the Christian minority community in Egypt from the aggression of larger religious groups.

Our Community - Help our teachers with their responsibility to encourage and shape demanding young minds as a new school term begins. We are mindful of the need to create opportunities to attract younger age groups into our church family, while also extending support and friendship to elderly folk to avoid risk of isolation, the subject of a recent public workshop in Tasman. We pray for the safety of workers in hazardous situations as they strive to restore services in earthquake-damaged Kaikoura for reliable access to the rest of the South Island.

Mission - We ask that you encourage the devoted work of Murray and Fèy Cotter in Albania. May Fèy's oversight of the wider missionary community and Murray's more particular work with men bring the positive outcomes both desire.

Diocese - We give thanks for new life and growth in the Hills Community Church, with many visitors and recent arrivals in Mapua. Please direct their governance and management teams as community ministries expand. We also pray for the success of their youth ministry programme and youth pastor Mark Waweru as he returns from leave in Kenya.

Church - May our neighbouring Baptist Church select its elders wisely at the forthcoming annual general meeting among a congregation growing with Jesus, and with their renewed enthusiasm from several turning points, including an Easter camp.

Parish - May we be continually aware of opportunities to reach out with love and compassion to others beyond our own members in the community. We ask Lord for your healing powers for those among us who are restricted in hospitals and rest homes, and greater peace for their families. We also ask your blessings for Jean Lines, Anne Green, Chris, Shirley, Lisa, Sonja and others we know.

New hall - We give thanks that so many were able to participate in the joyous thanksgiving service last week, for shared memories and news of progress in planning the building. It continues to hold our attention and hopes for eventual valuable use, within our church and also many other organisations in the local community. It was timely that our esteemed vicar, Susan, has reminded us that even more important than the building itself will be the scope to conduct our ministry more effectively.

This Week...

Monday 8 May

7.30pm Weekly group (K. Peterson)

Tuesday 9 May

10.00am Fortnightly group (M. Silke)

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

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

Wednesday 10 May

10.00am Wednesday Service

10.00am Tea and Talk

2.00pm Women's coffee meeting in lounge with
Nathan and Rosey

Thursday 11 May

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

7.00pm Fortnightly group (J. Palmer)

7.30pm Fortnightly group (N. Pritchard)

Sunday 14 May

9.00am Holy Communion*

10.45am Praise on the Hill*

**Morning Tea between services in the Hall*

Coming up...

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 14 May

Holy Communion

Sunday 28 May

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 14 May - Thank you for serving us all!

Leader:	9.00am	J Palmer	10.45am	J Palmer
Reader:	9.00am	A Hodges, D Day	10.45am	M Did-Dell
Sidespeople:	9.00am	W Wilkinson	10.45am	M Tilley
Welcomer:	9.00am	B Page	10.45am	S Lyon
Tea:		M Mercer, S Paine		
Chalice:	9.00am	G Thomas, W Wilkinson	10.45am	N/A
Flowers:		B Page	Creche:	M Martin

Theme for Next Sunday: A mission of justice

Readings for next Sunday: Psalm 36:1 – 9, Luke 4: 14-27

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 Cowdrey	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