



Church on the Hill

Sunday 18 June 2017



Theme: An Unlikely Gathering
Vicar: Susan Gill
Preacher: Susan Gill
Readings: 1 Peter 2:4-10, Luke 4:16 - 21

Sentence:

You also are like living stones that God is using for the construction of a sanctuary vibrant with life, in which you'll serve as holy priests offering Christ-approved lives up to God.

- 1 Peter 2:5 (Adapted)

Prayer for the day:

Lord you have chosen us to be part of Your church family. We are grateful for that; at least sometimes we are. You have placed us with others we love and misunderstand, respect and question, have compassion on and judge too often. We are a mixed bunch. As we begin this series of exploring what it means to be and to do church together, we ask for the eyes and

ears of your Holy Spirit. We ask for the riches of Christ to be plain in each other. We ask to be transformed into the community you have called us to be. Keep our focus on the living Jesus, the Cornerstone, our Saviour, friend and brother. Please encourage us and stretch us and help us not to give up.

Amen

Following Jesus, Building Community

Reflections...



Is our church safe? Part 2

Last week I considered what a safe church looks like. I came across this list of symptoms of a 'counterfeit church':

1. Authoritarian, oppressive leadership; no room for other ideas and independent action
2. Lack of accountability at the top; leaders don't need or want to answer for their actions
3. Pyramid of power; the further from the top -, the less power and influence the members have
4. Belief that members and their families are inferior to the leader and 'his' circle
5. Belief that the leader is closer to God and can hear him better than lay people
6. Strong pressure to conform to the manner, dress, speech etc. of those in power
7. Financial needs of the church (or its leaders) placed above the needs of members' families
8. Pressure to give undue amounts of time to the church, to neglect other responsibilities
9. An 'us' versus 'them' mentality; a distrust of all other churches / groups / persuasions
10. Narrow doctrines and teachings so unique that only this group has 'the right path'
11. Discouragement of frank and open discussion about the group, its doctrine or its leaders
12. Ostracism of former members; prejudice against those no longer 'choosing to belong'

As I read this list, I felt pretty good. Mostly I think we are doing okay with this list. However I could easily be wrong. My perspective is that of a leader and I could have blinkers on.

And I do seriously wonder about Number 3. It could be true that members feel like they don't have enough of a voice. While we've done

occasional surveys, we don't have easily identifiable ways of giving feed-back on a regular basis.

Sure confident people will find ways if something really does matter. Quieter people may not feel they can do this though.

There are several people you can approach with positive feedback or with things that you are unhappy with. They include:

Wardens:

Dave Pritchard, Karl Summerfield

Vestry members:

Michaela Ross, Kai Kruse, John Palmer, Catherine Barak, Laurie D'Eganneh, Dave Trigg

Home group leaders and other group leaders:

e.g. AAW, Choir, Youth Group

Staff members:

Yvonne Smyth, David Cowdrey, Catherine Barak, Carol Sardella

Assisting clergy:

Jean Palmer and all those listed in our parish directory

I am also available and willing if you'd like to speak with me directly about anything you are concerned about. I promise to listen carefully without being defensive.

As I've said, we are discussing the church over the next few weeks. At the back of church there is a ratty little box marked 'suggestions'. You could use that to ask your questions about church in general, about the sermons or about our church specifically. You could use it to make a complaint or anything else if you want to remain anonymous. If you don't mind us knowing who you are you can phone or email me: susan.churchonhill@xtra.co.nz 021 0231 5241, 544 8827 or anyone of the others listed above.

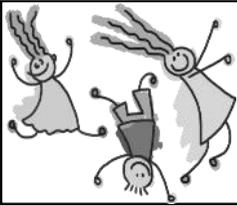
Learning together in love,

Susan

Year to Date Financial Results May 2017

| May Results | Actual | Budget | Variance | Actual Year to Date | Budget Year to Date | Variance |
|-------------------|-----------|----------|-----------|---------------------|---------------------|------------|
| Income | 17,937 | \$16,460 | (\$1,476) | \$65,994* | \$82,302 | (\$16,308) |
| Expenditure | \$19,294 | \$17,689 | (\$1,605) | \$80,098* | \$88,098 | (\$8,000) |
| Surplus (Deficit) | (\$1,358) | \$1,228 | (\$129) | (\$14,104) | (\$5796) | (\$8,308) |

* Excludes \$30,000 specific donations income and expenditure



= KIDS' CHURCH CALENDAR =

Today Sunday 18 June

What God needs from us

Next Sunday 25 June

TBA

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

Equip Ministry Education - For this year EQUIP is going to run a little differently. Rather than 3 Saturdays in each region, EQUIP is going to have a focus month in each region so that in that month, 4 evening sessions will be held on the topics of *The Big Story of the Bible* and *Handling the Bible*.

| | | | | |
|---------------|--------------------|-----------|--------------------|----------------|
| Waimea | Wednesday 19 July | Wakefield | Big Story | Graham O'Brien |
| | Wednesday 26 July | Wakefield | Big Story | Graham O'Brien |
| | Wednesday 2 August | Motueka | Handling the Bible | Graham O'Brien |
| | Wednesday 9 August | Motueka | Handling the Bible | Graham O'Brien |
| Nelson | Thursday 10 August | BTC | Big Story | Kate Dugdale |
| | Thursday 17 August | BTC | Handling the Bible | Graham O'Brien |
| | Thursday 24 August | BTC | Handling the Bible | Graham O'Brien |

For more information contact BTC Ph. 548 8785

Prayers for the Week

We pray for peace in our world. Our hearts are saddened by recent terrorist attacks but we believe Jesus is the hope for our planet today, we must hold onto our belief that he can change the hearts of even terrorists. So we pray together in unity for those involved in terrorism, those planning terrorist attacks, that Jesus will reveal himself to them, and they will be transformed, particularly in this season of Ramadan, use this time we pray together, to bring good out of evil. We also pray for the Spirit of God to overcome our fears and enable each one of us to show God's love to Muslims in our land. Now and on 20th June which is World Refugee Day, let us remember all who are homeless for whatever reason.

This coming week is National Volunteer Week. Thank you Lord, for so many people who give their time and talents to serve your community. We pray for the organisations and churches, including ours, which couldn't function without them. Help us to value and support those who volunteer in order to honour You, or simply for the common good.

We remember Peter Somervell and Grace Church giving thanks for the new staff team; their unity of purpose and common sense of direction encapsulated in their new mission statement: God's grace, to us, for the world. We pray for a greater love for those who don't yet know Jesus and for those participating in Long Story Short.

We pray for St Stephens, Tahunanui. For Rev Nathaniel Petterson as he leads this church. We pray also for Gavin Cole and Liz Gray and the excellent work they do in the 50+ Ministry.

Today we pray for our Mission Partners, Rosey and Nathan and their daughters, Ruby and Eva, who are joining a business run by fellow Kiwis in South Asia, which offers alternative employment to women trapped in the sex industry. We pray especially for their little girls, leaving their school friends behind and travelling to a totally foreign environment, keep them all safe we pray. We also pray for our own Lyn Ashby, back from her mission trip. Thank you for your protection of her and your direction in her life, we pray that you are leading her and showing her where you want her to serve you.

Thank you for our musicians and singers, who provide us with the means to worship you in song and spirit. For the work they put in behind the scenes, choosing appropriate music and practicing.

We pray for Albertha, Gwen, Pam, Chris, Lisa, Anne, Ellie, Sonja, and Rachel, asking Lord God, that your comfort and strength be with them now and always. **Amen**

This Week...

Monday 19 June

7.30pm Weekly group (K. Peterson)

Tuesday 20 June

10.00am Fortnightly group (M. Silke)
10.00am Fortnightly women's group (B. Page)
11.30am Lunch on the Hill Mid Winter Christmas
1.00pm Alpha Course
7.30pm Fortnightly women's group (S. Frengley)

Wednesday 21 June

10.00am Wednesday Service
10.00am Tea and Talk

Thursday 22 June

10.30am Café Connection Wooden Spoon Cafe
12.00pm Weekly Study group (W. Wilkinson, J. Lines)
6.00pm Evening AAW (A Webb)
7.00pm Fortnightly group (J. Palmer)
7.30pm Fortnightly group (N. Pritchard)

Sunday 25 June

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

**Morning Tea between services in the Hall*

Coming up...

Wednesday 28 June

1.30am Afternoon AAW

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

St Albans' Appleby Services 10.30am

Sunday 25 June

Sunday 9 July

Morning Prayer

Holy Communion

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

Roster for 25 June - Thank you for serving us all!

| | | | | |
|---------------------|---------------|------------------------|----------------|------------|
| Leader: | 9.00am | S Gill | 10.45am | Youth Band |
| Reader: | 9.00am | S Frengley, M Reynolds | 10.45am | TBA |
| Sidespeople: | 9.00am | J Lines | 10.45am | M Martin |
| Welcomer: | 9.00am | A Webb | 10.45am | S Milligan |
| Tea: | | G Bevernage | | |
| Chalice: | 9.00am | S Frengley, S paine | 10.45am | N/A |
| Flowers: | | A Heslop | Crèche: | G Thomson |

Theme for Next Sunday:

True Confessions

Readings for next Sunday:

Psalm 32, James 5:13 – 16, Luke 5:27 - 32

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 | | | |

Holy Trinity Church

27 Dorset Street
PO Box 3013
Richmond

Phone / Fax 03 544 8844

Email church.onhill@xtra.co.nz

Website

www.holytrinityrichmond.org.nz

Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

10.00am - 5.30pm

Wednesday 10.00am - 1.00pm