

**Wensley House Ministry** - Every Thursday we take a service of some kind at Wensley House. We could do with another person to be available to take a Bible Study, please talk to Yvonne if that sounds like you. Yvonne Smyth - Elder Care Team Leader

**Church open for Prayer** - The Church is open for prayer each Monday from 9.00am - 2.00pm  
All welcome.

**Lunch on the Hill** - Recommences 11.30am Tuesday 20 February 2018 at The Salvation Army Hall, 57 Oxford Street, Richmond. (Temporary Venue while the New Hall is under construction)

**Honey** - Building Fundraiser. 500gm \$7.00/ 1kg \$13.00 / 2kg \$25. Contact Anne Askin Ph.542 3284.

**Evening AAW Meeting** - Thursday 8 February 7.30pm in the church. A progress report of the planning for the Diocesan Festival and AGM in March will be presented. Our yearly programme will be discussed. Suggestions and input to both will be welcomed. For more information Val Ph.544 5007 or Anne Ph.544 7992.

**Hall Closure** - The Old Hall is now closed. Please contact Anne Askin Ph. 542 3284 if you need to access the old Hall.

**Preserves** - While the church is being used for all our meetings the preserves will be in the office, please don't let this put you off! There is lemon marmalade, ginger and rhubarb jam and a great mint sauce there at present. No more jars for now please. I have plenty! All donations of fruit welcome! It will either be made into preserves or used for Lunch on the Hill. Any questions or comments please get in touch, Shiona Ph.544 4155.

**Walk for Life** - *Walk for Life* is a celebration of life from conception to natural death, and a non-judgmental and peaceful statement that life is precious and worth living. We oppose abortion and euthanasia but the event intends to make a positive case for life rather than being a protest march. It is a family friendly event and all ages are welcome. The 2018 Nelson Walk for Life is on Saturday 21 April at noon, rain or shine. It will start and finish at the top of the Nelson Cathedral steps and walk along some of the major CBD streets (exact details to be confirmed on Facebook and event flyers). People with limited mobility are welcome to join and exit at alternative points along the route. People are welcome to bring their own signs that reflect the spirit of the event. For more information, register interest or volunteer to help call Marie O'Connor 021 108 5988 / email: walkforlife2018@gmail.com / Facebook: www.facebook.com/Walk-for-Life-Nelson-391420507953780 / or search "Walk For Life Nelson".

**Ride The Rainbow** - Saturday 10 March 2018. Bible Society's Richmond Action Group is organising this great opportunity to Ride the Rainbow, a spectacular journey of approximately 100kms through challenging alpine country. As well as the challenge, this event is a fund-raiser for Bible Society New Zealand to help make the Bible accessible to everyone. In 2016, this event raised over \$16,000, which enabled Bible Society to provide Bibles for deaf people in Nepal. This year the team will be raising funds for Bible projects in Tanzania and Uganda. Entry forms now available from Ross Borlase Ph. 544 7352 / email: rhorlase@gmail.com or Alex Johnston Ph 544 6378 / email: alex.lynne@ts.co.nz  
Join us on this amazing sponsored ride for the Bible Society - as a solo rider - sharing a bike with a friend - on an E-bike.



## Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide: The End-Of-Life-Choice Bill

In August 2017, the Health Select Committee released its report on public attitudes to euthanasia and assisted suicide after a record breaking 21,000 submissions - the key finding being that "80% of submitters were opposed to a change in legislation that would allow assisted dying or euthanasia" (HSC pps.15 & 47). However, Parliament is currently debating the End-Of-Life-Choice Bill which if passed, will make euthanasia and assisted suicide legal in New Zealand.

The Justice Select Committee are now inviting submissions on the End-of-Life Bill by 20 February 2018, before the Bill gets its second reading in Parliament. The Inter-Church Bioethics Council (ICBC) who represents the Anglican, Methodist and Presbyterian Churches of Aotearoa New Zealand on issues such as these, would like to encourage everyone to make a submission, giving their opinion on this legislation. A number of resources have been provided to outline the issues that the ICBC have with this bill as well as information on how to make a submission. These have been provided by us or used with permission from other sources. You might also like to visit the ICBC website [www.interchurchbioethics.co.nz](http://www.interchurchbioethics.co.nz) to see our previous submission, or visit

<https://rejectassistedsuicide.org.nz/protect/> which also contains a good summary of information.

At our 2017 Synod, a motion was unanimously passed that highlighted concerns about legislation to legalise euthanasia and assisted suicide:

- Affirm that every human being is created in the image of God and that every human life is of intrinsic value to God regardless of abilities or situation;
- Affirm that Christ's unconditional love calls for the dying to be cared for with deep compassion; were compassion includes doing good without doing harm.
- Support the holistic care of the dying and the provision of effective pain relief and adequate symptom control;
- Expresses concern that the End of Life Choice bill before Parliament will place the lives of vulnerable people in our society at risk;
- Calls on the Government of New Zealand to investigate the full funding of Hospice Care for the dying, and effective training for palliative care specialists;
- Requests Bishop Richard, on behalf of the Diocese, to write to Members of Parliament to convey the concerns of Synod in clauses 4 & 5 of this motion;
- Asks Standing Committee and the Ministry Education Coordinator to provide resources to Anglican Parishes to enable Anglicans to be fully informed on this matter;
- Calls on parishes and individual Anglicans to make their views known to their local Member of Parliament.

I am happy to help if people have any questions for people who want to make a submission

Rev Dr Graham O'Brien email: [graham@bishopdale.ac.nz](mailto:graham@bishopdale.ac.nz)

Co-Chair InterChurch Bioethics Council



**Fundraising Event** - On the Sunday 25 February, I will be cutting, shaving and donating my hair... The hair that I donate will go to 'Freedom wigs', a kiwi wig making company in Dunedin. They create and donate human hair wigs to incredible people suffering from hair loss due to cancer or alopecia. Alopecia is a type of hair loss that is most common in people younger than 20, but people of all ages can be affected. Losing hair as a young person, can be devastating. Freedom wigs helps to bring back confidence, self esteem and happiness to sufferers lives, these wigs are life-changing. The money that I fundraise will go towards LBC, the Leukaemia and Blood cancer society. LBC is dedicated to supporting patients and their families

living with a blood cancer or related blood condition, and receives no government funding. This is a very exciting thing for me to finally be doing, and I would love it if you could support me, either by donating to my *Shave for a cure* web page or by coming to a BYO picnic at Sundial Square on Sunday the 25 February from 11.30am onwards. Thank you so much! Kay Thomson