

Preserves - At the back of the church are a variety of preserves that we are selling to reduce our deficit! They are made with a mix of organic fruit and spray free fruit and vegetables. Please consider trying some and buying here rather than at the supermarket. Donations of screw top jars, would be most welcome, please leave these in the box at the back of the church. If you want to add to the range, please do. Any queries or comments to Shiona 544 4155.

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

Corporate Worship Survey - Thanks again for your contribution towards the shape of our corporate worship. We are collating the data for analysis and will be reporting back on Sunday 28 August. We will follow with the implementation of straightforward actions as soon as possible after appropriate discussion of governance issues.

Enneagram Workshop - The Enneagram is a tool to enable us to explore our own inner journey, providing growth in understanding ourselves, our relationship with others and our experience of God. The Enneagram focuses on nine personality types addressing the gifts and the strengths of each and discovering ways to grow and become whole. Processes used on this workshop will involve input, individual reflection and group sharing. Friday 9 September 7.30pm – 9.15pm, Saturday 10 September 9.30am. – 3.30am / *Facilitator:* Lyndall Brown rsj / *Venue:* St Francis Parish Centre 196 Songer St, Stoke. / *Cost:* \$40 Unwaged \$30 / Please bring your own lunch. Tea and coffee provided. Registrations by Wednesday 7 September to Karen Moynagh *email:* karen@moyngn.co.nz *Phone:* 544 0551 or 027 245 7800

Freshperspective - Would you be interested in spending 1 hour per week with someone who is finding life a little challenging? Freshperspective is an organisation that offers you that opportunity. Freshperspective is one the most significant initiatives in reaching and shepherding our communities. This is definitely the church in action. People who are interested in becoming mentors are trained, supervised and connected with other people in the community who have indicated they would like someone to walk alongside them for a while. A training for prospective mentors is commencing on Monday 29 August at Richmond Baptist church at 7:30pm (7:15 if you would like coffee first) and runs for the next 3 Monday nights finishing on Monday 19 September. You are welcome to come along to the training and then decide if mentoring is for you and you are also welcome to use the training to develop your skills if you are involved in another area of ministry. The cost for the training is \$40. Poster and pamphlets in foyer. For more information, contact Nikki Pritchard ph 5445314 or email: dpnikki@xtra.co.nz Enrolments due by tomorrow, Monday 15 August.

Christmas Shoe Box Appeal - Phillip from Samaritans Purse delivered our 2016 supplies to me last week, so I now have their latest promotional DVD if any groups would like to borrow it. This is also a reminder that we need to start thinking of and collecting suitable items. Our main "box filling" evening will again be during the AAW meeting on Thursday 22 September Brenda Page. Ph. 544 5872.

Evening AAW - We will be hosting the afternoon group on Wednesday 24 August at 2.00pm. Our monthly evening meeting will be held that evening (24 August) and we will be having a BYO tea followed by a film. We will meet from 6.00pm This change will allow interested members to attend the evening talk on Christianity and Islam held in the church on Thursday evenings. Your contact: Anne Webb 544 7992.

Office Volunteers - We still need more volunteers for mornings in the office. If you are interested and would like to find out more, please contact Evelin in the office Ph. 544 8844.

Christianity & Islam - A series of four talks by Graeme Howarth (MTh) with particular focus on the dialogue between Islam and Christianity. 18 August 7.00pm - Discussion of Islam's ideologies, key people and history // 25 August 7.00pm - The basic differences between Islam and Christianity // 1 September 7.00pm - Examining Islamic Sharia law // 8 September 7.00pm - Understanding Jihad and the Islamic State. All Welcome. Venue: Church on the Hill.

Reflection Questions

- What makes God grieve? What gives Him joy?
- How does the nature of the God people worship influence their attitudes and actions?
- Is your understanding of God growing?
- What “yoke of slavery” might we be bearing in place of the relationship God wants to have with us?
- In my faith have I interposed outward signs of conformity for a trusting relationship with God?

