



# Church on the Hill

Sunday 2 October 2016



**Theme:** Confession and forgiveness  
**Vicar:** Revd. Susan Gill  
**Preacher:** Revd. Susan Gill  
**Readings:** Psalm 5:1 – 12, John 1:11 – 18

**Sentence:**

Search me, O God, and know my heart; test my thoughts. Point out anything you find in me that makes you sad, and lead me along the path of everlasting life. - *Psalm 139:23,24*

**Prayer for the day:**

Dear Heavenly Father, we bow before you and confess that we have too often forgotten that we belong to You. Sometimes we live as if You are remote. We fall short of being a credible witness to You. For these things we ask your forgiveness. We receive that forgiveness knowing what it cost our Lord Jesus Christ. We also ask for the strength of Your Holy Spirit.

Give us clear minds and open hearts so we may witness to You in our world. Remind us to be who You have designed us to be, regardless of who we are with or what we are doing. Hold us to You always. God in community, build our relationship with You, with those around us and with your created world. In Christ's name we pray. **Amen.**

*Following Jesus, Building Community*

## Reflections...



### Questions for our present and future

I've heard it said that it's dangerous to go on a conference. I've also heard it said that it is dangerous for those around the person who goes on the conference. You will have to be the judge of whether or not either of those statements are true.

A few of us from church went to the Diocesan Leadership Conference this week. The theme was Discipleship. Maybe 'discipleship' is not a great word – too jargony perhaps? But following Jesus is vital and helping others to follow Jesus is also vital. Certainly helping our young people and children to follow Jesus is vital.

In so many ways we have not got this right. It's not from a want of trying. Our motives are good but our methods haven't worked. That is evidenced by the few younger people in our church (and most churches across the West).

One of the workshops I went to quoted information based on how people learn their jobs – making the connection between that and following Jesus. So this is how people learn their jobs:



A full 90% comes from relational experiences. 70% is about learning on the job; trying things to see what works and what doesn't. 20% is about feedback and coaching – relationships! Only 10% is formal training. 10%! Yet we seem to focus on that in our church life generally!

Watching how Jesus taught his disciples is interesting. He called them, they participated in ministry with him and then he sent them out – and he sent them out early on in their learning process! He didn't wait until they had it sorted! Then he gave them feedback and they participate even more in ministry.

I have way more questions than answers as the result of this time considering how we help others to follow Jesus. Here are some of my questions.

- How do we recognise, empower and endorse diverse leaders and ministers?
- How do we do less as a church, while caring for each other more?
- How do we equip people to live and minister where they are placed in the world?
- Our vision is Following Jesus; Building Community. What is our specific mission in the community of Richmond? What should our focus be now, in the near future and longer term? What might we have to drop to focus only on those things?
- How do we hear the stories of those whom God has placed us with?
- How does our Kiwi culture prevent us from following the Lord and stepping out into what God has for us?
- How can we walk alongside younger people and create room for them to minister among us and in the wider community? How do we offer support before, after and during those experiences?
- What barriers between us and the community do we need to remove?
- What safe spaces do we offer so we can all ask the questions we really have?

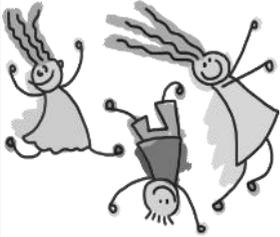
I have lots more questions written down and in my head. The above might be enough for now. Hopefully they help us all think, drive us to prayer and even to construction action :) I'd love to hear back from some of you what you think God might be saying to us about these things.

Learning together in love,

*Susan*



**Service times change from Today Sunday 2 October** - The new times are **8:45 am** and **10:45 am**. These service times will be in place for a trial period from October 2016 to February 2017 inclusive. In February we will ask how this is working and a decision will be made as to whether we stick with the new times or go back to the way things were.



## = KIDZ CHURCH CALENDAR =

**Today Sunday 2 October** - School Holidays - Activities at Church rear  
**Next Sunday 9 October** - School Holidays - Activities at Church rear

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

### Prayers for the Week

**God's World** – Often the news headlines are dominated by sporting events Lord. And we thank you for coaches and sporting bodies everywhere; asking that they would enable healthy participation and enjoyment for all. We also hold before you the continuing violence in so many places where sport is the last thing on the people's minds. Our hearts go out to those in Western Australia and others affected in weather extremes. We ask for your protection and provision for them and those affected by violence, famine, poverty and injustice. We pray for aid and health services wherever needed, especially in Aleppo where hospitals have been bombed. We pray for just solutions in the Middle East and wherever there is conflict; whether that be in nations, regions or in our homes.

**Mission Partners** – Sending God we thank you for the Sussex family and their work in Cambodia. Be with them in these last few months of living and working with people they have grown to love. As they complete projects and farewell many they have come to know so well, we ask you to be with them in this time of transition. We pray for Phil, Becky, Bryn, Toby, Pippa and Molly asking you to go ahead of them preparing a place to live, worship, work and play in New Zealand.

**Diocese** – Thank you for the time that the ordained team from Motueka was able to enjoy together at the Diocesan Conference. We pray for Russell Pickersgill Brown, Neil Bowdler and Matt Beech along with their spouses and all the lay leadership. We thank you for the various courses they are currently running and ask that you will embed their learning into their relationships with you, with each other and with their wider community. We also ask for your healing presence to be with David Hollingsworth, Ian Thatcher and Nick Kirk.

**Community** – Creator God we remember World Habitat Day on Monday, and we thank you for the public spaces in our community – especially places like Sundial Square and the Washbourne Gardens which are so accessible to us all. We pray for the shops and business in and around Richmond asking for your blessing on them and your encouragement to operate ethically. Help us all to support and encourage the local enterprises near us. We remember World Teachers' Day on Wednesday asking you to provide the rest, refreshment and resources all teachers need. May they enjoy this last week of the holidays.

**Our Parish** – We thank you for each other Heavenly Father. We appreciate the different personalities, gifts and abilities we each bring to the whole that makes up our churches of Holy Trinity and St Alban's. Thank you for our leaders and for everyone who serves. We pray for those on the fringes – help us to enable each one to find a place of welcome where they can contribute in meaningful ways. We pray for Susan and for Vestry requesting they would

**Special people in our church family** – God of comfort and strength we continue to pray for Carole Burke, Ellie, John Barnes, Laurie D'Eganah, Sonja, Pam Butler, Val Jordan, Ingrid Blackbeard, Eric Gaffa, and others we know. Pour out your Spirit on those residents and staff in rest homes and hospitals in this Parish who do not yet know you. Please fill them with compassion and care for one another so they can live and work together in harmony.

Gracious God, remind us that the hinge of history is the bended knee. Help us to be faithful in praying for others and for ourselves, knowing that you listen and respond.

## This Week...

### Monday 3 October

7.30pm Weekly group (K. Peterson)

### Tuesday 4 October

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. Frenley)

### Wednesday 5 October

10.00am Senior's Tea & Talk (Age Concern)  
10.00am Wednesday Service

### Thursday 6 October

12.00pm Weekly Study group (WWilkinson, J Lines)  
7.30pm Fortnightly group (J. Palmer)  
7.30pm Fortnightly group (N. Pritchard)

### Sunday 9 October **NOTE: New Service Times!**

8.45am Holy Communion  
10.45am Praise on the Hill

## Coming up...

### Saturday 15 October

11.00am Spring Fair

### Friday 4 November - Sunday 6 November

Murchison Missions Trip

### Friday 17 February - Sunday 19 February 2017

Convergence Camp -Bethany Park Kaiteriteri

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

**St Albans' Appleby Services 10.30am**

**Sunday 9 October**

**Sunday 23 October**

**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 October *Thank you for serving us all!*

<b>Leader:</b>	<b>9.00am</b> J South	<b>10.30am</b> S Gill
<b>Reader:</b>	<b>9.00am</b> M Gibson, D Day	<b>10.30am</b> TBA
<b>Sidespeople:</b>	<b>9.00am</b> M Gibson	<b>10.30am</b> M Tilley
<b>Welcomer:</b>	<b>9.00am</b> J McConachie	<b>10.30am</b> S Lyon
<b>Tea:</b>	M Watson, M Evans	
<b>Chalice:</b>	<b>9.00am</b> G Thomas, M McRae	<b>10.30am</b> N/A
<b>Flowers:</b>	M Evans	<b>Creche:</b> M Martin

**Theme for Next Sunday:** The goodness of the God who commands

**Readings for Next Sunday:** Psalm 119

## 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

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## Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday  
10.00am - 5.30pm  
Wednesday 10.00am - 1.00pm