

Hi

The month of August is going to be full and exciting here at HopeWhangarei with different services and activities happening around the church. As I sat down to write this pastoral email (think newsletter) it almost felt spring like after the misty start to the day as we have this wonderful blue sky. Definitely a welcome change after all the rain over the past few weeks. It was needed and welcome rain but it is nice to have a break and some fine weather again.

### Services on Sunday Morning

In all our three services this week we will be concluding our look at Jesus Parables of the Kingdom, by looking at the Parable of the Net in Matthew 13:47-52, a very challenging passage where Jesus speaks of the reality of the Kingdom of Heaven now and its future consummation.

10am @ HopeTikipunga - Enosa Auva'a

9:30am @ HopeCentral - Lorne Campbell

9:30am @ HopeOnerahi - Howard Carter

### Zoom service @ 9:30am

Zoom has really become part of our life here at Hope and while originally it was our digital lifeboat during COVID lockdown I know for many who cannot physically get to church it gives them the ability to be part of our worshipping community.

If you are using a laptop or PC here is the link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89285364673>

If you have a mobile device with the Zoom app the meeting ID is 89285364673

If you are wanting to join us by phone the number is 09 884 6780

**The meeting ID is 89285364673**

I just want to take the opportunity to thank my wife Kris and son Isaac (and Shane Jansen) for the effort they have put into running and hosting zoom. If there are people who would like to be involved in the technical and hosting side of this service please let me know and we can provide some training.

### Evening Worship 6:30pm Sunday August 9<sup>th</sup> @ Hope Central

The second of our monthly evening worship events is coming up at 6:30pm Sunday August 9<sup>th</sup>. The service is a time of sung worship, reflection and prayer. It has a relaxed atmosphere and our vision is to offer people space to encounter and meet with Jesus Christ. The theme this month is 'The wind of the Spirit brings new life even in the valley of the dry bones' and we will be looking at 'The valley of the dry bones' in Ezekiel 37. Come and join us for a time of sung worship, reflection and prayer. If you have any creative and artistic reflections on the passage we are looking at please let Howard Carter know and we can weave them into the service.

### Combined service and soup and bun lunch 10:30am Sunday August 16<sup>th</sup>

On August 16<sup>th</sup> we will be having a combined HopeWhangarei service at HopeCentral. The service is at the later time of 10:30am and will be followed by a soup and bun lunch. Which we hope gives people not only a chance to worship together but also to catch up with each other from our three different sites and continue to have fellowship together.

As part of the service we will be acknowledging the amazing Mainly Music team from Hope Onerahi, as they celebrate their 10 year anniversary.

### Gospel & Healing Service 10am Sunday August 30th @ HopeTikipunga

The congregations of HopeTikipunga and HopeOnerahi will be combining for their morning services with a special outreach flavour.

The service will be held in the HopeTikipunga Hall. The focus will be on preaching the Gospel and ministering to the sick.

This is an opportunity to reach out and invite family and friends to come and hear and experience the Good News of the Kingdom of God.

Jesus said "As you go, preach saying the Kingdom of God is at hand. Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give" Matthew 10:7, 8

### Church Receptionist/Administration assistant

With Trix leaving we are in the midst of reviewing and re advertising the position of Church receptionist for HopeWhangarei. The position is important as they are the primary contact person for HopeWhangarei and work behind the scenes to make things run smoothly. We will be advertising the position next week. It is a paid part-time position. In the meantime if there are people who would like to show an expression of interest please let Howard Carter know and a job description will be sent to you.

### Value your vote? - Family first tour of New Zealand 2020

**Who are Family First?** This is not a political party! It is a Christian ministry that encourages people to hold to Christian values. They describe themselves as "Family First NZ has quickly become a household name, advocating for families, and speaking common sense and values on a broad range of family issues in New Zealand. It seeks to promote strong families, marriage, and the value of life, based on principles that have benefited New Zealand for generations."

**What is the "Value your vote"?** Have a look at this short video: <https://valueyourvote.org.nz/2020-general-election/>

**A National Tour:** Family First is holding the Whangarei meeting on Tuesday Sept 8th at 7:30pm at Elim Christian Centre, 33 Porowini Avenue - Everyone welcome.

### Blessing

Let me just leave you this week with the blessing that Cristina da Silva ended the service at Central with this last Sunday. It comes from 1 Thessalonians 5: 23-24. A great encouragement of God's ability to be with us and keep us through the whole of life.

*May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it.*

Blessings

*Howard Carter*

Senior Minister  
HopeWhangarei