

Hi friends,

In the Church calendar we are in Holy Week, leading up to Good Friday and Resurrection Sunday. This is the high point of the Church year... I know we often think of Christmas as that but Christ's coming points us to the sacrificial love and forgiveness of sins of the cross and the new abundant and eternal life that comes from Christ's resurrection.

For us as a Church it makes it a busy but wonderful time. We are hosting a combined churches Good Friday Service at the cross in the greenspace in front of Central. We will be celebrating the resurrection at each of our sites on Easter Sunday. We will be having a baptism this Easter Sunday at central, Ray Evans has become a Christian over the past year and is wanting to be baptised and join the church. We will also be welcoming Charlotte Hita into membership at the same service.

We also have some of our young people (and not so young people as Neil Croucher is directing the camp this year) involved in leadership at the Easter Camp at Holy Ground out at Parua Bay. Isaac Carter and Hannah and Amelie Jansen are part of full on production drama that is going to be the basis of the biblical input at the camp. They have been part of a team that have been practicing for weeks. So I would encourage you to please pray for them and the camp this Easter.

I know many people go away for Easter, it's the last long weekend before winter sets in. I also know that family comes to visit (we have our whole family here for Easter) and if they do then why not invite them to come to Church with you. We'd love to see them.

Here are the notices...

COVID Level 1

With Brisbane going into lockdown for three days before Easter it's a good time to be reminded that we are still at COVID Alert Level 1 and we need to follow basic health and safety guidelines. Regularly wash hands, avoid touching your face, and sign in using the QR code and COVID tracer app or on paper. We still have a few COVID tracer diaries in the church foyer if you don't have a smart phone. Please stay home if you are unwell. Get in touch with health professionals and get tested if you have any of the COVID symptom. Respect people's desire to socially distance and avoid contact. Bumping elbows is as much a greeting as shaking hands. Some of our folk work in positions where they have to take extra care to avoid COVID.

Daylight saving ends Sunday April 4th

Good news people while Christ has risen you guys get to have an extra hour in bed on Easter Sunday. Daylight saving finishes this Sunday and we 'fall back' which means we put the clocks **back 1 hour**. If you forget we always enjoy people being early for worship.

Good Friday Service April 2nd 10:00am at The Cross (Park in Front of HopeCentral)

This Good Friday we will be hosting a combined churches Good Friday service at 10am at the Cross in the churches green space (cnr of Hunt and Bank Sts).

The service is at 10am. **Bring a folding chair** if that will be useful. If you want there will be people walking down from Whangarei Anglican Church meet there at 9:30amthere will be communion at the service. Song words will be available on paper or via our church webpage... Please pray for the

weather... last year our Good Friday service was COVID'd I'd hate for it to be weather evented this year. However if it is wet we'll be meeting in the Central Sanctuary at 10am.

Because the service is going to be outdoors we will not be having a zoom link for Good Friday.

Good Friday Service at Onerahi

If folk from Onerahi are wanting to attend a more local Good Friday service there will be one at St Stephens Anglican church at 1pm.

Easter Sunday Services

Join us for a Joy filled celebration of the resurrection

10:00am @ HopeTikipunga – Enosa Auva'a

9:30am @ HopeCentral - Lorne Campbell

9:30am @ HopeOnerahi - Howard Carter

Zoom service

We will be having a Zoom component to our services on Sunday. If you are unable to come to church in person this is a great way to worship with us and stay connected.

The **9:30am** service at HOPECENTRAL will be streamed on zoom.

The link to the service is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89285364673>

If you are using the zoom app on your mobile device then the meeting ID is: 89285364673

If you are going to dial in using a landline the phone number is 09 884 6780

And when prompted put in the **meeting ID: 89285364673**

Tenants: An Information Session - Thurs April 8th 10am-11:30am

In partnership with Citizens Advice Bureau and the Community Law Office there will be two tenant Free Information Sessions run at HopeCentral, so that people will know their rights and responsibilities under the new tenancy laws.

End of Tax year – donations receipts 2020/2021

The end of the financial tax year is fast approaching. Any donations received into the church bank account by **Wednesday 31st March** will be included in the 2020/2021 tax donation receipts. If you have any questions please contact Karen in the church office Monday – Friday 9am – 2pm or via email karen@hopewhangarei.nz

Church Office

If you require administration assistance please contact the church office *during the week Monday – Friday between 9am and 2pm* or email our Administrator Karen on karen@hopewhangarei.nz for assistance. Thankyou.

Attention all musicians and singers ... Postponed meeting

Our proposed meeting last Saturday, March 27th, was postponed until either April 17th or April 24th

Details will be communicated when we have settled on a date. This needed to happen as some significant people have had to withdraw at the last minute... We really appreciate those who have emailed us with some ideas. Thank you!

“Bless the Lord Oh my soul”!

Blessing

It may seem a bit of a spoiler alert and we often try and skip the pain and sorrow and grief (even though it is good grief) I felt it important this week just to leave us with the words of the Angels to the women at the empty tomb on that first Easter Sunday

“Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with you in Galilee: ‘The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.’ ”

“He aha koutou ka rapu ai i te tangata ora i roto i te hunga mate? Kāhore ia i konei, engari kua ara: kia mahara ki tāna i mea ai ki a koutou i a ia anō i Kariri, Ki tāna meatanga, Kua takoto te tikanga kia tukua te Tama a te tangata ki ngā ringa o te hunga hara, kia ripekatia, ā i te toru o ngā rā ka ara.”

Luke/Ruka 24:5-8

Howard Carter

SENIOR MINISTER
HOPEWHANGĀREI

30th March 2021