

Dear friends

For my daily bible reading at the moment I'm reusing a wonderful collection of devotions by Adrian Plass. As I've been preparing for the messages on 1 Corinthians 12 and 14 for our series on 'Gifts of the Holy spirit', one of the devotions concentrated on 1 Corinthians 13, that wonderful passage about love. It reminded me that it is God's love that saved us and love for one another that is the way in which God's saving love is to be lived out and that the gifts of the spirit are, in Adrian Plass' words, *useful pots and pans that equip the Christian kitchen*. Useful ways in which we can make that community of love, mature and lacking nothing.

Here are the notices...

COVID Level 1

At present we are in 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.

Sunday worship

This Sunday we continue our series leading into Pentecost, looking at the Gifts of the Holy Spirit.

10:00am @ HopeTikipunga – Enosa Auva'a (1 Peter 4:7-11 Many gifts, to glorify God)

9:30am @ HopeCentral - Howard Carter (1 Corinthians 14:1-40 many gifts and public worship)

9:30am @ HopeOnerahi – Lorne Campbell (Ephesians 4:7-16, many Gifts, One common goal)

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**

Thy Kingdom Come May 13th - 23rd

This is an important season of prayer for our church and for our mission of connecting people with God and with each other. As mission starts in prayer. We will again be joining with Christians from all over the world in a season of prayer between Ascension Sunday and Pentecost. Joining together to pray for people to come to know Christ and for the renewal of the church.

Here is a video which wrapped up last year's ThyKingdomCome event which happened in the middle of COVID lockdowns. <https://www.thykingdomcome.global/resources/thy-kingdom-come-2020-wrap-video>

We are again asking people to be committed to praying for five people (friends and family) to come to know Christ. I had the great joy this year of seeing one of the people I had been praying for the past three years become a Christian this year. We are asking that you specifically pray for one non-Christian you can invite along to the alpha dinner at the beginning of July.

We are wanting to have as many hours continuous prayer for the church, nation and world as we can during this season. So the small lounge at HopeCentral is being turned into a prayer room for the eleven days of thy Kingdom Come. Please come and spend an hour praying there. There will be a sign up sheet at all three church sites from this Sunday. If you can't make it down, sign up to spend an hour in prayer at home.

On May 29th there will be a gospel and healing service at HopeCentral and we are asking people to prayer walk the street in which they live and to deliver a flier to that service into every letterbox.

Hope Tikipunga Challenge 2021

Over the past two years we have had a challenge to support Family Works (Presbyterian Support)

2019 –pajamas, 2020 - beanies, scarves and booties. Well in 2021 it is knee rugs, throws, and cuddlies. We will have a morning tea on 6th July at Hope Tikipunga and invite a representative from Family Works to come along a receive the projects. There are several ways you can contribute; crochet a small rug, knit peggy squares and sew together, polar fleece is a good option, and patchwork throws are popular. Or, you might like to donate some wool for someone to use. For more details, please contact Kaye, Rae or Helen McGregor 0274373016.

Pentecost combined service May 23rd 10:00am

Pentecost is the birthday of the Church it is when the Holy Spirit came in power on those first believers. This year we will be celebrating Pentecost at HopeWhangarei with a combined service at HopeCentral. The service time will be 10am. Come and celebrate and rejoice together that God has sent his Spirit "A Gift for all of us".

Morning tea shouts Central City Chaplaincy

As part of our central city chaplaincy ministry we are wanting to show hospitality and care to people who work in the central city. So we are going to be giving some morning tea shouts to the businesses round the city. We are starting on Tuesday May 4th with a law firm (9 to 14 people) across the road from the church. We'd love people to be involved by baking a batch of biscuits or a slice or a cake,

even just cheese and crackers. If you can help out with this ministry please let Elaine Holwell know on 022 0812784.

[Know your Community, know you are family. Saturday May 15th 11 am to 5pm](#)
Saturday May 15th is International Day of families. Multi-Cultural Whangarei is holding a shared lunch at HopeCentral that day as a way of celebrating our connectedness to each other as the family of humanity. So why not come and bring a dish that represents your culture, a photo of your whanau and make friends with many of the people who now make this city their home.



Thank you

Thank you to the ICONZ boys that represented us at the Whangarei Dawn Parade this year. They laid a wreath they had made on Friday night as part of the ceremony. Thanks to Ben Welsh and Phil Cullen for mustering the boys on the day, and Ben and his team with the help of Glenys Currie and Rosalie Welch for helping the boys make the wreaths and some mighty fine ANAC biscuits on Friday Night.

We are looking for people to help out with ICONZ on Friday Nights this term. If you are interested please let Howard Carter know 027 7508602.

[Biennial Whangarei Embroiders' Guild Embroidery Exhibition](#)

Come and support some of our creative members (like Billy Portch) as they showcase their gifts and talents at this exhibition. Forum North, Cafler suite April 30th-May 2nd Friday 12pm-4pm, Saturday 9am-4pm and Sunday 10am-3pm entry by gold coin.

Blessing

May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had, so that with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Heoi mā te Atua o te manawanui, o te whakamarie, e hoatu ki a koutou kia kotahi te whakaaro o tētahi ki tētahi, kia rite ki tā Karaiti Īhu: Kia kotahi ai te whakaaro, kia kotahi ai te mangai, e whakakorōria ai koutou i te Atua, arā i te Matua o tō tātou Ariki, o Īhu Karaiti.

Romans/Roma 15:5, 6

Howard Carter
SENIOR MINISTER
HOPEWHANGĀREI

27th April 2021