

Dear Friends,

It's been a wet and wild Queens Birthday Weekend, and it looks like this weather is going to be with us for most of the week. I've been up to the Whau Valley Dam taking bird photos over the past few months (like this photo of a swan family) and had noticed that the dam was at a very low level, so this rain, even if it feels very inconvenient has come at a good time.



Recently we've had some feedback about the pastoral newsletter that often people find that it has too much information in it. They stop reading after all the obligatory stuff about COVID and the worship services. That is essential stuff but we'll continue working at this email to make sure that it is an effective means of communicating with people.

Here is a rundown of the notices this week. We include the bios and pictures of the people whom the Interim Council is nominating to the congregation to form the new Church Council for the next three years. We are also letting people know about the Congregational Meeting on June 20<sup>th</sup> and the combined service on July 4<sup>th</sup>. We have an opportunity to reach out to the Court here in Whangarei. We are providing a morning tea shout for the people who work at Court on June 16<sup>th</sup>. So we are looking for folk to help by providing baking and come and help serve. We also have evening service this Sunday and we want to encourage people to keep praying about someone to invite to the Alpha dinner coming up in July.

Here are the notices...

### [HOPEWHANGAREI NOTICE OF CONGREGATIONAL MEETING](#)

A Congregational Meeting will be held at each of the three sites – HOPETIKIPUNGA, HOPECENTRAL, HOPEONERAHI - following Sunday Services on Sunday, 20th June 2021 to vote on the following:

1. The Interim Church Council recommends to the members and associate members of HOPEWHANGAREI that the membership of the HOPEWHANGAREI Church Council from 1 July 2021 be as follows:

Lorna Child, Neil Croucher, Glenys Currie, Cristina da Silva,  
Helen McGregor, John Sefton, Dennis Thorne.

2. The Interim Church Council recommends to the members and associate members of HOPEWHANGAREI that Cristina da Silva be admitted to the Eldership of HOPEWHANGAREI.

Information on the election process has been provided by email and a copy is also available. A current photo and bio of those nominated for Church Council will be sent out with the pastoral email (see attachment) and available in hard copy.

## Morning tea shout Wednesday for the people who work at the Court June 16th

Through our Central City Chaplain, Elaine Holwell, we are starting to reach out and be neighbourly to the people who work around the City. At 9:30am Wednesday, June 16<sup>th</sup> we have the opportunity to provide a morning tea shout for the people who work across the road from HopeCentral at the Court House. There is a staff of about 40 people so it's a big step up for us. So we are looking for people to bake and cook, some biscuits or slice, cake or muffins with which to bless these people.

We are also looking for a couple of people who can come with Elaine and Howard to help serve the morning tea. Please contact Elaine on 022 0812784. WE NEED PEOPLE TO HELP WITH THIS CONNECTION WITH THE COURT. It is, we hope and pray, an open door to ministry and care for people in the Court. Something that people have been thinking and praying about for a long time at HopeCentral.

## Alpha Dinner Friday July 9<sup>th</sup>

We've been asking people to pray for five non-Christians to come to know Christ and to pray for one person to invite along with you to our Alpha dinner. So,

"Everyone bring one" ... is our encouragement to everyone across our three sites at Hope.

... the biggest reason why people don't come to church or to Christ is because ... they are not invited!

... so ... bring one... to what you are ask?

To: **The Alpha Dinner - to be held on Frida, July 9th (five weeks' time).**

**Dinner date and time:** Friday, July 9th at 6:00pm

**Location:** Hatea Room at the Whangarei Theatre Company, Reyburn House Lane, down near the Town Basin.

The dinner is free for our guests ... we are praying that 100 people will be there!



The Alpha Dinner is the introduction for the 10-week Alpha Course where people can put their foot in the water and see if it is for them – Alpha is a course where people can come and explore the Christian faith in a non-judgemental atmosphere of friendship, laughter and discovery.

At the Alpha Dinner people will have a great meal prepared by our team ... they will hear a very funny joke (or two!) ... they will hear people's stories about faith ... and see a short film called "[Is there more to life than this?](#)". There will be an opportunity for people to sign up to do the Alpha course starting July 27th at Hope Central.

Please book your seat and your friend's seat by emailing or ringing the church office:  
karen@hopewhangarei.nz and / or 09 4381667

## Evening Worship 6:30pm, June 13<sup>th</sup> HOPECENTRAL

Come join us for a relaxed and informal time of worship, prayer and reflection on the scripture this Sunday evening. Theme: Fruit of the Spirit: Kindness (he Ngāwari).

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary Celebration Service 10am Sunday, July 4<sup>th</sup> HopeCentral

On June 30<sup>th</sup> 2019 the three Presbyterian Parishes in Whangarei took the courageous step of coming together to form one church worshipping at three sites. On July 4<sup>th</sup> we are going to have a combined service to celebrate our two-year anniversary. We will thank those who have served on our Interim Church Council, commission our new Church Council and ordain the first new elder for HopeWhangarei. So we are going to celebrate that and look at how we are planning to continue the missional journey of being a flourishing Christian community, connecting people to God and to one another.

## Hope Tikipunga Challenge 2021

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

2019 – pyjamas, 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 and 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 027 437 3016.

## Save the date - Morning Tea @ HopeOnerahi – Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> June

The Onerahi Barnabas group support Glenys Currie's daughter and family as missionaries in Japan, (in the form of a Christmas gift each year). The Barnabas group are hosting a morning tea, at Hope Onerahi, Thursday 17th June at 10am.

Glenys Currie's daughter, Alison is back from Japan and will share her story about their work in Japan with OMF over the last 14 years over morning tea at HopeOnerahi. Alison attended the St Andrews Youth Group and also Girls' Brigade under Gwynneth Squires' leadership, and on one of their furloughs, Gwynneth actually filled in for Alison in Japan, in Mainly Music etc. All welcome to come along.

## Offerings by Cheques

You may be aware that banks will no longer be issuing or receiving cheques as payment. We have been advised by the BNZ that we will no longer be able to bank any cheques received so will therefore no longer be able to take cheques for offerings from the 1<sup>st</sup> June. If you need advice on the different ways to make your offerings please contact Karen at the church office.

## Essential Health and Safety notice: COVID-19 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. We would also encourage people to get the COVID vaccine when you are able.

## Sunday Worship:

We are back to our regular routine for worship at each of our sites.

10:00am HopeTikipunga: Preacher: Howard Carter Mark 16: 1-8, Romans 16: 1-15 (the silent witnesses to women in leadership in the New Testament).

9:30am HopeCentral: Girls' Brigade Service. Preacher: Lorne Campbell Mark 12: 41-44 (The Widow's Mite). *A mural, crafted by our girls under the guidance of Chris Garland, for placing on the back wall of our business block will also be unveiled at this service.*

9:30am HopeOnerahi: Preacher: Billy Portch 2 Kings 5 (the Servant Girl who shared her faith)

## Zoom service

We will be having a Zoom component to our service 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 (featuring our Girls' Brigade) 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**

## A note of thanks

We wish to thank our wonderful church family for the gift we received recently. We so appreciate the love, care, support and prayers extended to us during this second journey of my treatment. I have been referred to Auckland and am two weeks into my new treatment regime of six months. I have been in remission from Leukaemia for almost five years now and am very grateful to the Lord for that time.

Bless you all,

Peter and Kathy Esveld.

## Blessing

And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.

Ko tāku inoi anō tēnei, kia nui haere tonu tō koutou aroha i runga i te mātauranga, i ngā mahara mōhio katoa; Kia whakaaetia ai e koutou ngā mea papai; kia kore ai ō koutou tinihanga, ō koutou hē, ā taea noatia te rā o te Karaiti; Kia kī ai hoki i ngā hua o te tika, e puta mai ana i a Īhu Karaiti, hei korōria, hei whakamoemiti i te Atua.

Philippians/Piripai 1: 9-11

*Howard Carter*

**SENIOR MINISTER**

**HOPEWHANGĀREI**

8<sup>th</sup> June 2021