

Hi Everyone,

Howard is on leave this week and so I thought I would chip in with the welcome!

Sue and I had a wonderful few days off last week, including three nights in a “Tiny House” in Point Chevalier near to where our son Andy and his wife Emily live with our delightful grandchild Lily. We had some really great family time together. In between times, Sue and I gold carded it taking full advantage of the local buses, and even a ferry trip to Waiheke.

We also scaled the Sky Tower. What an impressive structure!



It did get me thinking about “**stability**” following the disastrous collapse of the Champlain Towers condominium in Miami two weeks ago. One of the problems there was the rotting of the foundations – water seeping into the concrete piles causing “concrete deterioration”. Jesus talked about this once when he challenged His disciples to consider what sort of foundation they would build their lives on in the parable of the rock and the sand ( Matthew 7: 24-27) adding “**Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock**”. How important for us to do just that: Be in God’s word, and then do what the Lord says.

**The Alpha Course** starting next Tuesday is a foundations course. Putting in the foundations of what it means to be a Christian. Is there someone you could bring along? It could be the best thing you ever did for someone else!

Lorne

Here are the notices....

### Essential Health and Safety notice: COVID-19 Level 1

We are at COVID level 1. So regularly wash hands, avoid touching your face, and sign in using the QR code and COVID tracer app or on paper. **Please stay home if you are unwell.**

Get in touch with health professionals and get tested if you have any of the COVID symptoms. 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.

## Services this week

- 9:30am @ Hope Onerahi: Kris Middendorf-Carter is speaking about Dorcas from Acts 9: 39-42
- 9:30am @ Hope Central: Howard is speaking on 1 Corinthians 14: 29-35
- 10:00am @ Hope Tikipunga: Lorne is speaking about lessons from the life of Miriam

## The **Alpha** Course ... starts on Tuesday July 27<sup>th</sup> from 6:45pm-8:45pm at Central

So far **22** people have registered for this life changing course starting next week.

It is still not too late to invite a friend to **Alpha**, but you/they will need to register.

Registration details: email [colleen@hopewhangarei.nz](mailto:colleen@hopewhangarei.nz) or Phone: 09 438 1667

If you are wanting to invite a friend, you could have them round for a **coffee (yum)** and show them this video of the talk everyone watched at the introductory dinner to see if they might be interested

<https://vimeo.com/162771029>

## **Alpha** Course – help needed

Help is needed with supplying deserts for the Alpha course and with the set up and clean up on the night.

Please contact Lorna Child if you are able to assist on Ph: 029 2753652

## Church Council

The new Church Council will meet for their first meeting on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> July at HopeOnerahi. Please uphold them all in your prayers as they meet together.

## Parua Bay Christian Camp Update – Neil Croucher

The time has come. We need some help at the camp house at Parua Bay Christian Camp. Just to let you know we will be starting the prep and painting phase of the camp house upgrade project from this Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> July for the next two weeks. There is plenty to do so any help will be appreciated: a couple of hours, a morning/afternoon or even a full day.

Please just turn up at the camp house at Parua Bay Christian Camp, 1 Wharf Road, Parua Bay during daylight hours between Tuesday and Saturday this week, or Monday to Saturday next week and we will keep you busy.

Alternatively you can contact our onsite guy Joseph on 027 2978717 or myself Neil Croucher 021 442047 for more information.

## Staff

Howard is on leave this week (18<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> July).

Pray that he will be well rested and refreshed during his leave

## Blessing

A blessing that I often say at the end of a service which I received many years ago, the then Bishop Of Wellington would give at the end of his services:

*“Go as far as you dare, for you cannot go beyond the reach of God.*

*Give as extravagantly as you like, for you cannot spend all the riches of God.*

*Care as lavishly as you are able for you cannot exhaust the love of God.*

*Keep journeying as a servant for God will always be with you.*

*And the blessing of God the Father, the Son Jesus Christ, and The Holy Spirit*

*Be with you always. Amen”*