

Dear friends,

As I sit down to write this email my office resounds with the chortle of little babies and what is euphemistically called the pitter-patter of tiny feet. We have a child portrait photography company using the hall this morning and there are families coming and going to get photos, portraits of their kids in the hall. The photographers must be good because I don't hear screams or crying, which to tell you the truth are sounds which haunt our own family photo sessions from back in the day.

In our recent *Thy Kingdom Come* season of Prayer we committed ourselves to praying for five people to come to know Christ. I hope you will continue to do that (and there is a testimony from Thy Kingdom Come in our email today) however can I also ask you to commit yourself to praying for families and children to also come to Christ and be part of the Church again. It's good that at central we are having to ask questions about how we cater for the children who are coming to our services, and it is good to see some children and teens being part of the worship team and tech team as well. I've been at services at Tikipunga and Onerahi with a child or two in the services as well. We are in the process of looking for a part time children's and family worker to develop an intergenerational ministry for families and children (which has been part of our five year missional plan). But again it is important that we pray for children and families.

We do have some wonderful contact with families through Mainly Music and Girls Brigade and ICONZ (which is in recess at the moment). You can be part of welcoming children and families into the church as well. It is as simple as saying hello and asking the names of kids that come to church. If you find it difficult to know what to say to kids beyond hello and what is your name here is a little Acronym I used with my youth group leaders back in the day to start conversations with teenagers. Simply learn to SLIR your speech. Ask about school: what year they are in? where do they go to school? Likes: what do they like about school? What is their favourite thing to do? Interests: ask them what they like doing? Religious experience: Do they come to church often? What do they like about it? If they are new at church maybe even ask what questions do they have about what they think of it so far? And then listen to what they tell you.

Here are the notices...

Sunday Worship June 19th

If you heard a splash last Sunday at our church services it was us diving right into the deep end as we return to our series systematically working our way through the book of Revelation. I was surprised at how even though we are in the meaty bits that people came away encouraged. The series is called *Revelation: Eternal Hope in the midst of present suffering*, and it is my prayer that people will capture the assurance and encouragement there is in this book to faithfully persevere in following Christ and witnessing to the resurrection as we face life and histories ebbs and flows.

HopeTikipunga @ 10:00am - Revelation 13 (Howard Carter)

HopeCentral @ 9:30am - Revelation 14 (Lorne Campbell)

HopeOnerahi @ 9:30am - Revelation 15 (Billie Portch)

Zoom service June 19th

The zoom service is a streaming of the 9:30am HopeCentral service.

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

If you are using an app on a mobile device the meeting **ID number is: 89285364673**

You can join via landline.

Please note that the process has changed. The phone number is 09 884 6780 you will need to input for the meeting

The number when Meeting ID prompted: 89285364673 followed by the # key. Then you will be asked for a further ID number or to press the # key again. Press the # hash key again. The host will ask for your name so we can put it on the computer screen so after the service people will know who you are.

After the service we will break into small groups so people can catch up, pray with each other. If you are on a landline you can unmute yourself by pressing *6. If you have someone on a landline in your group please introduce yourselves to them.

Sulis Birch June 19th

Sulis Burch, one of our mission partners, working with Navigators in Indonesia will be joining us at the service at HOPECENTRAL on Sunday 19th June and will share a little of her work.

Inspire Leadership Conference



If you would like to come along to this Leadership conference this Saturday please let the office know today Tuesday 14th we can take the van down and make a day of it.

The Keynote speaker is Craig Greenfield. On his blog he writes ‘My name is Craig Greenfield. During two decades of living in slums and inner cities (in both Asia and North America), I founded a grassroots youth discipleship movement called *Alongsiders International*, now reaching thousands of vulnerable children across 21 countries in Asia,

Africa and Europe’.

To register go online to https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdFMR-tvofHMiuQtFVltkwEbKOZ1PfrHtUkHpNXuQklaKJv_w/viewform and let the Hope office know TODAY so we can book a seat on the van.

Tikipunga Challenge Wednesday 13th July 10am



Knitted beanies, scarves, booties, slippers, blankets or whatever takes your fancy. All items will be delivered to “Family Works” (part of Presbyterian Support), based in Mair Street.

Enquires to Helen McGregor



News about Frank Stevens

Frank is a long time member at Central and has faithfully put up tables and chairs and helped with the sound desk for years.

After a number of visits to hospital recently for a heart condition, Frank is now settled in Cairnfield House where he is happy and thriving!

Please do pray for Frank and any visitors would be most welcome.

Lorne & Sue Campbell's news

Lorne & Sue would like you to know that their youngest daughter and her hubby Keith who live at Red Beach are expecting their first baby in November.

Also, that their middle daughter Amy, who lives here in Whangarei, has just got engaged to Alastair Cook.

Thank you Lord!

Sponsoring Amelie Jansen for this year's 40 hour famine:

Kia Ora Hope Whangarei whanau. My name is Amelie and this year I am doing the 40 hr famine. The cause this year is getting clean water to children and communities who don't currently have access to it. Today, 800 children died because they didn't have clean water.

Right now, we have everything it takes to bring life-saving water to children in the world's toughest places. And give their communities the tools to keep clean water flowing for years to come.

This is Prisca's story, a young girl from Malawi:



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qfyp3wxGbU&t=2s>

Here is the link to my fundraising page:

<https://my.worldvision.org.nz/d/ss/5B10hP/amelie-jansen>

When you click "give now" you may be asked to "sign in".

If you don't have an account for world vision, just enter your email address and then select "continue as a guest"

If you are able to give to this amazing cause, that would be awesome. Every dollar counts. Thank you ☺

PS: Amelie will be at Hope Central this Sunday to chat to

about the 40 hour famine ...

Testimony from Thy Kingdom Come – "Pray for five"

It's always good to get encouragement and hear people's stories of people's journeys in faith and prayer. Here is a short testimony by Tim from the UK following this year's Thy Kingdom Come

"praying for 5" to come to know the Lord: "My cousin isn't a Christian and has been on my "pray for 5" for the last 5 years. This Pentecost Sunday, he went to church of his own volition! He hadn't been invited, he just decided to go and is now interested in beginning his own journey of faith. He is moving to our city later this year for a job and I am excited to see what happens next!"

Don't stop praying for your five!

Blessing

There is so much in the pastoral email today so let me finish with a quick and simple blessing from 2 Peter/Pita 3:18

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.

Engari kia neke ake i runga i te aroha noa, i te mātauranga o tō tātou Ariki, arā o te Kaiwhakaora, o Īhu Karaiti. Waiho atu i a ia te korōria, āianeī, ā ake tonu atu. Āmine.

Blessings

Howard Carter

SENIOR MINISTER
HOPEWHANGĀREI

June 7th 2022

PS: - This photo is called down in the dumps. It is a young juvenile Pied Shag (Kāruhiruhi) down on



the mud bank of the Hatea River. I don't know if Karuhiruhi have feelings but its posture gives the impression about being down. In the photo is also a broken glass bottle. While I've talked to people who work for recreation services and they say the river is very healthy (thus all the bird life) I can't help but see this as a picture about rubbish, pollution and the environment. In

September as a Church we are going to be observing what Churches call the season of creation. Looking at Creation care as part of our mission and expression of our faith in and love for the creator. If people have a suitably sized project they think we as a church could undertake during that's season alongside our worship please let me know.