

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I'm reading Pete Grieg's book 'How to Pray: A Simple Guide for Normal People' at the moment. Pete starts his chapter on intercessory prayer with a humorous but challenging story. He tells of a bar in a small town in Texas that applied for a building extension. The neighbouring Baptist Church were opposed to the expansion of the bar. They protested, signed petitions to stop building consent, and even went as far as holding prayer meetings. However it was to no avail, the bar owner got consent from the council, started building as was planning for the grand opening. However just a week before the new bar was due to open, the building was struck by lightning and burned to the ground. The church were happy and spoke of it being God's intervention. The Bar owner decided that he would sue (hey this is the US) the church for the loss of his property. As it came to court suddenly the church people changed their mind and maintained that they were not responsible for the bar owners loss of property and income. It went to court and the judge in his brief commented "I don't know how I'm going to decide this, we appear to have a publican who believes passionately in prayer and a whole congregation that has lost its faith entirely."

Grieg surmises "the Bible teaches that our prayers are vastly powerful. That's why, in the Lord's Prayer, Jesus doesn't just instruct us to pray personally for daily bread, but also for regime change: the coming of God's Kingdom on earth." Let's be diligent and consistent in our prayer for others and our prayer for Christ's activity in our city, country and world.

Here are the notices.

### Worship Sunday January 29<sup>th</sup> 2023

Come join us at one of our three sites for a time of worship and as we continue our journey through the book of Nehemiah, a journey from vision to reality. This week Howard Carter will be preaching on Nehemiah 2:11-20 and Luke 9:11-17. The message will be via video at Hope Tikipunga and Hope Onerahi.

10:00am @ HopeTikipunga - (Nehemiah 2:11-20) - Surveying the rubble with eyes of faith

9:30am @ HopeCentral - (Nehemiah 2:11-20) - Surveying the rubble with eyes of faith

9:30am @ HopeOnerahi - (Nehemiah 2:11-20) - Surveying the rubble with eyes of faith

Prayer ministry is offered at the end of all our services.

There is also a cuppa so please stay round to catch up with folk.

### Zoom services

Note we will not resume zoom services or live streaming till February.

### Sermons online

All our HopeWhangarei Sunday sermons are available as audio recordings online. You can access them through our website (<https://hopewhangarei.nz/sermons/>) or on many podcast providers... Spotify, Apple podcast, google podcast, simply search HopeWhangarei.

### [Te Tiriti O Waitangi Workshop 9:00-12:30 Wednesday 15th Feb 2023 HopeCentral](#)

Citizen's advice bureau and migrant Connect are running a half day Workshop on the Treaty of Waitangi at HopeWhangarei on February 15th. We are most welcome to come and be part of this, to learn more about how the treaty, its history and how it fits into modern day Aotearoa New Zealand. It is also a great opportunity to come and meet some new migrants to the city and country as well and learn alongside them.

You'll need to register via email to [whangarei@cab.org.nz](mailto:whangarei@cab.org.nz) or by phone on 09 438 8046.

### [Combined HopeWhangarei service 10am February 19th 2023... commissioning of our Intern for 2023-24 - Pauline Harrison.](#)

One of the exciting things for 2023-24 is that we have been approached to host another national ministry Intern from KCLM (Knox Centre for Leadership and Ministry), our Presbyterian seminary. Pauline Harrison will be joining us from Ngatea, where she was part of the lay leadership in the cooperating parish there. Pauline and her husband Simon grew up in Tauranga, she completed her theological training through Carey College and was accepted from training in 2022. She comes from a background in international business and IT as well as involvement in church planting and mission in France. She came up and checked us out and met with the council in October and will be moving up here in February. Simon will be joining her later in the year.

Pauline will be commissioned at this celebration combined service on February 19th, and given licence by the Presbytery to celebrate communion and we will be joined for part of the service via zoom by Rev Dr Geoff New, principal of Knox Centre for Ministry and Leadership.

Mark this special date down in your calendar...

### [Northern Presbytery leadership Conference focusing on Family Ministry 9:30am-3pm February 25<sup>th</sup> - Onehunga Samoan Presbyterian Church](#)

Key note speaker Dr Mercy Ah Siu-Mailiko focusing on family ministry and work shops by Rt Rev Hamish Galloway (Inspiring generativity), Stephanie Wells (understanding the generations), Rev Dr Emma Keown (mission into action). Rev Dr Marie Ropati-Apialoma will also be inducted as the new moderator of Northern Presbytery.

If you are keen to attend please register online at <http://www.northpres.org.nz> by February 17<sup>th</sup> and let the church office know so we can arrange transport.

### [Car parking during the week at Central](#)

Just a reminder that at central during the week car parks in the row closest to the road and those round behind the church hall are rented out to people. If you are coming to the office or the church **please park in the centre row of the carpark**. The ones along the hall are reserved for staff.

The office will be more active this year in checking on parking between 9am-2pm due to problems with cars in reserved car parks (and will have to look at towing).

If you are parking in the church car park please tell Karen or Colleen even if for just 5mins.

## Phone Book update

We are updating the phone book for publication shortly.

Please let either Karen or Colleen know via email [karen@hopewhangarei.nz](mailto:karen@hopewhangarei.nz) and [colleen@hopewhangarei.nz](mailto:colleen@hopewhangarei.nz) if there are any changes to be made.

***If you would like your photo in the book please supply a jpeg image or call in to the office and we can take a picture for you.***

The phone book will be available printed (A4 size) or an email pdf format – please let us know what you would prefer

## Blessing

Let me finish with an encouragement to not only pray but to proclaim God's goodness to us and his great love and to give thanks for what he has done for us... Psalm 105:1-3

Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name;  
make known among the nations what he has done.

2 Sing to him, sing praise to him;  
tell of all his wonderful acts.

Glory in his holy name;  
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.

Whakawhetai ki a Ihowā,  
karanga atu ki tōna ingoa:  
whakapuakina āna mahi ki waenganui o nga iwi.  
2 Waiata ki a ia, himene ki a ia:  
kōrerotia ana mahi whakamiharo katoa.  
3 Whakamanamana ki tōna ingoa tapu:  
kia hari te ngākau o te hunga e rapu ana i a Ihowā.

Howard Carter

**SENIOR MINISTER**  
**HOPEWHANGĀREI**

January 24<sup>th</sup> 2023

PS: - The McLeod's bay domain is a great place for photographing birds. At high tide I use my car as a hide and can get quite (the right spelling here unlike quit in last week's pastoral newsletter... thank you to the people who pointed that out to me) close. Here are a couple of Poaka (pied Stilts) the photo is called 'you give me shelter...'



