

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The year is really starting in earnest this week and **there are a lot of notices**. I know it's a lot to take in but **please take the time to read through them**.

Let me simply share a quote I found very helpful from the book *How To Pray* by Pete Grieg. It comes from a chapter on spiritual warfare. That is a topic we don't often speak on and are often suspicious about. But this is a great chapter on the subject and puts things in a very practical positive way... not just praying against things... But rather as you live out the Kingdom in our everyday life.

“You take a stand against the Enemy every time you preach the gospel, forgive an enemy, stand up to a bully, care for the poor, create something beautiful, behave with integrity, practice civil disobedience for the sake of righteousness, or take a stance that defies his insidious systems of control. For instance, if your office culture is saturated with cynicism, you might model an ‘equal but opposite’ spirit by speaking words of hope, refusing to gossip, being unusually kind. If there is racism in your neighbourhood, you might go out of your way to befriend someone different to yourself. If the churches in your area are divided, you could make a donation to another congregation and commit to pray for its pastor as well as yours... “

We spend more time blessing what is good than cursing wrong.

Here are the notices.

[Worship Sunday February 12th](#)

Join us at one of our three sites to worship together with God's people. We are continuing our journey through the book of Nehemiah in a series called from 'vision to reality'. In an ironic way in the passages we look at this week we see that Nehemiah will not be stonewalled by opposition from outside or within the community, as he works to build the wall. And in the face of the issues he faces he works at a deeper rebuilding, the restoration and renewal of God's people.

10: am @ HopeTikipunga - Nehemiah 5; 13-19 (Howard Carter)

9:30am @ HopeCentral - Nehemiah 4 (Lorne Campbell)

9:30am @ HopeOnerahi - Nehemiah 5:1-12 (Billy Portch)

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

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 Hampshire 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...

Mainly Music Onerahi start-up date and, invitation to come and join the team

Mainly Music is a wonderful time of fun song and fellowship, it is a time when families (mainly Mum's) and their pre-school children can get together and enjoy music and dance and movement together. It is one of the great ways in which we as a church connect and serve our community, and reach out and show love to families with young kids. The sessions run for an hour on Wednesday mornings from 10:00am. This year the team will be starting on February 15th.



The team are also looking for people to come and be part of the fun and help lead and care for the families who come. If you can help out on a regular basis (commitment from 9:00am-11:30am Wednesdays during school time) then they would love to have you come and join them. Help behind the screens or just making friends with the mums and children, or maybe even take a more up front role and jump round and lead the kids in song. Contact Nancy Dodds on 021 2085220.

Because it involved working with children there will be a need for a police check

Calling all Sandwich and Slice Makers

Some volunteers are needed to make/donate sandwiches, asparagus rolls, club sandwiches, mini wraps etc, slices or fruit for a light lunch (finger food) on Sunday, 19 February 2023 following Pauline Hampshire's commissioning service.

Helpers for serving/clearing also needed.

If this is your gifting and you are able to help, please contact Lorna Child, 436 0609 or 029 275 3652 by 5:00 pm on Tuesday, 14 February 2023.



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 or by phone on 094388046.

OMAG. What is it? What does it do?

The Overseas Missions Advisory Group [OMAG] is responsible to the Church Council for the overseas missions outreach of HOPEWHANGAREI.

Through OMAG this church provides financial and pastoral support to a number of mission partners overseas, following a set of agreed policies and practices. The major focus for our outreach is in line with that of PCANZ with an emphasis on South East Asia and the Pacific, and seeks to support the development of national church leaders. Currently all our mission partners are members of recognised mission organisations, such as Navigators, YWAM, World Outreach.

Each member of the OMAG is linked with one or more of our overseas mission partners and communicates regularly so as to keep OMAG, the Church Council and this church community updated. With a budget of \$23,500 for the year 2022-2023 this church supports the following mission partners-

- Chau – Vietnam,
- Greg and Lisa Webby currently on leave,
- Han Pham – Cambodia,
- Steph Herron – Mozambique,
- Sulis Burch -Indonesia,
- Voice of Love Radio -Cambodia,
- Harry – Vietnam,
- Kidsville Vietnam,
- Trust in God Orphanage -Zimbabwe,
- Ngoan & Xuan – Vietnam
- and until December 2022 – Helen & Shane Blaxland – Cambodia.

It is planned to familiarise the congregation with brief profiles and updates on our partners overseas through items in this pastoral communication, prayer requests and items at services.

Northern Presbytery leadership Conference focusing on Family Ministry 9:30am-3pm February 25th Onehunga Samoan Presbyterian Church

Key note speaker Dr Mercy Ah Siu-Mailiko focusing on family ministry and work shoes by Rt Rev Hamish Galloway (Inspiring generativity), Stephanie Wells (understanding the generations), Rev Dr Emma Keown (mission into action). Rev Dr Marie Ropati-Apisaloma 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 17th and let the church office know so we can arrange transport.

Alpha @ BOB Café – team gathering. 10:30am Saturday Feb 18th, at BOB Café



This is a call to anyone who would like to be a part of the team to host Alpha in April, May, June this year ... The plan is to meet for a coffee at BOB café, 29 Bank Street, on Saturday Feb 18th (Saturday week) to “spy out the land”

Please can you give Colleen at the office a ring 09 438 1667 or Lorne a ring 0211356275 if you'd like to come ... or just turn up!!

Alpha is a 10 week outreach where people come to hear and discuss the unchanging message of the gospel ... it has been life changing for so many.

Phone Book update

We are updating the phone book for publication shortly.

Please let either Karen or Colleen know via email karen@hopewhangarei.nz and 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.

A chance to use your art to help us in our prayer life

In May each year from ascension to Pentecost 18th -28th May the church is involved in a worldwide prayer movement called Thy Kingdom Come. This year we are inviting artists in the church (floral artists, painters, photographers etc.) to help us with our prayer. Each day in the season of Prayer has a different theme (focusing on the character of God) and we would like to invite you to produce a piece of art to be a focus for each day's theme in the church (Central) as it is open for prayer. A list of the themes will be put out at the combined service for people to look at and put their name down besides one of the themes...

Offerings

Offerings up until 31 January 2023 are \$125,433.47 against a budget of \$135,912.00

Blessing

When you read the Lord's Prayer in the gospels you'll notice that it does not conclude as we have traditionally said it. In the gospels it finishes abruptly with 'deliver us from evil', but from an early time in church liturgy it has been finished with an added doxology. It starts in with adoration and it seems fitting that we finish with adoration. I've always pondered where that extra couple of phrases came from. It actually comes from a prayer for David in 1 Chronicles 29:11, a prayer in Chronicles which is David's last recorded at the end of his

life, in response to all the offerings coming into build the temple, and just before Solomon is acknowledged as King.

Yours, LORD, is the greatness and the power
and the glory and the majesty and the splendour,
for everything in heaven and earth is yours.

Yours, LORD, is the kingdom;
you are exalted as head over all.

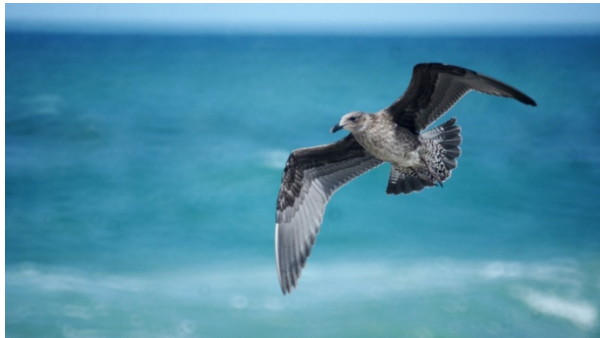
Nōu hoki, e lhowā, te nui, te mana,
te korōria, te wikitōria, te hōnore;
nōu ngā mea katoa i te rangi, i te whenua;
nōu te rangatiratanga, e lhowā;
he tiketike noa ake hoki koe,
hei ūpoko mo te katoa.

Howard Carter

SENIOR MINISTER
HOPEWHANGĀREI

February 7th 2023

PS: - I went for a walk along Ruakaka beach on Sunday afternoon and it was amazing to see all the young Kororo (black backed Gulls) gathered along the beach. With the birds taking off into a strong headwind I was able to get some good shots of them in flight, with the ocean in the background.



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