

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I asked Carla Rein, a member out at Onerahi, to share with us her involvement as a volunteer at 155 Whare Awhina Open Arms day shelter. It is part of wanting to tell the stories of people in our church and what God is calling people to do in the wider community, also with our looking at a 'City Mission' style redevelopment of the business block/central site we are talking of working closer with 155 community trust (we already have the community law office as tenants in the business block). Carla writes...

*"I started volunteering at Open Arms at the end of 2018 and have been there ever since. It started after an inspirational message from Rev. Mary Nicholas. I was very apprehensive at first, I'd heard about homeless people sleeping in their cars and under bridges but do any of us actually notice them in our day-to-day life. We've all seen some very dodgy looking individuals in the street at times, people that that we hardly ever interact with, and that is what make us fear them, the unknown.*

*Once I started volunteering there, my whole mindset changed. I got to know many of the whanau there quite well. They are people just like us, who have for some reason or other, fallen on hard times [often through their own wrong choices]. They hurt, they have good and bad days, they have families that they talk about, they have dreams and hopes for a better future, mostly just a roof over their heads and employment. Once in a while one of them get out of hand with another member, but I personally have never felt threatened, there is permanent security, and the police is around the next corner.*

*I go in once a week on a Friday morning from 7:30 - 10.00 am to prepare a hot breakfast, the only day a hot breakfast is provided. They look forward to this hot breakfast very much and are so appreciative. If I can give only of their days a good start with as little as one hot meal, it makes it all worthwhile. On other mornings they have a choice of cereals, porridge, toast with jam and coffee.*

*I guess my message is this: with only a small effort on our part, we can make a big difference to so many lives out there in a harsh world. We don't need to fear the unknown, we need to embrace it with God's love, look at people through Jesus' eyes."*

Thank you, Carla.

Here are the notices...

### [Worship Sunday July 9<sup>th</sup>](#)

Join us this Sunday for worship and as we continue our winter sermon series, 'OneAnothering: the Spirit filled art of Christian Community'.

10:00am @ HopeTikipunga - Colossians 3:12-13, Forgive One Another (Lorne Campbell)

9:30am @ HopeCentral - James 5: 13-16 Confess sins and pray for One Another (Pauline Hampshire)

9:30am @ HopeOnerahi – Ephesians 5:21, Be Subject to One another (Howard Carter)

### Zoom Service 9:30am July 9<sup>th</sup>

The zoom service this week will be the 9:30am service from HopeCentral.

Here is the link for the service <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84819102883>

If you are using the zoom app on a mobile device or smart phone the **Meeting ID is 84819102883**

If you are joining by landline, dial 09 8846780 and follow the Instructions, again the meeting ID is 84819102883.

### Staff update

Our Senior Administrator Karen Cullen is still working on reduced hours from home, as she awaits a back operation. She has a date later in the month for her operation. Please continue to pray for Karen for her healing and restoration. If you need to communicate with Karen on church matters, she can be contacted by email at [karen@hopewhangarei.nz](mailto:karen@hopewhangarei.nz) .

Over the next few months Lorne Campbell is transitioning to working half time. He will be working full time until August 6<sup>th</sup> and then take a four-week break and come back in September in that new capacity. This means that the present Alpha course will have finished and follow up can be in place. Then he will have a good long break and come back ready to face this next phase of his ministry here.

Winter ailments mean that the office staff is also being affected. Both Colleen and Howard are away from the office today with different bugs.

### Winter Sermon Series: One Anothering: The Spirit Filled Art of Christian Community

Starting on Sunday June 4<sup>th</sup> in our Sunday worship at all three sites we will be exploring the topic of One anothering... Jesus called us to 'love one another as I have loved you' and this is an inspirational and aspirational hope at the centre of our Christian living, the one anothering sayings in the Epistles help us to put that into practise. Epistles written to churches struggling with coming together in Christ from across the spectrum of the cultural divides of their day. Giving practical advice on how as this diverse group of people can come together as one and love one another amidst everyday life with its difficulties and disagreements.

### Alpha Course @ BOB café update

The Alpha course running at BOB café is 3 weeks away from ending, and weekly attendance has been affected by the winter season of flu – however there is usually 22-28 people there each week. One of the spin offs of running Alpha in the community has been the encouragement it has given BOB café. On last week's invoice they wrote *"a big thank you for your continued support through these challenging times, it is really appreciated and makes a difference"* – Praise God!

Please be praying for our guests as the course comes to a finish on July 19<sup>th</sup> – that many will want to carry on the journey of developing a relationship with Jesus. *Lorne and the team Inner City Chaplaincy – can you make star biscuits!?*

Its Matariki coming up on July 16<sup>th</sup> and the inner-city chaplaincy team would like to deliver gifts to those they are connecting with to continue to build relationships. They would like to deliver biscuits in the shape of stars with a bible verse attached. They are asking if members of our fellowship would be willing to make star shaped biscuits ... to be assembled and taken onto the streets on Tuesday July 18<sup>th</sup>! Please can you contact Elaine Holwell if you can help with this project. Elaine's phone number: 0220812784 and email: [holwelle@gmail.com](mailto:holwelle@gmail.com)

### Home help needed

Margaret Scrivens is needing female home help due to physical health. Do church attenders have family/relatives who may be interested. 1 .5 hours per week with good fair pay and work conditions.

Phone 4300568 or approach Margaret at church.

### Hope Tikipunga Challenge 2023

The past four years we have had a challenge to support Family Works (Presbyterian Support) 2023 - Any knitting/crochet is acceptable. We will have a morning tea on Thursday July 13th at Hope Tikipunga and will 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, Patchwork throws are popular, or you might like to donate some wool for someone to use. Enquiries to: Helen McGregor 027 437 3016 or Kaye Anderson 021109 9002

### Ladies morning tea – **this week @ Hope Central- 8th July- 9-30am**

Our speaker will be Helen Blaxland speaking about her time in Cambodia and her work in Hospice Whangarei. All Welcome.

### Church offerings

Offerings to the end of June are \$222,669 against a budget of \$233,000, a deficit of \$10,331

### Blessing

In the middle of his letter to the Ephesians Paul offers a long prayer for his readers.

I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

Kia rite ki te nui rawa o tona kororia he homaitanga mana ki a koutou, kia pakari ai a roto i a koutou i te kaha o tona Wairua: Kia noho ai a te Karaiti ki roto ki o koutou ngakau, he mea

whakapono; a, i te mea kua whai pakiaka, me te whai turanga mo koutou i roto i te aroha, Kia kaha ai koutou me te hunga tapu katoa ki te whakaaro i te whanui, i te roa, i te hohonu, i te tiketike, A kia mohio ki te aroha o te Karaiti, e kore nei e taea te whakaaro; kia tino ki rawa ai koutou i te Atua.

*Howard Carter*

SENIOR MINISTER  
HOPEWHANGĀREI

July 4<sup>TH</sup> 2023

Ps: - On Saturday I observed a Pacific Reef Heron (Matuku Moana) out at Onerahi. I am always amazed by the intense orange eyes on these birds. This one seemed to be interested in picking up rocks. I couldn't figure out whether it was practise for fishing or just having fun. The wind also ruffled its breeding plumage.

