

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As I was thinking about what to write in the pastoral email today the word neighbourly came to mind. Being good neighbours. It's been part of our Central City Chaplaincy over the past few years. The idea of just dropping in to see how our neighbours are going and we've been very blessed with flowers and baking to drop off to folk to let them know, we care and that God cares for them. This has led to the chaplains being able to provide a listening ear to people, some care and opportunities for prayer. In the pastoral email this week also Pauline and her team from Tikipunga who have been listening to the community and looking at a missional response to what they hear from the Spirit and the community have also decided on a project which really fits into being good neighbours. They will be going to the open day for the new Kianga Ora housing development on Wanaka Road and in conjunction with Kianga Ora are putting together practical 'welcome to your new house' gifts (see Pauline's notice).

'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these." -Mark 12:30-31

Here are the notices,

Worship Sunday July 28th

Come join us for worship at one of our three sites this week, as we continue our journey through the gospel according to Mark. Each site has its own feel and style, but you will receive a warm welcome and be encouraged to encounter the presence of God amidst sung worship, prayer, scripture reading and expository preaching.

10:00am	HopeTikipunga	Mark 9:38-41 (Pauline Hampshire)
9:30am	HopeCentral	Mark 9:42-50 (Lorne Campbell) communion
9:30am	HopeOnerahi	Mark 9:30-37 (Howard Carter) communion

Zoom service July 28th 9:30am

The zoom service will be the 9:30am service from HopeCentral. Here is the link for the service <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83429062440>

If you are using the zoom app on a mobile device or smart phone the Meeting ID is 83429062440. If you are joining by landline, dial 09 8846780 and follow the Instructions, again the meeting ID is 83429062440. There is a waiting room and then our host will let you into the live stream.

Sunday July 28th is ... REVEAL SUNDAY!

This Sunday Anna Mackenzie, a World Vision co-ordinator for the Alito Community Chosen project, will be coming to Central and then on to Tikipunga to reveal to sponsors which children have chosen them. Praise God for this opportunity to bring good news to the poor.



The Bible Course; an eight-session course helping you explore the BIG story.

The Bible Course



“Big, complex, old ... just some of the words people use to describe the Bible. Sound familiar? That’s where *The Bible Course* comes in. The course will increase your confidence, equip you to read the Bible better and help you to see its relevance to daily life. The course provides a birds-eye view of the world’s

bestselling book.”

Starting August 13th we will be running the Bible Course here at HopeWhangarei. The course is put together by the Bible Society UK. There is a **cost of \$15** for the course participants booklet.

Who is it for? The course is accessible for people new to Christianity, ideal as a follow-on from courses like Alpha or for mature Christians wanting to increase their understanding of the Bible.

We will be running 7pm Tuesday Nights for eight weeks from Tuesday August 13th

Please contact Howard (howard@hopewhangarei.nz) or Colleen (colleen@hopewhangarei.nz) or by phone at the office 094381667 to book a place.

There will also be sign up forms at all three sites this Sunday.

The Get Together Twice a Month HopeCentral lounge. Wednesday July 24th 12-2pm.

The relaxed get together for friendship, fellowship is happening again on Wednesday, July 24th from 12 noon onwards. So, bring your lunch (hot drinks provided), some activity (puzzle, board game, handcraft, conversation) to do, learn or share and come and meet with people from around Hope.

Newcomers lunch 12:00-1:30pm July 28th HopeCentral hall

If you are new to HopeWhangarei, to any of our three sites, we'd like to invite you along to a lunch at the hall on Sunday July 28th.

It is a chance to get to know some of the folk on staff and in leadership at the Church and also learn a bit more about the mission and vision of the church and all we have available for fellowship, connection, discipleship and service.

So if you are a new comer or still feel sort of newish we'd love you to come along.

It will be a simple cold meat, some warm food and salad lunch, we'd just ask that you **RSVP by Thursday July 25th** so we have a good idea of numbers for catering. Children are warmly welcome as well.

Grace Fund

Hope Whangarei runs Grace Fund which is a fund that offers small interest free loans to congregation members who may find themselves short of funds when things like a washing machine breaks down that is unable to be fixed or the car needs a warrant and there is work that needs to be done and you find yourself short.

If you wish to know further information please contact our Senior Administrator, Karen Cullen on karen@hopewhangarei.nz

Pauline is leading us to engage in "Mission in our Communities".

The Mission Action Experiment team has voted on engaging with new residents in the Kainga Ora facility in Wanaka Street.

This fits with these 2 mission goals of our church:

- Loving service responding to human need
- Doing something which aims to better society

This starts with an **invitation to all Hope Whangārei members to attend the opening ceremony** on Monday August 5 at 11am.

RVSP to Pauline for catering numbers.

We will make up "practical welcome packages" (55 packages) for new residents.

Donations of these items to Pauline:

Washing powder, dish-washing liquid, tea towels, cleaning cloths, sponges, dish brush, cleaning product.

We have visited the "community common room" in the complex which has a large kitchen and comfortable furnished room.

This opens an opportunity for on-going mission action.

Office Closed this Thursday 25th July due to staff training

Blessing

A blessing from the end of 1 Peter written to Christians who were starting to face persecution for their faith. Peter had written to them as God's elect who found themselves in exile, both knowing God's grace and calling but also strangers in a strange land. He finishes the body of his letter with a blessing of God's ability to be with and keep his people strong even when they face both persecution but as I read it also the difficult times in life.

And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. ¹¹ To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

Nā mā te Atua o ngā mahi aroha noa katoa, i karangatia ai koutou ki tōna kōroria mutungakore i roto i a Karaiti Īhu, ka oti koutou te whakamamae i tēnei wā iti nei, māna koutou e mea kia tino rite, māna e whakau, mana e whakakaha, māna e whakapūmau.

Waiho atu i a ia te korōria me te kaha ake ake. Āmine.

Howard Carter

SENIOR MINISTER

HOPEWHANGAREI

July 23rd 2024

PS:- I managed to get out for a walk on Monday between the showers. I wasn't the only one this Tuturiwhatu (New Zealand Dotterel) was out walking along the Hatea River loop track as well. They are so small and cleverly camouflaged that you sometimes only notice them when they move... Usually in quick short sprints before standing still to see any bugs or crabs around them. It is great to see these birds close to the city like this.

