

Dear Hope family,

Howard is away this week attending the Abide Church leadership Conference in Auckland and so, I, Lorne, will provide a brief introduction to our weekly newsletter, by way of updating you on my health situation.

Sue and I would like to thank the many people who have been praying for us during this time of chemo treatment. Some have asked how's it going and where are you up to? I was due to have my last round this week, but due to a very nasty skin rash, they postponed the treatment for 2 weeks. So, all going well, my last treatment will be on Oct 24 and Oct 25. Apart from the skin rash the other side effect is tiredness!

Following my last treatment, I will most likely have a PET scan towards the end of the year to determine the effectiveness of the chemo. A recent scan I had showed the Lymphoma in my pancreas had decreased in size a little, but not as much as they had hoped. We keep praying...

Amid all this we are in good spirits, and we are so very grateful for the medical profession who have been caring for us. It was a joy 10 days ago taking two boxes of Orchids, supplied by the Hansen family, up to the Jim Carney Cancer centre to give to the teams up there. It was late on a Friday afternoon, and everyone was winding up for the day ... but they all stopped ... eyes lit up ... and they were so grateful. We went away feeling blessed by the joy filled surprise shown by the team. I think that is why Luke records Paul's words to the Ephesian elders: "*remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'*" Acts 20: 35

I'd like to thank Howard and the team at the church office who have also been most supportive and understanding as I endeavour to fulfil my duties.

Here are this week's notices:

Worship Sunday October 13th

Come and join us for worship at one of our three sites this week. 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. The children's ministry at HopeCentral takes a break for the school holidays, but each site is welcoming of families and children.

10:00am HopeTikipunga Lorne Campbell - Mark 12.35-40

9:30am HopeCentral Howard Carter - Mark 12. 28-30

9:30am HopeOnerahi Pauline Hampshire - Mark 12. 41-44

Zoom Service October 13th 9:30am

Staff matters:

Howard is away this week and will be back for worship this coming Sunday.

It is good to have Pauline back with us after a 3 week break at the block course in Dunedin and time with her family.

House sit or other accommodation wanted please 😊 November 1st-10th

My brother and his small family are planning about a visit from London and need somewhere to stay. Conscientious & tidy Christian couple with 2 small boys. Can pay reasonable rent.

Please contact Joy Jansen 436 2854 or 2joyjansen@gmail.com

**HELP NEEDED IN THE KITCHEN & SET UP FOR *THE ALPHA MARRIAGE COURSE*
starting Tuesday 15th October 7-9pm**

The Alpha Marriage course is a six-week course designed to help couples strengthen their relationship. One of the good things about this course is that it is not about talking about your relationship with others rather its 'time and space to focus on your relationship' an intentional date night. **If you would like to do the Alpha Marriage Course or be involved helping set up etc please let Howard know**
Howard@hopewhangarei.nz

The blessing:

Go as far as you dare, for you cannot go beyond the reach of God.

Give as extravagantly as you like, for you cannot spend all the riches of God.

Care as lavishly as you are able for you cannot exhaust the love of God.

Keep journeying as a servant, for God will always be with you.

May the blessing of God the Father, the Son Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit be with you always.

Amen

Howard enjoys birds ... Lorne likes jokes.

Here's a couple of funnies to end our pastoral email this week. As scripture says.

A joyful heart is good medicine, but a broken spirit drains one's strength Prov 17:22

