

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I am currently reading a book called *Lead with Prayer: The Spiritual Habits of World-Changing Leaders...* The book was recommended by one of the speakers at the Abide conference I went to a couple of weeks ago. While it sounds rather high-faluting I have found that it has some very practical advice and encouragement for developing a deeper prayer life.

In the first chapter I was surprised to find that many Christian leaders around the world adopted a simple practise of having a regular (and for some daily) practise of doing a prayer walk. Taking some time out of the day to go for a walk... but being intentional to both get some exercise but also to spend that time aware of God's presence. As one Leader put it 'wasting time with Jesus'. I was surprised by this practise as when I go for a walk before work during the week I make a conscious effort of being aware that it is alone time with God.

Here are some of the tips the authors of 'lead with prayer' gave for a Prayer Walk...

- *Verbally invite Jesus to join you on your walk.*
- *Take a scripture with you and memorise it.*
- *Read a psalm before you start and reflect on it as you walk.*
- *Listen to a worship song as you walk*
- *Look at nature around you and compliment God on its beauty (When I walk by the Hatea River, I always acknowledge God's presence like a river... from Ezekiel 47)*
- *Take time to listen*
- *Repeat a simple phrase several times, like "God I need You", "Jesus I love You", or "Hallelujah" (for me its simply "thank you for you Love")*
- *Share you worries, fears, frustrations, anxieties, challenges, and struggles*
- *Share your hopes, your dreams, what excites you, and what energizes you*
- *Take time to pray for the people you see on your walk and for the streets you are walking through*
- *Reflect on your life, family, work and offer everything into Christ's hands.*

I will always take my camera with me on these walks and find myself thanking God for the beauty of his creation when I see a bird or scenery that I take a photo of... there is a danger for me in this... in that I can find myself focusing on 'getting the perfect shot' not simply enjoying creation.

The band U2 have also released a new single this month called 'Country Mile' and its chorus is a refrain which suites both the idea of a prayer walk and also a prayer for the whole of life's journey. It's quite simple "*Oh I Believe You, Oh I beseech You, to walk with me this country mile...*"

Here are the notices

City to City Report

At our council meeting on Wednesday night, the council received the 'City to City' consultants report'. Which is the first step of looking at what it has to say and how over the next while it can help us as a church to look at ways of being revitalised.

The council agreed that it was important to release the report to the congregation for discussion, and reflection, as we work our way through the recommendations.

The two page executive summary is an attachment with the pastoral email

The full report is available via this link. https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GWuqhccob4BpH-eySe_1AA60J6HaJtsh/view?usp=sharing

And can be printed off on request from the office.

Worship Sunday October 27th

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.

10:00am HopeTikipunga Mark 12:28-34 (Howard Carter)

9:30am HopeCentral Mark 12. 41-44 (Pauline Hampshire) Communion

9:30am HopeOnerahi Mark 12:35-40 (Lorne Campbell)

Zoom Service October 20th 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.

Combined Churches Prayer gathering Sunday October 27th 6:30-8:00pm Rhema Family Church

On the last Sunday of each month in the evening there is a combined churches prayer gathering. A chance to come together and pray for our city and world. This month it is being hosted by Rhema Family Church, 32-40 Dyer Street.

Mission partner Sulis Burch

Sulis Burch is a missionary working for navigators in her home country of Indonesia. She is currently in New Zealand and will be at the HopeCentral 9:30am service on Sunday November 3rd. You are invited to come and hear about her work in the service and also to catch up with her over a cuppa after the service.

Space: a relaxed time of worship prayer and reflection 7pm November 3rd

On the first Sunday of the month there is an opportunity to gather in the HopeCentral lounge for a relaxed time of worship prayer and reflection.

Prayer gathering Wednesday evenings 7pm Howard's office @ HopeCentral

Come and join together for a time of prayer at HopeCentral. A time of intercession for the church. The group meets in Howard's office at present but are open to having to move into the chapel if numbers grow too big for that space.



Ladies Morning tea

HopeCentral

November 16th

10am

Keep this date free

Operation Christmas Child

3 Boxes still available at the office

Drop off point Newberrys funeral Home

21st-26th October



Christmas Morning Tea @ HopeTikipunga

Wednesday 20th November @ 10.00am

Come along and make some Christmas Decorations

We would like numbers so that Katherine and Margaret will bring enough kits for us to make.

Reply to Helen McGregor ph 437 3016 Or [heljo@themcgregors.net]



Mainly Music

Congratulations to our mainly Music team for getting accreditation with the Ministry of Education. Thank you to Nancy Dodds, Glenys Currie and Karen Cullen for all the work they've put into the application. As a result of this Mainly Music has received a grant of \$5000 for upgrading their sound and technology and an on going grant of \$2000 a semester for running costs.



The Mainly Music team also wanted to thank Kevin Ralphs for resurfacing all their tables and chairs.

Thankyou

Blessing

the Lord will watch over your coming and going
both now and forevermore.

Mā Ihowā e tiaki tōu haerenga atu,

me tōu haerenga mai āianeī ā ake tonu atu.

Howard Carter

SENIOR MINISTER

HOPEWHANGAREI

October 22nd 2024

PS:- There are a couple of young Matuku Moana (white Faced Heron) fledglings in the Pohutukawa Tree beside Kafé (the café over by Riverside park... they are very interested in the people drinking their coffee out on the patio. In fact the proprietors of Kafé asked me to take some photos for them to use for a facebook post.

