



St Paul's Presbyterian Church

"Partners in God's Mission of Love"

NEWSLETTER – December 2018

Services of Holy Communion

Sunday, 2 December at 9.15 and 10.30am and 7pm services

Please accept this as a personal invitation to be present.



"This do in remembrance of Me."

Services for Christmas

Monday, 24 December at 11pm Christmas Eve Service Tuesday, 25 December at 9:30am Christmas Day Service



Edition 3



Contents

From the Minister's Desk	1
Editorial	2
From the Bush Telegraph	3
From the Presbytery Central Roundup (7 Nov)	4
Tukituki Christian Camp	5
St Paul's Celebrating 160 years	6
Landscaping of Church Grounds – Update	7
Landscaping of Church Grounds – Fundraising Luncheon	7
Hospital Services	8
Donald Tucker	8
The Musical Journey of Charles MacLean	9
St Paul's Art Deco Fete 17 February 2019	11
The Rise and Fall of Baking for Cranford	12
Environmentally Speaking	12
The Stitch In Time	13
Annual General Meetings	14
Napier Bible Society Action Group	14
Presbyterian Women (But for men too)	15
Swinburn House Christmas Gift Books	16
Thank you to Fireside Group	16
Directory Changes	16
Parish Register	16
Regular Events	17
Upcoming Events	17
Contact Us	18

From the Minister's Desk

Partners in God's Mission of Love *Reverend Sally Carter*

A few weeks ago, I discovered at the hospital how apt the name 'waiting room' is. Several hours of uncertainty, not knowing what to expect. There was nothing terribly wrong with anyone, but it was still stressful!



We spend quite a lot of time waiting, don't we? Waiting for a bus or taxi to arrive, waiting for a rose to flower, waiting to find out whether a flight is to be cancelled, for a book you've reserved to become available, for your child to come home at night or get home safely from school on their first day of walking alone. We wait for a diagnosis, for a friend or family member to arrive for a visit, for a car to be repaired, for news from loved ones caught up in a natural disaster, for our coffee to arrive before our next appointment.

These days we are used to instant gratification. I can order a book I want on line, and within seconds it is there on my Kindle. A photo taken on a mobile phone can be in the hands of someone a world away in the blink of an eye. Researchers say that people will choose one website over another if it loads ONE QUARTER of a SECOND faster! We are not good at waiting. But at times we have to wait. Our waiting can be anxious, or joyful, hopeful, eager or fearful.

In Advent, we are invited to join the ages long wait which humans share. We can wait impatiently, blind to everything but our own inconvenience, or we can wait acceptingly, gratefully, waiting for something to be born out of the promises of a world more just, for a glimpse of heaven come to Earth.

The people of Israel were waiting for world to change, waiting for the Messiah. The coming of God's anointed one, the one who would heal and restore Israel. Eagerly they waited. But the Messiah did not come. Or not in the way they expected. The Romans were not toppled. The Kingdom of Heaven did not come bursting triumphantly into

Jerusalem, but sneaked into the corners of human hearts, in a human baby born out of the heart of God.

Advent shapes our souls in the practice of waiting. We wait in hope, we wait held in the promise of a future bright with joy, contained in a present filled with possibility. We wait for the coming of Christ. All blessings,



Editorial

Rae Wildbore & Kerry Marshall

We're up to the third issue of our quarterly newsletter and we've been inundated with interesting and newsworthy articles. Thank you all for your contributions. We're sure our readers appreciate the time you've put into them.

The range of articles shows that many people in the Parish are involved in all sorts of things and do wonderful work in our community. As we've said before, please put your thoughts down on paper and we'll share the good news with our readers.

As the publication of the quarterly newsletter coincides with our quarterly communion invitation, we hope you will be able to join us for that service in December.

Keeping the calendar of events for the next three months up-to-date is a challenge and with new happenings organised after the newsletter has gone to print the office endeavour to include them in the weekly bulletin and on the parish website calendar – keep an eye on these so you stay up-to-date.

Given that the office will be closed over the Christmas period, the closing dates for the next calendar update will be Monday, 21 January. Then we'll be into production of the next quarterly newsletter published at the end of February (yes 2019) with a closing date for news and articles of Monday, 18 February.

Please send details of your events to the office by these dates. Of course, you'll still be able to have notices in the weekly bulletin if you get them into the office by Thursday each week.

Once again, we hope you enjoy this newsletter and look forward to your feedback and your contributions.

From the Bush Telegraph (Nov 2018)

From the Moderator, Fakaofo Kaio



The body of Christ at work is most vivid and incredible in a gathering of people in one accord. What a privilege and an honour it was to witness and experience first-hand our Church family on song at General Assembly 2018. Folks were talking to each other, sharing meals, catching up with old acquaintances and making new contacts. I heard many languages in prayers. People spoke in psalms and songs of grace to each other. Young and old, male and female – there was a sense of unity, oneness, warmth and respect.

For me, it was Christianity at its best. The lord Jesus Christ was at his rightful place - the head of the Church. Praise and glory belongs to our God.

Returning to my local church, Onehunga Co-operating Parish, reality awaited us. The passing of loved ones brings a solemn check on life: Mama Ayalau Rivaia, Rev Ned Ripley, Daphne Douglas and Tama Fama Pili. People whose lives are intermingled with yours captivate you at their passing. You actually stop everything, life and plans, to attend, to lead, to preach, to counsel, and to be comforted yourself. It has the same effect on us all.

I take a deep breath – a couple actually – and move on slowly, continuously and carefully, and consider what the experience of General Assembly was all about. For me, it was a mountain-top experience with God, and with all who gathered at St Andrew's. I felt that we experienced the breath of God, filling our beings with the word. It was warm and gentle, yet compelling and affirming. It was love in action. It was, for me, Jesus' words coming alive in our relationship

with God, and in our relationships with each other. The Lord reminding us all: "I am the way, the truth and the life".

I felt blessed. I felt the power and guidance of the Holy Spirit. I felt the love of Christ Jesus. I felt the presence of God, nodding at His Church, and in my three-year-old grandson Kalos' constant comment: "Good boy, Papa". It was a wonderful and an inspiring experience for myself and for my family. I hope you felt something special and meaningful for yourself, and for our Church.

From the Presbytery Central Roundup (7 Nov)

Peter MacKenzie – Executive Secretary

One hundred years ago, my two grandfathers were trudging through the autumn mud of northern France hoping that the rumours of peace would finally come true. As they suffered under bombs and bullets, the political leaders gathered in



comfort to negotiate an end to the first war that involved countries from across the world. Their families (in New Zealand and Scotland) waited in dread of a telegraph at the door and scrimped and saved, while the industrial leaders made significant profits by resourcing the war machinery.

The churches of New Zealand saw their young men and women leave for service, including ministers and students for ministry. Not all of them returned, and those that did come back discovered that the world had changed, along with them. The confidence that God was leading society to a better place was buried in the mud of the Somme and lost in the trenches of Ypres. The challenging theological implication was whether God was in control or not.

Lest we forget, the Gospel message is that the transforming grace of Jesus Christ is able to change the attitude of men and women – but only when that hope is proclaimed into the shadows of our world. Our faith assures us that our little light does make a difference, and we remember

that those who died and served in the First World War will not be forgotten and their candle of hope and peace will not be extinguished.

Tukituki Christian Camp

Murray Arnold

This camp in Moore Road, located on the banks of the Tukituki river and about ½ hour from Napier, holds happy memories for a surprising



number of people, including those who met at the camp, those who got married there, and those who started their Christian walk at an Easter camp held there.

For those who don't know what I am talking about, this camp is the Presbyterian Church campsite run by a small team of volunteers (a subcommittee of presbytery). The property was bought as a youth campsite in 1955. The facilities on the site have slowly been developed progressing from basic toilet facilities supporting tent camping, to the current facilities. The original camp hall and kitchen were built with voluntary labour using concrete blocks that were made on site. The story told is that some of the minsters spent their Mondays working on the site and the rest of the volunteers spent their Saturdays fixing up what had been done.

The camp has hosted many Easter camps and youth camps including our churches own bible class and youth group camps over the years and today has bunk room accommodation for up to 50 people and is used by schools, community groups, scouts, family groups and the Presbyterian churches of Hawkes Bay.

Today we have a two year old kitchen/hall/meeting rooms/dormitories building complex, an older separate ablution block and a stand alone dormitory block called Tebay Lodge (named after the Tebays, leaders of the bible class). The new complex was built to replace the old two storey hall/kitchen/upstairs dormitory which was declared earthquake prone.

The current team of volunteers on the committee are Rev Bret Walker, Ron Laing and Joanne Magill (St Columbas Taradale); Murray and Lynne Arnold, Brenda Silson (St Pauls), Jim Spall (St Andrews Hastings); and David Werry. Ron can be found out at the camp most weeks on one of the mowers, and along with David Werry, deals with the general maintenance jobs assisted by the rest of the committee when needed. We are a small dedicated group who enjoy seeing the camp used and developed to serve the needs of our churches and the community.

St Paul's Celebrating 160 years

Pam Clare

On Sunday, 14 October, we celebrated 160 years of life and mission in Napier with a worship service, lunch and an opportunity for fellowship and sharing stories. As Rev Sally Carter



commented when interviewed by the Napier Courier, the people of St Paul's have been a faithful community of salt and light in central Napier and the suburbs and celebrating such an anniversary is a reminder of all the connections we have with one another in our community.

Following a celebratory service where we were joined by old and young friends who had worshipped at St Paul's or who have family connections crossing the generations, or who are connected to us through our inner-city churches covenant, we joined together in an equally celebratory lunch where an iced cake was cut. A display of historic photos in the foyer brought back many memories of Sunday School, Bible Class, Busy Bees, Choirs, Fireside and Art Deco events. Looking at the photos of large groups of elders and managers, it was remarkable to observe that women did not share in these roles until 1975, the first being Isabel Morgan and Jill McConnochie.

Sally has been acknowledged by the congregation for all the additional planning and preparation she undertook, and as a young granddaughter exclaimed on the day, "wasn't it a lovely party!"

Landscaping of Church Grounds – Update

Bryan Rudd, on behalf of the Landscaping Committee

The Landscaping Committee have been busy since we last reported finalising plans, meeting with Parishioners, attending the congregational meeting and communicating with Presbytery Central and the Church Property Trustees (CPT) in Wellington. All these processes take time but the



outcome has been that the congregation meeting, after dealing with a number of questions, carried the resolution to approve the landscaping project by a substantial majority (81%).

The committee then submitted a 'mountain of paperwork' to Presbytery Central who approved it and sent it on to the CPT. We were grateful, and delighted when, about ten days later, notification was received from the CPT that the project had been approved and parish is able to proceed with the work.

As I write, another round of discussions are taking place with the landscaper to work out the timelines for the work to begin and with Session as to how we manage the use of the church during the contract period. Due notice will be given as to when actual work will start and we will be asking for patience and the co-operation of everyone once work begins. There are exciting times ahead as we look forward to seeing the developments as they unfold.

Landscaping of Church Grounds – Fundraising Luncheon

Dorothy Finlayson (on behalf of the hospitality team)

Do join us on Friday, 7 December in the church lounge for a luncheon at 12noon. We are very excited about the landscaping that will beautify the church yard and it would be fun to start to raise funds. All profits will go towards buying some plants. Please add your name to the list

in the foyer if you would like to attend or phone Dorothy on 843 1266. Luncheon tickets are \$20pp and you may want to bring a little extra cash as there could be some Christmas treats to buy and take home.

Hospital Services

Marian Eagle

St Paul's was rostered twice in September by Rev Margaret Hall to help push patients from the



wards to the Hospital Chapel Service. Thank you to David Walker, Marian Emslie, Marie and Morris Mear, Kerry Hansen and Kerry Marshall for helping. It is an interesting morning which involves arriving at the Hospital Chapel in Hastings at 09.45 am and after signing in, going to various wards to bring patients (usually in wheelchairs) to the service. Sometimes it is people we know from St Paul's. After the service we take them back to the wards finishing by 11.15am. Our pool of regular helpers is a very small group so it would be wonderful to have more people (who feel they can comfortably push a wheelchair) to call on. We can easily share transport if getting to the hospital is a problem. Let me know if this is something you would like to be involved in for our turn next year.

Donald Tucker

The editors

We thought you might like to know a bit more about one of the more notable members of our congregation, Donald Tucker, so we asked his brother, Bruce, to tell us something about Donald.

Donald came to St Pauls in 1964 and almost immediately

became a manager then an elder. He is a life member of the Labour Party and has been an active member of Forest and Bird, especially involved planting native trees in Tutira.

He is a very active supporter of classical music groups and choral groups in Hawke's Bay and also the Napier ship and Marine Society.

Donald's generosity leads him to be a financial supporter of the Historic Places Trust and the New Zealand Crippled Children Society (now CCS Disability Action).

Amazingly one of his passions is sailing and he is still an active solo sailor, being the oldest sailor in the Sailability Hawkes Bay group. Despite being denied a high school and beyond education he worked a

full working career right through to retiring in his 60s. He still volunteers every Saturday morning at the Faraday Centre, something he has done from the very start of centre (1979).

The Musical Journey of Charles MacLean

Rae Wildbore

Charles was born in Grimsay, North Uist, Scotland during the 1930's, to a musical family with nine siblings. He lived in a thatch roofed cottage, the walls, with studs of only four feet, were made from stones and dried mud. The rafters to support the thatch were built from driftwood gathered from the beach and the floor was sand. There was a central open fireplace, the fire being fed with peat, used both for warmth and also for cooking. A metal swivel armed construction held the cooking pots above the fire. The maintenance in this cold climate was high and the thatch on the roof had to be replaced annually.

Cold, westerly, salt laden winds, prohibited any success of growing a garden. Groceries were brought by ship from the mainland and a tender would deliver from the ship to the Island, which was quite small, the population at that time being 300 to 400 people. Their food was supplemented by digging for mussels when the tide was out and also spearing fish. The spears were primitive, a nail hammered into a stick! A happy boyhood occupation though and high praise came from a grateful mother for the contribution. The menfolk of this harsh Island were either crofters or fishermen.

Life in those days was extremely primitive. The Post Office was the hub of the Island, one of a large group known as the Hebridean Islands. If a Doctor was needed, the Post Office was advised and the Postmaster

would telegraph to the outer Islands to try and locate him. Dr McLeod would then travel, using a horse and gig; it could take hours or maybe even days for him to arrive, depending on tides and distance. The consequences of these delays really don't bear thinking about.

How did these folk cope or even survive, you may well ask? There was no power, so no radio, no television, no newspaper even! These folk cared about each other and helped each other. They made their own entertainment, meeting at each other's homes for musical sessions, singing, using basic homemade instruments, mouth organs, and maybe a button accordion or two.

Charles was 14 years old when the family set sail for the mainland. Utopia! There was a school, there were doctors, there was electricity and warmth!! There was also plenty of work available with the railway, on cattle ranches, labouring to contractors, concrete work and house building. At the age of 16, Charles joined the navy, but became homesick, so didn't stay for very long. He was later called to the army for seven years, spending four of those years in Hong Kong. The call also came to serve in Korea, but when they heard that Charles was arriving a ceasefire was announced!!

Charles met Sarah, a nurse, at a dance in Glasgow. After their marriage they lived in a caravan for a year graduating to a one-bedroom flat, then a two-bedroom flat and eventually building their own home.

In 1973, the family emigrated to New Zealand. They travelled from Scotland by train to Portsmouth in England where they boarded the 'SS Britanis' for their long journey. There is another story to tell about this sea journey! Charles, Sarah and their two children, have no regrets about coming to live in New Zealand. Charles has had plenty of work in building, landscaping and road contracting. More importantly, he has continued his life-long passion with his button accordion, forming a band named 'The Crofters', entertaining at ceilidh's where folk gather to share songs, dance and enjoy company. I know that Charles also entertains folk who reside in Rest and Convalescent Homes. Many folk of this Parish have also enjoyed Charles entertainment and sing-alongs

at our fetes, sometimes of a fine Saturday morning outside our Church and on other social occasions. Thank you Charles and also Sarah for your kindness, concern and love for people as you journey on through life. Blessings to you and your family.

Do you have a story to tell? I hope you do. Please contact the Editors.

St Paul's Art Deco Fete 17 February 2019

Heather Brown

We would love you to be involved in this venture: on the day, before the day, or perhaps both. What's happening? A community event is being planned, with Devonshire teas, music, and community stalls. The idea is that we host a joyous celebratory Fete with the community involved, with as many from St Paul's involved as possible and with no one feeling that they have too much on their shoulders.

At this stage we have schools involved: Napier Boys High School will be running a sausage sizzle; Napier Girls High school is keen; Presbyterian Support East Cape charity shop will have a table; Trade Aid will have a table; and the Napier Civic Choir. We will be having Devonshire teas, music, a lemonade stall and any other stalls that Church members would like to contribute.

What can you contribute? There will be lists in the Foyer to start gathering names. Perhaps you:

- have lemons for making lemonade or glass bottles or sugar or time to make the lemonade [we have a great recipe]
- would be willing to put your name down for a Devonshire tea roster or for sandwich filling or scone making
- would like to plan where all the tables are to go or to be the liaison person(s) on the day
- would be willing to be a helper on the day
- would like to have a church stall or would be happy to be on a stall, but don't want to have your own one
- have another idea

Please sign up for something. No contribution is too small.

The Rise and Fall of Baking for Cranford

Anne Burden

Constance Jessup spoke at Presbyterial many years ago encouraging the Presebyterian Churches to support Cranford Hospice by baking. Isabel Morgan brought the message to our Fireside group. I was the President at that time and we decided with the help of the Church ladies – we could do that.

On 4 April 2004, we began our first delivery of baking to Cranford. I have the first note of thanks from the team at Cranford Hospice dated 25 April 2004. Every April and October since then we have faithfully taken out our baking to Cranford. Our donations have grown to include those who do not bake but would like to help. Now included are stickers, pencils, crayons, paper and colouring-in books for children. Lately, sealed items for the pantry have been added.

But things change and now Cranford has a registered kitchen, so cannot accept anything that is not baked in their kitchen. At our Annual General meeting, we were very disappointed that Cranford would not accept our baking, so have decided to look elsewhere. Whom can we help? Have you any ideas? Please let me know on 844 7927.

Environmentally Speaking

Isabel Morgan

A few years ago, St Paul's Board of Managers was approached by the Hastings Environment Centre to see if we would be willing to accept a recycling bucket for certain items that are not included in the fortnightly kerbside collection. I was pleased that the Board agreed, and I know I wasn't the only member of St Paul's who feels the same.

The bucket and the list of items for which the Environment Centre has an outlet are in the passageway off the foyer. Have you checked recently on what is accepted? The items our family collects for them are clean, dry Glad wrap, spent tooth paste tubes and batteries. "Coffee pods" I have never heard of till I read their name there – and we do not use them. The pouches are foreign to us too but not to everyone.

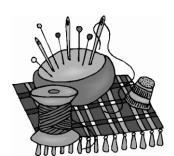
I suggest that we all check again about what's acceptable, just to refresh our minds.

I think it is really great that my butcher now puts the meat into a brown paper bag. The meat itself is in plastic, but they are working on that. Their brown paper bags are recycled by us. Question – Before plastic, what did the butchers use to wrap their meat?

The Stitch In Time

Dorothy Finlayson (on behalf of The Stitch in Time group)

This group met on 15 October for our last gathering for 2018. We have an average of 15 ladies attending who are enthusiastic about learning, chatting and caring for



each other. We will be making some changes to the group next year starting in April probably on the 2nd and 4th Mondays each month. Some conditions have changed with our leadership group and due to this we could be making changes. Hopefully we won't need to close the group, but need to talk to Session about the leadership.

Recently we celebrated International Day of Older Persons which was fun and also remembered Armistice Day and made cards with coins to keep, share or give away. Hi Teas are always a highlight and we never have trouble eating the lovely afternoon teas. We supported Operation Christmas Child with donations of 50 boxes which will help brighten the lives of some children in the Pacific Islands. After an inspiring talk to the group by one of its leaders, we supported the Angel Tree Foundation with gifts and money for their cause.

Do you have any ideas for this group for 2019? If so, please contact one of our members. We wish you all Season's greetings.

Annual General Meetings

Kerry Marshall

Meetings, meetings, meetings. I'm sure all of you have thought that from time-to-time, but while many meetings are best left in the history books, two recent AGMs I attended are worth recalling. At the Presbyterian Support East Coast AGM, the Board was able to report on yet another year of fantastic service in our region. PSEC has 220 staff, over 200 volunteers and delivers \$11 million worth of social services throughout the East Coast region. As the social services arm of our church, PSEC helps many individuals improve their lot in life and as the Board Chairman, Maitland Manning, says "when we join forces and work together the entire East Coast benefits".

The Napier Family Centre AGM was well attended and again showcased an organisation doing tremendous work in difficult conditions in our community. Surviving on grants, donations and government contracts is a challenging cycle for the Family Centre, but the Board, management, staff and volunteers work with individuals and families to create better futures for themselves and their children. The Family Centre had revenue of \$3.96 million in the past financial year and expenses of \$3.92 million so the margins on which they operate are very small.

In a world where so many lack hope, I give thanks for these two organisations and the people in our parish who support them in so many ways, especially with prayer, time and money.

Napier Bible Society Action Group

Isabel Morgan and Ella Haigh

The Group has been in Napier for 36 years; however, support for our fundraising has dwindled over the years and so after our meeting in September, the decision was made to close our Napier Action Group. All the money we have raised to provide the Word of God for those who long for a Bible, and one in their own language, has gone to that

cause. St Paul's people have been generous in support for this cause and will continue to support, we know. Thank you all.

Presbyterian Women (But for men too)

At the last Meeting of Hawke's Bay Presbyterian Women, Rev. Jill MacDonald, of St Andrew's Hastings, read this from Colossians 3:2-14. "Put on the garments that suit God's chosen people, his own, his beloved: compassion, Kindness, humility, gentleness, patience. Be forbearing with one another, and forgiving......" She asked us what sort of garments we wear daily.

Jill then read the following poem "LOVE IS THE NEW BLACK"

Above all WEAR LOVE - It's more durable than denim, more cosy than track pants, more appealing than tuxedos, more revealing than Speedos, more protective than a suit of armour, and more classy than a suit of Armani.

WEAR LOVE – it's brandless, its, priceless! Fits all sizes, suits all classes, flatters any figure, matches any moment.

WEAR LOVE – the couture of all virtues, the high fashion of the highly faithful; more beautifying than Cartier, more fragrant than Chanel, and more the thing than any bling.

WEAR LOVE – It's more fundamental than footwear, and more clarifying than eyewear.

DON'T wear jealously and envy – they're out of fashion man.

DON'T wear legalism and judgement – they're so last testament.

DON'T wear vengeance and fear – they were hung out to dry in 33 AD.

WEAR LOVE – wear it tight, wear it every day and every night. Wear it. Share it. It's more becoming than the latest hairdo, more bedazzling than a sequined tutu.

WEAR LOVE like Inuits wear gloves, like the Peace Corps wear logos of doves – everywhere, everyday, what more can I say than WEAR LOVE – I promise you it'll look good on you, it always does.

Swinburn House Christmas Gift Books

Marion Fell

The books will be presented to Director Julia and staff (maybe parents /children too?) at our 10.30 service on Sunday, 9 December. Thank you to all who contributed...these Christmas presents look delightful!

Thank you to Fireside Group

Rae Wildbore

Earlier this year our Fireside Group donated \$200 to St Paul's Church with the suggestion that this gift be put towards a walking frame for the use of our parishioners to safely walk between their vehicles and the church building. As a consequence, we now have a lovely blue walking frame which is adjustable, has a seat, is general purpose with auto locks, on 6-inch wheels, is very light and constructed with aluminium, so very strong and easy to use. You will find it in the Bell Room; please feel free to make good use of it. Our sincere thanks to Fireside Group members for this gift to our Parish.

Directory Changes

Steve & Yvonne Dickson Phone number correction: 06 835 8155

Parish Register

Rae Wildbore

Funerals

Margaret Orella (nee Davey) Cowley died 24th August 2018 John Herbert King died 17th September 2018 Yvonne McCutcheon died 4th November 2018

We extend our loving sympathy to the families of these members.

Regular Events

- Sunday Services: 9:15am and 10:30am services each Sunday and 7pm evening service on the 1st Sunday of the month (NB: 9:15am service not held on statutory holidays)
- Stitch in Time 1st and 3rd Mondays from 1:30-4pm in the church lounge (April October)
- **Fireside group** meet on the 2nd Tuesday each month at 7.30pm in the lounge (February to November)
- Cards 500 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th Wednesdays in church lounge at 1.30pm
- Afternoon Fellowship 4th Wednesday at 2pm
- Lunch group meets monthly on the 1st Friday at noon for food and fellowship at various venues around the city
- Choir meets each Sunday at 9.30am in the church
- Jitterbugs Pre-school Music and Movement each Tuesday from 9am (during the school term)

Upcoming Events

	December
Sun 2	Communion at all services (9:15, 10:30am, 7pm)
Wed 5	10:30am Bible Study
Sat 15	4pm Adventure in Listening
Mon 24	11pm Christmas Eve Service
Tue 25	9:30am Christmas Day Service
	January
	No first service this month
	February
Sat 16	9am Art Deco Community Fair
Sun 17	10:30am Divine Deco Church Service

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