



St Paul's Presbyterian Church

"Partners in God's Mission of Love"

NEWSLETTER – JUNE 2019



"This do in remembrance of Me."

Services of Holy Communion

Sunday, 9 June 2019 at 9.15, 10.30am and 7pm services

Please accept this as a personal invitation to be present.



Contents

From the Minister's Desk	1
Editorial.....	3
Landscaping of Church Grounds – Update	4
D.S.T. (Central Roundup Newsletter, April 2019)	5
Remembering Heather Craig.....	6
What is the world coming to?.....	7
Fulfillment	8
Quilts at St Pauls.....	9
MTG Exhibition	9
Partners in God's Mission of Love.....	10
Environmentally Speaking.....	11
Care and Share	11
Directory Changes.....	12
Parish Register	12
Regular Events	13
Upcoming Events	13
Contact Us.....	14

From the Minister's Desk

Partners in God's Mission of Love

Reverend Sally Carter



Pay attention!

I find autumn is an easy time to pay attention - the light is so rich, the leaves changing colour, different trees shedding their leaves at different times. Paying attention is a good way to be grounded in God - whether it is in the wonder of Creation or in our relationships with one another.

Children can often model paying attention, being present in the moment in a way that we sometimes lose touch with. Last week one of our Jitterbugs children saw something in our Norfolk Island Hibiscus tree. The adults gathered around and followed his pointing finger and there was a big fat kereru - the first time I had seen one in our yard. Soon, quite a group of excited adults were pointing up into the tree and enjoying the sight of this beautiful bird.

In the stories we have been reading from the Book of Acts, God, through the Holy Spirit, has been paying attention, making sure that people encounter the people they need to to transform their lives. The Holy Spirit has a lot of work to do to link the apostle Peter with the gentile Cornelius. Peter has a rooftop vision, three men arrive together to accompany him to Cornelius' house, Cornelius and all his family are at home when Peter and his companions arrive. And Peter, Cornelius and the leaders of the church are all transformed by the encounter.

Henri Nouwen, one of my spiritual guides, says this 'Pay attention to the people God puts in your path if you want to discern what God is up to in your life.' I have recently started another Adventure in Mission with people from all over the country. One member of the group is trying to discern which of the many parts of her life God is inviting her to travel with for a

time. One of those is a school. As she spoke with us, she said 'Well, I met with someone from school the other day for a coffee. Then another woman from school got in touch with me and asked if I would have a coffee with them. Then I bumped into someone else from school.... I was wondering if God is trying to tell me to work with my school, or if he has something else in mind.' We all laughed. It is not often we get three people lined up wanting to talk with us about the same things.

The people God puts in our path are not always delightful! Sometimes they are challenging and the shift in perspective they put before us can be confronting. But they will help us discern what God is up to in our lives - even, or especially, if it nudges us towards an uncomfortable, new, understanding of God's love.

God bless you in your discoveries!

All blessings

Sally



Rev Sally Carter presenting Isabel Morgan with the honour of Elder Emeritis to mark her extensive service to St Paul's.

Editorial

Rae Wildbore & Kerry Marshall

Our quarterly newsletter is now well established with many contributors providing informative articles – thank you all of you.

Since the last newsletter, our landscaping project has been completed and there is an article about that important development. Also included are reflections from the Moderator and the Presbytery Moderator which give us thoughtful comments about recent events in our world.

We include a quarterly calendar of events in the newsletter and are trying to maintain a rolling quarterly calendar of events for the bulletin and website, so we need your help in providing dates and details to the office; ‘keep those cards and letters rolling in folks’. If any new happenings are organised after the newsletter has gone to print, please let the office know so they can be included in the weekly bulletin and on the parish website calendar. Keeping up-to-date is as easy as reading the notices in the weekly bulletin or looking at the Parish website (for the tech-savvy among us).

The closing dates for the monthly calendar updates will be Monday, 24 June and 29 July. For production of the next quarterly newsletter to be published at the end of August, we will need you to get all contributions to the office by Monday, 19 August please. 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.

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 June.

As we said last time, enjoy looking through this newsletter (use it), talk to and thank the contributors (feedback) and think about your contributions (improve it).

PS, who can remember which TV show host had the closing line 'keep those cards and letters rolling in folks' (sorry no chocolate fish for knowing the answer).

Landscaping of Church Grounds – Update

The Landscaping Project Group (Bryan Rudd, Rev Sally Carter, Lynne Arnold, Yvonne Dickson, Kerry Marshall)



The landscaping project was completed one week late on the 12 April. The initial delay occurred when the contractor doing the wall was unable to start when scheduled, however, our project manager ensured the delay had minimal effect on the other works.

Initially the wall was to be plain block with a cap; however, once on site, the contractor recommended that the wall be plastered to match the church, an idea that the project team agreed with. It has been left unpainted, but can be painted if necessary. We think the contractor did a good job of matching the new entrance pillars on the Tennyson St side to the existing ones on Dalton St.

We took the opportunity when the contractors uncovered the water main supply to replace the old pipe, which was corroded with a new pipe.

We will notice that the layout of gardens and lawns differ slightly from the original plan. Once the hard surfaces were laid, we agreed with the contractor to these changes to make the gardens and lawns as easy as possible to maintain. Yvonne and Lynne did a revised schedule of plants which the contractor has followed. You will notice people from the Real Garden

Company on site as they have been engaged to maintain the landscaping for the next 12 months.

Financially we've come in within budget – the actual cost was \$91,266 compared to the budget of \$97,539.

When we embarked on this project, our vision for the landscaping project was for the church grounds to be welcoming, user friendly and spiritual with good connections with our city and providing a place where people can congregate and gather. We wanted a simple plan that could be implemented in stages if necessary; materials that are future proof; and the grounds designed so that minimal maintenance is required.



Our thanks go to members of the congregation for their patience and support. The completed project has made an improvement to our grounds. We hope that you will agree that we have achieved a good result for the Parish.

D.S.T. (Central Roundup Newsletter, April 2019)

Peter MacKenzie – Executive Secretary

It is only a few days away until we change our clocks back an hour and the season definitely feels like it has changed. I don't think that I have saved many daylight hours this summer –

I have spent time in the evenings getting out doing things after I come home from work. That now begins to change as the darkness gets earlier.

I spent my summer hours with family and friends, enjoying life and gardening. I've come to realise that saving time is actually a myth – time is supposed to be spent. You cannot save time for family – you have to spend time with them. You cannot save time by not communicating – you have to spend time talking



with people to move ahead. Saving time for later is like putting water in a bucket with holes in it.

Pray this week for those people who are on the run, spending all their time in busyness and not investing in the people that matter. And pray for those who feel they have too much time and nothing to spend it on.

Remembering Heather Craig

Anne Silson

Heather was a very active elder, both at St David's and at St Stephen's, serving her Church and people, people, people. Over 45 years ago she formed a committee together with the Reverend Alan Goss to open a Thrift Shop (one of the very early charity shops in Napier) to provide cheaper clothing for needy families. This Shop (in Latham Street) survived for over 40 years.

Heather was also on a very early committee to begin the Cranford Hospice, remaining a very loyal supporter and fundraising for them for many years. She was also an early supporter for Swinburn House, helping them to get started in the Miller Room at St Stephen's where they stayed until they were able to purchase their own property. When the Miller Room became available again, Heather was there to set up a day care service for the elderly folk of the Parish. Together with a committee of Parishioners who helped, they set up a voluntary transport system to bring folk along to the church on a set day each week; therefore, giving relief to family caregivers by providing good care, a hot meal and entertainment. This continued for some time until other community organisations were able to take over.

As an elder, her duties included the organisation of the Hospital visiting roster and also help for families who needed meals during these times of stress. Heather also helped for many years with the Bread Run taking surplus supermarket bread products

to the Food Bank and Cranford Hospice. Many shut-in or unwell parishioners very much enjoyed visits from Heather, especially if they were unable to attend worship. When St Stephen's Parish joined with St Paul's, Heather also served as an active elder there until she was eventually blessed with the honour of Elder Emeritis. Well done good and faithful servant.

What is the world coming to?

Fakaofu, Moderator



The bubble has burst on the innocence of our planet. War, terrorism, kidnapping, bombing, and the taking of human life has reached an all-time low. Maybe, it has been like this for some time? But we, in this land of opportunity and freedom, are slowly catching up.

The world has faced natural disasters – tsunami, earthquakes, tornadoes, mud slides, hurricanes and so forth and we always cope: we manage, we regroup, we rebuild, and the global community always rallies in support. But the destruction and suffering caused by humans on their fellow man has accelerated and is becoming a worldwide force for fear and annihilation of democracy and freedom. We must never concede or give in. We must become resolute and be even more determined to fight for our future and quality of life, and for freedom and peace.

Easter is a reminder to us all of the battle waged by the world. God defeated death and sin in Jesus' death and resurrection. The war has been won.

What we are dealing with today, in our generation, are battles that we must never concede, or surrender to, in our lifetimes. We must fight the good fight. Do good, love, show mercy and be at peace with God and people.

We have recently marked Anzac Day, which reminds us of sacrifice, and of the wars in which our soldiers fought. Their sacrifice has enabled us to have freedom and a future with so much to live for in our country, and in the world.

Let us live in faith and confidence. Let us look forward. Let us travel through this Easter season with hope and anticipation of the wonder of what the Holy Spirit will lead us through. Stand firm in Christ and go forth in trust that you will be blessed. Be a blessing for others. There is so much to do in our families, schools, work and communities. There is always something you can do, say, stand up for or support. The Lord calls us each day. Go on, keep on, you are never alone.

“Onwards Christian soldiers marching...”

Fulfillment

Walter Lewis Smith (submitted by Jill McConnochie)

I have worked in the fertile earth and planted a garden, so I know what faith is.

I have listened to the birds carolling in the early morning and at dusk, so I know what music is.

I have seen the morning without clouds after showers, so I know what beauty is.

I have sat before a wood fire with old friends, so I know what companionship is.

I have walked the paths of quietness along the forest floor, so I know what peace is.

I have dwelt in the valley of remembrance and on the hills of home, so I know what love is.

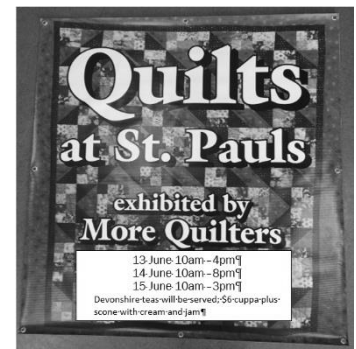
I have seen the miracle of spring, the fruition of summer, and beauty of autumn, followed by the repose of winter, so I know what life is.

And because I have perceived all these things, I know what God is.

Quilts at St Pauls

Lynne Arnold (on behalf of More Quilters)

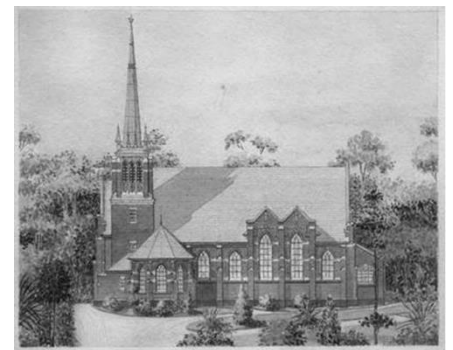
It is happening at St Paul's. Make sure you come and have a look at the exhibition on quilts on show in the church from 13 to 15 June. More Quilters have a quilt exhibition every two years at a variety of venues and this year we will display our quilts in the church. It will be an exhibition with a difference, more informal with quilts draped over the pews instead of being hung in the usual way. Our guest exhibitor is Jo Hollings, a quilter new to Hawke's Bay who loves working with thread and fabric. Our own talented ladies are providing Devonshire teas each day and a quilt will be raffled with all money from tickets going to Wrapped in Love, a charity focussing on children in foster care. Make sure you come and have a look at the work on display, we have some amazingly talented people in our community.



MTG Exhibition

By Sylvia Low

The museum has an exhibition running until the end of July featuring the architecture of J. A. Louis Hay. Napier is fortunate in that this gifted architect was practising in Napier at the time of the earthquake. Many of our Art Deco buildings were designed by him. I am sure that we are all familiar with the National Tobacco Building in Ahuriri. On display is a beautiful architect's drawing of the proposed church for St Paul's dated April 1925. There is also a small painting of the same church. This becomes very interesting as the date of the fire which destroyed our wood church was 1929; obviously the congregation had outgrown the wooden church and were already considering a replacement.



Painting by Thelma Williamson of proposed church (Painting held by the MTG)

We have not got any pictures of the brick church completed, so Louis Hay's drawing is quite an eye opener. Thank goodness we have not got to earthquake strengthen that.

Partners in God's Mission of Love

Lynne Arnold (on behalf of Session)

At our monthly Session meetings, the Administrative Session of the church has the opportunity to make a donation to one of the many hard-working groups who contribute so much to the life of our community. Sometimes we will have heard of a need through the grapevine or been in contact with a group and been made aware of the work they do. Other times we are able to think of the groups that do the church's work when we are unable to. We regularly give to *Foodbank* as we know the work they do greatly benefits the needy in the community, but there are a variety of lesser known charities that benefit from the church's giving too.

Recently, a session member heard about a charity called *Wrapped in Love*. This focuses on foster children who often go from place-to-place with nothing that they can call their own. The charity gives each child their own quilt in a bag which they then keep no matter how many homes they live in. So, it was a privilege to be able to help buy some fabric to make the quilts.

In March, our donation went to *Christian Lovelink*. They are a Christian-based organization whose Board and volunteers are from many different Hawke's Bay churches and denominations. They help people, referred through many agencies who need household furniture and items to make their house their home. Last year one of the recipients was *Jammies in June*. This organisation aims to ensure children living in damp, cold conditions are kept as warm as possible during the colder months by providing a pair of flannelette pyjamas.

In April, we recognised the work *Mahana House* does. We know that there are a number of our church family who suffer from dementia and have benefitted from the support provided to them and the families by *Mahana House*, so this donation, though small, acknowledged our appreciation for the work they do.

Each gift is a way of saying thank you for the love and care given to the members of the wider community, care that we would love to be able to provide ourselves, but sometimes we do not have the necessary skills, time or resources.

As well as giving these one-off donations, we support the *PSEC Guardian Angel* programme which helps children at risk in the Hawkes Bay area with a monthly donation.

Environmentally Speaking

Isabel Morgan

Every two to six years, our NZ beech trees have what is known as a mast year. In a mast year the beech trees produce a huge crop of seeds. When these seeds mature and drop to the forest floor, they provide a real banquet for the rats and mice. With plenty to eat, these vermin breed prolifically meaning that our birds are in real danger. The vermin climb the trees, take the eggs or the young from the nest and fledglings who have perhaps dropped to the forest floor before they are fully able to fly. Once again, they are in great danger from the vermin. Some people have a vision that by 2050 NZ could be predator free. Is this just a pipe dream or is it a vision that can be achieved? The Bible says “where there is no vision the people perish”.

Care and Share (previously A Stitch In Time)

Dorothy Finlayson (for the team)

Welcome to our new look group now being held on the 3rd Monday in each month from April to October. Several women would like the company of a fun and sharing group, but don't



want to stitch or sew. For this reason, we have made a few changes to our group. We will still have fun; we will still share; and we will always have a cuppa and yummy afternoon tea. Maybe we will have a speaker and could sometimes involve a craft demonstration, but with not so much sewing. We meet in the Church lounge at 1.30pm and stay until we finish. Do join us on 17 June 2019. Menfolk are welcome too as we have noticed several men who would most probably like to have some company and hear interesting discussions. I will be printing a notice in the Church bulletin nearer the time, but until then, save the date.

Directory Changes

Kitty McNaughton has moved to Greendale Rest Home, 169 Tait Dr, Room 25, Greenmeadows

Parish Register

Rae Wildbore

Funerals

Alan Buttery died 6 November 2018 (service not at St Paul's)

Sidney Palmer died 11 February 2019 (private cremation)

David (Dave) Noel Thomas died 19 March 2019

Heather Joan Craig died 12 April 2019

Mary Helen Sayer died 20 April 2019

Sheila Ann Linton died 21 April 2019

Guisseppa (Zeppa) Marie Bartle died 26 April 2019

Nancy Claire Banks died 15th May 2019 (private cremation)

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 2nd Sunday of the month (NB: 9:15am service not held on statutory holidays)
- **Care and Share:** from 17 June, 3rd Mondays from 1:30 until done 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 at 1.30pm in the 3rd office
- **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

	June
9 th	Membership services, soup & rolls
13 th -15 th	Quilt Exhibition & Devonshire tea
14 th	Christian Love Link AGM @ 7pm
16 th	Fireside <i>Bring & Buy</i>
	July
19 th -21 st	Antique Fair
28 th	Bach-a-thon
	August
	Nil at the time of publication

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This newsletter was delivered by

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Phone

Please feel free to phone me with any questions or if you would like a visit.