



Alpine Presbytery

resourcing the braided river

www.alpinepresbytery.org

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Newsletter 11th March 2021

Alpine Presbytery Gathering

19-21 March, at St David's in Ashburton

Cut off for Registrations is Monday 15th March (any late registrations will have to organise their own food). Register at: <https://forms.gle/4Gi8BtEXCP4W5qrA7>.

The theme is ***Being Present in our Local Communities***:

In our Presbytery aspirations we declare this: 'Be present in our local communities, deeply listening to, and learning from others, and being alongside humbly loving and serving. We want to reflect on this together and see what we can do to enhance our theology of community through sharing and talking together.'

Coracle - a week-end for explorers

Friday 30 April 7pm – Sunday 2 May midday, at Hanmer Springs Forest Camp

Cost: \$50 pp (Includes meals on Saturday, refreshments and venue)

In the 6th Century, Columba arrived on the Island of Iona on a "coracle." A coracle is a small boat, and for some Celtic missionaries they would simply go where the tide took them. Pilgrim, voyager, explorer, pioneer – all words that describe a sense of "finding our way" with no fixed idea of what the future may look like.

Maybe these words describe you or someone you know? Maybe you have questions about church, mission, the future – wondering about what could be, and carrying some questions about what is now – if so join us in Hanmer Springs in 2021. Coracle is for people interested in exploring new ways of being church to tell stories, learn together, pray and listen. Some conversations will explore practical steps like getting started in a venture like this.

More information & Registration at alpinepresbytery.org/coracle/

Download the flyer here: [Coracle](#)

Children's Day in Darfield

This is one of the Have-a-Go experiments that Presbytery has been encouraging and we are thrilled to share this story from Malvern/Darfield, West Canterbury

Raupitā ngā Tamariki—Cherish our Children was the key message at Trinity Church, Darfield. Children and their families came from Rolleston, West Melton, Darfield, Greendale, Sheffield and Springfield to be blessed at the Children's Celebration Service. The music was provided and led by the Sunday School's Children's Praise Orchestra, Rev. Dr Tom Innes on guitar and with our organist Maureen Free. This event, which we felt would embrace our wider Malvern communities interaction, was funded by the Alpine Presbytery Have-a-Go fund.

The nine stations were Bouncy castle, candy floss, a sumptuous morning tea, face painting, decorating their goody bag, looking at the sun through a special telescope—seeing the solar flares were incredible, music station, egg and spoon race and sausage

COMING UP

Next Presbytery Gathering:
19-21 March at St David's in Ashburton

Crossway Community Church Dedication: 21 March

Coracle—weekend for explorers:
30 April—2 May

Presbytery Retreat at Hanmer Springs: 2—4 May

Newsletter Items

Please share this Newsletter around your Parish, especially with members of Session/Parish Council and all office bearers.

Details of events, or requests to be added to the distribution list, should be emailed to gail@alpinepresbytery.org

Cut off for items for next week's Newsletter: **Thursday 18th March**



sizzle. Sunday was such a celebration of God's forever love which was evident on everyone's faces! God answers prayers was a comment by many—yes to moving back to Level 1 (as we exceeded 100), no wind (so we could have Bouncy Castle) and no clouds (so we could see the sun).



Have a go-is inspiring!!

Lynmaree Sopoaga (Aunty Lyn)



Prayer Retreat

*"The roadside is fecund
with forgotten fruit
on forgotten trees."*

From the 14th—16th of February I, along with half a dozen others, participated in Alpine Presbytery's first prayer retreat at Raincliff Anglican Camp in South Canterbury. We

Presbytery Directory

If you need to obtain information from the Presbytery Directory, please initially ask your Parish Office, as most of these have been given a log-on to Infoodle.

If you do need for your own logon access, send your request to Gail at gail@alpinepresbytery.org.

Please do bear in mind, though, that we need to be aware of our obligations under the Privacy Act.

Resources

A selection of resources and links to resources to assist you with your work and outreach can be found on our website here: alpinepresbytery.org/resources/

Alpine Presbytery Culture & Strategic Framework

[Click here](#) to download this document, updated September 2020

were ably led by Rev. Heather Simpson on a journey that led through creativity, Biblical reflection, spiritual direction and back again.

It is only when you allow yourself to stop, to dis-engage from the busyness of business, that you can see the deeper lines of what God is shaping in your life. It's only when you stop that you can find the fruit growing on the side of the road.

I wonder what fruitfulness we miss when we allow ourselves to become frantically busy, for busyness's sake?

I hope that this retreat can become the first step in engaging more deeply, as a Presbytery, in our inner lives and our experience of God's love.

Rory Grant

Notices & News from other organisations

Connect online - PYM

7:00pm – 8:30pm Monday 15 March 2021: Setting up your ministry to thrive

Meeting via Zoom, from anywhere in the country.

This is the first Connect online training of 2021. In this session the first hour is spent looking at what we can do to set up our ministry to thrive in this uncertain time. During the last half hour there will be time for group discussions.

More information, and registrations, at pym.org.nz/2021/03/03/connect-online/

Enneagram Workshop - Fri 23 (pm) & Sat 24 April 2021

Want to know your personality type or learn about the nine personality types and how each interprets the world and manages emotions? Gabi Daly—a Nelson based counsellor, supervisor & spiritual director—is running an Enneagram workshop in Christchurch on Friday 23 April (evening) & Saturday 24 April.

Register interest with Gabi 021 112 6804 or compassio@xtra.co.nz

Training Day on Environmental Sustainability

Silvia Purdie is running a professional development seminar on Tuesday 13 April for community, pastoral & youth workers; ministers also welcome. This will explore the effects of climate change on the helping professions, both on our organisations and our clients. It will also look at sustainability practices and personal resilience.

Riccarton House, Christchurch, 13 April, 9am - 4pm. Cost \$210.

Register at: www.place.net.nz/training

or email: silvia.purdie@gmail.com

From the last Newsletter

- **Other Newsletters**

[The Buzz](#)

[Bush Telegraph](#)

- **Report from the Alpine Presbytery Council Meeting**
- **The Rubbish Challenge: 10 Steps to Less Waste in 10 Months**
- **New journal table-of-contents - Hewitson Library**

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Dropbox link for documents mentioned in this newsletter can be accessed via this link: control & click, or copy & paste the link to your browser:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/5k528skz4niqhgq/AABDjLatKU2-C2reVHA6hVza?dl=0>