



Alpine Presbytery

resourcing the braided river

www.alpinepresbytery.org

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Newsletter 4th March 2021

Alpine Presbytery Gathering

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

Registrations are now open for the Gathering. Please follow this link to access the registration form: <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.'

Billets wanted: We have a few people wanting to be billeted, if possible. If you are able to offer accommodation to someone—even if you are not attending the Gathering yourself—please let Gail know (gail@alpinepresbytery.org)

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)

Alpine Presbytery, PressGo and Knox Centre for Ministry and Leadership welcome you to the beautiful alpine village of Hanmer Springs, in North Canterbury. Here we will "gather around the campfire" and share stories of new ways of being, and wonder together where God may be leading us.

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.

We encourage you to come as teams, so that you can spend time together discussing your own context, and how the stories you are hearing may apply to what God is doing in your neighbourhood.

More information & Registration at alpinepresbytery.org/coracle/

Download the flyer here: [Coracle](#)

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 11th March**



Other Newsletters

- [The Buzz](#)—Newsletter from PYM. This month's includes: Connect Online; Regional Connect; Youth Leader Coaching; Easter NUA; Emerge Leadership formation; Teen Mental Health; Key Leaders Retreat - Queenstown; General Assembly.
- [Bush Telegraph](#)

Report from the Alpine Presbytery Council Meeting

Alpine Presbytery Council met at The Village Church, Papanui on Thursday 25 February.

The Moderator, Barry Ayers, reflected on several thoughts based on a Lenten Resource Kiwi Church are using with a focus on Jesus looking at the rich young ruler with tender love, even though he spoke a challenging message. Among the scope of his reading and experience was the importance of keeping connection, being careful because it is not always true that where there is smoke there is fire, and the reconciliation that continues at Parihaka in Taranaki, where issues that continue to fester tend to do well if they are handled with tender love. Barry then constituted the meeting with prayer.

Barry talked of his activities over the summer including attending the prize-givings for Rangi Ruru School and St Andrew's College, and his time in Takaka helping out with services.

Key Decisions of Council

From the Human Resources Team:

- Approving and adjusting the terms of call for Rev. Gene Lawrence (Temuka) to incorporate a housing allowance.
- Jess Dreadon approved to train in officiating communion at Hope Rolleston.
- Adopting the Remuneration Policy for MSB Conveners and Other Roles guidelines.

From the Property & Finance Team:

- Approving the Alpine Financial Statements for the period ended 31st January 2021.
- Receiving the 2021/2022 draft budget and refer it to the Presbytery for approval.
- Approving the application from St Andrew's Ashburton to strengthen and refurbish their church at 130 Havelock Street Ashburton, at a cost of up to \$588,500 utilising PIF capital property funds, and the application including Strategic Comments be forwarded to the CPT for approval.
- Affirming a sale figure for the Anglican purchase of the Presbyterian component of the Rolleston Combined Church

From the Executive Officer:

- A proposal that Resourcing becomes a team (sub-committee) of Presbytery Council will be taken to the March Gathering for approval
- Presbytery is looking to establish a New Wineskin Presence in the East of Christchurch
- Human Resources will establish a small team to work on the suggestions made in Parts 1 & 2 of the 'Learnings from the Conflict at Hope Church Report' in conversation with the PCANZ Complaints Review Task Group. Recognition of the impact of a prolonged and challenging process is being conveyed to those most affected by it
- Confirmation the settlement arrangement between Hope Church & Rev Dennis Flett taking effect from Sunday 14 March
- Council supported grants of \$1000 to Jasmin Vanderwerff (Nelson) and \$2000 to Abi Trevathan (Christchurch) from the Andrew Norton Scholarship
- A Commission has been established to enquire into the financial challenges Knox Waimate are experiencing

From the Resource Team Leader:

- The revamped Alpine Presbytery website is now live! (go to alpinepresbytery.org/)
- Rev Malcolm Gordon (Dunedin) has been confirmed as the catalyst person for the April Retreat at Hanmer Springs.

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

Council welcomed Elizabeth Taggart, Ira S. and Rev Jonathan Barb from the Cashmere MSB, who spoke warmly of the unanimous vote to call Rev Hamish Galloway to Cashmere. Presbytery supported the call of Rev. Hamish Galloway for a three-year (2021-2023) term.

The next monthly Council meeting will be on 25th March by Zoom.

The Rubbish Challenge: 10 Steps to Less Waste in 10 Months

A resource for churches and whanau. Please copy and share (free copyright). More material and videos are at www.conversations.net.nz/rubbish-challenge.html. Written by Silvia Purdie

Step 2) March: Measure

Bible verse: There is lots of counting in the Bible; think of some and look them up. Counting helps us take notice of reality. Jesus invited people to be fully aware of what was going on: "blessed are your eyes because they see, and your ears because they hear." (Matthew 13:16)

'Big Idea': To read a map you need to know where you are. Measure your rubbish to set a baseline. Then you can set goals and measure progress.

Questions for reflection & discussion

Take a good hard look at the rubbish that we produce.

Find out more about waste issues in your city.

Do you think you personally put too much in the bin?

What are you already trying to do to reduce land-fill waste?

Action Step for February: Measure your rubbish. Choose a period (2 or 4 weeks). Make up a chart for each type of rubbish. Notice what is in each bin – what was in the wrong bin?

Watch the 4-minute video at www.conversations.net.nz/rubbish-challenge.html

Prayer: Dear God, if only we could throw away everything we do not want. If only stuff would disappear, from our homes, from our relationships, from the planet like... *(pause to name things you would like less of)*.

Dear God. We confess to you our rubbish - the junk we buy, the rubbish things we say and do. Forgive us, God of infinite grace. Have mercy on us. Amen.

New journal table-of-contents - Hewitson Library

Here are the contents pages from the most recent issue of:

[Sojourners, Vol 50 No 3, March 2021](#)

[Tui Motu InterIslands, Issue 257, March 2021](#)

[Asia Journal of Theology, Vol 34 No 2, October 2020](#)

[Call to Worship, Vol 54 No 4: Worship in a Time of Covid](#)

[Sojourners, Vol 50 No 2, February 2021](#)

[Tui Motu InterIslands, Issue 256, February 2021](#)

Email hewitson@prcknox.org.nz if you would like copies of any of the articles scanned and sent to you.

From the last Newsletter

- 10th Anniversary of Canterbury Earthquake
- Alpine Mission Fund and other Presbytery Grants
- Ministry Retreat Week at Sister Eveleen

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/5k528skz4niqhg/AABDjLatKUt2-C2reVHA6hVza?dl=0>

Presbytery Contact Details

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"What do you think
success is?" asked the boy



"To love," said the
mole