

Alpine Presbytery

resourcing the braided river

Newsletter 14th March 2024

Cut off for items for the next Newsletter is **Thursday 21st March**



Registrations for our Gathering in April are now open. This will be on 5th – 6th April and held at St Margarets Presbyterian Church in Bishopdale.

As part of the Gathering we will have Brett and Helen Mann share with us about their bicultural journey and why supervision is critical for those in ministry.

Full details are on our website at: <https://alpinepresbytery.org/autumn-gathering/>

Alongside the Gathering we will be hosting two events for elders and church council members on 4th of April, and there is an option for dinner on Thursday – please indicate on the form if you would like dinner to be provided.

We are hosting a **Q&A with the Executive Officer of Church Property Trustees, Russell Garrett** at 4.30pm on the 4th April.

Russell will be addressing the issue of insurance costs for parishes and will also be available for questions as part of this time.



Eldership in a Changing Age: Adjacent to the Gathering we are holding an Elders workshop in the evening of the 4th April. As part of this workshop we will look at the role of the elder and their place in the life of the Presbytery. We will also look to discuss moving into a space of discernment (as opposed to management) and how we connect with our communities. This workshop will be run with KCML (Knox Centre for Ministry and Leadership).

Registration for The Gathering and for the two workshops on the Thursday is at: <https://forms.gle/jhPX9c13ewG5BSVU8>

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Treasurer: Keith Christie
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Ministry opportunity in the Mackenzie Country

Alpine beauty, rural community and the Kingdom of God

Mackenzie Co-operating Parish are seeking a full time, fixed term minister for their diverse and thriving Church community spread across the Fairlie/Lake Tekapo districts.

Highlights of this parish include:

- A welcoming, family-oriented congregation in Fairlie
- Joining in outreach with a small, passionate congregation in Lake Tekapo
- The opportunity to connect with a global community through worship and weddings at the iconic Church of the Good Shepherd on the shores of Tākapo/Lake Tekapo
- Opportunities and resources to plan for the future
- Plenty of scope to enjoy summer and winter outdoor pursuits in a very special part of creation

Initially, this position will be for a fixed-term of three years. There is a realistic plan in place to grow funding with a view to making this position permanent.

For expressions of interest and a Parish Profile, please contact the Ministry Settlement Board convenor, Rory Grant — email rory@timarupres.org.nz

The Knox Church Peace Seminars

In 2021, Rev Dr Matthew Jack took a short time of study-leave to work with a reading list on "peace and conflict". He got the list from Te Ao Rongomaraeroa, the Peace and Conflict Studies Centre at the University of Otago, so the material is well respected academically, and he handled it as a Christian minister of progressive tendency.

Matthew used the material to produce four seminars which were enjoyed at Knox in 2022. He has now streamlined the information (taking out fascinating but unnecessary diversions), and produced four videos - so that the material might be made available to the wider church.

The introductory video is here: youtu.be/dVDmd6WQyIE. If it makes you interested, contact Matthew and he can send you the links to the seminar videos and essays at no cost.

Email minister@knoxchurch.co.nz

As he says in the introduction, we need people to "get on the peace train", so please consider.

2024 South Island Ministry Conference

Are you feeling the call to **reinvigorate your church's mission** and **reach your community more effectively**?

Do you sometime feel the gospel of Jesus Christ no longer works?

Do you want people to know about Jesus but feel no one wants to know?

Does the church still have something valuable to say to our polarised, secular society?

Join us for **"Relevant" the 2024 South Island Ministry Conference, aimed at helping to Reveal Jesus in a Resistant World**. This event is designed to equip and inspire church leaders like you!

Keynote Speaker: Mark Keown, Director of Evangelistic Leadership, will lead us through thought-provoking sessions on:

- Refreshing our Understanding of the Gospel and the Task
- Reconsidering our Context, Approaches, and Expectations
- Repositioning Evangelism in the Present Life of the Church
- Reimagining the Future of Faith in NZ

Workshops you won't want to miss! This year, we bring back practical workshops tackling real issues churches face:

- Remaining Faithful in Conflict - led by Michael Reid
- Reconciling Faith and Friendship - led by Peter Dunn
- Relating to People with Mental Health Issues - led by Paul Reet

Early Bird Discount! Register by **April 10th** and save!

Click here to secure your spot: forms.gle/ofx2zknuxNSrF5jd8

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

Presbytery Directory: All Parish Offices have been given a log-on to Infoodle, so please contact them initially if you need any contact details.

Due to our obligations under the Privacy Act, logon access is not openly available; anyone wanting this should send a request to Gail at gail@alpinepresbytery.org, advising of their position in their Parish or the Presbytery.

Retreat Day: Attending to the needs of people in midlife

At Sister Eveleen Retreat House, Wednesday 1st May, led by Dr Anne Shave

A day for clergy and pastoral workers to explore ways in which congregations can be intentional about supporting people who may be navigating significant transitions in life and faith.

Based on Anne Shave's PhD research into the experiences of Presbyterian, Anglican and Catholic churchgoers, and her book *Faith and Hope in Midlife: Reflecting on Churchgoers' Experiences*, this day will include time for interaction as well as a good chunk of quiet time for personal reflection.

People of all ages are welcome to attend.

For further details go to: www.sistereretreat.com/events



The March issue of PSUSI's Connect Newsletter can be read online at psuppersouth.org.nz/assets/Publications/Connect-Newsletter-single-pages.pdf

Notes from Presbytery Council meeting held 29th February 2024 at The Village, Papanui

Present at the meeting were: Rev Phyllis Harris (Moderator), Rev Jonathan Barb, Keith Christie, Rev Rory Grant, Lyn Heine, Rev Jason King (who left the meeting at 2.25pm), Ann McMillan, Rev Brent Richardson, Rev Lynmaree Sopoaga, and Rev Martin Stewart (Executive Officer).

An apology was received from Rev Jon Parkes. Phyll welcomed Keith Christie (Treasurer) at his first in-person meeting.

Devotions: Phyll shared an excerpt from Tod Bolsinger's book *Tempered Resistance*, outlining the process involved in a blacksmith tempering metal and the parallels with working as ministry leaders. Resistance to change and the processes to cultivate resilience and holding one's nerve were discussed.

Phyll constituted the meeting with prayer.

Conflicts of Interest: Keith identified that he would not participate in matters to do with Whakatu Church.

Minutes:

The Minutes of the Presbytery Council meeting held on Thursday 23rd November 2023 had been approved by email and were ratified at the meeting.

The Minutes of the Service of Ordination for Rev Joshua Olds held on Sunday 3rd December 2023 at The Village Church, Papanui, Christchurch were approved.

The minutes of five email decisions of Presbytery Council December 2023 to February 2024 were ratified.

1. The formation of the Waihao Glenavy Community Church from 1 February 2024 and appointment of the acting Parish Council. (this follows the closure of the cooperative venture with the Anglicans)
2. That Alpine Presbytery approve the dissolution of the Waimate Cooperating Parish as at 31 December 2023 subject to the Dissolution Agreement being finalised; meaning the closure of the parish with Presbyterian funds and properties coming to Alpine Presbytery.

That Alpine Presbytery gift the Waihao and Glenavy properties to the Waihao Glenavy Community Church as at 1 February 2024; being 2 Turners Road Waihao Downs and 9 Parker Street Glenavy respectively.

That Alpine Presbytery provide seed funding, from the Waimate Cooperating closure funds, to the Waihao-Glenavy Community Church for the start up at 1 February 2024; amount to be determined.

3. Approval of the Terms of Call for Mackenzie Cooperating Church for a full-time minister for a 3-year period at Standard Terms of Call.
4. Receiving the resignation of Rev Jon Parkes & establishing a Commission meet with Jon to discuss his resignation using the process in Book of Order 10.23.
5. Aranui Iona Project strengthening work approval.

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/

Online Worship Options

Visit the "Resources" page of our website to view the links from those of our churches offering this.

Alpine Presbytery

Culture & Strategic Framework
[Click here](#) to download this document, updated September 2020

Risk Management As usual, a discussion was held in private on matters of risk.

Moderator's Report

Phyll reported on several things

- o **Akaroa:** (with Martin) met with church representatives as they discern their way forward.
- o **Whakatu:** (with Martin) several meetings working alongside Whakatu.
- o **Wairau:** attended worship on 21st January at St. Ninians in Blenheim to induct their Local Shared Ministry team with Rev Reg Weeks as the enabler.
- o **Presbytery staff lunch:** It was good to meet with the Presbytery staff over lunch and bring a devotion. As our staff continues to expand this is a good space to connect with all that is going on. It also gives the opportunity to bridge what staff are up to and what council are up to.
- o **Sympathy**
 - To Rory and Andrea Grant on the loss of Rory's mum.
 - To Rev Alistair McNaughton on loss of his wife Catherine
 - To Lesley Hunt on the loss of Rev John Hunt.

The Executive Officer Report

Martin reported on several aspects of his work, including:

- o **General:** Pioneer Ministries meeting in Hanmer Springs, an Akaroa meeting, Whakatu-related work, helping lead the wonderful Christmas Eve service at Lghmor (near Ashburton) (over 100 people were present!), closure of the Hari Hari Church with the Anglican Bishop & Methodist Superintendent, farewell for Rev Kathryn Walters (the retiring Superintendent), Trinity Temuka LSM team commissioning, Presbytery staff lunch, meetings with various colleagues, time with Russell Garrett (CPT EO) including visits to some new church buildings, and a weekend at Ohope for the PCANZ strategic directions group and work on several papers.
- o **Staff:** Dan is settling in well.
- o **Study Leave:** I am preparing for Study Leave in August-September.
- o **Oxford:** They have asked for Presbyterian oversight and process for the next season.
- o **St Kentigerns Church:** A process is underway looking a possible way of attending to the future options of the church.

Property & Finance

Key points:

- o The team approved the payment of accounts
- o Updates on projects/ building issues etc
 - a. Iona Project – increased cost for Breezes Road work approved by CPT. Building consent has been issued and planned start date 11th March for the contractor.
 - b. Rangiora – new build has final CPT approval and is underway.
 - c. Amuri – sale of the Culverden church: received valuation and approval from the Anglican Diocese. Approved by CPT with conditions.
 - d. St Ninian's – site development has been approved.
 - e. Cashmere – progress on subdivision and sale.
 - f. Hope Rolleston – new build is complete and now officially opened. Costs came in under budget.
 - g. CATAS: the transition of payroll has been completed in February.
 - h. Pleasant Point Property: the feasibility study is progressing well.
 - i. St Luke's Nelson: divestment of property continuing after closure.
 - j. Plains – sale of Carew land approved.
 - k. Oxford Union Parish – sale of Cust property confirmation due.
 - l. Awatere Christian Joint Venture: approval for application to use PIF capital funds subject to CPT sign off
 - m. Hope Church: approval of strengthening of Hornby building at 27 Amyes Road Christchurch subject to CPT sign off
 - n. approving the 2024/2025 draft budget including the levy rate for 2024-25 at 1.14% of assessable income, being a 5% increase on the previous year, and referring this to the April Presbytery Gathering.

Human Resources

Lyn Heine's report was received, it included:

- o Wairau Parish (Blenheim) have proceeded to establish a Local Ministry Team – 21 Jan.
- o Trinity Temuka have proceeded to establish a Local shared Ministry – 28 Jan.
- o St Andrews Motueka has Rev Dr Rev Dr Andrew Callander as Stated Supply Minister with the MSB is underway.
- o The Village, Christchurch, have an MSB looking at formalising Rev Josh Olds’ position at Papanui. Rev David Sang-Joon Kim (Convenor), Rev Ryan Feng and Kerry Craig are the Presbytery members.
- o Hope require an MSB for the Site Pastor role at Rolleston. Rev Dan Spragg (Convenor), Alison Bishop, and Maria Lemalie will be the Presbytery members.
- o The Complaints and Disputes Manager PCANZ is training more people as Complaints Contact People.
- o Study Leave Report received from Rev Jon Parkes.
- o Amuri (Nth Canterbury) has a ministry review being conducted.

General

- o The resignation of Rev Jon Parkes from Presbytery Council was received (from February 2024).
- o The Terms of Call for Rev Sage Harris (Whakatu) are to be amended to the Standard Terms of Call (with no time limit).
- o The resignation of Rev Dr Blair Stirling from the ministry of the PCANZ has been accepted.
- o \$1,000 from the Andrew Norton Scholarship has been granted to Rev Sage Harris for course expenses.
- o Report of the Commission attending to the resignation of Rev Jon Parkes
The Commission, led by Rev Dr Andrew Callander met with Jon & Vivienne Parkes. Being satisfied with the processes leading up to Jon’s resignation, the Whakatu Council declined the invitation to meet with the Commission.
The report of the Commission was received and acceptance of the resignation of Rev Jon Parkes (from 30 June 2024) was noted.
- o A paper on things to be considered in how Alpine Presbytery manages operational funding will go to the Alpine Gathering for further engagement.
- o Council will propose to the April Gathering Council that Rev Phyll Harris serve as Moderator for a further year.
- o Discussion was held on matters raised in a written report prepared by Abi Trevathan.
The Alpine Gathering is on 5-6 April at St Margaret’s Church, Bishopdale, and the draft agenda was met with approval.
On the Thursday prior to the Gathering we are hosting two events - an Insurance Q&A with Russell Garrett from CPT at 4.30pm, and an Elders Training evening with Andrew Nicol (KCML) after a meal.
- o It was agreed that the Presbytery Youth Fund will support the travel costs for up to three people (two rangatahi and perhaps one youth leader/worker) to attend the noho marae at Ohope in April.
- o It was agreed that Alpine Presbytery be the MOU holder for Forge Aotearoa for a further two years (noting that there were still sufficient funds in the Forge kete).
- o It was agreed that an Alpine Gathering with a focus on resourcing ministry leaders be held at Whakatu Church 1-3 November 2024 (noting that permission to focus the next Gathering in this way will be required from the April Gathering).
- o It was agreed that Hanmer Springs Mission review should be led by two ‘outside’ people and the wider Presbytery be engaged in the process.
- o It was noted that Megan Waddington was concluding in her position with Presbyterian Support and that she be thanked her for her work.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 28th March via Zoom

Coming Up

Presbytery Gathering: 5-6 April
Nelson Church Service for West Coasters:
19 May
Knox Church, Waimate, 150th
Celebrations: 21st –22nd September

From the last Newsletter

- Opening of Hope Rolleston
- New Vacancies at ICHC
- Nelson Church Service for West Coasters
- Jules Riding Concert in Geraldine