

Alpine Presbytery

resourcing the braided river

Newsletter 11th April 2024

Cut off for items for the next Newsletter is **Thursday 18th April**

Good Friday at Malvern Cooperating Parish

The weather forecast was for rain and wind, but there was not a breath of wind or drop of rain. Instead it was a fine calm morning when, at 8.30am on Good Friday, the Darfield Baptists, Darfield Life, St Josephs, Malvern Anglican, and Malvern Co-operating gathered to journey together with the Cross.

John and young Andrew carried the cross and we all travelled together to Trinity Church. We then split off to visit the 12 Stations of the Cross to sit, ponder and contemplate the Holy Week. It was so special for all the churches to be represented showing unity in the local church community.



Our eldest walker was 93 years and our youngest was 7 years old. Folk came on bikes and scooters, determined to be part of the journey.

Report by Aunty Lyn (Malvern Co-operating Parish)

Photos by: Michael Sampson (Darfield Baptist)



Office email address: Gail is transitioning to using office@alpinepresbytery.org as the email address for Presbytery work in future. Please update the information in your contacts.

Moderator: Rev Phyll Harris
moderator@alpinepresbytery.org
Phone 027 352 7886

Youth & Young Adults Enabler:
Rev Sage Harris
youth@alpinepresbytery.org
Phone: 027 356 0740

Executive Officer: Rev Martin Stewart
executiveofficer@alpinepresbytery.org
Phone: 021 308 519

Ministries Coordinator:
Rev Dan Spragg
minco@alpinepresbytery.org
Phone: 021 770 112

Resource Team Leader:
Abi Trevathan abi@alpinepresbytery.org
Phone: 027 339 6006

Treasurer: Keith Christie
treasurer@alpinepresbytery.org
Office Support: Gail Weaver
office@alpinepresbytery.org

News from Sister Eveleen Retreat House

Become a Friend of Sister Eveleen Retreat House

On 9th April we re-launched our Friends community at the Transitional Cathedral. If you did not have a chance to join us, find out more about this on our website: www.sistereretreat.com/become-a-friend

Upcoming Retreats. For more details and to register for any of these, go to www.sistereretreat.com/events

An Introductory Encounter with the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola: *A 4 week retreat with weekly sessions.* Facilitator: Dr. Mary Allen of; Dates: Fridays: 19 & 26 April, 3 & 10 May. (3-4pm)

Attending to the needs of people in midlife- a day with Dr. Anne Shave: *A day for clergy, church leaders, teams and pastoral workers*
Date: 1 May 2024, 9:30 am – 4:00 pm

Participating in the Trinity: *a 5 or 7 day silent retreat.*

Facilitators: Donald and Janice Scott; Date: Sunday, 19 May (5pm)– Thursday, 23 May or Saturday 25 May (2pm)

A Day of Retreat @Sister Ev - May: Date Thursday 29 May, 9:30 – 2:30; Retreat leader: Antje Duda

Seasons of Growth - a 2-day retreat - *The process of grief is like healing a broken heart*

Facilitators: Joanne and Rick Smith; Date: 31 May (9:30am) – 1 June (4pm)

Faith and Hope in Midlife - *A day for all interested to explore, reflect and celebrate the significant transitions in life and faith.* Facilitator: Dr. Anne Shave; Date 8 Jun 2024, 9:30 am - 4 pm

Our Pilgrims Soul - A Weekend Retreat - *"A pilgrim is a person who prays with the feet"*

Facilitator: Elinor Gabraith; Date: Fri 14 June (7pm) – Sun 16 June (1:30 pm)

CPT newsletter

The latest newsletter from the Church Property Trustees, dated March 2024, can be found at: tinyurl.com/4hc7nusz

Ann McMillan spoke of it at the recent Gathering. It includes information on the changes to the Mission Enterprise Fund (MEF) deductions, the Earthquake Prone Buildings Policy, Right of First Refusal guidelines and insurance as well as an article on the Hope Rolleston new build.

More information will be coming to churches on some of these topics in the next couple of months.

Churches will also have received a memo dated 28 March 2024 on the MEF update - those parishes with sales not finalised will be contacted shortly regarding the treatment of the MEF in their specific cases.

Any queries to Ann McMillan, Convenor Property and Finance Team

Notes Presbytery Council meeting held 28th March 2024 on Zoom

Present at the meeting were: Rev Brent Richardson (acting for the Moderator), Rev Jonathan Barb, Rev Rory Grant, Lyn Heine, Rev Jason King, Ann McMillan, Rev Lynmaree Sopoaga, and Rev Martin Stewart (Executive Officer).

Apologies were received from Rev Phyll Harris and Keith Christie (Treasurer).

Welcome & Devotions: Brent welcomed everyone and shared a reading from John 13 where Jesus washes the disciples' feet. He spoke of the uncomfortable nature of being at a foot-washing event where the guest speaker washed his feet. Brent wondered if there might be better ways to demonstrate the point these days! He saw Jesus' act of foot-washing as a reminder that leadership in Jesus' name is a calling into everyday acts of service. Brent constituted the meeting with prayer.

Conflicts of Interest: Rory identified a conflict in regard to his role as convener of the Resourcing team while changes are being mooted.

Minutes: The Minutes of the Presbytery Council meeting held on Thursday 29th February 2024 had been approved by email and were ratified at the meeting.

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

The Executive Officer Report: Martin reported on several aspects of his work, including

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.

- o **General:** Pioneers gathering in Hanmer Springs, meetings with Anglican leadership re Akaroa & Amuri, Geraldine Cluster, Plains advisory work, yarn with Rev Richard McLean (new EO at Southern Presbytery). Weekly staff meetings with Dan & Abi (sometimes in person if we are all in Christchurch). We have a worksheet we update ahead of meetings.
- o **Study Leave Paper for Ministers:** A document has been compiled on study leave including information from the Conditions of Service Manual and general advice. This has been circulated it among the ministers for general comment.
- o **Akaroa-Banks Peninsula:** A long process has led to agreement that we seek to formalise the joining of the Anglican and Presbyterian Churches as a 'Community Church.' It will be a joint venture between the Presbytery and Diocese. The initial ministry to be under Presbyterian oversight.
- o **Presbytery Complaints people:** Malcolm & Alison Bishop have agreed to assist the Presbytery and were able to attend the training event 19th March.
- o **Study Leave Application:** Martin applied for 49 days (August-September) including visits to some Uniting Church of Australia Presbyteries as part of some research into different models of providing ministry leadership outside the current framework
- o **Decisions**
 - That Alison & Malcom Bishop be accepted as Complaints contact people for Alpine Presbytery.
 - That the EO study leave application be approved.
 - That travel and accommodation costs as outlined in the report be approved (noting that this is not setting a precedent).
 - That expenses of up to \$700 for food and hospitality be approved.

Rev Dan Spragg (Ministries Coordinator) joined the meeting to share some reflections.

- o The Hanmer NMS review including facilitation in May led by Rev Dr Jono Ryan and Lisa Wells will work with the Hanmer Team.
- o The concept of 'Pioneers' being replaced with the word 'Wayfarers' picking up on the Māori and Pacifica voyagers and their ability to read the signs as they navigated long distances.
- o The concept of Scaffolding and a chart he has devised to indicate the supportive structures for new ministries and wayfarers as opposed to the concept of 'oversight.'

Property & Finance: Ann McMillan shared key aspects of the report, including

- o **Accounts:** The Team approved the payment of accounts of \$195,333.77 for March 2024. Included in this total is \$122,878 for the Rangiora building project from their historic Mission Fund grant and \$9,635 for the Iona Building Project.
- o **Alpine Presbytery Performance Report & Budget:** The amended Alpine 2024-25 Budget was presented in preparation for the April Gathering.
- o **Other finance matters**
 - a. Funding applications for community grants for Alpine projects need to be submitted under the Alpine Presbytery as the projects are not entities in their own right.
 - b. Expense claim processes for some of the NMS projects are being worked on.
 - Ellesmere Cooperating Parish – St David's Leeston hall build final approval (rec 4): The parish now has full plans and costings plus the Resource and Building Consents.
 - Waihao Glenavy Community Church (rec 5): There is good progress in setting up all the necessary things for a new parish.
- o **Updates**
 - a. Iona Project – Breezes Road: the contractor has started the work.
 - b. Pleasant Point Property: we have received two more progress updates on the feasibility study in order for Alpine to determine the next steps for this property.
 - c. Oxford Union Parish – sale of Cust property: completed. No longer proceeding with the Resource Consent to remove the memorial windows.
 - d. St Ninian's Christchurch – sale of lots to Methodist Mission & Presbyterian Support: an updated valuation received and congregational meeting minutes agreeing to the sale prices.

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

o Decisions

- That Alpine Presbytery approves the Alpine Financial Statements for the period ended 29 February 2024.
- That Alpine Council:
 - a. Accept the Resourcing budget for the 2024/2025 year of \$120,000 in total and approve an amount of \$78,000 be allocated from the Discretionary Fund in order for this to be fully funded.
 - b. Accept the Hanmer Project budget for the 2024/2025 year of \$115,144 in total and approve an amount of \$54,414 be allocated from the Discretionary Fund in order for this to be fully funded.
 - c. Receive the amended 2024/2025 draft budget and refer it to the Presbytery for approval.
- That Alpine Presbytery, as the partner church, support the Ellesmere Cooperating Parish application for final approval for their St David's Leeston new hall build based on the plans and costings supplied, amounting to a final cost of \$912,000 (excl GST) plus the \$98,000 spent to date; funded from parish Methodist Investment funds and a grant from the Methodist Church Synod Strategic Property Development Fund *[subject to CPT for approval]*.
- That Alpine Presbytery, in establishing the Waihao Glenavy Community Church, provide initial seed funding from the Waimate dissolution funds of \$10,000; pending the finalising of the Dissolution Agreement.

Human Resources: Lyn Heine shared key aspects of the report, including

- o The terms of call for Jason Shaw as a LOM candidate at Geraldine have been accepted at 50% FTE. (Jason has already been assessed as ready to begin)
- o The Village also need a Ministry Settlement Board and an Interim Moderator. Very Rev Hamish Galloway has agreed to be the MSB Convenor with Jay Lee, a Cashmere Elder.
- o Lyn Heine has completed her LOM requirements.
- o St Albans are looking for a 50% ministry appointment.

o Decisions

- That Presbytery accept Rev Hamish Galloway (Convener) and Jay Lee as MSB members for The Village Church.
- That Presbytery proceed to ordain Lyn Heine as Locally Ordained Minister of Greymouth & Districts Uniting Church on Friday 3rd May at 2pm.

Resourcing: Rory shared key aspects of the report, including

- o How the roles of the Resourcing Team Leader (RTL), Executive Officer, and the Ministries Coordinator-Kaihautū Whakatipu work together with the Resourcing Oversight Team, given all three work in the resourcing area?
- o Could the RTL role be re-shaped towards a focus on **connections and formation** within the Presbytery and beyond? This would dovetail well with the current RTL's ongoing ministry formation.
- o Is a role for an **advisory group** emerging that supports the work of Presbytery staff in a similar way to how Resourcing has supported the work of the RTL? This group would have a focus on the life and culture of the Presbytery and would take the initiative on refreshing our Cultural and Strategic Framework.
- o There are budget considerations that could be managed by the Presbytery Staff, with advice and priorities established in conversation with any potential 'Life and Culture' advisory group and overseen by Presbytery Council.

Order of the Day

Call to Rev Dr Andrew Callander to St Andrew's Uniting Church, Motueka

- o Rev Jon Parkes, Ian Davidson, Peter Smale & Rev Dr Andrew Callander were associated with the meeting.
- o Jon and Peter spoke warmly of Rev Andrew Callander's supply ministry, noting that it had been a long time since a Presbyterian minister had been called to St Andrew's and that the process had gone very well. It was noted that there was a 100% vote from the congregational meeting to call Andrew to St Andrew's.

o Decisions

- That Rev Dr Andrew Callander be called to St Andrew's Uniting Motueka at 75% Standard Terms of Call.
- That the MSB be thanked and discharged.
- Rory Grant led the meeting in a prayer.

The meeting closed with the saying of The Grace.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 2 May

Coming Up

Nelson Church Service for West Coasters: 19 May

Presbytery Retreat: Hanmer Springs, 4—6 July

**Knox Church, Waimate, 150th Celebrations:
21st—22nd September**

From the last Newsletter

- **Presbytery Retreat 4th—6th July.**
- **Ethics & Risk Management Workshop**
- **Items Available—Envelopes & preaching Stand**
- **Contemplative Prayer Days**
- **Haerenga Tapu: A Sacred Pilgrimage: 24—26 May**
- **More than Music Mentor Workshop**
- **Concerts at Knox Church, Christchurch:**
 - **Gabriel Fauré**
 - **Organic Brass**