

Alpine Presbytery

resourcing the braided river

Newsletter 16th May 2024

Cut off for items for the next Newsletter is **Thursday 23rd May**

MODERATOR'S MESSAGE 2024

PENTECOST

Tēnā koutou katoa

Over the years I have used a number of objects in church in an effort to try and give a sense of the celebration of Pentecost. Orange, red, and yellow balloons. A birthday cake for the church. An oscillating fan. These crepe paper strands on the end of pews signifying flames (pictured in the banner above). A ping pong ball suspended

in the air through the blast of a hair dryer! Trying, inadequately, to point towards something beyond words.

In the *Acts of the Apostles* we hear how the disciples have gathered – they have been told to wait and they do. And they have this experience that has been described as, *like the sound of a rush of wind*, and, *like tongues of fire amongst them*. They have the experience of the power of the Holy Spirit flooding their beings. Those disheartened are renewed - prodded into life and enabled by the Holy Spirit which transforms them again and makes them bold. Jesus' promise to them has been dramatically fulfilled.

The Holy Spirit is the presence of God for all of us, not just for those early disciples. The Holy Spirit is our help, our guidance, our counsel, and our comfort. The way of the Spirit is mysterious and blows where it wills. It is experienced in a variety of ways.

In the scriptures the description of the Holy Spirit is diverse. Sometimes the Spirit is a mighty force that overwhelms the person/s. Sometimes the Spirit appears as an ecstatic kind of speech. And at other times the Spirit is described as the breath of God that gently works in the world. Sometimes it is the still small voice.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer in his prison meditations spoke of a certain experience that he had of the Holy Spirit:

"I vividly recall that night (of torture)...and how I prayed to God that he might send death to deliver me because of the helplessness and the pain I felt I could no longer endure, and the violence and hatred to which I was no longer equal. How I wrestled with God that night and finally in my great need crept to him, weeping. Not until morning did a great peace come to me, a blissful awareness of light, strength, and warmth, bringing with it the conviction that I must see this thing through and at the same time the blessed assurance that I should see it through. Solace in Woe. This is the work of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter. This is the kind of creative dialogue (the Spirit) conducts with (humankind). These are the secret blessings (the Spirit) dispenses which enable a person to live and endure..."

The resurrection brought hope and new life to the disciples. They were lifted out of the experience and grief of Good Friday and given a sense of a new and profound understanding and experience of the divine. Yet it was Pentecost that energised them, set them on fire. They were empowered and amazing things were made possible.

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

At times, life in the church can be challenging and we have our disappointments. We seek to live in the ways of Jesus but sometimes we stumble. Our celebration of Pentecost holds out to us the promise of new possibilities. Of being energised and empowered as the Body of Christ. The Holy Spirit stimulates and enables us. Let us hold on to that promise, be open to the work of the Holy Spirit, and seek to serve our God in this time and place.

Right Rev Rose Luxford

Moderator Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand

Chaplaincy Roles

St Kentigern's, Auckland

- **Head of Chaplaincy**
- **College Chaplain**
- **Assistant Chaplains (from 2025)**

A mix of full and part-time roles will be considered to create a full chaplaincy team. Similarly, relevant qualifications such as Presbyterian ordination and graduate studies in chaplaincy will constitute part of the requirements of the team as a whole but are not prerequisites for applicants. Continuing education and faith-based learning will be supported by Saint Kentigern where appropriate. We therefore encourage all interested parties to apply.

Find out more at www.saintkentigern.com/careers/current-vacancies/

Applications close **5 June 2024**

Lincoln University

Senior Ecumenical Chaplain

This rewarding and varied role is a half time stipendiary position which may be held in conjunction with other commitments. The role is to promote and nurture the well-being of students in cooperation with Lincoln University and encompasses pastoral care and spiritual support. You may also be asked to officiate at events, help with education and resourcing of others on campus and will be expected to actively promote understanding and dialogue in a diverse and multi-faith community. This role may involve irregular hours including some evening and weekend work.

This position is open to men and women of Christian faith. There is a preference for those with theological qualifications and/or experience working in a University context but we invite people of faith with a heart for university students. Applicants must have a good standing within their Christian denomination.

Download the Position Description here: <https://tinyurl.com/3hh4mzuy>

Closing Date: **14 June 2024.**

Nelson Church Service for West Coasters—this Sunday!

A 10am Sunday Worship Service will be held on Sunday 19th May 2024 for the many former West Coasters who now reside in the Nelson Tasman District or in Marlborough and Canterbury.

The venue for the service will be the Nelson Tasman Methodist Parish's Church at 94 Neale Ave, Stoke, Nelson. Ian Davidson, who was born in Hokitika, will be the guest preacher for the service

For those who are unable to attend, the Service will also be available on Zoom from about 9.45am using this link: us02web.zoom.us/j/6435477322 Meeting ID: 643 547 7322

Any questions please contact Paul Tregurtha at pwtrig@gmail.com or (03) 546 4358

Save the Date(s)

Presbytery Retreat: 4th - 6th July in Hanmer Springs with Kelvin Wright (former Bishop of Dunedin and Spiritual Director/Retreat Leader). Theme: Views Along the Way

Walking the Road: Pastoral Care & The Road to Emmaus: Pastoral Care Workshop Friday 23rd August 7pm - 9pm. (Optional Dinner at 6pm) with Rev Dr Geoff New from KCML.

Preaching from the Old Testament: Learning from the Book of Esther. Preaching Workshop Saturday 24th August 9.30am - 3pm . (Lunch and AM tea provided) with Rev Dr Geoff New from KCML

Registrations for these open soon so please keep an eye out!

Best Travel Fund

Applications are invited to the Bill and Margaret Best Travel Fund, which is open to all church workers. See criteria on the webpage: www.presbyterian.org.nz/for-ministers/training-for-ministry/training-grants/best-travel-fund.

The closing date is 30 September each year.

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 office@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 office@alpinepresbytery.org, advising of their position in their Parish or the Presbytery.

24-7 Youth Worker Position

Kāwai Rangatahi are looking to fill a 24-7 Youth Work position at Te Aratai College, Linwood, Christchurch.

Are you passionate about empowering young people? As a Part-time Youth Development Worker you'll engage with diverse youth, providing support and mentorship to help them thrive.

More details at www.kawai.org.nz/job-opportunities. Applications close 5pm, Friday 24th May 2024

CONNECTING CULTURES

ESOL Seminar for Tutors and Volunteers
by Olive Lawson

Saturday **25 May**, 9.30 -12.30
Riccarton Baptist Church
80 Rattray Street, Riccarton

To reserve your place phone
Christopher 021 840 610
or Olive 021 067 6587



Olive has a lifetime of experience working with migrants and refugees. She has worked in the Pacific and Thailand, and headed ESOL Departments at Wellington East Girls' College and Hagley Community College, Christchurch. In 2016, following retirement, with the help of volunteers, she established an English Class at St Barnabas Church in a Christian context.

Olive is the author of "Connecting Cultures, Books 1 – 4" which have sold throughout New Zealand. These books are designed to help volunteers and teachers provide instant appropriate New Zealand based work. This seminar will cover lesson planning, teaching tips, and provide an opportunity for sharing and networking.

The Tindall Foundation Fund 2024-25

Applications are now open for those who have identified a need that centres around development of children, young people and their whānau. Perhaps a local Presbyterian Church could serve that need through a special initiative or project? These kinds of initiatives can be funded through this Tindall Foundation Family Fund.

The Tindall Foundation have clear donation criteria for this fund on their website: tindall.org.nz/family. Presbyterian Support New Zealand is The Tindall Foundation's local donation manager for Presbyterian Support organisations and Presbyterian churches running community-facing initiatives, with a Family and Whānau focus.

Applicants are encouraged to contact Prudence Stone (prudence@ps.org.nz) or Vicky Prout (office@ps.org.nz) at Presbyterian Support New Zealand if you would like to discuss your community initiative and whether it fits the fund's criteria.

Applications opened on Monday, 6 May and close on Monday, 17 June 2024 at 9 am.



From the last Newsletter

- Induction of Andrew Callander & Ordination of Lyn Heine
- Christchurch Ministry Leaders' Lunch
- Message from the EO:
 - Jess Dreardon
 - Kowai-Cheviot & Waikari Parishes
- Rev Laurie Richards
- Free Online Youth Leader Training from PYM
- New Vacancies at ICHC
- Notes April Presbytery Council meeting

Coming Up

- Nelson Church Service for West Coasters: 19 May
- Ordination of Jess Dreardon as LOM: 26 May, Hope Rolleston
- Presbytery Retreat in Hanmer Springs: 4–6 July
- KCML Workshops: 23–24 August
- Knox Church, Waimate, 150th Celebrations: 21–22 September
- Presbytery Gathering in Nelson: 1–3 November

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