



Alpine Presbytery

resourcing the braided river

Newsletter 4th June 2025

As we make the transition to a new administrator we anticipate the newsletter being paused for a short time. We apologise for any inconvenience. Any important information during this time will be communicated via email.

Farewell to Gail

After nearly 11 years, Gail Weaver has finished in her role as Office Support for Alpine Presbytery.

She was appointed when the Presbytery first came together from the five Presbyteries previously representing the upper parts of the South Island, with the original intention being that it be a two-year appointment to get admin systems in place. 11 years later she was still here!

Gail tells us that there have been some really good experiences working with some of the people in the Presbytery, and that she enjoyed stretching herself by learning new systems (she used Professors Google and YouTube to learn how to set up our first database using Access Database) and upgrading her abilities in others, such as Infodile.

With changes in personnel and priorities around the Presbytery, as well as her husband retiring, she decided it was time to step back, although she will be continuing in her role at Cashmere Presbyterian Church (where she has been for 23 years) for the foreseeable future.

Gail gave us her notice at the end of March and we are now starting to look for her replacement.

The ordination and induction of **Rev Pauline Hampshire** as well as the formal recognition of the new Community Church will be held at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Akaroa at 3.30pm on Sunday 29 June followed by a light tea.

We are very grateful for Gail's many years of service and her thorough understanding of the systems needed to help us with our week by week administration, especially publishing the newsletter.

We wish her very well as she finds a bit more room for herself!

King's Birthday honours

It is a custom that our PCANZ Moderator writes a letter to any Presbyterians who have received a King's Birthday honour.

Can you please advise Martin Stewart at executiveofficer@alpinepresbytery.org the names and full contact details of any folk from the Alpine Presbytery region who have received a New Year Honour and any background information about the person and the reason for the honour. We will then pass these onto the Moderator, who will write on the Church's behalf.

Vacancy: Presbytery Administrator - Alpine Presbytery

Location: Christchurch (with occasional travel within Alpine Presbytery), approximately 15 hours per week.

This is an opportunity to join us as we work to support the various congregations and ministries of Alpine Presbytery. We are seeking a competent and organised Administrator to provide essential support to our Presbytery, Executive Officer, and staff. This is a diverse role in a high-trust, interdependent environment, ideal for a self-motivated team player.

Your key responsibilities will include:

- Managing the Presbytery database and minister records.
- Producing and distributing our weekly newsletter.
- Tracking minister supervision and parish reporting.
- Managing website content and official communications.
- Providing administrative support for meetings and other events within the Presbytery.

Moderator: Rev Lynmaree Sopoaga
moderator@alpinepresbytery.org
 Phone 027 4737370

Executive Officer: Rev Martin Stewart
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 Phone: 021 308 519

Kairuruku Whanake - Formation & Development Coordinator:
Abi Trevathan
abi@alpinepresbytery.org
 Phone: 027 339 6006

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

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

Treasurer: Keith Christie
treasurer@alpinepresbytery.org

Office Support
office@alpinepresbytery.org

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 sent to Gail Weaver.

The Alpine Newsletter is a weekly email update of activities in and around the Presbytery. It is intended to inform, connect, and encourage, and its content does not necessarily represent the views of Presbytery Council or staff, and the inclusion of articles, advertisements, and other content does not imply endorsement or agreement.

Resources

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

- Assisting with compliance in Health & Safety and Child Protection.

The ideal candidate will:

- Possess strong administrative and organisational skills.
- Demonstrate competence with computer-based work; proficiency with Google Workspace and Infodile database management is an advantage.
- Have experience in website content management.
- Have excellent communication and interpersonal abilities.
- Be able to work independently and as part of a collaborative team.
- Maintain confidentiality and operate with integrity.
- Align with the cultural and strategic framework of Alpine Presbytery and the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand's Code of Ethics.
- Demonstrate an understanding of and comfort with working within a Christian faith-based context.

If you, or someone you know, is looking for a rewarding role where you can contribute to a meaningful purpose, we encourage you to apply.

The possibility of combining the advertised administration role with St Mark's, Avonhead, can be considered if the total hours of the two roles is beneficial and a suitable candidate is identified.

To learn more and apply, please supply your CV to Dan Spragg at minco@alpinepresbytery.org. Applications close Friday 6 June 2025.

Sister Eveleen Retreat House

Praying with St Ignatius - Exploring major themes of the Spiritual Exercises and meeting God through them—Monday, 23 June (9am) - Wed 26 June 2025 (2pm)

Join Sister Eveleen Retreat House and Ignatian Spiritual Director Colin Renouf for this 2-night silent retreat exploring the Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius of Loyola. We will begin by reflecting on: Who was Ignatius? And what are 'The Spiritual Exercises'?

Then we will consider some of the key themes of the Exercises: Radically Loved, Principle & Foundation, Freedom, Desire, Contemplating Christ and ending with how we are delightfully loved by God.

The goal of the Exercises is to grow in union with God, thus gaining inner freedom and becoming more like Christ who was free to love and to serve.

More info and registration at: www.sistereretreat.com/event-details/2025-praying-with-st-ignatius-exploring-major-themes-of-the-spiritual-exercises-and-meeting-god-through-them

Bush Telegraph

The June 2025 edition of Bush Telegraph can be found here:

www.presbyterian.org.nz/publications/bush-telegraph/2025/june-2025

This month includes: Presbyterian Youth Ministry is looking for Young Adult Commissioners for GA; Knox Centre for Ministry and Leadership invites leaders to participate in a new 6-week book group; Presbyterian Research Centre is supporting a university course on Architecture and Theology; Global Mission asks you to pray for partner churches and imagine their ministry and mission contexts; Presbyterian Church Schools reminds us of the importance of girls and women for our Church Schools; PressGo has an update on its conference in Dunedin and travel subsidies are available; Presbyterian Children and Families has spent time reflecting on the journey of children's ministry in the PCANZ; and notices include Tindall funding available, a new platform for Presbyterian stories, resources for Matariki and Pentecost, korero and gatherings to attend plus see links at the bottom of the page for ministerial vacancies, latest jobs, upcoming events, social media links and more.

From the last Newsletter

- Notes from the Alpine Presbytery Autumn Gathering
- Moderator's Pentecost Message 2025
- The Judith McKinlay and Peter Matheson Memorial Lectures.
- Notes from Presbytery Council meeting 22 May

Coming Up

Ordination & Induction of Pauline Hampshire: 29 June

Presbytery Retreat: 17—19 July

Catalysing Christian Communities Conference: 21-22 August

Coracle: 12—14 September

Plant Sale, St Stephen's, Timaru: 13 September

General Assembly: 20—23 October

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 Weaver, Office Support, advising of their position in their Parish or the Presbytery.

Alpine Presbytery

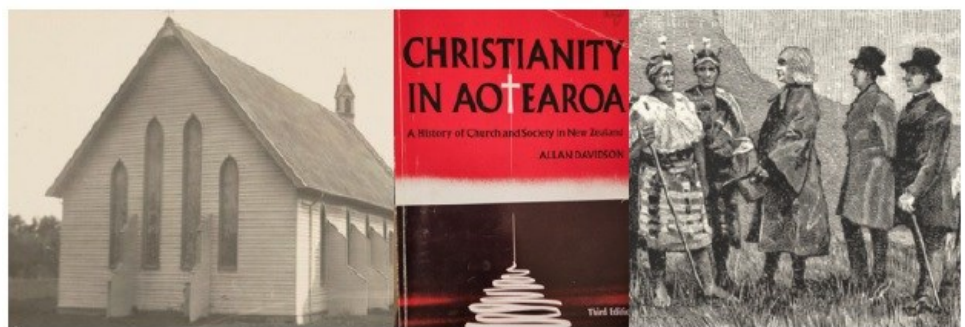
Culture & Strategic Framework

To download this document, updated September 2020, go to: alpinepresbytery.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/culture-and-strategic-framework-september-2020.pdf



The Church in Aotearoa New Zealand

A 10 week exploration of the history of Christianity and the Church in Aotearoa New Zealand



This fascinating course will be offered by Zoom on either a Tuesday or Thursday evening commencing in July. Each session will be about 90 minutes.

The cost is \$90 which includes a copy of "Christianity in Aotearoa" and the 70 page study guide.

The content of the course is:

Unit One: Māori and Christianity (2 weeks)

Unit Two: Settler Christianity (2 weeks)

Unit Three: Church and Society (3 weeks)

Unit Four: Challenge and Change (3 weeks)

The course consists of individual reading (2 to 3 hours) followed by a seminar group. Normally these have been 2 hours when done in-person but with Zoom we have found that can be a little long and we try to complete the seminar sessions in 1½ hours.

The timing would be negotiated with the mentor and group members.

For more information contact Michael Crawford-Butler:

educationforministrynz@outlook.com