

ST MARGARET'S
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SILVERSTREAM



NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2017

Recipe for 5000

What you need to feed a 5000 plus crowd are:

Not enough sandwiches
Not enough baskets
Not enough cartons of juice
Not enough treats
Not enough flasks of soup
Not enough pieces of fruit

Add to that:

Just enough imagination
Just enough thinking of others
Just enough 'Relax!'
Just enough less worry
Just enough not caring what the neighbours think
Just enough daring to do what you've never done before

And you'll get:

Sharing
New neighbours
'We're in this together'
Practical theology
'You can have some of mine'
'Why don't we do this again next week'

Voila, 5000 people fed.
Result.

<http://abbotsford.typepad.com>



Greetings,

Last month I wrote about stories and observed that in terms of the elect-a-government 2017 story the last chapter had yet to be written. Well, as I write, that is still the case. I almost hesitate to observe that there is a Dickensian feel about this month's newsletter. Dickensian? Well, if I remember correctly many of the novels that Charles Dickens wrote were initially published in monthly or even weekly instalments. Each instalment built on the previous one. But the Dickensian description presumes that there is further to be added to the story. We now know how many votes each political flavour was given. We also know that no one flavour has enough to govern on its own. That in itself is not a surprise given the nature of an MMP electoral system. So the story will continue as those who were successful negotiate.

In some democracies the highest polling political flavour is invited to try and create a government. To achieve that objective discussions are held with lesser polling groups. The analogy is a little like a reverse game of pin the tail on the donkey where the donkey goes looking for its tail to become complete. But that is not our current situation. To continue with my analogy and I do so cautiously, rather than the donkey picking its tail, the tail picks the donkey.

And donkeys have played significant parts in biblical stories. One donkey was the means of transport for an expectant couple. Another carried that couple's child triumphantly into

the capital city. Yet another donkey carried an Old Testament mercenary prophet called Balaam. He was hired by the enemies of Israel to pronounce a curse upon the entire nation. Told not to by God, Balaam accepted the job and travelled by donkey to the place the Israelites were camped. God sent an angel to stand in the path that Balaam was traveling as an adversary against him. The donkey saw the angel and stepped off the path. Balaam didn't and became very angry forcing the donkey back onto the path. On the third occasion this occurred Balaam hit the donkey with a stick. The donkey then spoke to Balaam and asked why, after all that the donkey had done for Balaam why did he need to use the stick? Balaam, so enraged that he completely ignored the fact that his donkey was talking to him, told the donkey that if he had a sword he would kill it.

And my point? There is always the risk that leaders can't see what those who carry them see. We exercise our electoral options in the way that we think will best serve the community. Sometimes that means giving a message to the leaders that what has been done, or that is being done is not consistent with what we consider to be the community's best interests. We have had an election and expressed our views. Care needs to be taken by the less successful in deciding how to complete the latest political animal. That is the working out of our system, one that doesn't need the wild west approach of an American voter who is offering a \$10 million reward for

information leading to the impeachment of their President. An approach of that type makes my tail pinning pretty tame.

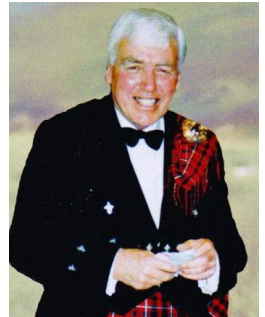
I think I can confidently say that there will not be a further instalment of the election theme in next month's newsletter. Dickens stopped writing

years ago and "penny" dreadfuls went out in 1967 when we switched to decimal currency. But donkey's may feature again although next time it may simply be heading towards a stable. Simply? – that may depend on what the pageant tells us!!

Clarice

Personal Notes:

- Our condolences to Clarice and Lynette Cameron with their loss of Don. He was a well-respected member of St Margaret's and his wisdom and optimistic view of life were an inspiration to many. We share in your sorrow.
- Congratulation to Emma Main on her Capital Football award as Young Player of the Year for 2017. And congratulations, Emma on gaining this award for the *third* season in a row!
- Best wishes to all those who have completed their tertiary studies for the semester and especially to those for whom this is their final year. We trust that the year ends with success.



Scripture Challenge

I have a sense that there are many who, like me started well (well perhaps well-ish) but who are fading. I encourage you to hang in there. This month you will be into the books of Acts, maybe Romans, and even First Corinthians. I will provide more detail for Corinthians next month.

Acts of the Apostles

This is the second half of Luke's Gospel. It is a follow up to what Jesus began to do and teach while on earth and is a record of what Jesus continued to do and teach through his church as it was guided by the Holy Spirit and lead by the Apostles. Acts tells how the gospel spread from Jerusalem and ultimately reached Rome, the capital of the Roman Empire. This was through the Spirit lead efforts of the Apostles and early disciples. Much of their work is untold. Among that which is recorded are stories about the Apostle Peter and that of a Jewish rabbi called Saul. This rabbi was converted in a dramatic fashion near Damascus and Paul, as he is

known became a missionary making three extensive trips eventually ending up in Rome. Details of his travel also appear in Acts.

Romans

The letter is one that Paul wrote to the church in Rome. It is Paul's longest letter and his most influential. Although we don't know what its impact was on the Christians in Rome to whom it was written, we do know that there are many whose lives have been changed through reading the letter throughout the subsequent centuries. It was written in the winter and early spring of 56-57 CE while Paul was staying in Corinth. The church in Rome began within the Jewish community but activity within that community drew the attention of the Claudius, Caesar of the time. An edit issued by Claudius in 41 CE told the Jews to adhere to their ancestral way of life while another edit of 49CE ordered the expulsion of the Jews from Rome. Paul's letter of 57 CE therefore went to a church which included many who had initially left but subsequently returned. However, the expulsion had resulted in a change in the composition of the church in Rome so that it was now a predominantly Gentile church. As you read the letter remember Paul wrote, with among other things a goal of recruiting to assist with his missionary work in Spain. The letter is a synthesis of the gospel of Jesus Christ which Paul had preached for many years.

Lectionary:

5 Nov. Joshua 3:7-17 Psalm 107:1-7,33-37 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13
Matthew 23:1-12
12 Nov. Joshua 24:1-3a,14-25 Psalm 78:1-7 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Matthew 25:1-13
19 Nov. Judges 4:1-7 Psalm 123 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Matthew 25:14-30
26 Nov. Ezekiel 34:11-16,20-24 Psalm 100 Ephesians 1:15-23
Matthew 25:31-46
3 Dec. Isaiah 64:1-9 Psalm 80:1-7,17-19 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 Mark 13:24-37



A big Thank You to my St. Margaret's friends
for your support, and kindness to me. It has
been very much appreciated.

Pat Rainey

WHAT'S ON?

- **Calling all those who love to sing**, join the St. Margaret's occasional choir for our Christmas music service on 17th December. If you've never sung in a choir before, we're a good place to start. We'd love to see you. Practices are Thursdays 7.30 to 8.30 from 29 November. Enquiries: Pat Lerwill 9380374 or Marilyn Anderson 5278601.
- **Afternoon Fellowship** meets on Wednesday 1 November 1.30 p.m. in the church lounge. All ladies very welcome.
- **Evening Fellowship** - Wednesday 8 November, 7.30 p.m. in the church lounge. After a very enjoyable and successful games evening earlier in the year, it has been decided to repeat the occasion. All are very welcome to join in this very informal evening.
- **December Christmas Dinner** - The Evening Fellowship invite all women to join them for a Christmas meal, 6.00 p.m. Wednesday 13 December - Te Marua Golf Club. Cost \$30.00 pre-paid no later than Sunday 3 December to Joyce Castle, Jacqueline Kitchen or Hazel O'Brien. Car pooling will be arranged.
- **Well Made Craft Fair** - Saturday 11 November 10.00 - 2.00. Expressions, Fergusson Drive, Upper Hutt. All who are interested in handcrafts of every conceivable kind, this is the event for you. See Jacqueline Kitchen with her marmalade and Hazel O'Brien with cards & homemade gifts.



Church Building Project

Yes the builders are on site and have started with the renovations. This will mean inconvenience at times, and possibly frustration, but remember it is a construction site and we are very fortunate that we can still use the premises.

If you find that something is not working, or you are unhappy about a situation, under no circumstances approach the builder - there are proper channels to go through and the last thing we want to do is upset the builders.

Contact Clive McGovern
971.5886



Children, Youth & Families @ St. Margaret's NOVEMBER 2017

GIRLS' BRIGADE

Prize Giving is on Tuesday 14 November, starting 6.30 pm.

We are doing another fundraising – butter chicken sauce and roti this time! Keep an eye on the notice board in the foyer for details.



Come on, all
friends,
classmates,
neighbours,
families and join
the Messy Church
Christmas.

Friday 8 December 5.00pm – 6.30pm

CHRISTMAS is coming fast, and so is our Christmas Messy Church.

Did you know it takes Tasi and the ever amazing Messy Church Kitcheners, the Messy Church Team (all fantastically amazingly creative people) and our amazing lot of helpers, to produce a Messy Church standout event - about **30 fabulous St. Margaret's people altogether!** If you've never been before, do come and bring a friend.

Guaranteed fun for all, great food, an unexpectedly random celebration and much laughter.

All welcome.

Any enquiries, contact Delena 9776338

CONTACTS

Sunday School, Rosenda – 5289851

Pause Group, Jo - 021616376

Playgroup, Pat – 9380374

Messy Church, Delena - 9776338

Youth Group, Sian - 0273631315 and Jo - 021616376

Girls Brigade, Delwyn – 9769116 and Emma - 0210 822 0990

CHRISTMAS BAKING AND TOYS

Preliminary Notice

Last year in December, St. Margaret's collected toys and baking for Family Works to distribute to the families who use their services. We wanted to find a way to help families who are needing a bit of extra cheer at this time of year. Family Works in Upper Hutt is part of Presbyterian Support Central, and work providing parenting support and education, dispute resolution, social work, strengthening families, providing courses and resources for new settlers and youth programmes. work, strengthening families, support groups and courses, new settlers and youth programmes. There are some leaflets in the church and the website is familyworkscentral.org.nz.

Everyone loves to celebrate at Christmas. It is important that all families are able to build happy memories, and we all know, food and gifts go hand in hand at Christmas.

More details next month. Pat Lerwill

Projects you might like to help out with

- Over the years St. Margaret's has supported the Hutt Hospital Special Care Baby Unit with donations of knitted garments for premature babies and quilts. This is an ongoing project - Hazel O'Brien has patterns approved by the Special Care Unit. Pure wool only please.
- More recently we have been supporting the Heart Unit at Wellington Hospital with heart cushions for patients who have undergone heart surgery. Again Hazel O'Brien has the pattern and more details for this project.
- Twiddlemuffs. You may remember that St. Margaret's women knitted Twiddlemuffs for the dementia patients at Hutt Hospital. They were so enthusiastic that we ended up with far too many and no home to take them to. However, Elderslea Hospital in Upper Hutt were delighted with our large sack full and now Fergusson Home would like a few. Please don't get too enthusiastic this time, but we could do with a few to help Fergusson Home out. Contact Hazel



Rosters

Morning Tea

- 5 Nov. Lorna Moir/Lois Row
- 12 Lin Coleman/Karen Coleman
- 19 Lynley McInnarney/Shirley Main
- 26 Lynn Russell/Pam Hurly
- 3 Dec. Loretta Hastie/Jacqueline Kitchen

Setting Up the Church

- 5 Nov. Lea & Stewart Turner
- 12 Ruth & Arthur Mackinder
- 19 West Family
- 26 Heather-Lee & Malcolm
- 3 Dec. McInnarney family

Lawn Mowing

- 4 Nov. Richard Harrison
- 18 Mike McInnarney
- 2 Dec. Chris Upton

Data Projector

- 5 Nov. Lynley McInnarney
- 12 Scott Taylor-Hall
- 19 Blair McInnarney
- 26 David Lottering
- 3 Dec. Trevor English



Wandering in the Desert

Q: Why did Moses wander in the desert for 40 years?

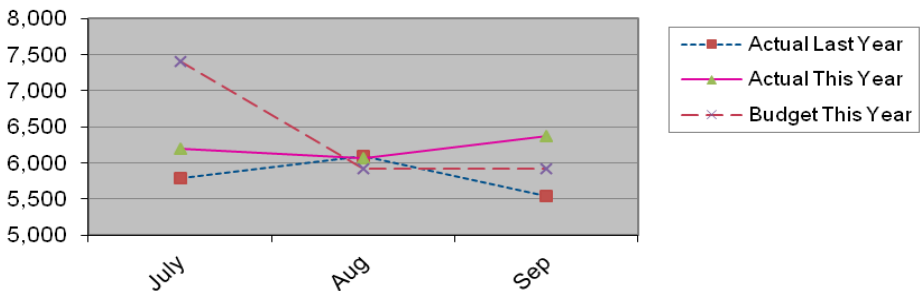
A: Even then men wouldn't ask for directions!

Report from Board Of Managers

Giving Analysis By Months 3 months July - September 2017

Month	No. of Sundays	Actual Last Year	No. of Sundays	Actual This Year	Budget This Year	Surplus(Deficit) This Year
July	4	5,788.60	5	6,192.50	7,404.00	(1,211.50)
Aug	5	6,089.10	4	6,071.71	5,923.00	148.71
Sep	4	5,538.50	4	6,371.60	5,923.00	448.60
	13	17,416.20	13	18,635.81	19,250.00	(614.19)

Budget Giving for 12 months to 30 June 2018 \$77,000 as approved by the congregation at the AGM and does not include any contributions toward the Earthquake Redevelopment Fund.



Earthquake Redevelopment Fund - A donation of \$135.00 was received increasing the balance of the Fund to \$68,005.74 at 30 September 2017.

Lounge Roof - The roofing contractor has still not inspected the roof.

Plant Sale - Thank you to everyone who helped, and a special thank you to Lorna Moir who organized it all. The day was beautiful and brought out the crowds, with a steady stream of people throughout the morning. Most of the plants were bought on the day, and subsequently. \$1,449.00 net was raised on the day, and since then a further \$73.00 was added to the total. A great effort by all.

November 2017

Minister: Rev. Chris Rosanowski 971.7530
Acting Session Clerk: Malcolm Foster 563.7436
Website: <http://stmargaretschurch.net.nz>
Hall Bookings: Carol McConnell 527.9462

Family Team: Contact the Minister
Facebook: St. Margaret's Family Page

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Aftn.Fellowship Session	2 Play Group Wgt.Watchers	3	4
5 Communion	6 Friendship Ctr	7 Girls' Brigade	8 Evg.Fellowship	9 Play Group Wgt.Watchers	10	11
12 Morn. Worship Shared lunch	13 Friendship Ctr	14 Girls' Brigade Prize Giving	15 Bd. Managers	16 Play Group Wgt.Watchers	17	18
19 Morn. Worship	20 Friendship Ctr <i>Newsletter deadl</i>	21	22	23 Play Group Wgt.Watchers	24	25
26 Morn. Worship	27 Friendship Ctr	28	29	30 Play Group Wgt.Watchers		
	Remember ... Any queries regarding the building project Contact Clive McGovern 971.5886 Do not approach the building team					