



ST MARGARET'S
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SILVERSTREAM

NEWSLETTER
MARCH 2020

Someone must have prayed ...

I was troubled in my heart, was anxious and afraid -

but suddenly the cloud was lifted ...

someone must have prayed ...

I was lost - uncertain of the choice that should be made -

then all at once I knew the answer.

Someone must have prayed.

Someone must have prayed for me.

Prayer changes things I know -

so try to win the love of all as through the world you go.

Being loved you'll be remembered in somebody's prayer -

and the blessing you'll receive, someday, somehow, somewhere

In a crisis unseen powers will hasten to your aid -

and when it's over you will say -

Someone must have prayed.

Greetings

Just the other day I picked up a wee book by William Willimon entitled “Thank God it’s Friday” with the intent of using it as a basis for a Lenten study. The book has a focus on the seven “last words” Jesus spoke from the cross. The first of those is the sentence “Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.”

Jesus has gone through the injustice of a sham trial, suffered physical punishment, the agony of crucifixion together with the humiliation that all of this represents. Yet while hanging on the cross Jesus asks that those involved be forgiven whether they be perpetrators or bystanders, soldiers or disciples. You could say that Jesus was acting as a defence lawyer arguing that his clients ignorance was the reason that they should be forgiven. Those of us with some understanding of legal process know that ignorance is rarely an acceptable defence. So perhaps this statement of Jesus is worthy of some deeper consideration

Willimon observes in the opening chapter of his book that most of his own life he has spent trying to figure out what it is he is doing. Now this is from someone who was a professor of ministry at a Divinity School, a former dean of the chapel at Duke University and has been the North Alabama United Methodist Conference Bishop. It is hard to buy into the idea that William Willimon didn’t know what he was doing. But if the converse is true and that someone as clever as he can’t work out what he is doing, what hope for the rest of us, I pondered.

However his statement struck a chord. Willimon claimed he didn’t know what he was doing. From my own perspective and on a very, very much smaller scale I still hadn’t resolved a Lenten study topic. Lent is an opportunity for us to exercise as a deliberate activity some additional spiritual disciplines. Now that might include reading of Scriptures, more time spent in prayer or in using a different type of prayer or it might be that you give up something for Lent - some sort of food is often chosen. Whatever you choose to do there is an opportunity to do it deliberately over the next forty or so days prior to Easter.

But like Willimon perhaps, I am still unsure what to do – well at least for a Lenten study anyway. So my invitation is that if you are interested in a Lenten study can you let me know. Oh and by the way if you are interested in a Bible study the group that are doing the Bible Challenge would welcome new Challengers. Again just contact me.

May your Lenten period be one of growing, learning and knowing more about God and our advocate - God’s son. Blessings to you all.



Chris

Personal Notes

- Our condolences to
 - Shirley Harrison in the recent loss of her brother. Shirley, you, Richard and the family are in our prayers.
 - Condolences also to Trevor Bryan on the recent death of his wife Anne. Anne, along with Trevor, were involved with the Monday friendship group while Anne's grand daughter, Emma is involved in Girls Brigade both of which meet at St Margaret's. A funeral for Anne was held on Tuesday 25 February also at St Margaret's. Our thoughts and prayers are also for Anne's family.
- We think of Alison Nydam as she recovers from a spell in hospital after a fall.
- Best wishes to all of our tertiary students as they resume the academic year. Enjoy a year of learning, of challenge, and of success.

Corona virus - The health and safety team has discussed the potential impact that the arrival of the virus may have for us at St Margaret's. Just what our plan will contain will largely depend on the timing of the arrival of the virus in New Zealand and the advice given by health officials. However, our plan would not just be for ourselves but how we might help the wider community. At this stage there is no cause for concern but should that change we will let you know.

Lectionary

1 March	Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7	Psalm 32	Romans 5:12-19	Matthew 4:1-11
8	Genesis 12:1-4a	Psalm 121	Romans 4:1-5,13-17	John 3:1-17
15	Exodus 17:1-7	Psalm 95	Romans 5:1-11	John 4:5-42
22	1 Samuel 16:1-13	Psalm 23	Ephesians 5:8-14	John 9:1-41
29	Ezekiel 37:1-14	Psalm 130	Romans 8:6-11	John 11:1-45
5 April	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Psalm 118:1-2,19-29	Philippians 2:5-11	Matthew 21:1-11

Session Notes:

Mission Plan 2020

The process of developing a new Mission Plan for St Margaret's began in June last year when members of the congregation were invited to complete a survey that asked us to describe what we had seen, felt and heard during our recent involvement in church activities.

A group then worked with Susan Blaikie, the Presbytery Central Mission Catalyst, using the survey responses to identify the things that are important to us (our values) and setting aspiration goals that would support those values.

During Sunday services in February and March, members of Session will be introducing each of the five sections of the Mission Plan. Copies will be available for you to take away and consider in more detail.

The plan will need to be implemented progressively and we will need to develop action plans for achieving the various goals. If you have comments, questions or suggestions, please talk to Chris or a member of Session. We would be delighted to have your input!

Family worker role

No applications have been received for this position. Work is underway to review the advertisement and the job description ready for re-advertising shortly. If you have any suggestions or know anybody who may be interested please speak to Sheryn Jacques, Pat Lerwill or Delena West.



World Day of Prayer Service -

1.00 p.m. Friday 6 March at St. Mary's Anglican Church, Terminus Street, Silverstream.

This year's service material has been prepared by the World Day of Prayer Committee of Zimbabwe, Southern Africa, and the theme is 'Rise! Take Your Mat and Walk'. Members of St. Margaret's, and Our Lady

of Grace will join with St. Mary's in presenting this service. Offerings will be used to support projects in Zimbabwe and New Zealand, as well as contribute towards local and International World Day of Prayer. Everyone; women, men, children are invited to attend the service which will be followed by afternoon tea.



How do you receive this newsletter? If you are receiving a printed copy of the newsletter and have email, would you consider switching to our email distribution list? Advantages: You receive the newsletter earlier; it is in colour; photos are much clearer and it is environmentally friendly. It also helps to keep down the parish costs. Contact Hazel - hazmic.ob@xtra.co.nz

For those who do not have email or wish to continue with the 'snail mail' copy that is fine.

Spare copies of the newsletter - There are a few spare copies left on the Warren table in the foyer of the church for visitors or new comers to the church. Please do not take these copies in lieu of running off your own at home, if you get the newsletter by email.

Have you changed your physical address in the last 6 months or more Please let Hazel O'Brien know your new address so we can keep the parish roll up to date.



Name tags: Everyone should have a name tag by now and if yours is missing or for whatever reason you don't have a name tag please contact Hazel O'Brien. In fairness to people new to the parish, please wear them each Sunday. You know them, but it's hard for new people to get to know everyone at once. We want everyone to be part of our family and get to know each other by name.

WINTER WARMERS

Saturday 9 May 10.00am - 1.00pm

Can you please help with:

Used warm clothing; new clothing (scarves, socks, gloves, slippers, beanies); manchester (blankets, duvets, sheets, towels); books, puzzles, toys; jams, pickles, preserves; soups for sale and for cafe (and slices for cafe); pre cooked meals and any other items that would make winter more bearable.

(We cannot accept electrical goods)

We would appreciate help sorting beforehand and on the day.

We would also be grateful if you could hold your goods until nearer the time.

Jacqueline Kitchen (5282113 or 0274546262) would love to hear from you.



Children, Youth & Families @ St.Margaret's March 2020

GIRLS' BRIGADE

Girls' Brigade has had a good start to 2020. We have lost a few girls but are thrilled to have a bunch of new ones. On our first night back we had a great team building game - who could make the tallest tower out of paper towel rolls and newspaper.



We think the girls did extremely well!

We had pancakes on Shrove Tuesday and have started our badgework for the year - lots of exciting things happening!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

It has been wonderful to see all our children back at St Margaret's!

PLAY GROUP

Play Group is bouncing along again with 2 new helpers - Lorna Moir and Anne Lovell-Smith. Their wealth of experience and ability to fit in effortlessly is greatly appreciated. With Chris Scotton, Ainsley Andrews, Jacqueline Kitchen and the pop-ins of Chris Rosanowski, we can now have turns to go on holiday when needed.

A big thank you to Ray Betteridge for his making of a temporary gate so that our pre-schoolers can play outside at last. The children love to ride and run free. Now there is a barrier, supervision is much easier and another health and safety question is sorted.

YOUTH GROUP

Youth Group has started well this year with a good number of awesome young people coming each week. We are following the material Chris uses on a Sunday, with Chris providing some great discussion points and questions to ponder. We have a great group of young people who have some thoughtful discussion each week over food!

Youth Group has been asked to organise a competition to name the various rooms we have at the church so watch this space as they come up with how they want to run this.

OTHER BITS AND PIECES:

Family Picnic and Games evening

The families team met to start the year and have organised a family picnic and games evening for Friday 3 April from 6pm at the church for our whole church family. BYO picnic and be ready for some fun!

Warrant of Fitness Training

As part of our commitment to our young people, all of those working with our children and young people are required to undergo the Presbyterian Youth Ministries Warrant of Fitness safety training. Some of our leaders have had the chance to do this and the remainder will be taking part in this over the next month or so.

Child Protection Officer

Delena West has been appointed the Child Protection Officer for St Margaret's, this is a role that we are required to have under the policies of PCANZ. If you have any queries about this or if you are concerned about any of our children and young people or those working with them please feel free to contact Delena on 021332449 or [email delenawest6@gmail.com](mailto:delenawest6@gmail.com).

CONTACTS

Sunday School Nikki - 5288106
Delena 9776338

Playgroup Pat – 9380374

Girls Brigade Delwyn – 9769116 and Emma - 0210 822 0990

Youth Group Jo - 021616376 or



REPORT FROM THE BOARD OF MANAGERS

July 2019 - January 2020 (7 Months)

	Actual January Month	Actual 7 mths YTD	Budget 7 mths YTD	Surplus (Deficit) Actual 7 mths v Budget	Projected Year Revised
Offering	6,994	51,872	52,500	(628)	87,182
General Donations	50	6,400	13,125	(6,725)	12,233
Donation & Grant Family Worker		see note below			
Fundraising	-	23,471	22,500	971	25,000
Hall Use (excl GST)	-	3,403	1,750	1,653	5,000
Other incl. Interest	-	2,367	1,900	467	8,260
Total Income	7,044	87,512	91,775	(4,263)	137,675
Expenses (excl GST)	9,200	100,242	96,517	(3,725)	161,110
Surplus (Deficit)	(2,157)	(12,730)	(4,742)	(7,988)	(23,435)

Notes:

The Budget figures are based on the amounts approved at the AGM, generally divided into 12 equal months, except where some items such as Fundraising occur at specific times during the year.

The Projected Year Revised figures have been drawn from a combination of Actual results for the 7 Months YTD and a review of expectations for the remaining future months. The Budget for General Donations was originally set at \$22,500 and approved at the AGM after lengthy debate. It was recognized at the meeting that this would present a significant challenge to the congregation but the level of Donations actually received to date has caused Managers to reduce the final expectation for the year to \$12,233.

Fundraising Actual is made up of:

Downton Abbey Film evening	500
Plants sale (net of Plants cost)	2,619
Annual Fair	13,475
All Things Christmas	<u>6,877</u>
	<u>23,471</u>

Donation & Grant Family Worker \$25,000 was received in September 2019. This income and expenditure have now both been removed from the above figures as it is considered unlikely the funds will be spent this financial year (ending 30 June 2020) and the \$25,000 has now been set aside in a separate fund.

Tax Rebates for Donations - As advised in earlier Newsletters, IRD will provide Rebates of up to 33c in \$ for Donations. To be eligible for Rebate in the current Tax Year, Donations have to be received by 31 March 2020.

Christian World Service Christmas Appeal - Contributions via the special appeal envelopes together with the Christmas Day offering amounted to \$958.20. This has been forwarded to CWS and Official Receipts should be available shortly.

ROSTERS

Morning Tea

- 1 Mar. Pam Hurly/Chris Scotton
- 8 Riek Kleinjan/Lyn Russell
- 15 Jeanette & Clive McGovern
- 22 Marion Geistmann/Jacqueline Kitchen
- 29 Ruth Mackinder/Debbie Chote
- 5 Apr Youth Group

Church Cleaning

- 1 Mar. Alison McLeod-Jones
- 8 Rosenda Upton
- 15 Margaret Opray
- 22 Carol McConnell
- 29 Shirley Harrison
- 5 April Fono Williams

Lawns

- 14 Mar. Chris Upton
- 28 Clive McGovern
- 11 Apr. Ben Ryan

Audio Visual

- 1 Mar. Alfred Enslin
- 8 Lee Don
- 15 Lynley McInnarney
- 22 Scott Taylor-Hall
- 29 Hazel O'Brien
- 5 Apr. David Lottering

What's On

- **Afternoon Fellowship** - Wednesday 4 March, 1.30 p.m. in the lounge. If you missed the chance to hear Lorna Moir speak about her trip to the Holy Land at Evening Fellowship, here is another opportunity. Look forward to you joining us.
- **Evening Fellowship** - Wednesday 11 March, 7.30 p.m. in the lounge. Our speaker will be Dagmar from the Herb Society. Lorna Moir gave us a very interesting review of her recent trip to the Holy Land at our February meeting.
- **Scrapbooking & card-making group.** Sunday 22 March in the church lounge commencing at 12.00 noon until approximately 3.00 p.m. BYO lunch. We will be making cards and/or arranging personal photos in our modern albums. Cost \$2.50. Visitors very welcome. Enquiries to Pam Hurly 528.5461.

St. Margaret's Easter Choir

We'd love you to join us in rehearsals

Thursdays 19, 26 March, 2 April
7.30-8.30pm in the church
 for the
Easter Music Service
Sunday 5 April 10.00 a.m.

If you need further details,
 contact Pat 938 0374 or Marilyn 527 8601



A big thank you to the Sunday School and Youth Group who refurbished our butterfly. It looks magnificent.



The Upper Hutt Housing Trust was formed two years ago as a Christian response to the homelessness experienced by citizens of Upper Hutt.

The Trust leases around twenty properties and sleeps over 50 homeless people every night in Upper Hutt. There is also a large waiting list of mainly families who are in despair because of the severe shortage of rentals that they are able to afford. They are usually sleeping on floors of relatives homes with their children sleeping with other relatives. Having a home is a basic need and to be homeless puts a big strain on the person's mental health and physical health.

Our tenants are very grateful for the accommodation we provide and the support to help them to recover and regain their strength and energy to start a new life.

The Trust has offices at 68 Ward Street in the old VIBE rooms. This space will allow us to develop the skill sets for groups of tenants in areas such as cooking, job seeking, budgeting. Speakers will also be able to visit groups of tenants there to address specialist subjects.

For further information please contact

Judy Dixon Secretary

970 7169 or 022 043 4703 or admin@uhht.org.nz

Each year St. Margaret's holds a very successful Fair and we are looking for either one or two people to convene the Fair which will be held on Saturday 7 November.

All the information regarding stall holders, hiring tents, publicity and much more has been well documented.

Please give this your urgent consideration.

Contact Marilyn 527.8601

Margaret Opray 976.9108

for more information

**We need
your
talent**

March 2020

Minister: Rev. Chris Rosanowski 971.7530
Session Clerk: Marilyn Anderson 527.8601
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 Communion	2 Friendship Ctr	3 Girls' Brigade	4 Aftn.Fellowship Session	5 Play Group	6	7
8 Morn. Worship Shared lunch	9 Friendship Ctr	10 Girls' Brigade Probus	11 Evg.Fellowship	12 Play Group	13	14
15 Morn. Worship	16 Friendship Ctr	17 Girls' Brigade	18 Bd.Managers	19 Play Group Choir Practice	20	21
22 Morn. Worship Scrapbooking & cardmaking	23 Friendship Ctr	24 Girls' Brigade	25	26 Play Group Choir Practice	27	28
29 Morn. Worship	30 Friendship Ctr	31 Girls' Brigade				

Services at Retirement Homes - Manor Park 5 March; Summerset 13 March; Heretaunga 24 March
All at 11.00 a.m.