



# ST MARGARET'S

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SILVERSTREAM

## NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2021

And the people stayed home,  
And read books, and listened,  
and rested, and exercised,  
and made art, and played games,  
and grew gardens full of fresh food,  
and learned new ways of being,  
and were still.

And listened more deeply.  
Some meditated, some prayed,  
some danced.  
Some met their shadows.  
And the people began to think  
differently.

And the people healed.  
And, in the absence of people  
living in ignorant, dangerous, mindless,  
and heartless ways,  
the earth began to heal.

And when the danger passed,  
and the people joined together again,  
they grieved their losses,  
and made new choices,  
and dreamed new images,  
and created new ways to live  
and heal the earth fully,  
as they had been healed.

'In the Time of Pandemic'  
by Kitty O'Meara



The Salvation Army  
100, Young & Simons  
Barnard's Inn

Greetings everyone.

You will have noticed that

*'The Spring is sprung, the grass is riz'*

and none of us will be wondering where the birdies is because the tuis are in the kowhai trees, the kereru are eating the shoots on the fruit trees, and the other birds are singing a very loud dawn chorus each day. And we love it.

I do like Spring but it is not my favourite season. It is unreliable and has cold winds and keeps throwing us miserable days when we are wanting beautiful warm days. But what Spring does for us is give us hope that the cold and gloom of Winter is going and summer will come.

We all look for signs of hope in all sorts of places and in all sorts of ways. In these Covid19 days we wait to hear the new numbers of cases each day and when the numbers go down we are hopeful that they mean that we are winning the battle. The problem is that the numbers fluctuate, but we are assured by those who must know more than us that we are winning. Sometimes we go through hard patches in our families and lose someone we love. But then there is a new baby and we all cheer up.

We need hope and good cheer in our lives, but we can have too much of a good thing. One year when I was a school chaplain I decided that through the winter months I would publish a cheerful and encouraging thought every Monday in the morning notices. After a few weeks, one of the men on the staff came to me and said 'If you don't stop this 'Pollyannaish' behaviour I will have to kill you!' He didn't mean it of course but a cheer germ can get very irritating. I'm sure though that he would have been just as unhappy or even more so if I'd been all doom and gloom.

Christians are known as people of hope. We believe that no one is beyond redemption. We believe that one day we will see God's kingdom established when the world will be as God wants it to be. Hang onto that hope and do your part to bring in the kingdom. Care for others, be generous as you are able, give others the benefit of the doubt, and share God's love every day.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lynn".

**Personal:**

- Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of Marjory Johnson who died on 2 September and also the family of Anna Alkema who died on 9 September.
- We are also thinking of Bruce Whiteley's twin sons Stephen & Robert and family. Bruce died peacefully in New Plymouth Hospice on 28 September.
- We wish Diane Pratt a speedy recovery after her operation.
- We also wish Pam Hurly a speedy recovery after her hip operation due in October.
- Wendy Amies has been in hospital with a broken shoulder but is now home. We wish you a speedy recovery Wendy.

**Lectionary:**

3 Oct Ruth 1:1-18 Mark 12:28-34 Hebrews 9:11-14  
 10 Genesis 1:1-25 John 1:1-14 Romans 1:18-23  
 17 Genesis 1:26-28 Mark 10:41-45 Philippians 2:1-8  
 24 Jeremiah 4:23-28 Mark 15:33-39 Philippians 2:14-18  
 31 Isaiah 65:17-25 Mark 16:14-18 Romans 8:28-39  
 7 Nov. Ruth 3:1-5, 4:13-17 Mark 12:38-44 Hebrews 9:24-28



**ST. MARGARET'S ANNUAL GENERAL  
MEETING**

**Wednesday (date to be confirmed) 7.30 p.m.  
in the Church Lounge**

**Copies of the Annual Report will be emailed  
out nearer the time. Please bring your  
copy with you.**



**ANNUAL TOMATO PLANT SALE**  
**ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH**  
**DUNNS STREET, SILVERSTREAM**

**SATURDAY 16 OCTOBER 2021**  
**9.00 - 12.00 NOON**

**LARGE VARETY OF PLANTS AND**  
**GARDEN ACCESSORIES**



## **ANNUAL TOMATO PLANT SALE**

- Volunteers are needed for the Friday afternoon and evening to put up the tables and bring the plants in for display and, as usual, to name the plants. Usually only the box is named. I will be at the hall from 2. 00 pm thank you.
- Volunteers needed for the Saturday from around 8-9.00 a.m. to help with the sales and the clean up.
- Small shoe box size boxes for the plants please

Thank you

Lorna

Jacqueline Kitchen will have her jams at the Plant Sale but if you are desperate in the meantime, please contact her. (528.2113)

Seville orange marmalade  
 Grapefruit marmalade  
 Double orange (navel & Seville)  
 Grapefruit, oranges & lemon

450g jars \$3.00



### **CANCELLED ....**

- No Afternoon Fellowship in October.
- No Evening Fellowship in October.

## **Battery recycling trial in Upper Hutt**

You can now recycle your household batteries at free collection points in Upper Hutt.

If you have small household batteries, from devices like tv remotes, torches, and hearing aids you can recycle them, for free, and avoid them being sent to landfill.

This trial is an initiative lead by Council, in partnership with Upcycle and local businesses.

### **Domestic batteries accepted**

Alkaline, lithium, coin, nickel cadmium, nickel hydride, silver oxide, carbon zinc, zinc manganese, lead acid, lithium ion and lithium polymer.

Please tape the top of lithium and lead acid batteries to avoid short circuits.

### **Collection buckets located at**

- Mitre 10 MEGA Upper Hutt
- New World Silverstream
- The Warehouse Upper Hutt
- The Ekko Shop Upper Hutt
- Hearing Consultants Upper Hutt
- PAK'nSAVE Upper Hutt
- Jock's Vapes (vape battery recycling)

## **2021 FAIR POSTPONEMENT**

Many will have heard by now, but for those who have not I would like to advise you that the Fair Committee has decided to postpone the Fair for 2021. This decision was made given that we would not be able to run the Fair under Delta Alert Level 2 restrictions, uncertainty about when we might move to Delta Alert Level 1.

It is the Committee's intention to run a small-scale Fair early in 2022 as an alternative community-focussed fundraising activity. The exact date and format of this event will be determined once we have official confirmation of a move to Delta Alert Level 1. Additionally, the committee will continue planning for the full-scale Fair you are familiar with for October 2022.

Further details will be provided in due course, and your support and assistance will be greatly appreciated.

**Dean Paul - Fair Convenor**

## REPORT FROM BOARD OF MANAGERS

### Statement of Financial Performance

Actual v budget 2 months July - August 2021

	Aug-21	Total	Budget	Gain (Loss) Actual v Budget
	Mth	2 Mths YTD	2 Mths	2 Mths
<b><u>INCOME</u></b>				
<b>Giving</b>				
Envelopes	765	1,920		
Automatic Payments	7,674	13,868		
	8,439	15,788	15,833	(45)
Loose	57	254	333	(79)
Donations General	100	700	1,667	(967)
	8,596	16,742	17,833	(1,091)
<b>Fund Raising - see below</b>	45	195	-	195
<b>L&amp;R Snell Trust</b>		-	-	-
<b>Interest</b>	0	0	-	0
<b>Church &amp; Hall hire</b>	522	783	833	(51)
<b>Mission - Bible Society</b>	-	170	300	(131)
<b><u>Total Income</u></b>	9,163	17,889	18,967	(1,077)
<b><u>EXPENSES</u></b>				
<b>Administration</b>	899	3,621	3,685	64
<b>Christian Education</b>	-	582	600	18
<b>Ministry</b>	4,622	12,558	13,080	522
<b>Mission Incl. Pinehaven School</b>	249	249	-	(249)
<b>Property Expenses</b>	565	1,097	1,438	340
<b><u>Total Expenses</u></b>	6,335	18,107	18,803	695
<b><u>Net Surplus(Deficit)</u></b>	2,828	(218)	164	(382)
<b>Fund Raising analysis</b>				
Winter Warmers	45	195	-	195
	45	195	-	195

Funds available for general operation amounted to \$72,999.35 at 31 August 2021.

The Budget is based on the figures being presented to the congregation for approval at the AGM.

Not included above are the contributions made by members of the congregation toward Rev. Chris Rosanowski's retirement (\$70 in June and \$1,765 in July 2021) and the payment to him of \$1,835.



## Children, Youth & Families @ St.Margaret's October 2021

### PLAY GROUP

We hope to be see our families back at St Margaret's when we return to Level 1. Till then, keep safe and enjoy school holidays.

### GIRLS' BRIGADE

Unfortunately due to Covid restrictions Girls' Brigade have not met since Lockdown. We are hoping to be back in Term 4 - Tuesday 19 October.

### CONTACTS

**Sunday School** Nicki - 5288106      **Playgroup** Ainsley - 5278090  
**Youth Group** Jo - 021616376 or Delena 9776338  
**Girls Brigade** Delwyn – 9769116 and Emma - 0210 822 0990



## **Rosters (subject to the church being open)**

### **Morning Tea**

10 Oct. Ruth Mackinder/Pat Lerwill  
 17 Lorna Moir/Lynley McInnarney  
 24 Fiona Glover/Jacqueline Kitchen  
 31 Debbie Chote/Jan Hill  
 7 Nov. Sue Taylor/Delwyn Frederikson

### **Church Cleaning**

10 Oct. Rosenda Upton  
 17 Ainsley Andrews  
 24 Carol McConnell  
 31 Margaret Opray  
 7 Nov. Helen Bassett

### **Audio Visual**

10 Oct. David Lottering  
 17 Alfred Enslin  
 24 Scott Taylor-Hall  
 31 Lynley McInnarney  
 7 Nov. David Lottering

### **Church Lawns**

2 Oct. Rhys West  
 16 Vern Bennett  
 30 Richard Harrison  
 13 Nov. Malcolm Galloway  
 (Lawns can be mowed regardless of Covid Status - except Level 4)

## **Some thoughts from our church family members who are currently overseas.**

### ***Lionel & Carole Alexander - UK***

In the UK, technically there are no restrictions now. It's left to people's 'good sense', a pretty indefinable thing! Very few people wear masks in the street, but in shops it's suggested, and often required, that people do so. When walking in the street people generally give you a wide berth (I hope it's because of Covid); and travel to and from Europe is loosening up all the time. In church we can sit spaced out in the pews, but are asked to wear masks when circulating. We've just started singing!

There is no use of a locator code in shops etc. I heard of 'track and trace' before we came home, but no sign of it here now. Apart from some use of masks, and spacing, life has almost returned to 'normal'. However many people are still working from home. Our organist, a professor at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical medicine, has only been up to town twice in 18 months. In contrast his wife is teaching in a local girls' school. They've just returned from summer hols.

Overall, the difference between the UK (if I can still call it that) is that there was a lot of dithering here at the start, in contrast to Jacinda's prompt action in imposing lockdown. 'Dithering' I think sums up the attitude of the occupant of No.10 Downing St and most of the 'government' –I use the word loosely. The result was that they have had 3 lockdowns. The one good thing that happened in the UK was a very swift action with the vaccines. Their devising and production were almost miraculous, and now I think about 85% of the population of 65 million or so have received a jab.

They're dealing with teenagers now, and talking about a third, 'booster' jab for oldies, as I think they're saying that after 6 months or so the effectiveness of the first jabs is beginning to lessen. I tend to think that because NZ was able virtually to eradicate the virus from the community it was not thought a general vaccination was particularly urgent. I don't think your govt. will think about opening your doors to visitors etc. until everyone is covered. Surely this must be a priority now.

I think the view will prevail soon that the virus is here to stay and we'll have to live with it, and maybe have annual jabs, like 'flu etc.

### ***Isabelle Rothwell - Melbourne, Australia***

#### **How you have coped with the various lockdowns?**

I have learnt to cope with the various lockdowns by not only prioritising my physical health, but also my mental health. Everyday I try to get out for a walk around the neighbourhood. Being cooped up in my apartment from 9.00 a.m. to 4 p.m. is a lot, so I really have to get out at the end of the day. As part of our dance days we do yoga and mindfulness classes, they help me to not get too overwhelmed with everything. There are moments where I find it hard to see other people living freely either back in New Zealand or elsewhere. But I also remind myself that I'm here doing what I love; yes its difficult now but it will get better.

#### **Have you been able to carry on with your studies, either in your flat/apartment?**

I have carried on dancing by turning my whole apartment upside down. I have moved all my furniture to the side so I have some space to dance. My couch is on a different wall, my table in the study nook, chairs on my bed, it definitely doesn't look normal! My makeshift studio isn't easy, dancing on carpet in a 2 meter squared space has its problems but I try to make the most of it.

#### **Have you been able to train at a venue?**

For short bursts, between lockdowns we were able to train at the Transit facilities (Transit Dance is the name of my school). It is the best feeling coming out of a lockdown and stepping foot into a studio again! It's the same excitement as if the year was starting again! But when we are in lockdown I'm back to my apartment making the most of the situation, and continuing just like I would be in the studio.

#### **What's it been like trying to study under Covid-19 restrictions?**

Masks, masks, and more masks. We have had strict rules and regulations while in the Transit facilities. Usually, straight out of lockdown you continue to wear a mask in public everywhere you go. At Transit, we wear masks everywhere until we enter a studio and start dancing. While dancing we have to have the masks on us at all times, in a pocket or on our wrist. But as soon as you have finished that class the mask is back on.

## ***Lin Coleman - COVID the UK situation Sept 2021***

I arrived in the UK 21 May 2021. The purpose of my visit was due to elderly parents who had become unwell and needed help and support

Prior to starting the journey there was a set procedure to follow which included PCR testing, passenger locator forms, proof of vaccination. The airports are no longer a place of excitement and anticipation. Travellers are anxious as are airline ground staff. I chose to travel to London Heathrow transiting via Singapore. The airport was completely quiet; no lovely shops to look at to get those anxiety levels down; everything is closed. Once on the plane, the experience was interesting. The emptiness of the flight; spacing between seats was a strange thing to see given that most of the long-haul flights are rarely empty. Singapore Airlines are known for their exceptional service and have had to adjust their procedures. No longer do you get given the lovely hot towel to refresh yourself. We were given a 1.5 litre of water, for the whole trip. Our meals brought around as normal, however there were no rounds of snacks, water fruit etc. The passengers were interesting; many wearing masks under their noses; some not wearing masks for long periods like the guy who sat opposite me gaming on his iPad with no mask picking his nose! I asked him to put a mask on which he did with no problem and apologised

On arrival in Singapore, it was nice to have a walk to the next terminal. The airport was deathly quiet. Situated throughout the airport were huge, what looked like giant cameras. They were

temperature screens. The ground staff were very strict on where you walked. Essentially you were only to walk to your next terminal, that's it; any deviation and you were quickly put into line. The experience was reassuring if not a little scary. Heathrow airport another strange experience. Getting through the terminal was a lengthy process with aviation security vigilantly checking all your papers. It a good process but I always feel like I have done something wrong and dread getting to the desk and there being a problem

I arrived in the UK and had to isolate for 5 days and complete a PCR test on day 3. Luckily this was fine, and I was free to head to my parents. The rules in the UK are like NZ. Wearing of mask at that time was mandatory. In shops its in one way out the other; cleaning stations at the entrance and of course the tracer App. The App has been less popular in the UK than in NZ. The UK App will ping you if you are near people. It thinks you might have COVID. This has resulted in many folks being pinged and asked to stay off work. It's caused no end of problems in the workplace. It appears to be not that accurate.

The health service here is very stressed; trying to see a GP is virtually impossible. Its all online so elderly folks like my parents stand no chance at all. Getting prescriptions another challenge. I had to obtain another prescription for my medication. I registered as a temporary resident - that seemed easy enough. The prescription

took ages to go through the Pharmacy; nearly 10 days! I had to constantly contact the pharmacy who would put me back to the GP then the GP would put me back to the Pharmacy. Never again, next time round I contacted my GP in NZ, got my husband to collect the meds and send them to me. That took around 10 days and was far less hassle. The NSH has done, and is doing a remarkable job given the amount of positive COVID cases here in the UK. The other impressive thing is the vaccination programme. They are now vaccinating 12-15 year-olds and are talking about rolling out a booster Jab early in the new year. Cafes, shops etc are open. We all must follow protocol of mask wearing, hand cleaning - you can only remove you mask when seated and when you have food to eat.

UK and NZ have managed COVID in the best way they can. It's a rolling feast because we really are making it up as we go along to some extent. I also

think COVID is masking some of the issues the UK is facing with Brexit. UK appears to be encouraging folks to travel overseas; they have recently stopped mask wearing being mandatory. The Government have abandoned the traffic light system for travel; you are either a high risk or a low-risk country. Is one country doing it better than the other? No, I don't think so; positives and negatives in both places.

What have I learnt? I have learnt to take a lateral flow test, quite the old hand at it now. PCR Test, not a problem. My online computer skills have improved. I have learnt tolerance and to be very patient. Everything appears to take much longer to process due to COVID. I have learnt that most folks throughout the world are trying to do their best to stay safe and keep their families safe. There is not one family either side of the world that have not been touched by a COVID experience.

## Thank you Lionel & Carole, Lin & Isabelle for sharing your experiences

<b>Interim Moderator:</b> Rev. Lynn Russell 528.2113	<b>Family Team:</b> Contact the Session Clerk
<b>Session Clerk:</b> Marilyn Anderson 527.8601	
<b>Website:</b> <a href="http://stmargaretschurch.net.nz">http://stmargaretschurch.net.nz</a>	
<b>Hall Bookings:</b> Carol McConnell 527.9462	<b>Facebook:</b> St. Margaret's Family Page

**Sun.** 3 Oct. Communion on Zoom  
**Wed.** 6 Session  
**Wed.** 20 Board of Managers

Sunday services will be subject to Covid-19 restrictions. Please watch your inbox for email updates.