



# ST MARGARET'S

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SILVERSTREAM

**NEWSLETTER**  
**DECEMBER 2021**  
**JANUARY 2022**

## Advent Prayer

God of hope,  
who brought love  
into this world,  
be the love that dwells between us.  
God of hope,  
who brought peace  
into this world,  
be the peace that dwells between us.  
God of hope,  
who brought joy  
into this world,  
be the joy that dwells between us.  
God of hope,  
the rock we stand upon,  
be the centre,  
the focus of our lives always,  
and particularly this Advent time.

(Source: John Birch, *Faith and worship*)  
<https://pilgrimwr.unitingchurch.org.au>



Dear Friends,

This is my fourth newsletter as Interim Moderator. I looked back on what I had written in the first three and saw that Covid 19 featured in each one. Right, I thought, no Covid in this one. But it's hard to ignore something that is so big in our lives. We are seeing more protests about vaccines and lockdowns and vaccine passes. And some of us are getting less tolerant of those who stand in a different place to us on these issues. Our nation is becoming more divided and I feel sad about that.

And now we are moving into the Christmas period and Covid is impacting that as well. We may not be able to get what we want to give someone as a Christmas present because of supply problems. The shelves in the shops and supermarkets are much emptier than usual. There is nothing normal about the times we are living in – not even a 'new normal' yet.

I have been remembering Christmases past with the happiness and the sadness associated with these memories. But I can't live in the past and the future seems a bit scary. Then I remembered a movie that was around about thirty years ago. Many of you will remember it – 'Dead Poet's Society' starring Robin Williams. My abiding memory from the movie is the exhortation to seize the day – 'Carpe Diem'. Maybe that is the way forward in current times. Make sure that each day is lived fully no matter what it brings. 'Mindfulness' has become a catchword for our times. But the idea behind it is that we should live life thoughtfully and with purpose, savouring each day, laughing as often as we can, and not letting the days just slide by.

And as to the future. Well, Advent has plenty of encouragement for us. The four great themes of the four weeks of Advent are Hope, Joy, Peace and Love. What better way to look to the future than with these promises before us? Imagine a world where these are the themes for every day all year, not just the 4 weeks before Christmas. Those four themes culminate in the birth of the baby in Bethlehem at Christmas. Jesus holds all four themes intertwined in his life and the life that he offers us as his followers. Christmas gives us a way into the future that equips us for anything that life throws at us. In the community of Christ, we move together supporting each other through all that comes.

We at St Margaret's look to the new year with hope for a new ministry; with the joy of our life and worship together; with the peace of God embedded in us; and with love that overflows our lives to all the people that we know and meet.

If talk of the future is hard for you, stick with the day by day approach and remember what the psalmist said "This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it" (Psalm 118:24).

May the hope, joy, peace, and love of Christ be yours this Christmas and go with you into 2022.

*Lynn*



### Personal

- For those of you who were in the parish in the 1960's, most will remember Rev. Charles Naylor who died recently age 95. Our thoughts are with his family.
- Congratulations to Clive McGovern who recently won the Wellington 10 kms track walking championships.
- We uphold Richard Donaldson in our prayers as he battles with ill health, and also Margaret as she takes on extra responsibilities and supports Richard.
- Malcolm Foster is making progress after chemo treatment and our prayers are with both Malcolm & Heather-Lee.

### Lectionary

5 Dec, Malachi 3:1-4 Luke 1:68-79 Philippians 1:3-11 Luke 3:1-6  
 12 Zephaniah 3:14-20 Isaiah 12:2-6 Philippians 4:4-7 Luke 3:7-18  
 19 Micah 5:2-5a Psalm 80:1-7 Hebrews 10:5-10 Luke 1:39-45  
 26 1 Samuel 2:18-20,26 Psalm 148 Colossians 3:12-17 Luke 2:41-52  
 2 Jan. Jeremiah 3:1-7 Psalm 147:12-20 Ephesians 1:3-14 John 1:10-18  
 9 Isaiah 43:1-7 Psalm 29 Acts 8:14-7 Luke 3:15-17,21-22  
 16 Isaiah 62:1-5 Psalm 36:5-10 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 John 2:1-11  
 23 Nehemiah 8:1-3,5-6,8-10 Psalm 19 1 Corinthians 12:13-31a  
 Luke 4:14-21  
 30 Jan Jeremiah 1:4-10 Psalm 71:1-6 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 Luke 4:21-30  
 6 Feb. Isaiah 6:1-8 Psalm 138 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 Luke 5:1-11

**The Ministry Settlement Board** have had their first meeting with Rev. Hana Popea as convenor. The members are Sheryn Jacques & Malcolm Galloway (Session reps) and Shirley Harrison, Dean Paul, Karen Coleman & Delena West (representing the congregation). In addition there are two members from Presbytery.

## **Worship At St Margaret's Under The New Covid-19 Protection Framework**

By the time we meet for worship on Sunday 6 December the new Covid19 Protection Framework (the “traffic light system”) will have come into effect across New Zealand. Different parts of the country will start off at different levels and there will be further information provided on 29 November. At this stage, we can expect to start at the “orange light” level.

Based on the information published on the government website we know that at the “orange light” level, we can expect to continue keeping attendance records and wearing masks. Up to 50 people will be able to gather in the church provided there is room for 1m distancing.

If we wish to have larger gatherings, we will be need to require vaccination certificates for all attendees. This provides a difficult dilemma for churches because we do not wish to exclude anyone from attending a worship service.

If we don't require vaccination certificates we may need to exclude some people because of the 50 person limit. If we do require vaccination certificates we will need to exclude anyone who is not fully vaccinated.

We are awaiting updated advice from the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand (PCANZ) and Session will be discussing how we proceed at its meeting on 1 December. Please support us with your prayers and understanding as we grapple with these important but uncomfortable decisions.

Marilyn Anderson (Session Clerk)

## **What's On**

- **Afternoon Fellowship Christmas lunch** - Wednesday 1 December, 12.30 p.m. at Naenae Bowling Club. Gather at 12.00 noon at the church to share transport. Please wear your masks.
- **Evening Fellowship** Christmas dinner is booked at Divine cafe, Summerset Village 6.00 p.m. Wednesday 8 December. Cost \$34.00 per person. All men & women are invited. Names and payment to Lois Rowe in advance please – no later than 5 December. In accordance with Summerset conditions, everyone must be double vaccinated.



## CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Friday 24 Dec.	Picnic (wet or fine)	6.00 p.m.
	Carols on the lawn	7.30 p.m.
	Christmas Eve service	9.15 p.m.
Saturday 25 Dec.	Christmas Day service	10.00 a.m.



## ST. MARGARET'S CHRISTMAS CHOIR

We'd love you to join us in rehearsals  
 Thursdays 2, 9, 17 December  
 7.30-8.30 p.m. in the church,  
 for the Christmas music service on  
*19 December 2021*



For further details,  
 contact Pat 938 0374 or Marilyn 527 86



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

### PLAY GROUP

Playgroup will be back next year. Merry Christmas and happy new year.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

It's so lovely to see the children back at Sunday School, even for our shorter sessions.

We are working hard to put together a pageant over the next few weeks. Please note, the children will be singing songs in church for the pageant without masks, so please let me know if you don't want your child to do this.

### Important

**dates:**

12 December – Pageant, please arrive at the lounge at 9.00 a.m.

19 December – Break up party, please bring a plate of food to share.

6 February 2022 – Sunday School commences.

### GIRLS' BRIGADE

We finally got together on Tuesday 9 November for our Prize giving - our first night back since Lockdown in August. It was lovely to see all the girls and their families.



Rose McTaggart received her Brigadier Brooch - the highest National Award. Rose and her three sisters have all received this award with 25th Hutt Valley.

Our cups for best all round girl in each group of the Company were presented to the following girls:



Grocott Cup - Juniors  
Lucinda Hillhouse



Gaudin Cup - Seniors  
Millicent Tait



Fletcher Cup - Pioneers  
Emma Bryan

Sadly it was also our last night. Our Company has closed for various reasons. A very hard decision for us to make, particularly for Delwyn who has been part of the Company when it reopened at St Andrews Church in 1977 by Sheryn Rosanowski who was Miss Chapman back then! We would like to thank St Margaret's for their support over the past 25 plus years.

## YOUTH GROUP

Congratulations to all our young people who have done well during the year, and even if you didn't win a prize, we know that you tried your best and that's the most important thing.

Dux - St. Oran's

Lucy Potter

Service Cup - St. Oran's

Isabella Upton

Academic award for

Te Reo Maori - St. Oran's

Felicity Nicol

Service Cup - St. Oran's

Mackenzie Brewer

If your name is not mentioned, please contact Hazel O'Brien and we'll make sure it's mentioned in the February newsletter.

## CONTACTS

**Sunday School** Nicki - 5288106

**Playgroup** Ainsley - 5278090

**Youth Group** Jo - 021616376 or Delena 9776338



## Rosters

### Church Cleaning

5 Dec. Margaret Opray  
 12 Shirley Harrison  
 19 Fono Williams  
 26 Rosenda Upton  
 2 Jan. Ainsley Andrews  
 9 Karen Coleman  
 16 Helen Bassett  
 23 Jan Hill  
 30 Lynley McInnarney  
 6 Feb. Jean Don



### Lawns

11 Dec. Mike McInnarney  
 24 Nick Tait  
 8 Jan. Chris Upton  
 22 Clive McGovern  
 5 Feb. Ben Ryan

### Audi Visual

5 Dec. David Lottering  
 12 Scott Taylor-Hall  
 19 Alfred Enslin  
 24 Lynley McInnarney (Chr. Eve)  
 25 Hazel O'Brien (Chr. Day)  
 26 David Lottering  
 2 Jan. Alfred Enslin  
 9 Scott Taylor-Hall  
 16 David Lottering  
 23 Hazel O'Brien  
 30 Chris Rosanowski  
 6 Feb. Alfred Enslin

### Pastoral Care at St Margaret's

As you know, St Margaret's pastoral care team are here for you. You can email us @

[Pastoralcare.StMargarets@gmail.com](mailto:Pastoralcare.StMargarets@gmail.com)

If you or someone you know would like one of our pastoral care team to be in touch, drop us a line. Emails are treated confidentially and only accessed by the pastoral care team which consists of Sheryn Jacques, Delena West, Shirley Main, Malcolm Foster, Gail Malcolmson and Peter Ritchie.

If you prefer to phone, please contact Sheryn 021936067 or Delena 021332449.



## CHRISTMAS BAKING AND TOYS FOR FAMILY WORKS

We, at St. Margaret's have a tradition of collecting toys and Christmas baking for the families who use the services of Family Works, the Presbyterian Support Central's Upper Hutt centre.

This year they have about 140 families using their services, and there has been a huge increase in requests for support throughout the year.

As we have had no fair this year, there is no bank of quality left over toys, so we are starting from scratch.

### **New or quality second hand toys, and Christmas baking are much appreciated**

There will be a carton each Sunday in the foyer of the church

### **No need to wrap toys, but donations of wrapping paper are useful**

Last day for gathering items is ***Sunday 19  
December*** for distribution the following week.



*Family Works Centre provides parenting support and education, dispute resolution, social work, strengthening families, courses and resources for new settlers and youth programmes.*

Offers of help with collection or delivery to the Centre, please contact me:

***Pat Lerwill: phone 938 0374 or email: [lerwillp@gmail.com](mailto:lerwillp@gmail.com)***



- Our Lady of Grace are having a Christmas gathering on 4 December, 2.00 p.m. at the Petit Centre, behind Our Lady of Grace Church. They ask that everyone brings a small plate if possible. Also bring a pretty cup, saucer and plate to use .

## GIFT IDEAS FOR TEACHERS, NEIGHBOURS...

Seaweed fertilizer                      2 litre bottles                      \$3.00 for 1 bottle \$5.00 for 2.  
Can be gift wrapped/ "glammed up" if required!!

Marmalade: 450g jars  
Seville orange  
Grapefruit  
Double orange (navel + Seville)  
Grapefruit, orange & lemon  
\$3.00 per jar



Jacqueline Kitchen  
027 454 6262  
5282113



## REPORT FROM BOARD OF MANAGERS

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE ACTUAL v BUDGET 4 MONTHS JULY - OCTOBER 2021

	Oct-21 Mth	Total 4 Mths YTD	Budget 4 Mths	Gain (Loss) Actual v Budget 4 Mths
<b><u>INCOME</u></b>				
<b>Giving</b>				
Envelopes	-	1,920		
Automatic Payments	6,054	26,286		
	<u>6,054</u>	<u>28,206</u>	31,667	(3,461)
Loose	-	254	667	(413)
Donations General	100	900	3,333	(2,433)
Donations Laptop Computer	-	1,000	-	1,000
	<u>6,154</u>	<u>30,360</u>	<u>35,667</u>	<u>(5,307)</u>
<b>Fund Raising - see below</b>	3,776	3,971	18,000	(14,029)
<b>L&amp;R Snell Trust</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Interest</b>	-	316	250	66
<b>Church &amp; Hall hire</b>	130	1,104	1,667	(562)
<b>Mission - Bible Society</b>	-	170	250	(81)
	<u>10,060</u>	<u>35,921</u>	<u>55,833</u>	<u>(19,913)</u>

**EXPENSES**

<b>Administration</b>	836	5,294	5,638	344
<b>Christian Education</b>	-	582	600	18
<b>Ministry</b>	732	13,890	14,917	1,026
<b>Mission Incl.Pinehaven School</b>	-	249	250	1
<b>Property Expenses</b>	4,916	6,640	11,750	5,110
<b><u>Total Expenses</u></b>	6,484	26,655	33,155	6,500
<b><u>Net Surplus(Deficit)</u></b>	3,576	9,266	22,679	(13,413)
<b>Fund Raising analysis</b>				
Fair	-	-	15,000	(15,000)
Plant Fair net of Costs	3,776	3,776	3,000	776
Winter Warmers		195	-	195
	3,776	3,971	18,000	(14,029)

Plant Fair Income October includes \$40 Ginger Beer & Masks plus \$136 Cards. Plant Costs \$1,907.85.

Funds available for general operations amounted to \$81,574.47 at 31 October 2021.

**Budget for Year ending 30 June 2022** - The Budget presented with the Annual Reports was approved at the AGM without alteration. It was accepted that since its preparation, COVID-19 issues meant that the Fair was not able to be held in its normal form and the Fund Raising Income total was therefore unlikely to be achieved. There is also uncertainty when a new Minister and/or a Family Worker will be able to be recruited which may mean that the bottom line Surplus in the Budget of \$17,000 could still be achievable.

**New Laptop Computer** - A new Laptop computer used to support Sunday Services was bought in November costing \$813.91 excluding GST (not included above). Donations amounting to \$1,000 were received in September. The surplus will be put towards a replacement Lapel Microphone.

**Live Streaming of Sunday Services** - The recent return to Church has been great for those who have been able to come but for members who cannot join us in person we have tried providing a service via ZOOM. This has highlighted a number of issues and a small team is investigating what is needed to enhance this option, not just on Sundays, but whenever the Church Audio Visual system is used.

**Insurance** - Premiums totaling \$4,396.83 excluding GST have been paid in October covering the year to 31 July 2021. The Budget was for \$6,000.

**Plant Fair** - Total takings from the Plant Fair including Ginger Beer, Masks and Cards amounted to \$3776.05 after deducting \$1,907.85 paid for the Plants.



## The End of an Era ....

In 2002 a group of people from St. Margaret's got together, including Barbara Bateman, Barry Chandler and Helen Basset and started growing tomato seedlings which were distributed around the congregation to grow on. This, some say, meant that the plants were of all sizes and not uniform.

This was the start of the Annual Plant Sale and then we started to get tomato plants from Gus Evans at the Gus Evans Nursery - Jacqueline Kitchen's brother who was born in Silverstream.

Gus sold us tomato and other plants at a very reasonable cost so that we could make a profit at the annual sale. He has now retired and has sold the land that the nursery was on. We wish him the all the best in his retirement and hope that he will enjoy it.

I have arranged the tomato plant sale for the last few years and along with the congregation who every year came together to make the Tomato Plant sale great. Before me it was Helen Basset who successfully ran the sale from the very start.

I would like to thank Gus, Barbara and Helen along with the congregation for making the Tomato Plant sale so great over the years. I am going to look for another supplier for the plants but it is unlikely that we find someone who was as generous as Gus. I will try my best.

This is the end of one Era let's hope we can start another.

Lorna Moir



**2021 - before the crowds descended!**

# December 2021

## January 2022

Interim Moderator: Rev. Lynn Russell 528.2113  
 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 Aftn.Fellowship lunch - Naenae Session	2	3	4
5 Communion	6	7	8 Evng.Fellowship dinner - Summerset	9	10	11
12 Morn.Worship S.Sch. Pageant	13	14	15 Bd. Managers	16	17	18
19 Music service S.Sch breakup party	20	21	22	23	24 Carols on lawn Christmas Eve service	25 Christmas Day service
26 Morn. Worship	27	28	29	30	31	

Services during January 10.00 a.m.