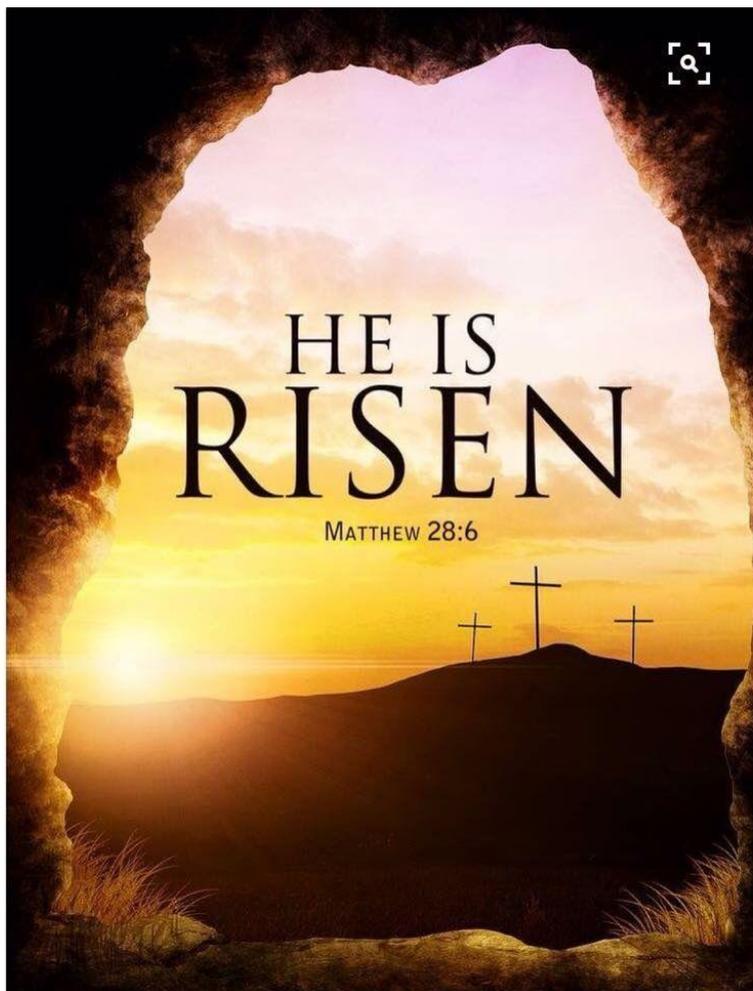




ST MARGARET'S
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SILVERSTREAM

NEWSLETTER
APRIL 2022



Dear Friends

Just in case you haven't been sure that Easter is coming, take a look around at the supermarket or the Warehouse and see the shelf upon shelf of chocolate eggs and bunnies. Hot Cross buns have been on sale for weeks now and not just the traditional ones – there are now buns with chocolate in them. This must be the most chocolatey time of the whole year. Not much good for the few of us who don't like chocolate!

I often wonder if the people buying these treats and eating them ever stop to consider why they are doing it. I guess there is some hint about new life in eggs and rabbits and the crosses on the buns might cause people to stop and think. The hollow chocolate eggs might say something about empty tombs but I doubt it.

Some of us are old enough to remember how, as Easter got closer, there was often an article in the newspaper about the empty tomb. Cynically I used to think this was just to stir up controversy and sometimes it worked. But nowadays, mostly anything to do with Christian faith doesn't merit a mention. Keep a look-out in case this year is different.

Recently I have been re-reading a book that some of us read 3 or 4 years ago. It is called 'Black Sheep and Prodigals' and is written by an Anglican priest in the UK called Dave Tomlinson. It has a subtitle 'An antidote to black and white religion' and I found it a very helpful book. There is one chapter entitled 'I think the empty tomb is a distraction'. In this chapter the author talks about how putting lots of energy into trying to work out some of the facts can distract us from seeing the true meaning of Easter. Here is something that he says: "I have no doubt that something extraordinary occurred to the disciples which convinced them that the death of Jesus was not the end; that in some mysterious way he remained a living presence in their midst. And millions of others since have testified to something similar". I have some trouble understanding some of the so-called facts about Easter, but I have no doubt that resurrection is real in some mysterious and wonderful way.

Here is Desmond Tutu's famous prayer which can serve as a resurrection creed:

‘Victory is ours

Goodness is stronger than evil;

Love is stronger than hate;

Light is stronger than darkness;

Life is stronger than death;

Victory is ours through him who loves us’.

May Easter be a time of blessing for you all.



Pastoral Care - If anyone has any needs, contact Sheryn or Delena on 021936067 or 021332449 or email pastoralcare.stmargarets@gmail.com

Community Pantry - A reminder our community pantry is located just outside the church grounds – all food donations appreciated. Spread the word to anyone who would like to donate food items or, if you know people who could benefit from these donations, please let them know where it is.

A Special Meeting of the Congregation of St Margaret's Church Silverstream will be held on Sunday 3 April 2022 immediately following morning worship.

The purpose of the meeting is to approve the Ministry Settlement Board's report on its review of the Parish.

Explanatory note:

The meeting will consider a report on the life of the parish that has been prepared by the Ministry Settlement Board. This is a report on matters such as the health and financial position of the parish, its missional direction and the kind of ministry that would meet the needs of the congregation in the years ahead.

If the report is approved by the congregation it will then go to Presbytery Central. Presbytery will decide whether or not the Ministry Settlement Board will move on to the next stage of completing a parish profile and advertising for a new minister.

This represents the first stage in a process that will continue for some time. It is likely to be many months before the Ministry Settlement Board is in a position to recommend a new minister to the parish.

Marilyn Anderson
Session Clerk

The report will be emailed out during the week – please make sure you read the report before Sunday morning. Those on Zoom should indicate to the Host if they wish to comment.

Lectionary:

3 April Isaiah 43:16-21 Psalm 126 Philippians 3:4b-14 John 12:1-8
 10 Isaiah 50:4-9 Psalm 118:1-2,19-29 Philippians 2:5-11
 Luke 19:28-40
 17 Acts 10:34-43 Psalm 118:1-2,14-24 1 Corinthians 15:19-26
 John 20:1-18
 24 Acts 5:27-32 Psalm 118:14-29 Revelations 1:4-8
 John 20:19-31
 1 May Acts 9:1-6 Psalm 30 Revelations 5:11-14 John 21:1-19

Just a reminder This article appeared in the October 2021 newsletter.

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
- Pak n Save Upper Hutt
- Jock's Vapes (vape battery recycling)



*Daylight-Saving
Time Ends*

Sunday 3 April
Put your clocks back

- **Friendship Group** is resuming Monday 4th April at 10am until midday in the Church Lounge. You must be vaccinated and please wear a mask. We will commence with a cup of tea or coffee but no food at this stage. We are all looking forward to a get-together and a chat followed by Rummikub. For anyone wishing to join us on a Monday morning you will be made very welcome. If you have never played Rummikub before, do not worry, it is an easy game to learn.

Shirley Main 04-5282636

Ruth Mackinder 04-5286826

Extra Stalls and Helpers for Winter Warmers – 14 May 2022

The Winter Warmers fundraiser will be run in the Church Hall on Saturday 14 May 2022. Given that our Fair was cancelled last year, I am seeking expressions of interest from anyone who would like to run a stall alongside Winter Warmers. Please contact me on 021 1934061 by Friday 14 April to discuss your ideas and we will do everything we can to accommodate your stall.

Dean Paul

Fair Convenor M: 021 1934061

E: deanpaul251@gmail.com

We will also need helpers to assist with setting up for Winter Warmers on the afternoon/evening of Friday 13 May, and with running the stalls on the day. Please register your support with me on the number above. We would greatly appreciate any assistance you can give.

P.S: A Church Fair is planned for October 2022, and it will be a big one! Watch this space for more information in the coming months.

See the Winter Warmers poster elsewhere in this newsletter





Winter Warmers

14 May 2022

10.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.

St. Margaret's Church

Dunns Street, Silverstream

**We will be selling anything that
reflects the good things about
winter**

**Warm clothes (old & new);
jackets, hats, scarves, beanies,
books, puzzles, soup**

**Start sorting, but please hold
onto your things until nearer the
time**

Lorna Moir 528.2681



Children, Youth & Families @ St.Margaret's April 2022

PLAY GROUP - No playgroup. Keep checking with newsletter and Facebook for any updates.

SUNDAY SCHOOL is running and we have been busy with various craft projects. We look forward to the last few lessons before the school holidays.

YOUTH GROUP - It feels like the consistent point in our newsletter entries is the inconsistency that surrounds us! It's a hard time for everyone at the moment and particularly children and young people with the constant disruption interrupting developing minds.

Youth Group is no exception and for the last few weeks we have been zooming with lots affected by the virus as it whips through the community. We've decided to finish off the term with some in person feel good kai! Sunday 3 April we will be in the church kitchen making some hot cross buns then the following Sunday (10 April) we will be having our annual Easter baking competition. All youth group members are invited to bring along an Easter baking treat to Delena's house at 10,00 a.m. for our usual time where the baked goods will be judged and the trophy awarded. Info and address will be shared on the messenger group. Or text Delena 021332449 or Jo 021616376 for more deets.

Easter is the start of the school holidays so we will be on a break until Sunday 8 May and we are looking forward to a more settled term in term two when we hope to start some art sessions.

Our prayer for our young people is for grace, patience and health, blessings to you all.

Jo and Delena

CONTACTS

Sunday School Nicki - 5288106 **Playgroup** Ainsley - 5278090
Youth Group Jo - 021616376 or Delena 9776338

From the Board of Managers

The figures shown on Page 10 do not include the transfer on 8 December 2021 of residual funds from the 25th HV Girls Brigade Co amounting to \$1,782.43 which are being held for future training.

Funds available for general operations amounted to \$104,818.93 at 28 February 2022.

PO Box closure & new letterbox – Managers have taken the decision on economic grounds not to renew PO Box 48083, Silverstream after 31 March 2022. A new letterbox has been installed alongside the front gate numbered 6 (Dunns Street) and members who previously used letterhead with the old PO Box number should update their records – refer to Lance Hurly (528 5461) if you need an electronic copy. NZ Post classify the church as a business and charge exorbitant fees for redirection orders after 1 April 2022 which we are not prepared to meet, so any mail addressed to the old box will in future be returned to senders. It is important that all likely users are informed of the new address. A key to the new box is in the Managers room.

New Fence – Members will have noticed the new fence that has been erected at no cost to us behind the new housing development which will include 3 single level dwellings. If anyone has surplus topsoil and/or grass seed that they are willing to donate to go along our side, please let Lance Hurly know.



SERVICES AT ST. MARGARET'S

- Thurs 14 April 7.00 p.m. Maundy Thursday service
- Friday 15 April 10.00 a.m. Good Friday service
- Sunday 17 April 10.00 a.m. Easter Sunday

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE
ACTUAL v BUDGET 8 MONTHS JULY 2021 – FEBRUARY 2022

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	Feb-22 <u>Mth</u>	Total 8 Mths YTD	Budget 8 Mths	Gain (Loss) Actual v Budget 8 Mths
<u>INCOME</u>				
Giving				
Envelopes	795	6,521		
Automatic Payments	6,219	52,132		
	<u>7,014</u>	<u>58,653</u>	63,333	(4,681)
Loose	57	514	1,333	(820)
Donations General	120	1,390	6,667	(5,277)
Donations Organ & Music Fund	-	250	-	250
Donations Laptop Computer	-	1,000	-	1,000
	<u>7,191</u>	<u>61,806</u>	<u>71,333</u>	<u>(9,527)</u>
Fund Raising - see below	15	4,404	18,000	(13,596)
L&R Snell Trust	-	-	-	-
Interest	1	658	500	158
Church & Hall hire	139	1,451	3,333	(1,882)
Mission				
CWS Christmas Appeal	-	404	1,000	(596)
CWS Special Appeals (Tonga)	286	286	-	286
Bible Society		170	300	(131)
	<u>7,346</u>	<u>68,893</u>	<u>94,467</u>	<u>(25,574)</u>

EXPENSES

Administration	1,212	9,878	9,544	(334)
Christian Education	-	764	600	(164)
Ministry	479	16,134	34,583	18,450
Mission Incl.Pinehaven School	690	958	1,800	842
Property Expenses	488	9,409	17,500	8,091
<u>Total Expenses</u>	2,868	37,143	64,027	26,885
<u>Operating Surplus(Deficit)</u>	4,478	31,750	30,439	1,310
Assets expensed				
Laptop Computer		814	-	814
<u>Net Surplus(Deficit)</u>	4,478	30,936	30,439	497

Fund Raising analysis

Fair	-	-	15,000	(15,000)
Plant Fair net of \$1907.85 Costs	-	4,184	3,000	1,184
Winter Warmers	15	210	-	210
Masks	-	10	-	10
	15	4,404	18,000	(13,596)

April 2022

Interim Moderator: Rev. Lynn Russell 528.2113 **Family Team:** Contact the Minister
Session Clerk: Marilyn Anderson 527.8601
Website: <http://stmargaretschurchnz.net.nz>
Hall Bookings: Carol McConnell 527.9462 **Facebook:** St. Margaret's Family Page

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Communion	4 Friendship Ctr	5	6 Session	7	8	9
10 Morn. Worship <u>No</u> shared lunch	11 Friendship Ctr	12	13 Evg.Fellowship	14 Maundy Thursday	15 Good Friday	16
17 Easter Sunday	18 Friendship Ctr	19	20 Bd. Managers	21	22	23
24 Morn. Worship	25 Friendship Ctr	25	27	28	29	30