



ST MARGARET'S

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SILVERSTREAM

NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2022

Advent

Jesus, you remind us
that Advent fills all time
and the journey is everywhere.
Like the Magi we travel
from the head to the heart;
from the city of learning
to the fields wide open to the sun;
from the meaning of words
to the knowledge beyond them'
from the music notes on paper
to the sound of the concerto;
from the smallness of the manger
to the Love that holds the universe in being.

Joy Cowley
'Veil over the light'
Publisher: Pleroma, Otane. NZ



Dear Friends

Hopes and dreams are what keep us going. To live without either of these is a very bleak place to be. Dreams come in two main varieties. There are the dreams we have when we are asleep. These are the ones that colour our sleeping with sometimes weird or even scary thoughts such that we may feel relieved to wake up and find it was all a dream. The other kind of dreams are the ones we have when we are awake and we are thinking about how our future may be or how we would like it to be. Many people spend their lives working to achieve these dreams and humankind has often benefitted from their results.

Hopes go hand in hand with dreams but are often on a lesser scale. When I go to the dentist I hope that there will be nothing to be fixed but I don't dream about this (although it can be a bit of a nightmare experience!). I save my dreams for bigger and more important things.

Lately in church we have been reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah. Jeremiah can seem a bit of a dream-slayer because he was a realist. He saw things as they were and wanted God's people to see their own reality too. The people of God had been conquered and taken into exile in Babylon. They longed to return home but Jeremiah told them this wasn't going to happen soon and that they must make the most of their situation and settle down in the new place they had to live. In a way, he did this in order to allow them to settle and become able to hope and dream again. And ultimately they did return to Israel and start afresh, both in their daily lives and in their renewed relationship with God. It can be hard sometimes to be realistic about the world we live in, and at the same time to hold on to hopes and dreams of a restored and fulfilled future. But this is what we are called to do.

I am writing this on Labour Day. By the time you get to read it, the annual church fair will be just a day or two away. At the moment I am hoping for a fine day (although the forecast doesn't look good), plenty of shoppers, and a good result. But I am dreaming of a time when we are not so dependent on the money from the fair to keep us going. Our fair is, of course, more than a money-making venture. It is a time when we build our St Margaret's family by working together, and we build our links with our wider community on the day as people come and enjoy finding a bargain and eating food together at the café. I imagine the fair will always be an annual event for St Margaret's because of the benefits it brings.

We are in the process of seeking a new minister for St Margaret's to lead us into the future. Realistically we know that this is not easy, but we remain hopeful that the right person is there for us. Our dream is bigger: we want to be a strong, welcoming community sharing God's love and compassion with our neighbours. We want to be part of the building of God's kingdom when everyone will have what they need to live in dignity and peace.

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

Session membership changes -

Shirley Main was ordained as an elder and inducted onto the Session at St Margaret's in October 2007. In early 2021, she took leave from Session while dealing with some health issues. While not an active member of Session, Shirley has continued to be an important part of the Pastoral Care Team at St Margaret's. She will continue this work, but has reluctantly tendered her resignation from Session. Session greatly values Shirley's ongoing work in pastoral care and her active involvement in the life of the church. We thank her for her many years of service as a Session member.

Ray Betteridge was ordained in September 1986 and has served on Session for much of the time since then. Session reluctantly accepted Ray's resignation at its October meeting and thanked him for his many years of service. While Ray will be missed at Session meetings, his lifelong love of, and commitment to, St Margaret's continues. We appreciate his willingness to continue contributing his knowledge of the church's history, his wisdom and his practical skills whenever they are needed.

Malcolm Galloway will be taking a years' leave of absence from Session, commencing at Christmas. The Galloway family will spend 2023 living and working in Scotland. While St Margaret's will not be quite the same without Malcolm's knowledge and expertise, not to mention his humour, we know that this is a wonderful opportunity for the whole family. We wish Malcolm, Lynsey, Ella and Sophie all the best for their adventure and will be looking forward to their return at the beginning of 2024.

St. Margaret's Christmas Choir

**We'd love you to join us in rehearsals
each Thursday from 24 November**

(No previous experience required)

7.30-8.30 p.m. in the church

for the Christmas music service

on 18 December 2022



For further details,
contact Pat 938 0374 or Marilyn 527 8601

CHRISTMAS BAKING AND TOYS for Family Works 2022

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

This is an increasingly difficult time for many families and any contribution we make towards helping make Christmas a special time is greatly appreciated.

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

There will be a labelled 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 11
December*** 2022 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

Lectionary:

6 Nov. Haggai 1:15b-2:9 Psalm 145:1-5,17-21 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5,13-17
Luke 20:27-38

13 Nov. Isaiah 65:17-25 Isaiah 12 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13 Luke 21:5-19

20 Nov. Jeremiah 23:1-6 Luke 1:68-79 Colossians 1:11-20 Luke 23:33-43

27 Nov. Isaiah 2:1-5 Psalm 122 Romans 13:11-14 Matthew 24:36-44

4 Dec. Isaiah 11:1-10 Psalm 72:1-7,18-19 Romans 15:4-13 Matthew 3:1-12

At Muffin Break

A group of senior citz were sitting talking together about their various ailments one day at Muffin Break in the Mall.

“My arms have got so weak, I can hardly lift this cup of coffee,” said one.

“Yes I know,” said another – “my cataracts are so bad I can barely *see* my coffee!”

“I couldn’t even mark an X on the voting paper at the last elections because my hands are so crippled,” volunteered a third.

“What did you say? Speak up – I’m having trouble hearing you,” said another.

“Well, **I** can’t turn my head because of the arthritis in my neck,” said one, to which several nodded weakly in agreement.

“You know, my blood pressure pills make me feel really dizzy,” exclaimed another.

“I sometimes forget where I am **and** where I’m going,” said one very sadly.

“I guess this is the price we all pay for getting old,” winced an old man as he slowly shook his head. And the others nodded in agreement.

“Well, **I** think we should all count our blessings,” said one woman cheerfully – “thank God we can all still drive!”

Rosters

Morning Tea

- 6 Nov. Sue Taylor/Delwyn Frederikson
- 13 Jan Hill/Riek Kleinjan
- 20 Pam Hurly/Lorna Moir
- 27 Ruth Mackinder/Jacqueline Kitchen
- 4 Dec, Lin Coleman/Karen Coleman

Cleaning Roster

- 6 Nov. Lynley McInnarney
- 13 Helen Bassett
- 20 Ainsley Andrews
- 27 Fono Williams
- 4 Dec. Rosenda Upton

Lawns

- 5 Nov. Malcolm Galloway
- 19 Andries Labuschagne
- 3 Dec. Mike McInnarney

Audio Visual

- 6 Nov. Chris Rosanowski
- 13 Anja Enslin
- 20 Hazel O’Brien
- 27 Alfred Enslin
- 4 Dec. David Lottering

BOARD OF MANAGERS REPORT SEPTEMBER 2022

Financial Summary - 3 Months July – September 2022

	<u>Sep 2022</u>	TOTAL	BUDGET	GAIN(LOSS)
	Month	3 Mths	3 Mths	v BUDGET
		Jul-Sep	Jul-Sep	3 Mths
Income				
Offering Automatic Payments	6,674	20,887	23,125	336
Offering Envelopes	934	2,574	incl above	incl above
Loose Offerings	151	436	375	61
Fundraising - Winter Warmers	-	110	-	110
Interest Received	973	975	500	475
Mission - Bible Society Appeal	-	215	200	15
Rent Received - Hall etc	148	1,422	750	672
Other Property Income	-	43	-	43
Donations-General	1,440	7,060	1,000	6,060
Donations-Organ & Music Fund	-	5,000	5,000	-
TOTAL INCOME	10,320	38,722	30,950	7,772
Total Operating Expenses	6,671	14,325	15,169	844
Net Profit	3,649	24,397	15,781	8,616

Some of the terms used in the above report have come direct out of XERO and may be customized as we get to understand more about the package.

Operating Expenses includes \$4,292 Insurance paid in September based on the old Valuation. After Wall Arlidge's new Valuation figures were provided to the Church's Broker, Crombie Lockwood, last month, it became evident that cover had not been reinstated to include Natural Disasters e.g. Earthquake following the completion of the Earthquake strengthening project in 2019. They have now corrected this oversight and the new quote has come in at a staggering \$16,296.19 before GST. The Church Property Trustees have confirmed that we are required to take full cover including Natural Disasters. The Budget for 2023 approved at the AGM allowed \$6,000 for Insurance premiums and the only real consolation is that we have not sustained a claim during the interim years.

Funds available for general operations at 30 September 2022 amounted to \$153,224.35.

The problem with the leaking Lounge Roof and Church foyer has been referred to the original builder and we are awaiting an on-site meeting with the Builder and Roofing Contractor. In the meantime, the carpet in the corner of the Lounge has been lifted, dried and aired, using a commercial blower and dehumidifier.

UPPER HUTT FOODBANK

I was re-elected Chairperson of the Foodbank at the recent AGM and I wish to express my gratitude to those members of St Margaret's who regularly provide valuable support to the Foodbank. I am still looking for volunteers who are available to help with the Appeal outside Countdown Queen St on Saturday 19 November 2022, so if that sounds like you, please call me. Lance Hurly 04 5285461.



- **Tea and Chat** at 2.00 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month at the home of Jacqueline and Lynn at 2 Fendalton Cres, Pinehaven. Anyone who'd like to come and have a cup of tea (or coffee) and a chat is very welcome.
- **Evening Fellowship** – Wednesday November, 7.30 p.m. in the lounge. Our next meeting is Wednesday 9 November at 7.30 p.m. in the church lounge. We plan a Christmas craft evening, so come along and get some ideas.



- **The Christmas meeting** will be on Wednesday 14 December with dinner booked at the Summerset Divine Cafe. Please put your name on the list at our November meeting or let Lois 0211307943 know and prepayment of \$36 per person before Sunday 20 November please. Both men and women welcome.

November 2022

Interim Moderator: Rev. Lynn Russell 528.2113 **Family Team:** Contact the Minister
Session Clerk: Marilyn Anderson 527.8601
Website: <http://stmargaretschurch.net.nz> **Hall Bookings:** Carol McConnell 0272210609
Facebook: St. Margaret's Family Page

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Pilates 6-7pm	2 Tea & Chat Session	3 Dancing 4.00-5.00 pm	4 Dancing 4.30-5.30 pm	5
6 Communion Dancing 2-4 pm	7 Friendship Ctr Ctry Dancing Pilates 6-8 pm	8 Pilates 6-7pm	9 Evening Fell.	10 Dancing 4.00-5.00 pm	11 Dancing 4.30-5.30 pm	12
13 Morn. Worship Shared lunch Dancing 2-4 pm	14 Friendship Ctr Ctry Dancing Pilates 6-8 pm	15 Pilates 6-7pm	16 Board of Managers	17 Dancing 4.00-5.00 pm	18 Dancing 4.30-5.30 pm	19
20 Morn. Worship Dancing 2-4 pm	21 Friendship Ctr Ctry Dancing Pilates 6-8 pm	22 Pilates 6-7pm	23	Dancing 4.00-5.00 pm	25 Dancing 4.30-5.30 pm	26
27 Morn. Worship Dancing 2-4 pm	28 Friendship Ctr Ctry Dancing Pilates 6-8 pm	29 Pilates 6-7pm	30			

Services available on Zoom each Sunday <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89367824002>