



ST MARGARET'S
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SILVERSTREAM

NEWSLETTER
FEBRUARY 2023



Prayer for the New Year

Give us the kindness to hear with compassion,
to offer support,
loving comfort, and care.

Give us the courage to do what is needed,
the wisdom to choose
what is right and most fair.

Give us the vision to see what is possible.

Give us the faith
that will help pave the way
for a present that's hopeful,
a future that's peaceful--

give us the heart to bring joy to each day.

Dear Friends

January 2023 is almost done and dusted and so far it doesn't feel much different to this time last year. We usually don't know what a new year will bring us which is probably a good thing, but this year we do know that our new minister will be here with us in mid-March. The Rev Rodney Ramsay and his wife, Mara, are looking forward to joining us just as we are keen to have them at St Margaret's. We know there will be changes and we wonder what they will be. All very exciting.

One of the things we can all be sure of as a new year begins is that there will be change in many aspects of our lives. We are aware that change is coming in our church life. And out of the blue this week we learned of a big change in our national life. Our Prime Minister, Jacinda Ardern, is stepping down and a new Prime Minister, Chris Hipkins, is taking over. It doesn't really matter whether we liked Jacinda or not, her resignation will bring change to our lives. I guess we were all thinking there could be change later in the year with an election set to happen. There might still be change then but our politics have had a shake up a bit earlier than we had imagined.

There will be changes in our personal lives too. Some of these will be positive and bring opportunities for us. I'm thinking of things like a holiday, a new baby in the family, an old friend coming back into our life, a new interest to pursue. But there will also be changes that we would rather not have happen. Things like a death in the family or the loss of a friend, a difficult medical diagnosis, a change in in our living arrangements. None of these may happen to us but it is good to be ready for change of some sort. The good thing in all this is that we have all coped with change before, we know we can do it and we also have other people who will stand with us and share it with us. This will happen again this year just as it has in all the years which have passed.

At this time of the year we always have the reading in church about Jesus calling the disciples to give up the lives they know and to step out in faith as followers of a new way. I think they were really brave to do what they did. They had no idea how it would turn out for them but they were convinced it was worth the risk. To begin with everything went well, but later their lives were devastated by the events of Easter and the challenge of trying to make sense of what they were called to do after the resurrection. We think that many went back to their old lives but we know that others, including the disciples, took up that challenge and spent the rest of their days spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ.

It is the same for us. No matter what comes our way our call to follow Jesus stays with us in the good times and the bad. As we set out on this latest part of our Christian journey into a new ministry and into new circumstances that will come to each of us, we can be sure that our faith will equip us for whatever 2023 brings us.



Lectionary:

5 Feb. Isaiah 58:1-9a Psalm 112:1-0 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 Matthew 5:13-20
 12 Deuteronomy 30:15-20 Psalm 119:1-8 1 Corinthians 3:1-9
 Matthew 5:21-37
 19 Exodus 24:12-18 Psalm 2 2 Peter 1:16-21 Matthew 17:1-9
 26 Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7 Psalm 32 Romans 5:12-19 Matthew 4:1-11
 5 Mar. Genesis 12:1-4a Psalm 121 Romans 4:1-5,13-17 John 3:1-17

Rev. Rodney Ramsay - new minister at St Margaret's

The Ramsay's will be arriving in Upper Hutt around 5 March and will spend a few days settling in before Rodney's Induction at St Margaret's which is planned for the evening of Thursday 9 March.

In the meantime, we are planning for Rodney's arrival by preparing the office at the church for his use and looking for accommodation for Rodney, his wife Mara and their son Tye.

If you hear of any suitable houses that will be available for long-term rental from late February, please let Lance Hurly (528 5461) or Marilyn Anderson (527 8601) know. We need to find a 3-bedroom house in the Silverstream/Heretaunga/Trentham area (i.e. not too far from the church). The family has a cat and a small dog, so pets must be permitted.

Wanted - Bookcase for the minister's office: If you have a bookcase in good condition that you no longer need and would be prepared to donate to the church for use in Rodney's office, please contact Marilyn (527 8601).

ROSTERS**Morning Tea**

5 Feb. Karen Coleman/Lin Coleman
 12 Derilene Aston/Lorna Moir
 19 Ruth Mackinder/Shirley Harrison
 26 Jan Hill/Loretta Hastie
 5 Mar. Sue Taylor/Delwyn Frederikson

Church Cleaning

5 Feb. Shirley Harrison
 12 Jan Hill
 19 Karen Coleman
 26 Carol McConnell
 5 Mar. Jean Don

Audio Visual

5 Feb. Alfred Enslin
 12 Chris Rosanowski
 19 Anya Enslin
 26 Hazel O'Brien
 5 Mar. David Lottering

Lawns

11 Feb. Warren & Toby Potter
 25 Phil Taylor
 11 Mar. Rhys West

Sunday School - We will be starting back our Sunday School program on **5 February 2023** and look forward to welcoming back our enthusiastic and energetic young ones. If there are children at church before this date, there will be activities for them to do at the back of the church during the service.

Nicki Morrell has been our trusty Sunday School co-ordinator for a while now but has had to step back due to other commitments. We've appreciated all her hard work, creativity and dedication to the role including the end of year pageant. The good news is, Nicki is staying on to teach so we have not lost her talents from the team.

Until a new coordinator is appointed, please direct any Sunday School queries to Sheryn on 021936067.

If you are interested in becoming a Sunday School teacher, please let Sheryn know. You are always buddied up with someone and we welcome those wanting to encourage and support children on their faith journey.

Ngā mihi,
Sheryn Jacques

2022 Christmas memories:

- The willingness of the Sunday School teachers and children to present another memorable pageant with props bringing memories of other pageants being incorporated
- those who decorated the church for the season
- the expertise of those who organised and contributed to the picnic, carols and services for Christmas
- the generosity of all who donated to the 2 carloads of baking and toys for Family Works – the contributions were greatly appreciated.
- those who gave their time and voices, croaky but heartfelt, to the choir for the Christmas music service
- Marilyn who played the piano and organ for every musical event
- all who shared ran and took part in the special services with us
- the continuing contributions to the community pantry, foodbank and meals

Just another Christmas? No. A joyful, renewing celebration of the birth of Jesus and his continuing meaning in our lives.

Thank you
Pat Lerwill

St. Margaret's Church Garden:

Due to current family and health issues I am unable to work in the church front gardens for the next few months.

The Board of Managers would appreciate help from members of the congregation to keep the Church gardens looking cared for.

Areas include: right-hand border across the lawn (as you enter the church gates), the fernery adjacent to the ramp at front of church and the shrubs growing over the wall on to Dunns Road.

Any queries please do not hesitate to contact myself (Helen Bassett 0211849763) or the Board of Managers.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Tea and Chat.** - On the first Wednesday of each month at 2.00p.m. a group comes together at the home of Jacqueline and Lynn to share a simple afternoon tea and enjoy a chance to chat. This is an informal occasion and we would love to have a few more people join us. The address is 2 Fendalton Crescent, Pinehaven.
- **Friendship Group** for 2023 will start on the 13 February at 10.00 a.m. until midday in the Church lounge. For more information please phone Shirley Main 5282636 or Ruth Mackinder 5286826
- **Evening Fellowship** - Our first meeting for 2023 will be a Pot Luck meal in the lounge at 6.30pm on Wednesday 8 February. We look forward to joining together in Fellowship (both men and women) for the beginning of a New Year.



If you have given up your landline phone in the past 12 months and gone to cellphone only, please let me know so that we can keep our records up to date.

Hazel – hazmic.ob@xtra.co.nz



From the Galloway family in Scotland

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Boxing Day was our first full day in London and it was cold but the sun was shining so we made the most of it with one of hop on-hop off open-top bus tours. This was a good way for the girls to see a lot in a short space of time. Sophie was most

insistent that we see Buckingham Palace. We also visited the British Museum and the London Science Museum during our three days in Kensington.

We took the decision to use the tube to get from our hotel to Kings Cross Station (with eight bags plus rucksack) for our train to Edinburgh because we felt that it was time for a challenge that would require planning, teamwork and a bit of resilience. The mission was executed with military precision and Lynsey and I couldn't have been more proud of Ella and Sophie.

We managed to take in a few sights in Edinburgh but most of our week there was spent getting things that we would need for the house that we had rented in Dunblane. Lynsey's local knowledge of where to go for linen, housewares and appliances proved invaluable. We are very lucky that the owners of the house (who

happen to be on a one-year sabbatical to Nelson) were sympathetic to our situation and left the house largely furnished, so we are very comfortable here.

Ella and Sophie had great notions of staying up until midnight on Hogmanay. As you can see, they didn't quite make it. Nevertheless, Lynsey and I snuck out to watch the fireworks from across the road in Charlotte Square. We had New Year's Day dinner with our friends in Edinburgh (who Lynsey had not seen since 2016), which was lovely.

Our house is in the catchment zone for Newtown Primary School. Although we had tried to enroll Ella and Sophie before we left Silverstream, we were told that the rules meant that we could only enroll them when we were actually living in the catchment area. We were also told that there was only one vacancy in Ella's year and that if another family were to move into the area and take that space then we would have to apply elsewhere. Needless to say, this had us on tenterhooks. Luckily, we needn't have worried.

The school gave us a very warm welcome and the girls are settling in and making friends brilliantly. They both surprise us at the dinner table with reports on the interesting things that they have learned that day.

We are only a 15-20 minute walk from the school. This a lovely way to start the day - even if it has been a bit chilly this week. Moreover, walking probably takes less time than de-icing the car.

Dunblane is five minutes' drive north of Stirling and about an hour from Edinburgh. The population is around 9,000 with a few cafes and restaurants, a golf club and, oddly, enough hair salons for three times the number of inhabitants.

The town is known for its cathedral, but I will have to report on that once we have actually been in there. We tried St Blane's - the smaller of the two Church of Scotland churches - last week. They were very friendly, but there was no Sunday School and their singing was very lackluster so we will try the cathedral.

It has been a very busy three weeks since we arrived in Scotland and now that we are settled in we are starting to find time to see friends and plan weekend trips. We will be going down to England next weekend for a Burn's Night with my brother and his family, which should be fun.

Love and best wishes to all for 2023,
Malcolm



BOARD OF MANAGERS REPORT DECEMBER 2022
Financial Summary – 6 Months July – December 2022

	Dec 2022	Total	BUDGET	GAIN(LOSS)
Income	Month	6 Mths	6 Mths Jul-Dec22	v BUDGET 6 Mths
Offering Automatic Payments	7,405	43,306	46,250	2,577
Offering Envelopes	858	5,521	incl. above	incl. above
Loose Offerings	206	1,428	750	678
Fair Donations (for Marquee)	-	1,200	-	1,200
Fundraising - Fair	40	19,874	13,000	6,983
Fundraising - Winter Warmers	-	110	incl. above	incl. above
Interest Received	1,493	2,468	1,000	1,468
Mission - Bible Society Appeal	-	215	200	15
Mission - CWS Christmas Appeal	735	735	250	485
Mission - CWS Special Appeals	-	-	300	(300)
Mission -Hospital Chaplaincy	-	-	200	(200)
Other Property Income	-	43	-	43
Rent Received - Hall etc.	721	3,576	1,500	2,076
Donations-General	500	7,580	2,000	5,580
Donations-Organ & Music Fund	-	5,000	5,000	-
Total Income	11,958	91,055	70,450	20,605
Total Operating Expenses	5,064	26,884	26,025	859
Net Surplus (Deficit)	6,894	64,171	44,425	19,746

Funds available for general operations at 31 December 2022 amounted to \$180,864.79.

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 Tea & Chat Session 7.30 Dance 4-6.30 pm	2 Dance 4-5.30pm Badminton 7.30 Pilates 6-8pm	3	4 Dist. Dance 9-12.00
5 Communion Sunday School resumes	6 Waitangi Day	7 Dist. Dance 4-5.30	8 Evg. Fellowship Dance 4-6.30 pm	9 Dance 4-5.30pm Badminton 7.30 Pilates 6-8pm	10	11 Dist. Dance 9-12.00
12 Morn. Worship Shared lunch	13 Friendship Grp CW Dance HV Singers	14 Dist. Dance 4-5.30	15 Bd. Managers Dance 4-6.30 pm	16 Dance 4-5.30pm Badminton 7.30 Pilates 6-8pm	17	18 Dist. Dance 9-12.00
19 Morn. Worship	20 Friendship Grp CW Dance HV Singers	21 Dist. Dance 4-5.30	22 Dance 4-6.30 pm	23 Dance 4-5.30pm Badminton 7.30 Pilates 6-8pm	24	25 Dist. Dance 9-12.00
26 Morn. Worship	27 Friendship Grp CW Dance HV Singers	28 Dist. Dance 4-5.30				

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

Full list of names and times for the above groups are on a chart on the notice board in the hall foyer.