



# ST MARGARET'S

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SILVERSTREAM

## NEWSLETTER APRIL 2023



### The Betrayal

Poor old Judas. He did a rotten thing.  
and we've never let him forget it.  
Maybe he was afraid that Jesus  
had strayed too far from orthodox teaching.  
Maybe he was afraid that his master  
would get them all killed.  
Who knows what was in his mind?  
All we know for certain is that fear  
is the great enemy of love.

So poor old Judas betrayed his Lord  
with a kiss, the mark of friendship,  
and then in bitter regret, followed him  
out of this world, leaving behind  
a legacy of hate from a church  
founded on love and forgiveness.

We all do it. Year after year, we project  
our own fears and betrayals on Judas,  
and in doing that, we fail to hear  
the compassionate voice of Jesus  
saying of Judas and of us,  
"Father forgive them.  
They know not what they do."

Joy Cowley  
"Come & See"  
Pleroma Christian Supplies, Otane.

## Greetings

On writing this first article as minister here at St Margaret's I have an overwhelming sense of gratitude. Your generosity and warm welcome has touched Mara, Tye and myself as we have started settling into the Silverstream community. Thank you for entrusting me with your faith walk and thank you, in advance, for your patience as I settle back into parish ministry and life here at St Margaret's.

Back in the early 1990's, when I was a young probationer minister in the Methodist Church of Southern Africa, I remember walking with a senior minister at a District synod. We were talking about preaching and I am not sure what prompted the answer he gave me, but he said "I have one goal, and one goal only, when I preach every Sunday, and that is to tell people how much God loves them". I reacted to that by saying that surely that was too simple an approach, surely there are other equally important things that we need to preach on. How wrong I was! Over the years questions about 'Love' have crept up on me and have become my theological reference point in my own faith walk and in my preaching. "To tell people how much God loves them" seems simple, but hides a multitude of questions; What is Love? What does it mean when the Bible says, 'God is love'? (1 John 4:8). What are the consequences for us if we want to be imitators of God's love (Ephesians 5: 1-2). These questions have driven me, challenged me, and changed me, through the years. Through this journey I have found the scariest word in the Bible, scariest word for me, it is the word 'ALL'.

'All' have sinned, therefore I am a sinner and in constant need to God's grace. 'God desires ALL people to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth' – 1 Timothy 2:4. 'Go into all the world and preach the gospel' – Mark 16: 15. What a challenge, what a mission, what joy to see God's Kingdom come on earth.

One of the results of this journey I have enjoyed is that I firmly believe that no church exists purely for the sake of its members. The church exists for the sake of the community in which it finds itself. I am very excited to see that St Margaret's is alive and well in this regard. I look forward to the journey of deepening our understanding of God's love for us and growing in our love for this very special Silverstream community.

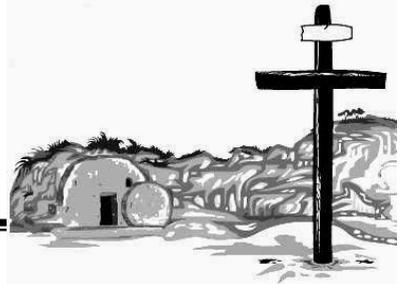
*Rodney*

**Personal:**

- Our thoughts and prayers are with Pat Rainey as she copes with the pain of shingles.
- We are also thinking of Lin & Dave Coleman who have flown back to the UK to support Lin's mother, after the death of her father.
- Jean Rothwell and family are in our thoughts. Jean's brother Colin died recently.
- Our thoughts and prayers are with Kathy Smith who recently badly broke her right arm. Fortunately? she is left-handed.

**Lectionary:**

2 April Isaiah 50:4-9 Psalm 118:1-2,19-29 Philippians 2:5-11 Matthew 21:1-11  
 9 Acts 10:34-43 Psalm 118:1-2,14-24 Colossians 3:1-4 John 20:1-18  
 16 Acts 2:14a,22-32 Psalm 16 1 Peter 1:3-9 John 20:19-31  
 23 Acts 2:14a,36-41 Psalm 116:1-4,12-19 1 Peter 1:17-23 Luke 24:13-35  
 30 Acts 2:42-47 Psalm 23 1 Peter 2:19-25 John 10:1-10  
 7 May Acts 7:55-60 Psalm 31:1-5,15-16 1 Peter 2:2-10 John 14:1-14



### Easter Services

<b>Thurs. 6 April</b>	<b>7.00 p.m.</b>	<b>Maundy Thursday service</b>
<b>Friday 7 April</b>	<b>10.00 a.m.</b>	<b>Good Friday</b>
<b>Sunday 9 April</b>	<b>10.00 a.m.</b>	<b>Easter Sunday – communion</b>

*Thankyou from Lynn*

*Thanks very much to you all for the great gift you gave me when I retired from being Interim Moderator. As you know, I love to read so receiving a book voucher with lots and lots of dollars on it is a perfect gift. I will have a lovely time choosing new books and enjoying them. So thanks again – I'm very grateful for your thoughtfulness and kindness.*

## Rosters

### Morning Tea

- 2 Apr Karen & Andrew Coleman  
 9 Derilene Aston/Heather-Lee Foster  
 16 Shirley Harrison/Ruth Mackinder  
 23 Jan Hill/Jacqueline Kitchen  
 30 Lorna Moir/Loretta Hastie  
 7 May Sue Taylor/Delwyn Frederikson

### Church Cleaning

- 2 Apr. Rosenda Upton  
 9 Karen Coleman  
 16 Jan Hill  
 23 Carol McConnell  
 30 Shirley Harrison  
 7 May Helen Bassett



## Remember ....

**Daylight saving  
ends 2 April.**

**If you forget there's always McDonalds  
for a cuppa, and come to church at the  
right time!**

## Lawns

- 8 April Richard Harrison  
 22 Andries Labuschagne  
 6 May Mike McInnarney

## Audio Visual

- 2 Apr. David Lottering  
 7 Anya Enslin (Tenebrae)  
 9 Alfred Enslin (Good Friday)  
 16 Chris Rosanowski  
 23 Hazel O'Brien  
 30 David Lottering  
 7 May Alfred Enslin

**VERY URGENT**

## Winter Warmers

An Organiser is required to convene the Winter Warmers. A date has yet to be decided but it is usually in May. Lorna is stepping down but is willing to help regarding what to do. I will still be doing the morning tea i.e. soups. Contact Carol McConnell 0272210609



## Welcome to the Ramsays!

At an induction service held at St Margaret's on Thursday 9 March we were delighted to welcome Rev Rodney Ramsay as our new minister. Rodney and Mara, with their son Tye, are now settling into their new home in Whiteman's Road, and looking forward to a visit from their daughter Kinta who has remained in Auckland.



At this stage they are finding their way around the area, trying to put names to all the new faces in their church family, and working out where the good coffee comes from! One way you can help is by wearing your name tag on Sundays (including at morning tea).

Rodney will be working from the church office. His contact details are:

- Church landline phone – (04) 527 9604. If there is no reply you are welcome to leave a message.
- Mobile phone – 021 125 9835
- Email – [rodneyramsay62@gmail.com](mailto:rodneyramsay62@gmail.com)

Rodney's day off will be MONDAY. Please avoid contacting him on Mondays unless it is urgent and really can't wait until Tuesday.

Please contact Rodney if you, or someone you know, would like a visit. If you would like to meet with Rodney at the church, please phone first as his ministry work will often take him out and about in the community.

I know that as a congregation you will want to make the Ramsays feel welcome and will be keen to know more about them and their interests and talents. We look forward to being introduced to new ideas and ways of doing things as Rodney settles into his ministry with us.

## Thank You to The Ministry Settlement Board Members

At Rodney's induction service on 9 March, the Ministry Settlement Board was formally thanked and disestablished, it's work having been successfully completed.

We are very grateful to the 8 people (including six members of the St Margaret's family) who gave their time and energy to serve on the MSB. The work they did on our behalf - thoroughly and prayerfully considering all the factors that need to be

worked through when seeking a new minister - was so important for St Margaret's and is greatly appreciated.

Those who served on the MSB were:

- Appointed by Presbytery Central: Rev Hana Popea-Dell (Convenor) and Alex Rodger (from Knox Church in Lower Hutt)
- Appointed by Session: Malcolm Galloway and Sheryn Jacques
- Elected by the congregation: Karen Coleman, Shirley Harrison, Dean Paul and Delena West.

We thank them all!

## **Thank You to Lynn and Chris**

At our service on 5 March we took the opportunity to say a special thank you to Rev Lynn Russell and Rev Chris Rosanowski for all the support they have provided during the 18 months we have been without a minister.

Lynn has been not only been Interim Moderator during that time, she has also led many of our worship services and taken care of us in so many ways. Thanks to her willingness to come out of retirement and support us through the vacancy, our path through the last 18 months has been much smoother than it might otherwise have been – for Session and for the congregation.

Chris enjoyed only a few weeks of retirement before returning to share the leadership of our worship services with Lynn. We're sure he must be keen to find out what retirement is really all about, and we wish him well for whatever that retirement may bring.

Lynn and Chris will remain a loved and respected part of our church family and we sincerely thank them for their wonderful contribution to the life of St Margaret's during the recent vacancy.

**Please remember to wear your name tags at church. This will give Rodney & Mara a chance to get to know who we are by name.**

If you think you have it at home or in the car, please bring it back to church, or if your name tag is not hanging on the board, let Hazel O'Brien know, and a new one will be made.





**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.

- **Evening Fellowship (men and women):** Our next meeting is Wednesday 12 April 7.30 p.m. in the Lounge. We are pleased to welcome Rodney and Mara as our speakers.



## *Stitches among the Flowers*

**An exhibition of handwork and floral  
arrangements**

Johnsonville Uniting Church

18 Dr Taylor Terrace. Johnsonville

Friday April 18th 7.00 p.m. – 9.00  
p.m. official opening and entertainment

Tickets \$15 available from [office@juc.org.nz](mailto:office@juc.org.nz) –  
Tuesday - Friday 10.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m. [04 4783396]

Saturday 15th – 9.00 a.m. – 4.00 p.m. entry \$5.00pp at the door.  
This is an entry to the exhibition and a cuppa with a bite to eat.

Sales table of crafts, baking, plants, jams, raffles and more.

# Rodney's Induction – 9 March 2023



## BOARD OF MANAGERS' REPORT

### FINANCIAL SUMMARY 8 MONTHS JULY 2022 – FEBRUARY 2023

<b>Account</b>	<b>Feb 2023</b>	<b>Total 8 Mths Jul22-Feb23</b>
<b>Income</b>		
2001 - Offering Automatic Payments	6,680.00	56,756.00
2002 - Offering Envelopes	847.40	7,359.10
2010 - Loose Offerings	339.10	2,083.40
2101 - Fundraising - Fair	0.00	19,965.60
2105 - Fundraising - Winter Warmers	0.00	109.60
2111 - Fair Donations	0.00	1,200.00
2200 - Interest Received	8.60	2,476.88
2310 - Mission - Bible Society Appeal	0.00	215.00
2315 - Mission - CWS Christmas Appeal	0.00	745.00
2420 - Rent Received - Hall etc	86.96	4,584.51
2430 - Other Property Income	0.00	43.48
2151 - Donations-General	0.00	7,680.00
2152 - Donations-Organ & Music Fund	0.00	5,000.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>7,962.06</b>	<b>108,218.57</b>
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>5,338.09</b>	<b>35,700.72</b>
<b>Net Surplus</b>	<b>2,623.97</b>	<b>72,517.85</b>

Unfortunately, Budget comparatives cannot be extracted this month, a situation that hopefully will be solved for next month.

**Funds Available for General Operations** amounted to \$195,781.75 at 28 February 2023.

**Winter Warmers Fair** There has not been any response to last month's call for someone to take responsibility to organise this important event. It is vital that funds are raised to supplement congregational giving so we are pleading for a Member to take on this job. Lorna Moir's health does not allow her to continue as co-ordinator but she is available to share the valuable knowledge that she has, with a successor. Please contact Carol McConnell 0272210609 urgently if you can help. You will even get to pick the date that suits you, but preferably in May.

**Minister Costs:** Congregation are responsible for meeting all the costs of employing their Minister. PCANZ does not contribute. In our case, the fixed costs covering Rodney's Stipend, Allowances and Rental of the Manse, amount to \$114,165 p.a. (\$9,514 per month). Offerings for the last financial year ended 30 June 2022 totalled \$94,903 and the Budget for the year to 30 June 2023 was set at \$103,000. In addition, in March we met the Ramsay family's Removal Expenses \$5,183 and bought a new Fridge/Freezer \$2,224 for the Manse. The challenge to Members of St Margaret's now is to increase Income from all sources to ensure that we remain viable financially.

**Receipts For Giving – Tax Year Ended 31 March 2023** The new XERO Accounting package does not produce Receipts for Offerings automatically but it is hoped that Receipts will still be available early in April. The start of the new Tax year on 1 April provides an opportunity for Members to review their giving especially in view of the fact that we now have a full time Minister.

The following table shows the effect of how donations can be increased if the annual Rebates are progressively added to each year's contribution.

Year	Basic Donation	Rebate @ 33 c in \$	Donation + Rebate
1	100.00		100.00
2	100.00	33.00	133.00
3	100.00	43.89	143.89
4	100.00	47.48	147.48
5	100.00	48.67	148.67
Total	<u>\$ 500.00</u>	<u>\$ 173.04</u>	<u>\$ 673.04</u>

If you would like more information about contributing by Bank AP, Internet Banking or Envelope system so that you can get a Receipt for Tax Rebate purposes, please talk to Lance Hurly Treasurer (528 5461) or Jacqueline Kitchen, Envelope Secretary (528 2113).

**Church Buildings Valuation** Quotable Value Ltd have advised that the valuation of the site at 4-6 Dunns St has increased by \$770,000 (Land \$700,000 and Improvements \$70,000). Land has been revalued to \$1,700,00 and Improvements \$560,000. These changes will be reflected in our Annual Accounts but in reality, no effect on St Margaret's position as the Land and Buildings are owned by the Church Property Trustees. Insurance cover is based on Replacement value.

**Vertical Freezer For Kitchen** We are awaiting delivery of a new Freezer for the Kitchen which will add to the existing Fridge/Freezer. The new Freezer will be used to store frozen meals pending distribution to Congregation Members needing support. It is being funded by a group within the Church.

**RODENTS** We have called ZAP back to help us solve a problem of Rats in the Lounge ceiling (again).

**A further reminder – please consider our request for a Winter Warmers convenor – this is urgent!!**

# April 2023

**Minister:** Rev. Rodney Ramsay 0211259835      **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
30 Morn. Worship						1 Dance 9-12
2 Communion	3 Friendship Gr CW Dance 1-2.30 Pilates 6-8 HV Singers 7-9	4 Dance 4-7.00	5 Dance 4-5.30 Session	6 Tenebrae Service 7 pm	7 Good Fri. Service 10 a.m.	8 Dance 9-12
9 Easter Sunday Communion	10 Friendship Gr CW Dance 1-2.30 Pilates 6-8 HV Singers 7-9	11 Dance 4-7.00	12 Dance 4-5.30 Evg. Fellowship	13 Dance 4-5.30 Pilates 6-8	14	15 Dance 9-12
16 Morn. Worship	17 Friendship Gr CW Dance 1-2.30 Pilates 6-8 HV Singers 7-9	18 Dance 4-7.00	19 Dance 4-5.30 Bd. Managers	20 Dance 4-5.30 Pilates 6-8	21	22 Dance 9-12
23 Morn. Worship	24 Friendship Gr CW Dance 1-2.30 Pilates 6-8 HV Singers 7-9	25 Dance 4-7.00	26 Dance 4-5.30	27 Dance 4-5.30 Pilates 6-8	28	29 Dance 9-12

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.