



PLAINS PRESBYTERIAN

15TH MARCH 2020



March 15 National Remembrance Service

A Remembrance Service will be held in North Hagley Park on Sunday March 15 at 3pm.

The service, Ko Tātou, Tātou We Are One, will be jointly led by the local Muslim community, Christchurch City Council, the Government and Ngāi Tūāhuriri as mana whenua. There will be several representatives from the Christian Churches, in consultation with Te Raranga, who will represent us all.

It will be an opportunity for people to come together in unity, to show compassion, love and support for all our communities, and the value we place on being an inclusive and diverse country.

It is a chance to acknowledge the unity shown in Ōtautahi-Christchurch, New Zealand and the world in response to the tragedy, and to express appreciation for the responders and all those who helped and to stand in solidarity with the bereaved, injured and all those affected.

WASH YOUR HANDS



Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Earlier this week a message was sent to all Parishes from Council of Assembly, encouraging us to remain compliant with health and safety procedures, avoid unnecessary exposure, and act responsibly to reduce the risk of spreading the virus.

There are two important things to remember...

- * Do not panic! Be properly informed.
- * Take all reasonable steps to keep yourself and others safe.

There is plenty of advice from the Ministry of Health and it pays to keep in touch with the latest updates on their website: <https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus>, which advises people who have visited [countries or areas of concern](#) and who have developed symptoms of fever, cough or shortness of breath to seek medical advice – phone Healthline’s dedicated COVID-19 number [0800 358 5453](tel:08003585453) or contact your GP, including phoning ahead of your visit.

Introducing the new office admin Miranda

I’m pleased to be the new office admin for Plains Presbyterian. I know that some of you know me, though most of you don’t so here is a little about myself. My name is Miranda Addis and I am 26 years old. I moved to New Zealand from USA in October of 2017 with my husband, Bruce and our two children aged 8 (Caleb) and 4 (Madi). My husband, and I were both born and raised in South Carolina. While Bruce, always knew that he was going to be moving to NZ, because his father’s side of the family lives here, we followed as it is a great place to raise our kids and make a home for ourselves. It has definitely been an adventure for us. My father, most of you may know him, his name was Doug and he was never shy to talk and tell his stories to all of you at Sunday services. He loved to bring the kids with him no matter where the service was that Sunday. Unfortunately he passed away in August 2019. He would be so glad the work that I am doing for the church and that I bring the kids along for Sunday services. I work at the Four Square in town and my kids go to school here in Rakaia as well. We love to travel around and take lots of photos. I have always worked around computers, with creating and managing websites and graphic design. I love this opportunity that I have been given to work with Plains Presbyterian. If you see me around, say hello! Always here for a chat.



Four-week Lent Study

Lent Study will be commencing from the week of the 22nd of March. This will take place in your respective areas a day/s during the week. I realize that this may not suit all and will endeavour to cater for all who desire to grow in personal faith. Lent is a time of reflection and preparation. It is part of the fundamentals of the Christian faith a period of pondering on Jesus death and resurrection. I hope you will join in this study to have a spiritual awakening as we journey to the season of Easter. We will be focusing on 'Gratitude and Grace' Through Lent with the Gospel of John. If you would like to join a study group, please contact Arii to receive a copy of the study.

Trinity Mayfield

Thursday, 19th March

1:30 pm | Mission Group meeting. Open to everyone.

Friday, 20th March

10:00 am | COMMUNITY CUPPA MORNING

You are invited to a cuppa in the Mayfield Church Lounge on Friday 20th March.

Come and meet some other young mums or older residents.

It is a safe environment for children to play. This will be held again Friday, April 3rd and 17th.



St. Andrew's Rakaia

Tuesday, 17th March

10:30 am Fit Kids | Music and movement for preschoolers, friendship for adults.

1:00 pm Steady as You Go | Exercises for seniors.

Enjoy the benefits of a range of gentle exercises for strength, balance, walking and co-ordination.

Friday, 20th March

9:30 am NIA DANCE | International Day of Happiness. Dance, sing, watch. With Sonita & Dorothy.

Free Community Event.

St. John's

Next month indoor bowls will be starting at St. John's for the winter season.

Contact Martin Nordquist at 3028717 for details.

Please Note: *NO* Carew Service for the month of March.

Services for March

15 th	9:30 am	St. Andrew's	Rev. Arii Taimataora
	10:30 am	St. John's	Rev. Neville Burns
22 nd	9:30 am	St. Andrew's	Rev. Neville Burns
	10:00 am	Staveley	Combined with St. John's Communion

PRAYER

Lord, we are overwhelmed by the news of this virus invading lives around the world. As we enter the season of lent, we look to you for your cure, healing and help upon those who are mostly affected by this deadly disease. Help us to take care of ourselves and others by putting in place precautions and safety measures to protect our families and community.

We pray for those who are caring for those who are sick and those who are working hard to find a cure. Let you surround them with your goodness, grace and love as they work hard and who are at high risk of being infected as well. We pray for our ministry of Health who are working diligently to have our country prepared and ready for whatever may come. God, we look to you to save your creation and keep it safe.

We remember Gracious God a year ago the terrorist attack that impacted our nation and the world. We pray for your comfort and peace upon those whose lives have been deeply affected and have lost loved ones. Lord let your steadfast love and grace be ever present when our hearts are filled with anxiousness and fear. May our communities across Christchurch be supporting, courageous and encouraging of one another.

Amen.