



PLAINS PRESBYTERIAN

11TH OCTOBER 2020



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From the Moderator

Persevere on

Jesus said, "Stand firm, and you will win life". (Luke 21:19)

We each desire that life is normal - that our existence is familiar and within our understanding. We want the pace and rhythms, the highs, and lows, the static and extremes, morning and nights, chaos, and serenity, of our lives to be normal. But it may never be that all-familiar and known life again.

The challenge to adapt, adjust and reassess our situations and lives needs to be faced full-on now. And planning for the future must be realigned. This new normal is about embracing the unknown with courage and a positive attitude. The cheque book is being phased out. The personal cashier is slowly being replaced by a recorded message. You can fill up your car without any interaction with another person. It is strange. It is the new normal.

Life will be different, but we must still be relevant and be significant to each other. We must stand firm in Christ, and we will win life. As people of faith, fellowship and community, we will sorely miss the face-to-face. But, we can change. Go on brothers and sisters, take a step forward. Trust in the guidance of the Holy Spirit. You will be fine.

No one likes change. No one likes to feel inadequate. No one likes to feel helpless. It is like putting life on hold, standstill, pause. We are doing Church differently, and in many cases are reaching more people with the Word, online.

Paul writes: "We boast in the hope of the glory of God, not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance character, and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us". (Romans 5:2-5.)

Persevere on in the Lord.

Blessings

Fakafo

Plants 4 U @ Rakaia held on Saturday 3rd October 2020 at St. Andrew's Hall in Rakaia. I've noticed something about gardening. You set out to do one thing and pretty soon, you're doing something else, which leads to some other thing, and so on. By the end of the day, you look at the shovel stuck in the half dug rose bed and wonder what on earth you've been doing. - Anne Raver.



Inspiring words for all keen gardeners as we reflect on lost tools because we go from one thing to another and we lose track of gardening trowel.

St Andrews Rakaia extends a big thankyou to all supporters of our Plant Sale held last Saturday, a lovely spring day encouraged many folk from near and far to be there as the door was opened. Plant suppliers, produce, jam, baking, white elephant contributors and the willing workers who gave up many hours throughout the week, preparing for the sale, we are so grateful to you all.. This plant sale is successful because of people giving generously of their time. We were busy from 8.00am through to 2.30pm, but the final result confirmed a "Good Sale" and only about a 100 plants returned to my place. \$5500 approx. will be the amount raised after a few late sales, so we certainly thank and appreciate Rakaia and the wider community for their continued support of this event. Must extend a thank you to all the newsletters and newspapers for their promotions, this is a very important part of getting the message out to the communities. We at Rakaia have been hosting this sale for 10 years plus and would have raised nearly \$40.000. Certainly, team work indeed. - Dorothy

At Election Time.

God of wisdom and power,
the hopes and ideals we yearn for as a nation,
are personified in the ministry of Jesus.

As candidates and political parties,
present their manifestos and walk the hustings,
enable us to listen and enquire.

As politics often invokes cynicism grant us a sense
of responsibility in exercising our political choices on election day,
ever conscious that in the light of servanthood revealed to us in Jesus Christ,
those elected may recognise the divine responsibility of their calling.

The Shepherd's Call.

Prayers and liturgies for rural Aotearoa New Zealand

By Bill Bennett.

St. Andrew's Rakaia

Tuesday 13th October

11:30 am | Rakaia Friendship Gathering | Featuring our "Rapid Fire Quiz" with Karen.
Dinner, stall, raffle, and friendship time. Welcome to all.

Wednesday 14th October

10:30 am | Rakaia Fit Kids | with Miranda A time for friendship, fun, and support.

Welcome to all pre-school children.

1:00 pm | Steady As You Go | Balance, strengthening and gentle exercises for senior folk's health
and well-being.

St. John's Methven

Friday 16th October

7:30 pm | Family Quiz Night | Questions for all the family with supper provided. Teams 5 or 6 | Adults \$5,
School Children \$3. Come along, great fun for all. For more info contact Joan Wright 30286668 or
Graham Marr 3028682

Services for October			
11 th	10:30 am	St. Andrew's Rakaia Parish AGM to follow service	Rev. Arii Shared Lunch
18 th	9:30 am 10:30 am	St. Andrew's Rakaia St. John's Methven	Rev. Neville Burns Rev. Arii
21 st	7:00 pm	Carew	Rev. Arii
25 th	9:30 am 10:00 am 10:30 am	St. Andrew's Rakaia Trinity Mayfield St. John's Methven	Rev. John Titlow Rev. Arii Rev. Neville Burns

Serving in Change

God of light, who in Jesus made love real; help us live each day in joyful service.
Renew our congregation. Enable us to change to live, and live to change,
through Jesus Christ, Lord of every age.

Sunday 11th October 10.30am @ St Andrews Worship and AGM, followed by with a shared lunch.
AGM Reports available in the Foyer

