



PLAINS PRESBYTERIAN

18TH OCTOBER 2020



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“Have meaningful connection (with God and each other)”

Alpine Strategic Framework – “Be ministries who enjoy healthy relationships and are connected, supported, and resourced within their local region and wider Presbytery.”

Do we enjoy the current relationships we are in right now? Is it healthy? Do we feel supported? Or connected?

What does a healthy relationship look like? What are the signs of healthiness that speaks to us of our connectedness as Plains Presbyterian? What is not healthy?

We talk about transparency, communication, accountability and working together not just within ourselves but in the wider “Body of Christ” are we in touch and in tuned with the going on in the wider Presbytery? Do we feel a sense of belonging within Alpine? If so, in what way? If not, why?

What ministries DO we enjoy? Why do we enjoy them? Are we using the resources that are available to us? Or are we under resourced?

Take some time to think about our working relationship our personal relationship. Think about the connections we have with the people in our parish, the people in the community, the people that we work with, the people that we live with or share our home with.

What meaningful connections are there in life that have influenced and made lasting impressions?

Please share your thoughts with someone or I would be happy to hear from you.

Alpine Presbytery

Hanmer Retreat

We had a lovely collection of people gather for the Alpine Presbytery Retreat. Donald Scott led us in an interesting reflective space... allowing our souls to catch up with our bodies! It was also great to finally Commission Philippa and Ben Necklen into their role of being present in the community as we seek to find a new footing as a Godly presence in the area. Tuesday included some garden clearance at the former manse. Rory looked dangerous! (photos below)

~ Alpine Presbytery Newsletter



Hello Lord

On Wednesday this week, I decided to tidy the office room at St Andrew's, throw out time I thought. I found a book called Hello Lord....Ivor Bailey Speaking, first published 1975. Looking for a message for this week's bulletin, I opened the book up and the first line read... Hello Lord! Isn't sad how elections bring out the worst in people? When politicians campaign and make promises, everyone looks to see what they can get out of it.

Wages and loadings; education and employment; health and prices.

Why do we always look for our own selfish ends? Isn't more important that the greater number of people benefit - especially those who are not so well off - than that we selfishly get a few extra dollars in our pockets, or some extra advantage for ourselves. Lord, help us all to see - beyond petty, selfish ends, beyond electioneering stunts - our community needs, and the real issues involved, even if it costs us something.

Reading the back page, there is some information about Ivor Bailey. Ivor was born in England and achieved distinction in Australia and New Zealand as a preacher, chaplain and counsellor to prisoners, derelicts, and addicts. Also, a successful user of radio and television. Ivor was a minister at Durham Street Methodist Church, Christchurch, a weekly columnist for the Christchurch Star newspaper, front man in a programme called "Open Mind" and also a radio talk back host. During his ministry in Adelaide, South Australia, 1971 - 74, he began a daily, radio devotion on 5KA, "Hello Lord, this is Ivor Bailey Speaking", which quickly achieved a high reputation and wide audience. This book is adapted from those radio scripts. Here is another.

Hello Lord! I enjoyed talking to You every night, Lord. I tell You what's on my mind - the things that bug me, the people I meet, the challenges I face, questions I can't answer. We just chat together about things that matter. Because You're my friend, I don't feel I have to dress up, or use outdated language. I can relax with You. Isn't that what prayer is all about, Lord? You and me sharing things we think are important. Thank you, Lord. ~Dorothy

St. Andrew's Rakaia

Tuesday 20th 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.

Plants 4 U @ Rakaia update 3rd October. Final amount with the help of late sales and Gardening Facebook should be \$6000. We are very pleased as it has been a project that we persevered with throughout the Covid restrictions. It was "On and Off" several times.

William who lives in Rakaia would like to help people with some gardening. If interested please contact Dorothy 3027595.

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			
18 th	9:30 am	St. Andrew's Rakaia	Rev. Neville Burns
	10:30 am	St. John's Methven	Rev. Arii
21 st	7:00 pm	Carew	Rev. Arii

PRAYER

Lord, help us to embrace the relationship we have with you and with one another. As we go about our daily routines keep us mindful that all that we say and do affects the lives of those who we are connected to and who see us as a valued and important part of their circles. We also think about the elections and pray for a government who will guide and lead us prayerfully and faithfully having the people's best interest and heart in mind of good and wise governance for the way forward. Amen.