



PLAINS PRESBYTERIAN

13TH JUNE 2021



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Great is your faithfulness, O God my Father

Report from a Meeting of St John's Focus Group 9th June 2021

Alex Wright welcomed everyone and opened the meeting with Devotions from Paul's Letter to the Thessalonians – 'What if'. Paul insists that, although they were going through a lot of troubles that it was God's way of testing their faith- not a way of punishing them. God will always be there for us.

Reported on presentation to Arii – Paul Eden led a very appropriate service and there was a good congregation (around 60) Arii appreciated picture of the mountains and rocks painted by each district.

Pastoral Care – A number of our congregation are needing transport to church. Flooding aftermath – a long and difficult clean up underway following flooding event in Mid Canterbury. Discussion - can we assist in any way?

Brick Club: Thanks to Elspeth Jaine who has offered to help Jayne. Much appreciated. Any offers of help after school on Fridays is welcome.

Governance Council report: Precipis of minutes in Bulletin appreciated. Meeting was chaired by Rev Johanna Warren who is now our Interim Moderator. Presbytery will form a Board of Nomination – their first task to do a Parish Review, then decide on what form of Ministry will best suit our Parish

Ministry Settlement Board: Presbytery will have representation and each congregation also. Need to give consideration to representation (2 or 3) from Methven on Ministry Settlement Board. Terms of reference in PCANZ Book of Order. Joan will have these available.

Shop Day: Question as to viability and availability of willing helpers There may be alternatives to Shop Day baking / produce stall.

Quiz Night: still seems to be some enthusiasm for Quiz night – probably August. A good night out for families.

Manse: Some maintenance that Allen Redmond will attend to. Manse was left very clean and tidy Advice is that the new regulations for renting houses is very strict with regard to insulation, heating etc. Will get an inspection organised and take advice. Lawn mowing to be attended to in Spring.

Church Gardens: Further working Bee to be held to tidy overgrown shrubs.

Next meeting - Tuesday 6th July.

The Rubbish Challenge: 10 Steps to Less Waste in 10 Months

Current Step) June: FOOD

Bible verse | John 6: 12 When they had all had enough to eat, Jesus said to his disciples, "Gather the pieces that are left over so that nothing is wasted."

'Big Idea' | God created wonderful processes for all things to break down and be remade into new things, 'so that nothing is wasted'. Rot and decay get a 'bad rep' in the Bible, in fact Paul describes all of creation as "in bondage to decay" (Romans 8:21). But in our day we have a new appreciation for the importance of decomposition, as God's 'circle' way of sustaining life through returning nutrients to the soil.

Question - for reflection & discussion | How do you feel about composting and decomposing food? Can you see God at work in rot and decay? How can ensure that your food scraps get composted, and able to feed new life?

Action Step for June

Set up a system so that all food waste goes into organic collection or the compost. If you have a City Council organic waste collection, this is the green bin, and every home, church or office should be using this as much as possible. You need a food scraps container on (or under) your kitchen bench (e.g., a metal pot with lid). It needs to be: - easy to use and easy to clean - with no plastic bag liner - clearly labelled

Who will empty it and clean it? If you can, set up a composting system or worm farm. You can even hire one! Have less land-fill rubbish bins; not every room needs a bin!



Lectionary Readings for Sunday 13th June

"Another Point of View" Theme; To be guided by the love of Christ is to view ourselves and others from a different perspective. Our point of view has changed. This difference in perspective moves us into a very different world, a new creation in which the old has passed away and everything is new.

1 Samuel 15; 34 - 16;13: After the death of Saul, Samuel seeks out a new king for Israel, anointing David, the young son of Jesse.

2 Corinthians 5; 6 - 10; 14 - 17. From now on we regard no one from a human point of view, as Paul writes to the church at Corinth, telling them of the transformation that Christ has worked in his life.

Mark 4; 26 - 34; Jesus tells his followers a parable about a Sower sowing seed, thus revealing something to them of the miraculous growth of the kingdom of God.

This Sunday at St Andrew's 9.30am Rev John will reflect on the bible passage from Ephesians 6; 10 - 24. Paul does not pretend it will be easy to maintain these standards - to keep our feet in the Christian life. The fight is on. And we are up against powerful external forces. It is a spiritual struggle for which we need spiritual weapons. But we are not left helpless. The whole armoury of God is at our disposal- and with this defense we can stand.

WOV Hymn Book 511 Fight the good fight, with all your might; Christ is thy strength, and Christ thy right.

Prayer; Trust. One of life's blessings is to have someone you can trust. Completely! With everything! Between you and the one you trust there is total openness, complete confidence. The one you trust will never fail you or leave you, no matter what happens. God is Someone like that, Someone you can trust. He has promised never to forget you or fail you. He will not get weary of listening to you. He will not leave you when trials increase. God wants to be your friend. He wants you to trust Him. Completely! With everything. {Someone Cares, Bible League booklet}

St. John's Methven

Friday 18th June

St Johns Brick Club 3:15-5:00 pm on Fridays after school during the term 'Exploring God with Lego'. Contact Jayne 0274678105

St. Andrew's Rakaia

Tuesday 15th June

10:30 am | Rakaia Fit Kids | Welcome to all pre-school children. A time for friendships, fun & support.

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

2:00 pm | Mission Meeting | Discussion on the "New Look Plains Parish" Your ideas and suggestions most welcomed.

Please come to the meeting.

Saturday 2nd October | Plants 4 U @ Rakaia | Now is the time to divide those hostas and other perennials. (once the ground has dried out) Please pot up.

Community Collaboration Hui; Sunday June 13; 11am -12.30pm Rakaia Community Hall. You are warmly invited to this community gathering to share your ideas about topics that matter within Rakaia. "Shaping the future direction of the Rakaia Community. For more details, please read the latest Rakaia News.

Contacts for the Parish

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June Sunday Service

13th
9:30 am
10:30 am

St. Andrew's Rakaia
St. John's Methven

Rev. John Titlow
Rev. Neville Burns

Prayer

Lord Jesus, as you gathered the scraps after feeding the people
inspire us to gather our left-overs to feed the soil
that death may transform into new life
and nothing may go to waste. Amen.

