



PLAINS PRESBYTERIAN

11TH JULY 2021



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Hello Lord! Don't show up just on Sundays, Lord. We need You all the other days, too.

St John's Focus Group met 6th July

Devotions based on James – The testing of your faith produces perseverance

Fund raising – Going to have a fundraiser selling Fairlie Pies in October/ November. Will contact members and take orders. This is in place of our usual Shop Day.

Sunday School room repairs – to be attended to also switch for speaker in the foyer needs attention as do Gardens both at church and Manse.

Quiz night – August – date to be confirmed

Pastoral Care: Thinking of a number of members who have been unwell also others who are in care. Marilyn congratulated on her new job at Methven House. Report from Methven Care Trust meeting which was well attended. Further information will be available next month.

Methven House Service – St John's rostered on 16th July at 3.30p.m.

Governance Council minutes had been circulated

Worship – Next Sunday our Worship team will lead. We have a Video of Songs of Praise and also available other options. We all felt that it is very important that we keep our doors open on Sunday mornings to provide a place of worship, gathering and fellowship. Joan talked with Mary Jo Holdaway at All Saints – they are happy for us to join them on 5th Sundays. (Next 5th Sunday is on August at 10 a.m.). Other suggestions for assistance for Worship Team when taking services ourselves.

Brick Club: Going well. Jayne grateful for Gill and Elspeth's assistance

Ministry Settlement Board: Suggestions for membership received. Clarification will be sought from Rev. Johanna Warren regarding process also regarding Assembly Commissioners.

Property & Finance – Governance Council needing any items for Budget. Finance & Property meets next week.

Church Roll: needs updating. Copies to be distributed so that members can make any changes needed.

Next meeting Tuesday 3rd August

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



Current Step) July: PAPER TOWELS

Bible verse | Luke 21:1-4 Jesus saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins. He said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them."

'Big Idea' | Paper towels are the biggest single item filling our rubbish bins. A paper towel is small and seems insignificant, but it adds up to a huge impact. Placing them into organic waste is a simple humble act of service.

Question - for reflection & discussion | How do you respond to the idea that Jesus admires small acts of love? How does this relate to how we deal with the rubbish?

Action Step for July

Set up a simple system to get paper towels into organic waste collection. Each paper towel dispenser needs to have, right underneath it, a 'Paper Towel Only' bin, with no plastic bag liner, which gets emptied into the organic waste. What other paper waste could be put into composting?

Prayer: Lord Jesus, your ways are humble and good - May we be your hands in service to your world. May we show your heart to care, even in little ways, for others and for this earth you made so well.

<https://www.conversations.net.nz/rubbish-challenge.html>

Lectionary Readings for Sunday 11th July 2021

The Clash of Two Worlds. "Theme"

The corruption of Herod and his court stand in sharp contrast to the righteousness of John, the baptiser. Hearing of Jesus' ministry among the people, Herod fears that John, whom he beheaded, has been raised from the dead. The reign of God is certain. It is coming. In the meantime, those who choose the reign of God will face danger from the powers of this world.

Introduction to the Readings.

2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19. David brings the ark to Jerusalem, making that city the centre of worship for Israel. Steeped in liturgical language, these words focus on the power and presence of the holy.

Ephesians 1:3-14; Paul, from prison, gives the scattered churches in Asia Minor a vision that will unite all things into Christ. Nothing is left out, for the cosmic vision of Ephesians encompasses heaven and earth.

Mark 6: 14-21: The disturbing story of John's martyrdom is recounted as a reminder to all of the dangers that lie ahead for all those who are faithful. (Resources by Hope Morgan Ward)

St. Andrew's Rakaia

Tuesday 13th July

11:30 am -2:30 pm | Rakaia Friendship Gathering | Friendship, Bring and Buy stall, raffle. A warming dinner for all. Speaker Beverley Johnson on their trip to Gallipoli. Afternoon tea. Welcome to all. The hall will be well heated

Wednesday 14th July

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

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

This Sunday at St Andrew's Rakaia, Rev John will be reflecting on Ephesians 6: 10 - 17, Romans 5: 1 - 6. The Shoes of the Preparation of the Gospel.

St. John's Methven

Some photos of Brick Club during this past term!



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Sunday Services

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|------------------------|----------|---|--------------------|
| 11 th July | 9:30 am | St. Andrew's Rakaia | Rev. John Titlow |
| | 10:30 am | St. John's Methven | Worship Team |
| 18 th July | 9:30 am | St. Andrew's Rakaia | Rev. Silvia Purdie |
| | 10:30 am | St. John's Methven | Rev. Neville Burns |
| 25 th July | 9:30 am | St. Andrew's Rakaia | Rev. Neville Burns |
| | 10:30 am | St. John's Methven with Staveley Combined | Pastor Paul Eden |
| 1 st August | 10:30 am | St. John's Methven | Rev. Silvia Purdie |

Prayer

Loving God, we give thanks for the witness of John, the forerunner of Christ and the prophet of righteousness. It is frightening to realise the dangers of faithfulness. Strengthen in us resolve to follow where you lead, even to death on the cross. Confirm in us a desire for holiness. Bless us with courage so that our witness might honour and embody the faithful and bold ministry of Jesus Christ. Amen