



PLAINS PRESBYTERIAN

8TH AUGUST 2021



Stay Connected with us! | [Facebook.com/PlainsPresbyterianParish](https://www.facebook.com/PlainsPresbyterianParish) | [PlainsPresbyterian.co.nz](https://www.PlainsPresbyterian.co.nz)
Prayer - that is, talking with God - is a precious privilege.

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

Current Step) August: BATTERIES

Bible verse | James 3: 8-10: The tongue is a restless evil, full of deadly poison! With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth comes both blessing and cursing. E te whanau, this should not be so!

'Big Idea' | Every cordless device we use has a battery in it. They are great while they work, but then what? If batteries are tossed

out with your curbside rubbish or recycling, the hazardous substances they contain could cause a fire in the rubbish truck or recycling plant. If they end up in landfill, the poisons inside batteries may leak out into soil and ground water.

Question - for reflection & discussion | When we buy a battery, do we know what's inside it? Do we know what will happen to it when it dies?

How come we use toxic substances every day, without a thought?

Discuss James's challenge about the words that we speak. When can words be poisonous?

What toxic attitudes and behaviours do we take for granted as 'normal'?

We often feel drained. How does God 'recharge your batteries'?!

Action Step for August

Set up a Batteries Box at your church. Get an artist (or the kids!) to design it so it looks cool. Every couple of months empty it at your Council recycling depot.

At home and at church, stop buying things that need throw-away batteries.

Switch to recyclable rechargeable batteries.



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



Climate Change & Wellbeing Seminar

Sunday 19th September, 5.00 – 8.30pm.

The Hope Seminar is a public inter-church event held by A Rocha, a Christian organisation caring for creation. This year we are at the Anglican Transitional Cathedral (the Cardboard Cathedral on Madras St), including Choral Evensong, a light meal, and a stimulating evening of speakers and discussion. The peace of Christ is needed now more than ever, with so many people anxious about our world and the future. The Hope Seminar will seek God's

Shalom in a time of climate change. Children and young people are most welcome.

For more information and to register visit: www.arocha.org.nz.

Lectionary Reading for Sunday 8 August. John 6; 35, 41 -51

John's Gospel deals in symbols and mystery.

This gospel contains some of the most lovely and memorable teachings in the whole of the New Testament. "In the beginning was the Word" "the word became flesh and dwelt among us" "God so loved the world that he gave his only son, that whoever believes will not die, but have everlasting life".

John was written around the turn of the first century about 70 years after Jesus died and 20 to 30 years after Mark, Matthew and Luke were written. John's gospel is based around seven signs or miracles, such as turning water into wine, healing the official's son, raising Lazarus from the dead and the Resurrection of Jesus. The other distinctive feature of John's Gospel is the seven "I am" statements of Jesus.

"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life". " I am the way and the truth and the life". "I am the vine. you are the branches" are three examples.

The first of these is in today's reading from chapter 6: "I am the bread of life," " Those who come to me will never be hungry; those who believe in me will never be thirsty". These statements are very powerful, They are reassuring and encouraging. They don't promise an easy life with no troubles, but they do point to the core of the Christian message. That God loves us and because of this we are to love one another and ourselves. With Christ sustaining us, we can let go of the things we try to control in our lives and stretch out, try some new things, take risks.

Let's make room in our lives for the mystery of the love of God as shown through Jesus's example and enabled through the Holy Spirit. Let's re-orient our lives to accept the love of God. We don't need to be in charge all the time. We can be controlled by love. {Let your Light Shine Through by Philip Garside}

At St Andrew's this Sunday, Rev. John will be reflecting on Ephesians 6: 10-16 and Hebrews 12:1-3. The Shield of Faith.

St. Andrew's Rakaia Working Bee's | Thank you to our gardeners, Isobell, Dorothy and Robin, our rubbish disposal man. After 2 sessions in the church garden, its looking a lot tidier. Thank you to Heather for making lots of jam, in preparation for the 2 October. Thank you to all who have commenced the potting up process for the Plant Fair.

Tuesday 10th August 11:30 am | Rakaia friendship Club | Stall and raffle, Dinner and entertainment with Shirley and Lorraine, a musical programme with a request time. Welcome to all.

Wednesday 11th August

10:30 am | Rakaia Fit Kids | 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..

Carew Sunday 8th August Service at the Carew Church at 3:00 pm with Rev. Johanna Warren. All Welcome!

St. John's Methven

Friday 13th August St Johns Brick Club 3:15-5:00 pm on Fridays after school during the term '**Exploring God with Lego**'. Contact Jayne 0274678105

Friday 20th August 7:30 pm | Family Quiz Night! At St. John's in Methven. Teams of 5 or 6. Adults \$5 School children \$3 |

Questions for all the family. No great prizes but great fun for all!! Supper provided. For more info contact Joan Wright or Graham Marr.

*A Very Big Thank You to Elsa, Allen & Lynda and helpers for Lunch on Sunday.

It was really appreciated and good to sample the Fairlie pies ahead of our fundraiser later in the year. Yum!!

August Worship Services

8 th	9:30 am	St. Andrew's Rakaia	Rev. John Titlow
	10:30 am	St. John's Methven	Worship Team
	3:00 pm	Carew	Rev. Johanna Warren
15 th	9:30 am	St. Andrew's Rakaia Café Church	Worship Team
	10:30 am	St. John's Methven	Neville Burns
22 nd	9:30 am	St. Andrew's Rakaia	Rev. Neville
	10:00 am	Trinity Mayfield	Pastor Paul Eden
	10:30 am	St. John's Methven	Rev. Silvia Purdie
29 th	9:30 am	St. Andrew's Rakaia Movie Morning	"A Man Called Peter"

PRAYER

Lord, give us the grace to know you as you are, in a relationship with you that is heartfelt and intimate. Make yourself more than an idea, a concept, or a thought, take on flesh again for us, allow yourself to be touched by us. Lord, take us personally, just as we are, and give us the grace to take you the same way. Amen

AGM

Our Parish AGM will be held on 26th September after a parish service at St Andrew's Rakaia at 10:30 am. This is a change to our usual pattern as we need to fit in with other commitments I have, the General Assembly on 3rd October and the Hakatere AGM on 10th October. I do thank the governance council and worship committee for working with me on this. I look forward to reading the annual reports and seeing you all at the service and meeting. - Johanna Warren

Note* Would those who are responsible for providing their group's Annual Report to the Parish please have this to Joan (jmacw5442@gmail.com) or Elsa esurya@hotmail.com by 16th August at the latest. Thank you