



PLAINS PRESBYTERIAN

6TH MARCH 2022



Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.

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Plains Presbyterian
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The Gift of Peace.

His peace He gives to us,
His peace he leaves with us.

Not for us alone, but that we might
give it again to all people.

The person who looks for
God in the depths of their heart,
will find a hidden quiet that nothing
can disturb or take away.

The person who sees their life as an
open door, through which all people
might come to love and give again,
will know true peace.

The people whose joy it is to
discover the world and meet the
eyes of God in the beauty that is his,
will sing of Peace. [Adapted]

Call for Lenten Prayers for Ukraine

Yesterday afternoon I joined with the leaders of the New Zealand Methodist, Roman Catholic, and Anglican churches in releasing a press statement on the terrible crisis in Ukraine. The statement is as follows:

Statement on Ukraine | *Across the globe people are horrified by the invasion of Ukraine by Russia. In a region that learnt the devastating lessons of war last century, the pattern has the tragic possibility of repeating. It flies in the face of much of the progress in peaceful coexistence that Europe has made in recent decades.*

Once again, on European soil, we see the rights and wellbeing of millions of ordinary people trampled on by an aggressive and entitled leader. It also flies in the face of the Jesus-values of peace-making. In this instance, those values call us to stand against violence and stand with the oppressed. Those values call for de-escalation and peace talks. They call for humility and kindness. As Christians we stand in solidarity with the vast chorus of voices calling for the aggression to end and the peaceful solutions to begin.

**In this troubled time,
this is a great example of Christian solidarity.**

And to this I want to add a call to prayer for our Church, supporting the global call to prayer for Ash Wednesday (tomorrow) from Pope Francis:

Pope Francis had called on Christians around the world to fast and pray for peace in Eastern Europe this coming Ash Wednesday. "I invite everyone to make March 2, Ash Wednesday, a day of fasting for peace, I encourage believers in a special way to devote themselves intensely to prayer and fasting on that day." - Pope Francis, 25.02.2022

Given our place on the date line, we can lead the world in this global ripple of prayer!

- Hamish Galloway

Moderator | moderator@presbyterian.org.nz

Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa NZ

March & April Worship Services

Note* Vaccine Pass is required to attend services.

4 th March	10:30 am	St. Andrew's Rakaia Café Service	World Day of Prayer
6 th March	10:30 am	St. John's Methven Communion	Rev. John Titlow
13 th March	9:30 am	St. Andrew's Rakaia	Rev. John Titlow
	10:30 am	St. John's Methven	Rev. Silvia Purdie
20 th March	9:30 am	St. Andrew's Rakaia Communion	Rev. Silvia Purdie
	10:30 am	St. John's Methven	Mr. Garth Cant
27 th March	9:30 am	St. Andrew's Rakaia Harvest Thanksgiving	Rev. Silvia Purdie
	10:00 am	Staveley Combined with St. John's & Mayfield	Rev. Johanna Warren
3 rd April	10:30 am	St. John's Methven	Rev. Silvia Purdie

Plains Presbyterian Notices

Cancellation The Methven House Service on Friday has been cancelled due to Covid concerns. Please keep the Staff at Methven House in your prayers as they work in difficult conditions through this time of uncertainty.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Rod Clibborn and his family as they mourn the loss of Jenny. Jenny Clibborn was a very active and important part of the St Johns congregation over many years. Jenny has been ill for a number of years and we send sincere condolences to her family at this sad time.

Alpine Presbytery | Autumn Gathering Given the changing situation with Covid, we have decided to shift our first Gathering for this year online. It will be held on Zoom on **Saturday 26th March** from 9.30am—12noon. Documents regarding any items for vote will be circulated beforehand, and voting will be conducted via email. Anyone is welcome to attend, however we do ask that you register in order to access the Zoom link. Register here: alpine.infoodle.com/f/AutumnGathering2022

Plains Speaking Plains Speaking newsletter (published quarterly) is looking for news and events to include in the April edition. Good communication is the glue that holds us together as a far-flung parish – it would be great to hear from all corners sharing positive news and celebrations, community events and mission focus etc. All contributions welcome to be sent to the Editor, Elsa Hyde, by **Tuesday 22nd March**. Email: esura@hotmail.com

St. Andrew's Rakaia

Tuesday 8th March 11:30 am | **Rakaia Friendship Gathering** at St. Andrew's church hall. Meal, Sales Table and Quiz Time with Karen

Wednesday 9th March 10:30 am | **Rakaia Fit Kids** 1:00 pm | **Steady As You Go**.

Thursday 10th March 1.30pm | **Euchre Afternoon** with Norm and Fay.

Sunday 13th March **Harvest Gathering Time**, week 2, canned Food. Thankyou for the basket of pasta gathered Sunday 27th Feb.

Dear people of Plains Parish, I so long to spend time with you and take some part in nurturing you spiritually and pastorally. Therefore, each month starting in March I will be somewhere in the parish with a programme of prayer, worship, and time to talk over a cuppa.

This month: Tuesday 22 March, 1:30 pm at St John's Methven finishing about 3 pm. I will also come to lead worship in the parish once a quarter. I am at Staveley on March 27th - **Johanna**.

St John's Focus Group met this week

Allen & Lynda had met up with members of Bob Chambers family who were in Methven on the 30th anniversary of Bob's death. Bob made a great contribution to St John's over many years.

Concern that Arable farmers in the district are under a lot of stress as the continued rain is making harvesting very difficult

Congratulations to James Clark who is in the Team Ag final in Whangarei in July and Charlie Clark came 4th in Agri Kids competition.

Communion will be on Sunday. Lunch afterwards – finger food - Parish service.

COVID rules – Plains Parish Policy will be kept in Foyer. Masks should be worn at worship.

Lenten Studies at All Saints starting Thursday 7 p.m. at the Vicarage. Anyone welcome.

Scarecrow Trail – It would be good to enter into the Scarecrow Trail in Methven in April Theme is Children's TV Character. Ideas welcome

Governance Council Report – a good report in last week's Bulletin

MSB working on Parish Review. Brian & Graham, our representatives, keen to hear from

anyone with ideas regarding the future of the Parish

Brick Club: Jayne reported that Brick Club hasn't started up this year due to Covid restrictions. Jayne working on ideas to keep up momentum

Methven's World Day of Prayer Service Friday 4th March at Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Church.

Methven House Service Friday 4th March at 3.30 p.m. Covid permitting (**Due to Covid Concerns NOW Cancelled**)