

Postal Address:
C/O Plains Admin
139A Bowen Street
Rakaia 7710



PLAINS PRESBYTERIAN 27TH AUGUST 2023

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.



We gratefully receive donations Can be sent to; Plains Presbyterian
Account Number:
02 0868 0091269 00
Thank you very much.

Stay Connected With Us! Find us on Facebook: [Facebook.com/PlainsPresbyterianParish](https://www.facebook.com/PlainsPresbyterianParish) Check out our Website: [PlainsPresbyterian.co.nz](https://www.PlainsPresbyterian.co.nz)

CONTACTS FOR THE PARISH

Parish Clerks	Liz Depree 021889341; l.depree@interlead.c.nz Annette Syme 3030803; annettesyme@icloud.com
Mayfield & Staveley	Annette Syme 3030803; annettesyme@icloud.com
St. Andrew's Rakaia	Dorothy Knight 3027595; dottsknights@gmail.com
St. John's Methven	Elsa Hydes 0212655050; esurya@hotmail.com
Administrator	Miranda Addis 02102414085; plainsoffice@gmail.com

PLAINS PRESBYTERIAN NOTICES



Online Worship | Here is a link for Cashmere Presbyterian:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sYjz6og21qg>

Mayfield Trinity | 10:00 am Service combined with Methven and Staveley with Pastor Paul Eden. Following Service A congregational meeting will be held at Mayfield Church on Sunday 27th August after our service. Applying for an exemption for Mayfield Presbyterian Church to meet the New Building Standard of 67%.



A Congregational Meeting of the Parish has been advertised in this Bulletin and held on Mayfield 27th August re-applying for an exemption from meeting the NBS for Seismic strengthening. *To provide Methven and Rakaia members of the parish who were unable to attend the Mayfield Service an opportunity to voice their views, short meetings will be held as follows:*

Methven St John's Parish Service, Sunday, 5th September, after the service Rakaia St Andrew's Service, Sunday, 12th September, after the service.

St. Andrew's Rakaia ~ Jam for sale in the foyer! ~ Food Sharing Box in the foyer Sunday 27th August | 9:30 am at St. Andrew's Church Online Kilmarnock

Tuesday 29th August 10:00 am | Rakaia Fit Kidz

1:00 pm | **Steady As You Go** exercises

Saturday 30th September PLANTS 4 U @ RAKAIA 9:00 am—1:00 pm

A HUGE variety of plants for sale, all at affordable prices! Put the date in your Calander. Cash only sale! AMAZING what you can buy and well within your budget! Supporting Community Outreach. Contact dottsknights@gmail.com for more info! More info can be found on our website, also Follow our Facebook page for updates!



St. John's Methven Tuesday 29th August St. John's Brick Club 3:15 pm. Tuesday 5th September Focus Group Meeting 7:30 pm



Click [HERE](#) to print this service list

WORSHIP SERVICES

27th Aug	9:30 am 10:00 am	St. Andrew's Rakaia Trinity Mayfield <i>Combined with Methven & Staveley</i>	Online with Kilmarnock Pastor Paul Eden
3rd Sept	10:30 am	St. John's Methven <i>Communion Shared lunch</i>	Rev. Laurence Ennor
10th Sept	9:30 am 10:30 am	St. Andrew's Rakaia <i>Communion</i> St. John's Methven	Rev. John Titlow Worship Team
17th Sept	9:30 am 10:30 am	St. Andrew's Rakaia St. John's Methven	Online with Kilmarnock Rev. John Titlow
24th Sept	9:30 am 10:00 am	St. Andrew's Rakaia <i>Spring Flower Service</i> Staveley <i>Combined with Mayfield & Methven</i>	Rev. Laurence Ennor Pastor Paul Eden
1st Oct	10:30 am	St. John's Methven <i>Parish Service Shared lunch</i>	Rev. Laurence Ennor
8th Oct	9:30 am 10:30 am	St. Andrew's Rakaia St. John's Methven	Rev. John Titlow Worship Team

ANNUAL REPORTS

For preparation of our Annual Report Booklets
Please send your Reports to Miranda at
Plainsoffice@gmail.com by **September 4th**

St. Andrew's Ashburton

It was pleasing to see Plains Presbyterian Parish folk supporting the St. Andrew's Ashburton Reshaping Lives Church Service last Sunday 20th August. A service of Celebration and Rededication, blessing the completion of repairs and strengthening of their church. The Ashburton Pipe Band was there, piping in the Rev Eric Mattock, resident minister, bible and members of the parish. Shared responses to prayer, joyous hymn singing, bible readings from 1 Corinthians 13; 4-13, Matthew 13; 31-33, 44-52, and Rev Eric's message made this a spiritual time for nearly a full attended church. A piped solo of Flower of Scotland and being piped out at the conclusion, this was a real Presbyterian service. We enjoyed a wonderful afternoon tea and shared in fellowship with the Ashburton folk. Well done St Andrews Church. One of the hymns was We Love this place, O God, I felt it had a special significance.

1. We love this place O God, wherein thine honour dwells
2. We love this house of prayer.
3. We love this sacred font
4. We love thine altar Lord
5. We love the word of life.
6. We love to sing below'
7. Lord Jesus give us grace, on earth to love thee more.

The Rev. Neville Burns has passed away early morning of 24th August. Sandra, Thelma and Neville Burns daughter wanted to share the news with Plains Parish. Neville has been unwell for some time and our prayers are with Thelma and their family in their time of loss of a much loved husband, father, father in law & Grandfather. Neville is at peace now with his Lord. He served our Plains Parish so well as a supply minister traveling from Christchurch to take services for us. We enjoyed his stories and thoughtful sermons which always gave us something to think about. Funeral arrangements are to be finalized, but could be Saturday 2nd September. Rev. Neville and Thelma were much loved and respected supply minister for a number of years, we were blessed to have them in our Plains Parish ministry team.

Our prayers and God's Blessings go to the family.



“The following is a Season of Creation message to the Church by Rev Dr Jordan Redding on behalf of the Moderator Right Rev Hamish Galloway.

From doom to bloom As the *Season of Creation* rolls around, our initial reaction may be a mix of indifference and malaise. Bombarded by apocalyptic headlines of global heating, extreme weather events, and collapsing biodiversity, it's easy to shut it all out and put it in the “too-hard basket”.

This hopelessness or apathy to the possibility of change has a name: doomerism. I owe the title of this message to Jenny Sahng from [Climate Club NZ](#), who talks about the urgent need to get out of the doomer rutt. Why? Because when we lose hope, we become apathetic and stop pushing for change.

Communication is everything. We can frame things within a narrative of fear. We can also frame things within a narrative of hope. Climate campaigners are increasingly aware that the narrative makes all the difference between apathy and action. It's never too late. It's never hopeless.

As followers of the risen Christ, we have a distinct advantage. That's because, the gospel is fundamentally a narrative of hope. As a resurrection people being renewed in the Spirit, we are hardwired for hope, learning to see the world as a place that God is healing, transforming and renewing.

The *Season of Creation* is an opportunity for us to join with Christians all over the world in giving voice to this hope. Through prophetic prayer and preaching, we can draw the focus away from doomerist headlines to the countless possibilities of change in us, around us, and beneath us.

We may not be able to do it all ourselves. But no one has asked us to. In the church, we are part of the body of Christ all over the world. A trickle of change here and a trickle of change there can become a mighty torrent of justice and peace.

I finish with a story of Flagstaff Community Church in Dunedin, who are quietly getting to work [restoring the awa \(river\) in their backyard](#). A few years ago, School Creek was uncared for. The water was polluted and full of rubbish. Rats and possums haunted its banks. Through cleaning the creek, pest control, and native tree planting, the creek has gradually been restored. The water quality has improved. Kōura (freshwater crayfish), Tūī, and Pīwakawaka (Fantails) have returned. Not only that, other community groups, including the school, have also gotten on board, fostering friendships and community that weren't there before.

This is a local story of “justice and peace flowing” – quite literally, in the case of the restored waters of School Creek. This *Season of Creation*, may we find our prophetic voice to celebrate stories like this as we move together from doom to bloom.