

Postal Address:

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Rakaia 7710



# PLAINS PRESBYTERIAN PARISH 7<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2024

*God in community, we ask your blessings on our Parish family.*



We gratefully receive donations Can be sent to; Plains Presbyterian Account Number: 02 0868 0091269 00

Are you following us on Facebook? [Facebook.com/PlainsPresbyterianParish](https://www.facebook.com/PlainsPresbyterianParish) Check out our Website: [PlainsPresbyterian.co.nz](https://www.plainspresbyterian.co.nz) Stay Connected!!

## CONTACTS FOR THE PARISH



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## ONLINE WORSHIP Click the following links for worship at home;

Cashmere Presbyterian: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6EdBtvT966A>

Hope Presbyterian: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7sd8wpGj04Q&t=61s>

Click [HERE](#) to print services for Worship Service 14th April—12th May

## WORSHIP SERVICES

14 <sup>th</sup> April	9:30 am	<b>St. Andrew's Rakaia</b>	Rev. Laurence Ennor
	10:30 am	<b>St. John's at All Saints Combined Harvest Thanksgiving</b>	Rev. Annette Eggelston
21 <sup>st</sup> April	9:30 am	<b>St. Andrew's Rakaia</b>	Rev. John Titlow
	10:30 am	<b>St. John's Methven</b>	Pastor Paul Eden
28 <sup>th</sup> April	9:30 am	<b>St. Andrew's Rakaia</b>	Video Church
	10:00 am	<b>Mayfield Trinity</b> <i>Combined with Foothill Churches</i>	Pastor Paul Eden
5 <sup>th</sup> May	10:30 am	<b>St. John's Methven</b> Parish Service. Shared Lunch	Rev. Laurence Ennor
12 <sup>th</sup> May	9:30 am	<b>St. Andrew's Rakaia</b>	Rev. John Titlow
	10:30 am	<b>St. John's AT ALL SAINTS</b>	Rev. Annette Eggelston



## PLAINS PRESBYTERIAN NOTICES

**Note \* 2nd Page - An everyday prayer for all.**

—**Parish Council Report \* Important** Also can be found following this link: <https://www.plainspresbyterian.co.nz/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Parish-Council-Update-for-14th-April.pdf>

**St. Andrew's Rakaia** Sunday 14th April 9.30am

Rev Laurence Ennor. *"Sir, we would see Jesus"*

Bible Readings— Philipians 2; 5 -11; John 12; 20 -36

Tuesday 16th April

10:00 am **Rakaia Fit Kidz** Welcome all ages! Holiday Activity!

1:00 pm **Steady As You Go** Exercises with Dorothy



**St. John's Methven**



Sunday 14th April 10:30 am Service at All Saints. **This Sunday is our combined Harvest Thanksgiving Service** when any donated foods will be for Methven House.

*Bless all who provide comfort to those in need. Keep our own eyes open to the opportunities in which we can minister to others. For in the eyes of others, we shall see you. Amen*

## The Wider Church -Bill Bennett



*God of all, it is so easy to get bogged down in the trivia of our own little world and forget that Christians like us are working in countless other places across this land and around the world. We are linked by a common faith, bearing one another's burdens, expressing the catholicity of your love and fulfilling the law of Christ. Strengthen our awareness of each other. Challenge the lukewarm, encourage the harassed, inspire the persecuted and oppressed, all for the sake of our universal Lord. Amen*



## PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE FOR 14<sup>TH</sup> APRIL

As an ongoing way of sharing information re “Reimagining Plains Parish” a reminder of the upcoming local meetings in each region of our parish:

- **Mayfield** – 18th April, 1.30pm in the Church Lounge
- **Methven** – 21st April, after the 10.30 am Church Service.
- **Rakaia** – 23rd April, 7.30 pm at the Church.

These local meetings are an opportunity to share the Reimagining document, listen to the voices of your community, and discuss as a group: if this proposal were to go ahead to the next stage, what are the things about your mission in the church that you value and would want to retain?

Last week we shared the definition of members of a church parish. Like any charitable organisation, this needs to be clear for decision-making processes to be understood. Parish Council, consisting of nine members (representing three from each church) have unanimously made the decision to “determine the minds of the wider congregation to closing Plains Presbyterian Parish in order for new growth possibilities to emerge”. This does not necessarily mean it is going to happen – we have just taken an initial step to get the conversations happening. The next step is to take this decision to a parish-wide **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING on Sunday 5th May, 10.30 am at St John’s Methven**. The reason for this meeting is to ratify PC’s decision to investigate closure. **It will need 2/3rds of the members (including associates) present at the Congregational Meeting to be in favour to take this further.** Under the PCANZ Book of Order proxy votes are not counted.

Rev Robyn McPhail, a past Minister for our parish, has reached out to tell us we are in her mind and prayers as we look for some answers to the challenges we face. She feels it is significant that we took the initial plunge and linked up as parishes and have some years now of working together while keeping an active presence in each district/community”.

*Visit our website for all the links of the Parish Council Updates on the home page:*

[plainspresbyterian.co.nz](https://www.plainspresbyterian.co.nz)

*Click the link following for a printable version of Rev. John Titlow’s Prayer he composed for our Parish to pray daily:*

<https://www.plainspresbyterian.co.nz/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/Parish-Prayer.pdf>

HEAVENLY FATHER,

*Thank You for the privilege of calling You Father. Thank You for sending the Holy Spirit so that we can be adopted into Your family. We ask that you send Your Holy Spirit today so that we will know You better through our Lord Jesus, Your true Son.*

*Thank You for Your promise that You will build Your church. We ask that You rebuild Your churches within Plains Presbyterian Parish. Strengthen us, guide us, and give us ways to share the burdens and privileges of being Your people, so that we may be able to live and grow in this place.*

*We ask that You free us from putting so much effort into maintaining our buildings that we lose sight of You, each other and Your call to take the Good News of Jesus to our community.*

*Thank You for hearing our prayers.*  
**We ask all this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Are you on our Newsletter email list? If you’re not and would like to be or know someone that would like to be, email [plainsoffice@gmail.com](mailto:plainsoffice@gmail.com) today!*