

Postal Address:

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PLAINS PRESBYTERIAN PARISH 7TH APRIL 2024

Thank You for hearing our prayers, Lord.



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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=yNDCWuvqZ44>

Cromwell Presbyterian: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B2t6edwsKpc>

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

Good Friday Service: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OQRrERoLqJk>

Easter Sunday Service: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=96nFNRDtYYM>

WORSHIP SERVICES

7th April	10:30 am	St. John's Methven	Rev. John Titlow	✝
14th April	9:30 am	St. Andrew's Rakaia	Rev. Laurence Ennor	
	10:30 am	St. John's at All Saints	Rev. Annette Eggelston	
21st April	9:30 am	St. Andrew's Rakaia	Rev. John Titlow	
	10:30 am	St. John's Methven	Pastor Paul Eden	
28th April	9:30 am	St. Andrew's Rakaia	Video Church	
	10:00 am	Mayfield Trinity	Pastor Paul Eden	
		<i>Combined with Foothill Churches</i>		
5th May	10:30 am	St. John's Methven	Rev. Laurence Ennor	
		Parish Service. Shared Lunch		

Click [HERE](#) to print services for Worship Service 7th April—5th May

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/Revised-Bulletin-Notice-No.-3.pdf>

Visit our website and all of the Parish Councils Reports and updates can be found linked on the homepage of our website: [PlainsPresbyterian.co.nz](https://www.plainspresbyterian.co.nz)

St. Andrew's Rakaia

Tuesday 9th April Rakaia Friendship Gathering Sales Table, quiz with Karen, Dinner, Afternoon tea and Friendship. Dorothy 3027595 for information.

Wednesday 10th April

10:00 am **Rakaia Fit Kidz** Welcome all preschool children!

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

St. John's Methven

Sunday 7th April 10:30 am Service led by Rev. John Titlow

The Locked Room.

Jesus has been appearing to the disciples after the crucifixion, but Thomas is still questioning whether this can really be his friend Jesus back to life.

Jesus answers him, "Thomas, my peace be upon you, do you see it is I? Will you see the wounds I bore for you, my hands, my feet, my side?". Then Thomas responds, "My Lord, My God, My Master,"

Thomas needed to personally see and speak with Jesus before he could be at peace. . Is that our challenge today.? Its about making peace. Stretch out your hand. "Son, your sins are forgiven." Jesus acted with compassion.





PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE FOR 7TH APRIL.....

Parish Council realise the importance of sharing information with the wider parish for prayerful and wise decisions to be made about our future. The opportunity to do this is at a regional meeting near you during the month of April. These meetings are open to members and non-members alike to listen to our local community. *These are scheduled for:*

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 in the Church Lounge.

One of the questions you may have is ‘just who decides whether a parish will close or not?’ While Parish Council have taken the first step to “determine the minds of the wider congregation to closing Plains Presbyterian Parish in order for new growth possibilities to emerge” the decision to step further in this direction is up to the members of the parish. Like any organisation you may belong to, the Church clearly explains who are its members.

The PCANZ Book of Order defines both members and associate members as someone who has/will:

- received baptism as a child or as an adult
- publicly professed his or her faith in Jesus Christ
- sought to lead a life consistent with his or her profession of faith
- united in the worship, life and mission of the congregation
- support the life, worship, and mission of the congregation
- accept the spiritual oversight of the church council, and
- accept the discipline of the Church.

A person may apply or be recognised as an associate member when either

- that person fulfils the conditions for membership set out in section 2 but does not wish to be a member, or
- that person expresses an intention to associate himself or herself with the congregation, is active in the worship, life, and mission of the congregation, and seeks to lead a life consistent with the Christian faith.

Currently Plains Parish has 84 members and associate members who will be eligible to vote. Of this total, 70% are over the age of 65. These are the facts we need to face.

This is our second week of sharing a different perspective leading up to the 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 and it will be important to have as many members and associates present as possible.

At the end of a recent Parish Council meeting Rev Eric, our Interim Moderator, reminded us that Jesus needed to die on the cross in order for the Resurrection to happen. As we come out of the Easter period of both grief and joy, it is a good reminder to us all that sometimes this is the right order.

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 today!