

The Messenger

May 2020



Monthly magazine of St Peter's Terrace End
Website: <http://www.stpeterspn.org.nz>

ST PETER'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

229 Ruahine St., PO Box 5134
Terrace End. Palmerston North
Phone/Fax: (06) 358-5403
E-mail: stpeters@inspire.net.nz

Vicar

Rev Stuart Goodin..... 027 442 4867

Church Wardens

John Freebairn (Vicar's)..... 351 4706
Yvonne Rae (People's) 358 3962

Hon Priest Associate

Rev Geneth Davies 357 8481
Rev Ross Downes 323 2035

Hon Vocational Deacon

Rev Faye Davenport 358 1520

Vestry Members

David Barrett 358 8798
Rae Callahan 357 3970
John Freebairn 351 4706
James Pettengill..... 027 580 6320
Sheila Jolley..... 357 8276
Caroline Roche 356 4102
Wayne Stokes 027 408 1637
Githa Warrington 357 3859

Church Contacts

AAW 357 3859
Endowment Trust 357 3970
Flower Guild 350 3082
Junior Church 022 222 6425
Missions 027 408 1637
Pastoral Care 358 5403
Prayer Chain 358 5981

Messenger Editors

Yvonne & Allan Rae 358 3962

Weekly Events for May

Keeping safe and well!!



*Note from the Editors: any articles not attributed to anyone are written by the editors.
Contributions from parishioners will be warmly welcomed – subject to possible editing!*

Examining These Strange Times

It has been a strange way to begin my ministry as Vicar among you, forced to work remotely from another city until such time as the present restrictions are lifted and the physical shift of residence can take place, having had no official farewell from Whanganui and no service of installation into St Peter's. This has been a strange time indeed for Christine and me; but we recognize that each of you too will have your own tales of hardships, disappointments, needs unmet, fears, ... and perhaps also of new joys, pleasures, surprises, and blessings. We have all been forced to adopt different ways of being the Church, different modes of worship, different ways of being the family of Christ.

It seems to me that there is something akin to the practice of spiritual disciplines in all of this. Spiritual disciplines – such as fasting, solitude, meditation, study, chastity, frugality – help us to integrate body and spirit, often by confronting us with the reality of how much we are driven by our appetites, wants, and fears. In the same way, lockdown has forced and prompted a new integration of our Monday to Saturday lives with our Sundays. (I appreciate that this days-of-the-week distinction is not apt for some, but I hope the general point will still be clear). All too often we can compartmentalize our lives, separating our “Monday to Saturday” life of work (or whatever it is that occupies our day-to-day life) from our “Sunday” life of worship. Because the lockdown has disrupted our normal Sunday patterns, and has disrupted in other ways our normal Mondays to Saturdays, we have the opportunity to look at these things afresh, and to re-examine how they might inform one another. We might consider how all of life might be worship (in the sense of giving glory to God and fulfilling God's purposes in the world), how prayer and praise and scripture might infuse our Mondays to Saturdays, and how the cares and trials, joys and successes of Mondays to Saturdays might be brought into our Sundays.

I have to confess that I find the practice of many types of spiritual discipline hard. But the thing with spiritual disciplines is that it is not the issue of success or failure, or of finding them easy or hard, that is the sole point. There is value too in taking time to notice and reflect on our failures and hardships in spiritual disciplines, because this reflection sheds light on our usual habits. What drives us – our appetites, wants, and fears ... and indeed our deep idolatries – are exposed by our struggle in spiritual disciplines. I believe the same kind of reflection could well be fruitful in relation to how we find life under lockdown. For example, I have come to recognize that part of my disappointment about the delay to having a farewell from Whanganui is at root a manifestation of my deep need for affirmation and approval of others rather than simply relying on my identity as a beloved child of God.

The reflection about lockdown should also be informative about our attitudes, wants, fears etc. in relation to the change it has brought to the way we do church. Lockdown offers us a lens on our old “normal”.

As I discussed all this with Christine, she recommended sitting quietly with your reflection and asking God, “What are you saying to me through this? What are you inviting me into? What are you asking of me?” I agree, and commend this activity to you: make sure you do it well before “normality” returns, whenever that may be. And I would add there is value in sharing your personal noticing, reflection, and hearing with at least one other member of the body of Christ, because we best discern the voice of God in community, because naming things aloud aids commitment, and because our brothers and sisters in Christ can help gently hold us to account.

Christine and I are glad to join the community of St Peter’s, and we look forward to sharing with you, your struggles and joys, your fears and hopes, your work and your worship, as together with you we look to serve our Creator God and King Jesus.

Rev Stuart Goodin
21 April 2020

Introducing Stuart and Christine

Stuart and Christine were both brought up in Waikato district: Christine in Hamilton, and Stuart in Waerenga, a north-eastern Waikato dairying district. They met and married while Stuart was studying economics at Waikato University, and Christine was working as a Karitane nurse with Plunket. Stuart had been awarded a bursary by the NZ Post Office, so once he completed his master’s thesis at the beginning of 1987, he had a job waiting for him in POHQ in Wellington, in the Telecommunications Division. Telecom was born a couple of months later. Christine and Stuart initially settled in Tawa, and gradually began a long involvement with Tawa Parish. Christine got involved in youth work; Stuart with the music team.



Two children, daughter Victoria and son Antony, completed the family in the early 90s.

Appointment as a lay reader led to Stuart beginning theological study, part time by distance education. He finally graduated with a LTh in 2010. Involvement with

the church evolved over time. Christine and Stuart together led a family home group for several years. Christine transitioned from youth to children's ministry, served a term on vestry, and latterly led Tawa AAW and served on the AAW diocesan executive. Stuart continued with music and as a lay reader (licensed lay minister), and developed a role overseeing all the lay ministries supporting the main Sunday service at St Christopher's. Ordained deacon in 2001 and priest in 2002, he was then given oversight of the 8am service in the daughter church of St Peter's in Linden. At this time his priestly ministry was exercised in a part-time voluntary capacity.

In the meantime Stuart's career in Telecom had also evolved, as he held a succession of strategy, policy, commercial, and regulatory roles. Christine went back to part-time work when the children were older, working as a teacher aide for a local Catholic primary school.

At the end of 2011, in the midst of Telecom's demerger to become Spark and Chorus, Stuart accepted the call to become vicar of Christ Church Whanganui, and the couple moved to Whanganui in February 2012.

Eighteen months ago Christine and Stuart were blessed to become grandparents – Victoria and her husband Chris had twins, Ava and Ethan.

2019 AGM REPORTS

The 2019 Finance Report was published in The Messenger last month.

All others are given below. These reports would have been in the AGM booklet.

Wardens' Report- 2019 Year

This year of the interregnum has brought many challenges for the wardens and with that a very steep learning curve about what needs to be done to keep a parish ticking. It may not be clear from the outside just how much administration takes place behind-the-scenes in an Anglican parish like ours. One of the key tasks has been to ensure there are clergy to preside and preach at every service, particularly as our numbers fell over the year.

Anne's retirement in February was followed by Amy Houben's move to St Matthews. We farewelled Amy in May and she was recently Priest in Charge at St Matthews. Amy was instrumental in driving the Vision concept which has lagged somewhat since her departure.

Our thanks go to Ross Downes, Helen Milne, John Read and Peter Cave for stepping into the vacant spots and also to Faye and Geneth for their continuing work in our parish. I am sure that Ross, Geneth and Faye have worked a lot harder

than they intended, and we could not have got by without them. So, thank you to you three in particular. Our worship leaders and others who give their time and love to our church have also done extra duties and have contributed to the almost smooth running of the liturgies. We are particularly grateful for the patience, cheerfulness and cooperation which everyone has shown to help us smooth out the wrinkles.

One of the main tasks for the year was preparing the parish profile to advertise for a new vicar. That in itself was an interesting exercise which the parish nominators laboured over for quite a while. The nominators, John Freebairn, Yvonne Rae, Ritchie de Montalk and Ally Sewell, finally got it all finished and the upshot was the appointment of Stuart Goodin as our new Vicar. We are looking forward to his arrival in April 2020.

Our hall is in great demand by community groups. This is good but extra cleaning is required to keep it in pristine condition and the cleaning company has recently put up the price. A major overhaul of the hall (and church) charges has been commenced and will come into force shortly. The heat pumps are great in the winter, but the hot summer has also seen constant use by groups so the old story of winter heating costing more is no longer correct. A further reason for a price increase.

Our parish secretary, Joanna Boyd, left in December to take up a library position in Kaikohe. Luckily, Caro MacArthur (nee Viles) happened to come home from overseas and has been able to fill the position. Of course, it has been rather difficult for her as December to Easter is the busiest time of the year for the office and Caro landed in this.

We are very sad to say goodbye to Max Merrall, who passed away in August. We noted his achievements in the parish during his funeral service but we do want to record here his many years of loyal service as Vicar's warden.

Our children's ministry has continued to thrive and we note in particular the hard work of Isaac Henderson and his team. We took great pleasure in the baptism and admission to Communion of three of our parish children in December.

We are also extremely grateful that Allan Rae stepped up to act as church treasurer and that retired accountant Rod McKenzie agreed to act as accounting overseer. Allan and Rod have been working very hard to produce clear 2019 accounts and the budget for 2020.

We have a number of things to do over the next months and years.

We need to welcome Stuart and Christine properly in April and offer them our loyalty and support as they find their way in this parish. We will speak more on that at a later date.

We need to work on filling out the detail in our parish vision so that we can move forward with courage and ensuring that our parish life remains relevant and committed to our community.

We need to review the various ministry and other roles which we are taking and continue to encourage people to step forward to use their skills for the furtherance of God's kingdom, and we look forward to working with Stuart on these things.

We need to continue to tackle the confounding issues which are before us in the seismic strengthening of the church and the various alternatives we might have. In this, we have sought assistance from the diocesan working group which has been established to assist parishes in our position.

We need to keep a close eye on our parish finances. The budget we presented to the diocese as part of Stuart's appointment showed that we can afford a full-time Vicar. But we cannot sit back and expect it to happen, as support for this budget relies on us all doing our bit.

Despite all the hard work carried out, getting through this year should be a source of pride and satisfaction for our parish family. We encourage you to continue to be part of our life together, and to look out for opportunities to welcome others into our parish fellowship.

John Freebairn, Bishop's Warden.

Yvonne Rae, People's Warden.

Choir report

It is my pleasure to present a report on behalf of the choir.

We started the year off with a social get together hosted by Ingrid Vlieg at her home which was an opportunity for us to reconnect as a group after the break.

We are a small but committed core group of members who continue to support the service on the first Sunday of the month with singing during communion.

The music is accessible being more reflective and meditative in style and often in unison given the smaller numbers in our choir.

We are always happy to welcome any new members or anyone who would like to come along and join us, we always have a practice on the Sunday morning before service.

We have had several occasions for significant services such as Christmas Eve where we have been joined by members of other choirs which has given us the benefit of a full four-part choir of experienced singers.

My thanks to Ingrid Vlieg and to other supporters for the significant work of organising and communication as well as distributing music.

My thanks to the members of the choir for their ongoing support.

Garth Smith

Choir Director

Flower Guild

God moves in changing seasons of our lives – and that is what He has done with our Flower Guild.

We are down to four members who are wonderful in their support of myself. So if there are any Church members who like flowers you are very welcome to join us.

To Bev Carruthers, Gretchen Cheetham, and Val Pain, thank you for your support and flower arranging. May God grant our hearts, our eyes, and our hands that we may receive the inspiration enabling us to glorify His House with the beauty of leaves and berries which He has created. Amen.

Dorothy Weston
Convenor

Friday Craft Group

Friday Morning Group for Mums and their pre-schoolers has continued in the same format as previous years. We still regularly have eight to 12 Mums. As one leaves (with their youngest child turning five) new people seem to arrive. The group runs from 9.30 until 12.00 approximately and great friendships have been formed outside of Friday morning. This has been wonderful to see happening as many new Mums feel very isolated and lonely. As well as crafts there are lots of 'life' discussions particularly pertaining to children. It seems to be a safe environment for lots of sharing. We are now entering our 8th year and enjoy being able to offer this to the wider community.

Jeannie and Warwick Hunter

Fundraising Report

Last year was a very successful year in terms of fundraising. There were two fairs as per usual with the Autumn Fair on Saturday 4th May and the Christmas fair on Saturday 16th November.

The Autumn fair had a wonderful community feel but there seemed to be fewer fairgoers than usual. We had all the normal stalls except for the plant stall although some plants were still donated and ended up being sold on the White Elephant stall. The children also had their own very popular stall selling popcorn, muffins and more. The fair raised a total of approximately \$2,700.

The Christmas fair was an exceptionally good fair with parishioners donating a great range of items for the fair. All of the items for sale were beautifully displayed

and the stallholders and helpers worked really hard on setting up and running their stalls on the day to ensure the fair was a great success. In terms of sales the star performer was the plant stall which had record sales of over \$800 with one fairgoer buying a carload of plants. The fun family feel of the fair was enhanced by the children setting up games and activities for children who came to the fair. Everyone was helped to feel as if Christmas was fast approaching by a flying visit from Father Christmas spreading Christmas cheer and everyone in the hall being treated to a selection of Christmas carols on the piano by Robert Cleaver. This all combined to ensure fairgoers stayed for a longer period and browsed around all of the stalls. Following the deduction of expenses and money coming in after the fair the total amount raised by the fair was approximately \$3,765 and the two fairs raised \$6,500.

Rather than donating all the leftover items from the Christmas fair to a charity shop, as had been the normal practice, the more saleable items were listed on a St Peters Trade Me account. This has been a phenomenal success thanks to the hard work of Ingrid Vlieg who has set up and run the Trade Me sales raising \$1,177.58 to date.

A wonderful addition to the St Peters Church calendar of events for the year was a concert at St Peters by the Choir of Christ College Cambridge on Saturday 20th July. A huge thank you must go to Yvonne Rae for setting up the concert and coordinating with the choir for all the arrangements. We organised a publicity blitz with posters put up in the shop windows around the city square and in Ashhurst and Feilding. We also advertised the concert on radio stations, on Eventfinda, in The Guardian and around the churches. The concert was a wonderful event which attracted a large and appreciative audience. The church got the majority of the money from ticket sales which raised \$852.

The annual Blessing of Pets service was another enjoyable community event with the collection on the day enabling the church to give a donation of \$196 to the SPCA.

All the events in 2019 helped to strengthen St Peters links to the community and raised a total of over \$8,500 for the church.

This year we currently have two fairs booked in again in May and November which can hopefully every bit as successful as last year.

Alyson Chandler
Fundraising Committee.

Mission Report

Last year 2019 was very busy for me and because of that we had very little done in fundraising for Missions. With money collected through the Mission jar and envelope givings I am not sure how much that we managed to raise.

This year has started a lot better with two Bunnings BBQs held to date and another booked. Am hoping to have a quiz evening and a couple of Soup and Bun lunches also this year. Hopefully by the time we hold the meeting I will be able to give the figure for 2019.

Wayne Stokes

Missions motivator

Garden Report

None received this year.

Property Report

There seems to have been quite a bit of capital work done in 2019. Two new heat pumps were installed in the vicarage and vestry decided that the old fireplaces should be removed and gibbed. That part of the work has not been done yet. Difficulties with the water supply to the hall when there are large gatherings have been investigated by the plumber. It seems that when the hall was built, no extra pipe was put in and the water supply to the hall and the vicarage run off the same supply pipe. After considerable investigation at the City Council, the plumber offered a solution using tanks which is a much cheaper option to digging up the drive for another pipe. A grant will be sought for this work in 2020.

The new church lights which were installed in October have made a marked difference and it will be even more marked in the darker winter months. In addition, new fixtures and bulbs mean that the outside light shining on the cross now works again as does the light behind the altar window. The foresight of one of our parishioners in suggesting that the old lights could be sold on TradeMe (and doing it herself) meant that instead of dumping them, the lights were sold to various buyers all over New Zealand for a total of over \$1,000.

There were huge problems getting the old vicarage shed demolished as it was full of asbestos. The law says that only accredited asbestos removalists can do this and there was a considerable wait and cost for this to be done. The other problem was the floor which was to be broken up but in fact it was extremely thick and caused the digger operator considerable difficulty. It was all a much bigger and more expensive job than anticipated but at long last, the shed was gone and we are ready for the new shed to be put up shortly. There will need to be new fences, landscaping etc once we can see what is required.

There have been many more smaller jobs – the locks on the hall cupboards, on-going issues with the microphones, lighting the car park, fixing pot holes in the car park, a new water heater in the hall and a replacement hot water cylinder in the “flower room”, the chairs in the hall cleaned, the lines in the car park repainted and so on.

Although the committee has not met very regularly, email contact has often been the way to sort out some of these issues or a chat in the hall after church. My thanks to the Property Sub-committee who have often done a job themselves rather than getting in a tradesman at a cost.

Yvonne Rae

Property Sub-committee.

St Peter’s Anglican Endowment Trust (PN)

At the Trust A G M held on the 13th March 2019 the following people were elected as Trustees for the following year:

Chairperson	Rae Callahan
Secretary/Treasurer	Bev. Carruthers
Trustees	P. Boulton, M. Charles, W. Hunter, Y Rae, J. Viles, D. Weston.

J. Rutherford was approved by Vestry and welcomed as a new trustee.

The total funds as recorded at the end of the financial year (31/12/2019) were \$146,717.40. These funds are currently invested in term deposits. Only one donation was received during the year and no bequests.

The Trust was set up to ensure financial assistance to the parish if or when required and is dependent on donations/bequests for future growth.

Parishioners are reminded to remember the Trust when reviewing their financial situation both now and for the future. All donations whether large or small are gratefully received.

On behalf of the Trustees I would like to thank Heather Toothill for reviewing the accounts. My personal thanks to Bev. Carruthers for her Secretarial/ Treasurer services and to all the Trustees for their support.

Rae Callahan

Chairperson.

St Peter's Association of Anglican Women Fellowship 2019 – 2020

The Association of Anglican Women, celebrated 50 years of service both to the Anglican Church and the community. Born out of the idea that women wanted an organisation that was more inclusive than Mothers Union, it came into being in August 1969. Over the year of 2019 celebrations, both great and small, were held all over the country. Some of St Peter's members celebrated with members of the Northern Region of the Wellington Diocese, in August, at St Stephen's, Marton.

Fellowship, fun, and good conversation characterised the meetings here at St Peter's. Meeting on the 1st Wednesday monthly, commencing with a shared lunch, this was followed by a speaker and meeting. At the beginning of each year it is traditional to visit a garden of note, and end the year with a Christmas dinner. Speakers at the monthly meetings entertained and/or educated. This December, the Christmas meal was held in the middle of the day. This proved most successful, and it was very pleasant to have "Capers" cater for this occasion.

In February gifts were presented to retiring Vicar Anne Chrisp, who had been at St Peter's for ten years. A sad occasion for St Peters.

In September the Diocesan Training day was catered for by the Fellowship and Senior Lunch Teams. Great planning by Githa and Graham Warrington, and much assembling of bread rolls, followed by a busy day in the kitchen provided funds this for St Peters, Missions and AAW. Much of these AAW funds will be allocated to Palmerston North community groups. A monthly collection boosts AAW giving to Missions and Emergency AAW NZ. These funds support AAW work in the Islands for Women and Children.

At the instigation of Pat Wells, and acceptance by Vestry, steps were installed at the gate end of the deck. Following another suggestion, raised toilet seats have been installed in the washrooms. More recently a Breast Pump was donated to the Neonatal Unit at the Palmerston North Hospital.

On 29th November, St Peters AAW hosted thirty members of the Northern Region to an Advent Service and shared luncheon. Also attending was Pat Vincent, Immediate Past President AAW NZ., and Mary Driver, Wellington Diocesan President. With some groups becoming smaller, and the demise of others, such events are an important point of contact.

With the retirement of the Leader, Secretary, Treasurer, and several committee members the Fellowship was led through discussions by Adrienne Downes. As a result, at the Annual General Meeting changes were instigated. A new leader in

Githa Warrington, Treasurer Anne Bull and a small committee were elected to lead the Fellowship into the New Year, and beyond. Change is not always comfortable, but it is felt that St Peters AAW/Fellowship will be very ably led.

It is with sadness we noted the passing of Max Merrall in August, and more recently Margaret Terrill. Both will be very much missed. Some members have had health challenges, and these have been acknowledged, and some have experienced significant milestones.

Sincere thanks to our Peoples' Warden, who on two occasions, stepped into the breach, and rescued the group, the interesting speakers who gave of their time so willingly, the committee, Val Pain, Jade Leong-Charles, Beverly O'Sullivan, Margaret Palmer, Githa Warrington, Secretary Penny Merrall, and Treasurer Pat Wells. Each and every one made a major contribution to the organisation over the year. My sincere thanks.

Go in Faith

Janice Viles

Retiring Leader

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Love in Troubled Times 4

For many, this has been an unusual kind of Easter. Those of us used to the traditions of the church know the sombre tones of Holy Week and Good Friday, the wait through Saturday, and the bright celebration of Easter Day. We are used also to gathering with friends and family over delicious meals and chocolate eggs. We enjoy this long weekend as a break from work, and a chance to warm our spirits before the winter comes.

This year, it was all different. Yet the essential message remains the same – a message of new life through death, joy after suffering, compassion and self-giving. None of these are lost to us today. In this Covid time, grim and scary for some, devastating for the bereaved, we hear about the kindness of neighbours and the sacrifice of essential workers. We hear of people who put themselves at risk to keep us safe.

Some we know, and plenty we don't. Take a moment to bring to mind those who work now to bring you life.... offer a prayer of gratitude, or hold them in your heart.

You may care to do what Christine Valters Paintner did, and put your gratitude into a psalm. Here is hers, *Praise Song for the Pandemic*:

Praise be the nurses and doctors, every medical staff bent over flesh to offer care, for lives saved and lives lost, for showing up either way,
Praise be the farmers, tilling soil, planting seeds so food can grow, an act of hope if ever there was,
Praise be the janitors and garbage collectors, the grocery store clerks, and the truck drivers barreling through long quiet nights,
Give thanks for bus drivers, delivery persons, postal workers and all those keeping an eye on water, gas and electricity,
Blessings on our leaders, making hard choices for the common good, offering words of assurance,
Celebrate the scientists, working away to understand the thing that plagues us, to find an antidote, all the medicine makers, praise be the journalists keeping us informed,

Praise be the teachers, finding new ways to educate children from afar, and blessings on parents holding it together for them,
Blessed be the elderly and those with weakened immune systems, all those who worry for their health, praise for those who stay at home to protect them,
Blessed are the domestic violence victims, on lockdown with abusers, the homeless and refugees,
Praise for the poets and artists, the singers and storytellers, all those who nourish with words and sound and colour,
Blessed are the ministers and therapists of every kind, bringing words of comfort,
Blessed are the ones whose jobs are lost, who have no savings, who feel the fear of the unknown gnawing,
Blessed are those in grief, especially who mourn alone, blessed are those who have passed into the Great Night,
Praise for police and firefighters, paramedics, and all who work to keep us safe, praise for all the workers and caregivers of every kind,
Praise for the sound of notifications, messages from friends reaching across the distance, give thanks for laughter and kindness,
Praise be our four-footed companions, with no forethought or anxiety, responding only in love,
Praise for the seas and rivers, forests and stones who teach us to endure, Give thanks for your ancestors, for the wars and plagues they endured and survived, their resilience is in your bones, your blood,
Blessed is the water that flows over our hands and the soap that helps keep them clean, each time a baptism,
Praise every moment of stillness and silence, so new voices can be heard, praise the chance at slowness,
Praise be the birds who continue to sing the sky awake each day, praise for the primrose poking yellow petals from dark earth, blessed is the sky clearing overhead so one day we can breathe deeply again,
And when this has passed may we say that love spread more quickly than any virus ever could, may we say that this was not just an ending but a place to begin.

Christine Valters Paintner, Abbey of the Arts

This, surely, is the message of Easter.

Please Keep Giving if You Can

One of the more serious follow-ons for the parish is the loss of income. Even before the Level 4 isolation, there were a number of hall and church bookings cancelled for forthcoming events such as concerts. Regular users of the hall cannot use it now so the loss of that income is quite considerable. A big plea to all parishioners: **Please do not stop your giving.** There is no problem with those who are already on automatic payment. If you usually put your giving in the plate on Sunday, please consider using your computer to set up an automatic payment. If you do not want to do that, you can do a Bill Payment which allows variable payments. The details are:

St Peters Church Account number 010755 0005301 00

Make sure your name appears in the reference so it can be recorded for your tax receipt.

An email to the parish office letting Caro know that you have set up an automatic payment or made a bill payment is an extra safeguard to ensure she can reconcile it: stpeters@inspire.net.nz .

If you are already on envelope giving, it would be a good idea to put your giving in the envelope weekly or monthly, whichever you do, so that it will be ready to put in the collection plate when that is possible. *Yvonne Rae People's Warden*

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On-going Health Care for Conditions Other Than COVID-19 Related

Over the past few weeks COVID-19 has become a major focus for us all.

There are many people who have conditions not related to this virus. It may be that these conditions are under good control and management. If, like me, you have been tuning in to the 1pm update on the radio, television or across the computer you will have heard emphasis on people attending to their own health needs.

There may be some who fear visiting their usual health facility. Perhaps they fear catching COVID-19 when visiting that facility. It may be that they are anxious simply about leaving the safety of their home environment. Maintaining and monitoring our health is no less critical during lock-down and while in our bubbles.

We are reminded of the following:

If you need urgent medical assistance for severe symptoms of any kind, or have a serious injury, call emergency services on 111, or go straight to hospital.

You are allowed out during Alert Level 3 to access medical support. You can access all the treatments, vaccinations and medicines that you need to stay well.

You can drive to a medical centre or hospital. Just call first so you know what to do when you get there. For example, you may be asked to use a particular entrance, or to wait outside in your car until you are called.

If you are concerned about any aspect of your health, call your GP. Your doctor may offer you a consultation by text, email, phone or video. This is to stop person-to-person contact. If, however, your doctor feels you need a consultation in person, this will be organised for you.

Minor health issues can become more serious if ignored and it is important that you have the treatments and medications you need. Your doctor would rather you call than silently worry at home.

Pharmacies are recognised as an essential service and will remain open. If you need to go to your local pharmacy for medication, phone them first to make sure you can go in-store.

If you are an at-risk group you may need to ask someone to pick up your medicines on your behalf.

For any health concerns, other than COVID-19, call the general Health-line number on 0800 611 116. All calls to Health-line are free and someone is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

<https://covid19.govt.nz/individuals-and-households/health-and-wellbeing/how-to-access-healthcare/>

Rev Faye Davenport RN

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Vestry Vibes

The April Vestry meeting held via Zoom was a first for St Peter's. Various smaller meetings have been going on but this was the first Vestry meeting "remotely" and it may not be the last.

A very important first was the inclusion of our new vicar, Stuart, from his current lockdown spot in Whanganui. As it was only his second official day as vicar, his warden, John Freebairn chaired the meeting.

- The effects of Covid-19 were discussed. There is no movement as yet on reinstating the church services and when they are, things will not be the same.
- There may be some difficulty getting a grant to install the new water tanks to improve the water supply to the hall. Some places have postponed grant applications until Covid is sorted and they have seen what the effect is on their sources of finance.

- The CCTV cameras have now been installed around the church and will ensure that movement can be monitored if required. There is also a recording device which can be accessed after an event.
- A defibrillator has been purchased from St Johns. A suitable place to mount it has yet to be determined.
- The treasurer has reworked the budget to take account of the changes which have been happening because of the virus. Hopefully, the government's wage subsidy will help with an alarming deficit. Hall hireage has stopped and envelope giving is not possible at the moment.
- Upgrading of the first aid kits in the church have been investigated and that will happen after lockdown ceases.
- The phoning lists which have been activated to keep parishioners in contact have also resulted in checking emails and adding more.
- It is hoped that a formal welcome/installation for Stuart and Christine will be possible before too long.
- The working bee to tidy up the vicarage grounds has been put on hold until after lockdown conditions are changed.
- The parish office has been functioning during lockdown with Caro working from home and the phone re-directed.
- There are some things inside the vicarage which need to be done as soon as possible. The drapes are in poor condition and need to be replaced. Christine will be consulted to match her décor.

Ellen Dougherty Have you heard of this woman?

On 10 January 1902, the world's first state-registered nurses had their names entered in the new register.

At the top of the list was Ellen Dougherty of Palmerston North.

For Dougherty, registration was recognition of years of work. She had nursed since at least 1885, when she was employed at Wellington Hospital. After completing her certificate of nursing in 1887, she headed the accident ward and then the surgery ward before becoming acting matron by 1893. She was passed over for the permanent position.

In 1897, she became the matron of a new hospital in Palmerston North. This was a challenging role, as the hospital was not yet fully set up and received patients



with gruesome injuries suffered in forestry and railway construction work. Ellen Dougherty retired in 1908, aged 64.

I share this as we celebrate International Nurses Day on 12 May (Florence Nightingale's birthday).

Rev Faye Davenport, RN

Children's Ministry

Children's ministry has continued during lock down with sessions via Zoom each Sunday at 1pm. We have been following the Easter story each week alongside the lectionary readings. The children have enjoyed being able to see each other and play games like charades, pictionary and hangman over Zoom. Last Sunday they also got to meet our new vicar. If you know of children that may like to connect into our sessions, please contact Isaac on 022 222 6425.

Isaac Henderson

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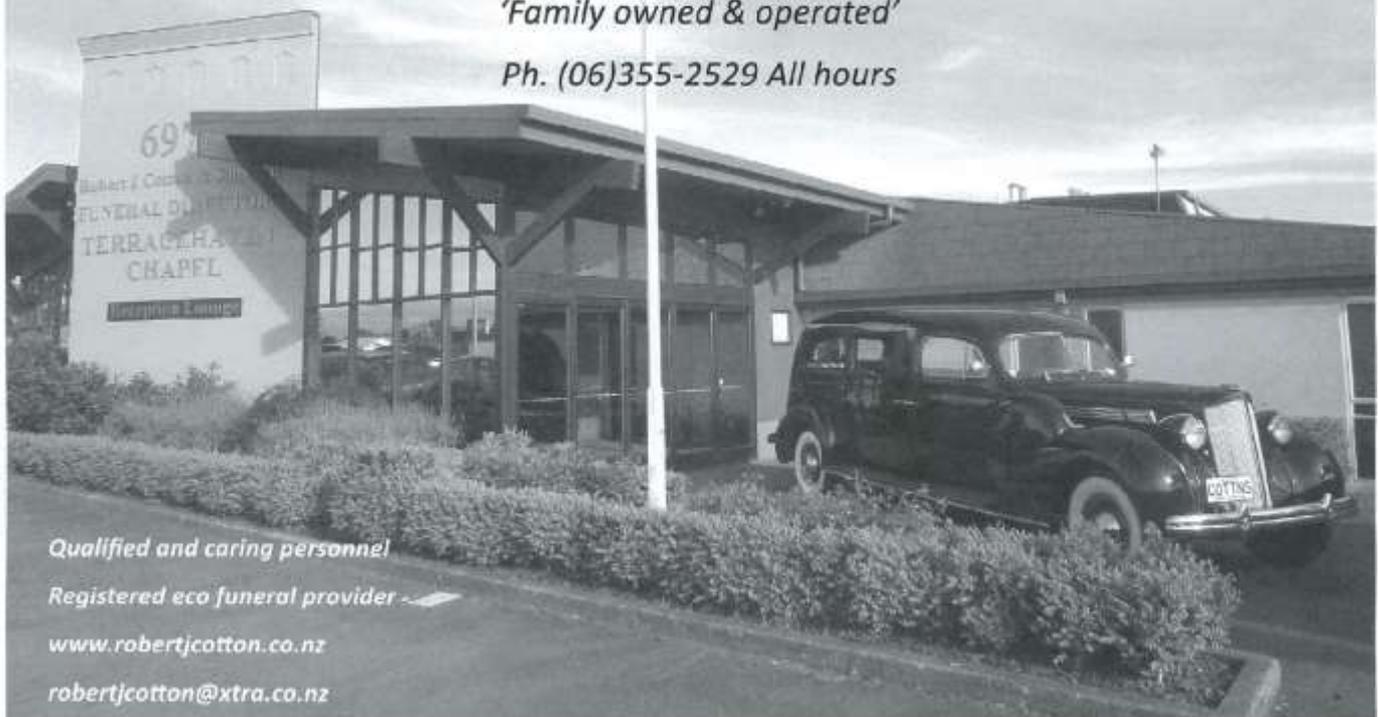
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