

The Messenger

November 2020



Monthly magazine of St Peter's Terrace End

Website: <http://www.stpeterspn.org.nz>

ST PETER'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

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Weekly Events for November

Sundays

8am Holy Communion
10am Eucharist
10am Children's Church

Mondays 12-1pm.

Silent prayer in the Lady Chapel.

Mondays 3.30pm

Ukelele Group meets in the Hall during term time. Come 10 mins early for a cuppa. All welcome.

Tuesdays 4.45pm Strumpettes

Other Events for November

Sunday Nov 1: All Saints Day

World Day of Prayer

Monday Nov 2:

10.00am Seeking the Light
7.00pm All Soul's Day service

Tuesday Nov 3:

12.15 Lunchtime concert "Kapa Haka"
Parkland School

Wednesday Nov 4:

11.00am-noon AAW in Hall

Sunday Nov 8: Remembrance Sunday

2.30pm Roy Tankersley concert – Organ
Power-Plus

Wednesday Nov 11:

12.15 – 2.30. Senior Lunch.

Saturday Nov 14:

9.00am Parish Fair

Wednesday Nov 18: 7.15pm Vestry.

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!

From the Vicar: Think on these things

Saint Paul writes, “Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things.” (Philippians 4:8) It is my favourite verse of the Bible.

I have come to realise that we are more likely to notice the things that we have in mind and the things we expect to see. If that sounds a bit of an odd thing to say, stating the blindingly obvious, think about your experience. Have you, like me, had the experience that once you think about buying a particular make and model of car you start to see them everywhere? Or you may be familiar with the placebo effect in medicine, where even a sugar-pill can have therapeutic benefit if the patient is told it's an effective drug.

The reverse is also true: we easily miss the things we are not expecting to see, even when they are extraordinary. Before you read on, if you are able, watch the brief video clip found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vJG698U2Mvo> (or go to YouTube, search for “selective awareness test” and select the video by Daniel Simons). The video clip demonstrates a phenomenon well known in psychology: that of selective awareness. Warning: If you read on before watching, it will spoil the surprise and the effect because the following description will alter your awareness.

In the video, a small group of people – some in white shirts and some in black shirts – pass basketballs around. You are asked to keep count of the number of passes made by the people in white shirts. As the game goes on, a person in a gorilla suit strolls into the middle of the action, faces the camera and thumps its chest, and then leaves, spending nearly ten seconds on screen. The question is, would you see the gorilla?

Experiments have demonstrated that about half of people who watch the video and count the passes completely miss the gorilla.

I didn't see the gorilla the first time I watched the video either. (I have a vague idea that I also mis-counted the number of passes ... but that's not material to the point!) But now that I know the gorilla is there, I see it every time I watch.

If I look for (as it seems the newspapers often do) what is untrue, ignoble, unjust, impure, ugly, of ill-repute, or whatever, then I am sure to find examples of it. And this is true also within the Church, the family of God.

So instead I choose to think about, to look for, and to expect things that are true, noble, right, etc. I *choose* to do this because it is in these things, these attributes,

that I find God represented in his creating, redeeming, and sanctifying work in the world and among us. In these things I can rejoice in the goodness of God; they stir me to praise and thanksgiving.

I am also aware that we are affected by the things we focus on. There is a high likelihood in fact that we start to become like the things we are looking for. If we focus on the corrupt, impure, and unholy etc we risk becoming less Christ-like. If, instead, we focus on things that bear the attributes of God – that which is true, noble, right, ... – then we are more likely to be growing to better bear the image of God.

Many things prevalent in the world around us (and sadly, common among members of the Church) are in fact corruptions and distortions of good things – porn is a corruption of the gift of sex, gossip is often a distortion of compassionate concern, addiction is a corruption of appetite, criticism can be a distortion of discernment, meanness and greed may be distortions of stewardship, and so on. There is a spiritual reality lying behind and connected to these things. So, then, if we put our attention on the untrue, ignoble, unjust, impure we open ourselves to Satan entering in.

So let us be on the lookout for what is true, noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable, excellent and praiseworthy – both in the world, and especially among us in the family of God. Let us have an attitude of gratitude to God who gives us these things and makes them possible; let us celebrate the goodness we see in one another; let us praise God who reveals himself in Christ and in the members of his Body.

Stuart

From the Registers

Funeral: 28 October. Patricia Margaret MacLeod (service held at St. John's Feilding. Conducted by Vicar Stuart Goodin)

No births or marriages to record

!!! PARISH FAIR !!!

SATURDAY November 14th 9am



Come & Buy

Enjoy the Entertainment

Fun for the Children

Advent Magazine

Instead of *The Messenger* next month, we will be joining with other Anglican parishes around the city to publish a combined Advent magazine. This magazine will feature items we can all appreciate as members of the larger Anglican family as we celebrate the life and witness we share. It will also feature complete information about the rich variety of opportunities for worship during the Advent and Christmas seasons. This combined magazine will be distributed among the St Peter's community in the same way as we distribute *The Messenger* and is timed for publication on 22 November. *The Messenger* will return as normal in the New Year.

Cheque-mate?

As several banks make moves towards phasing out cheques, we encourage you to explore alternative ways of making your offering for the work and mission of St Peter's. Among the possibilities are the following:

- Automatic payment A weekly, fortnightly, or monthly automatic payment can be set up with your bank.

- Telephone banking If you use telephone banking, the parish can be registered as one of your payees, and payments made whenever you like.
- Internet banking If you use internet banking, one-off payments to the parish can be made, or the parish can be registered as one of your regular payees and payments made whenever you want.

In each case the bank will need to know the parish bank account number – **01 0755 0005301 00** – and you will need to advise Caro in the parish office of your plan so that we can record your giving and issue a receipt at the end of the financial year. If, as a result, you are concerned about having nothing to place in the collection plate, there are special giving cards available at the welcomers table for putting in the plate at the Offertory.

You may have other ideas for how this issue can be addressed (the telephone banking idea in fact came from one of our senior members); please let us know.

St Francis of Assisi Pet Service

The annual Pet Service was held on 4th October when people brought their beloved animals to be blessed. The speaker this year was Anne Evans from Canine Friends Pet Therapy and there was a good representation from that organisation as well as parishioners and others from the community. Some years there has been a very varied array of pets but this year the pets seemed to be only dogs and cats – no lambs in nappies this year!

A simple service with hymns and prayers was not too long for the four legged in the congregation and as always, it is particularly moving to see the loved animals go up to be blessed by Faye and Ross this year. Near the end of the service, there was a special time when people could go forward to the little table where there was a beautiful candle and place a special memento of their pet who had died. There was a little casket of ashes on the table placed by one member of the congregation. Everyone who has a pet could feel great empathy at that time.

Anne Evans spoke of the work of Canine Pet Therapy which is a volunteer organisation visiting rest homes, hospitals and hospices all around the country. In Manawatu there are 40 members who visit all the rest homes, six wards in the hospital and Arohanui Hospice. There are also two literary dogs who help in schools with reading. Members are invited to Massey University and UCOL during study for exam week and also IPU and Freyberg High School. The group visits

schools, rural days and the children's section of the library as part of the school holiday programmes and have social get-togethers with their dogs at the beach or even on the train at the Esplanade – the special Canine Friends Flyer.

Anne summed up having a pet. “A pet is something to really treasure. As long as you love it, look after it and treat it with love and kindness it will be your forever friend for its life. Animals are wonderful creatures as they love unconditionally and will always be there for you. They can make you laugh, brighten your day and when you are sad they can snuggle into you and wipe away your tears. The love of a devoted pet can make every day a really good day.”

After the service, Canine Pets and some others met at the dog friendly café over the road from the SPCA for lunch and a lot of laughs.

The Co-Editor apologises to members of the congregation who found her two-year-old Samoyed too vocal. He is a work in progress!



Canine friends being blessed



The Canine Friends



Anne giving her address at the pet



Panda

‘Movember’ = Men’s Health Month

‘Movember’ is a community of rock-start making a difference in mental health and suicide prevention, prostate cancer and testicular cancer. Globally, men die on average six years earlier than women, and for reasons that are largely preventable. This means that it doesn’t have to be that way: we can all take action to live healthier, happier and longer lives.

MEN: HERE ARE THE TOP THINGS TO KNOW, AND DO

1. Spend time with people who make you feel good.

Stay connected. Your mates are important and spending time with them is good for you. Catch up regularly, check in and make time for them.

2. Talk, more.

You don’t need to be an expert and you don’t have to be the sole solution. Being there for someone, listening and giving your time can be life-saving.

3. Know the numbers.

At **50 years**, talk to your Doctor about prostate cancer and whether it’s right for you to have a PSA test. If your father or brother has had prostate cancer, you should be having this conversation at **45 years**. Know your numbers, know your risk, talk to your Doctor.

4. Know thy nuts.

Get to know what’s normal for your testicles. Give them a check regularly and go to the Doctor if something doesn’t feel right. Have these conversations with the males in your family or with your friends.

5. Move, more.

Add more activity to your day. Do more of what makes you feel good.

- Take a walking meeting
- Park further away from work, or site of recreation
- Get off the bus one or two stops earlier
- Instead of the lift, take the stairs
- Cycle instead of driving.

For further resources: <https://nz.movember.com>

Bible verse: Proverbs chapter 15, verse 30: Light in a messenger’s eyes brings joy to the heart, and good news gives health to the bones.

Faye Davenport, RN

A Kenyan Childhood Part 2. Going Home - A Wartime Voyage.

When the Mediterranean Sea was re-opened in mid-1944, my parents were told a passage to England would be booked for the family. However, no date could be given as no one talked about shipping movements - you never knew who was listening and as the saying went "Loose lips lose ships".

As soon as the family received the news, my parents started to sort out our household goods. I was very upset that my doll's pram and beautiful doll's house were sent to the sale rooms. I can also remember tearfully telling my mother that I didn't want to go to England to be bombed! She assured me that the bombing had stopped but she was wrong. Just a few months after we arrived in UK the flying bombs (doodlebugs) started and caused terror as no one knew where they were going to land.

We were given 24 hours notice that we were sailing from Mombasa the next day so there was a big rush to get the train that night. We did so but on arrival in Mombasa were told that we wouldn't be sailing for two days!

The *S.S. Advisor*, belonging to the Harrison Line, was in fact a cargo vessel converted to a passenger ship. There were 30 adults and about 10 children on board. I have an autograph album which every one of the adults signed for me. We sailed on 7th August 1944 and docked in Liverpool on 19th September 1944. One of the adults organised a Children's Club and kept us entertained with games and competitions. I remember going through the Suez Canal where there were dozens and dozens of flies and there was a prize of some sort to the child who killed the most!

We docked at Aden (now Yemen) where the ship was loaded with cotton. It was fascinating watching the port workers form a continuous queue on and off the ship, singing all the time. They were dark people with enormous heads of hair which is why they were known as Fuzzy Wuzzies. We were docked at Aden for five days while the cotton was loaded and one of the sailors taught me to swim. We also docked at Port Suez at the entrance to the Canal and Port Said at the end of the Canal and at all three ports the Mission to Seamen had a recreational facility where some of the older children were able to go with the sailors for the entertainment. Going through the Canal was fascinating and we had clear views of the pyramids. Before we went through the Canal, a convoy was formed of about 10 ships each with a barrage balloon attached to it. These were enormous grey balloons shaped like a bomb and attached with a steel rope hopefully to stop planes attacking the ships. Part way through the Canal, all the children were told to stay with their parents and carry their life-jackets at all times. We learned sometime later that

there was a “pack” of submarines about 30 miles away. Because of the heat, I was sleeping on the deck one night with a friend about the same age. We started playing with the torches attached to our life jackets and someone yelled at us to turn off the torch as it could save our lives if we were ship wrecked! At Port Said we visited a very impressive department store called Simon Artz. My father bought us some Turkish Delight which was a delight indeed!!

As far as I can remember, the rest of the voyage was uneventful and we sailed up the River Mersey in Liverpool staying mid-stream until next morning. When we woke there was a thick fog and I was intrigued by the ships “hooting” at each other to avoid collisions. We docked at lunchtime and took a taxi to relatives of my mother.

We had arrived safely and a very different life from our Kenyan one had begun. We docked at lunchtime

Pamela Frith

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Vestry Vibes

Vestry met on 14th October in the church hall.

The reading was from Mark 15, 33-41 and was followed by reflection and prayer.

For the Teaching Moment, Stuart played the video of the charge to Synod from Bishop Ellie. There were many very telling points to be noted. Among these were:

1. If the end goal is known, people are helped to get there
2. The importance of neighbourliness
3. We are all volunteers and the challenge is to be activists for God
4. People are looking for identity and have not had the blessing of peace
5. Church is a place for all people
6. Challenge of finding the internal (spiritual) in a world where everyone is used to the external
7. Can we reconnect with the “nominals?”

Synod report was held over until next time.

- Railing around the hall deck is still being costed as the wrought iron option is too expensive.
- The pot holes in the car park are to be repaired.
- The members of the Worship Committee are Penny Merrill, Rev Faye Davenport, Yvonne Rae, Ingrid Vlieg, Rae Callahan, John Freebairn and Stuart Goodin.
- The latest quote for the sound system is more than originally thought. A temporary “fix” could be to move the speaker box from behind the lectern further down the church.
- Vicarage bathroom renovations have begun.
- Bunnings refused the request to hold a Missions barbeque as they only support things for the local community. Other venues are being investigated.
- The accounts payable for the month were over \$12,000.
- The Treasurer reported that it was hoped to finish the year with a slightly smaller deficit than budgeted if giving trends continue at the current rate (or better!)
- The Vicar’s report outlined his parochial work in plans for establishing weekday Morning Prayer, his pastoral visiting and home communions.
- Rev Barbara Coles has concluded her ministry with All Saints and has decided to become part of the clergy team at St Peters. Her role is still being ascertained.

- The Vicar has been appointed a director of the company set up by the Diocesan Board of Trustees to be the vehicle for residential property developments in joint ventures with interested parishes.
- Meetings in conjunction with the above are for Hapai te Hapori. The Vicar has also been appointed one of the trustees for this trust which is to do with youthwork at a couple of Whanganui intermediate schools in partnership with the parish there.

The next meeting will be on 18th November commencing with a vestry potluck dinner.

Lunchtime Concert: Angie Cook and Friends

A very talented group of six musicians gave the Lunchtime Concert on 6th October. “Angie Cook and Friends take you on a Musical Journey through Space, Time and Genre” was the intriguing title on the programme.

The youngest performer, aged 10, commenced the programme playing a piano solo “Largo from Xerxes” which is possibly better known as the aria “Ombra Mai Fu” . Judah Teulon showed talent, confidence and poise beyond his years in this performance. He recently played in the IRMT and won a gold medal and is a pupil of Angie Cook.

Walter Taber is currently working on his LTCL and has been teaching piano for several years at the Soundworks Music School. Walter has been absorbed by Moussorgsky’s “Pictures at an Exhibition” for some time and his chosen pieces for this concert were “Promenade” and “The Old Castle” with the contrast between the two beautifully demonstrated by Walter’s playing.



Franz Schubert wrote many songs and two of these were performed most ably by Tim Shirriffs accompanied by Angie Cook. “The Wanderer’s Night Song” and “Der Lindenbaum” (The Linden Tree), both well known, were a delight to hear. Tim is currently Head of Performing Arts at Waiopahu College in Levin, a position he accepted after studying for both a Bachelor and Master’s degrees in vocal performance in USA.

In the last year of his life (1921) Camille Saint-Saens tried to write sonatas for each woodwind instrument. He managed three, one each for oboe, clarinet and bassoon. "Sonata for Clarinet & Piano, Op. 167" was played by Ingrid Vlieg and Angie Cook. The two contrasting movements were a pleasure to hear, and the virtuosic playing by Ingrid especially in the second movement was quite breath-taking.

A lively jazzy version of "Tea for Two" was played as a duet by Laura Cannon and Angie Cook. The arrangement of this piece was done by the late Fred Potter who was well known in Palmerston North as a pianist excelling in improvisation and delightful background music. Laura is currently working on her Royal Schools ARSM exam and is now an art student at UCOL. She has recently started piano tutoring and already has several students. Laura is clearly a talented young pianist.

The final item was "Something Blue" by Terence J Thompson, played by Ingrid Vlieg and Angie Cook. These two musicians complement each other perfectly and their respective excellent talents were to the fore in this piece. It was a most delightful way to end a superb concert which was greatly appreciated by the audience.

Next month, November 3rd, will be a performance by the wonderfully enthusiastic children from the "Kapa Haka" at Parkland School.

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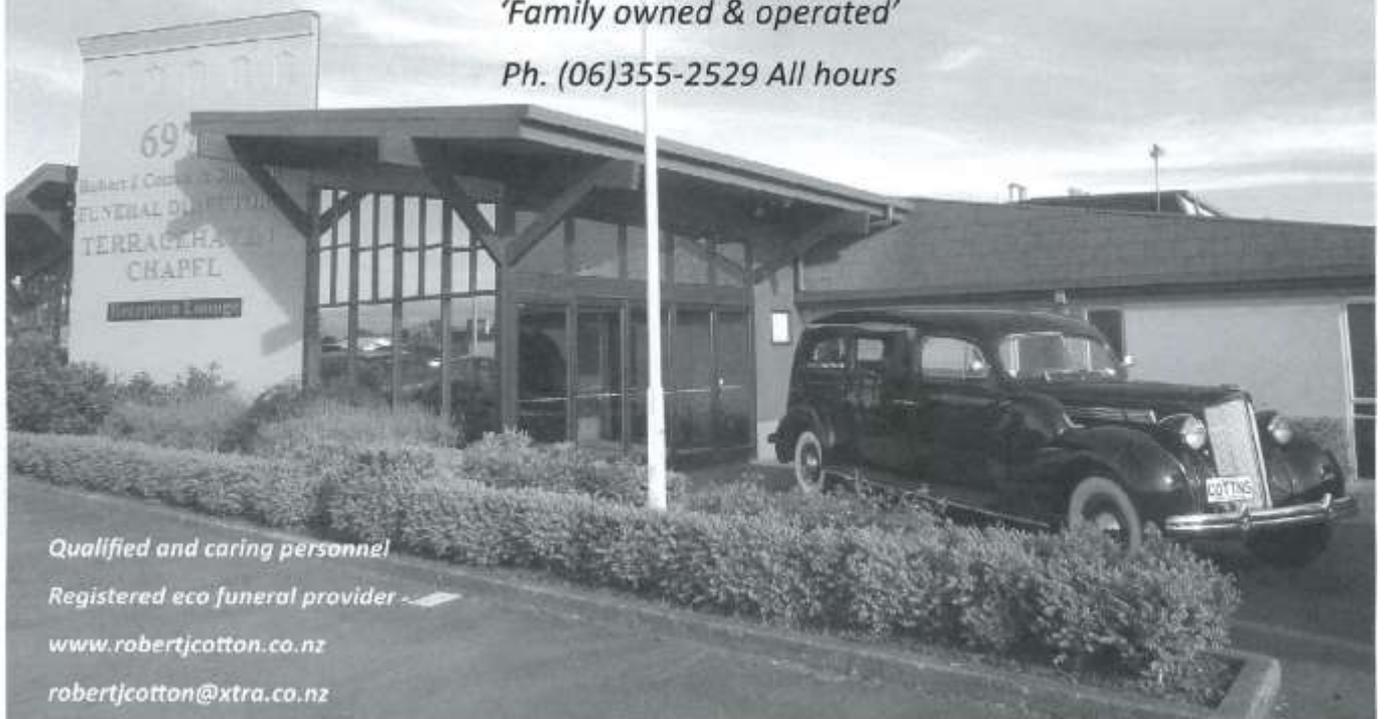
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