

**KIA KAHA  
TE REO MĀORI**



### **Moderator's message: Māori Language Week, September 12-18 2022**

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Māori Language petition that was presented to Parliament in 1972; Māori Language Week has been celebrated in our country since 1975.



Language is a powerful component of cultural identity. Imposing limitations and restrictions on the use of first languages has long been a weapon of dominant cultures.

This has come home to me in the last few days here at the WCC Assembly where many people from around the world have gathered. I heard someone from Norway speak of a 300-year period when a dominant Danish culture repressed their language.

A native Welsh speaker talked about his school days and said a child that was overheard speaking Welsh had to wear a piece of wood around their neck. They then had the ability to pass that on to anyone they overheard speaking Welsh, and then at the end of the school day the child that was left wearing the wood got caned!

These stories made me think of elderly Māori friends and parishioners who have talked of schooling experiences where the use of te reo was discouraged, outlawed and punished. They talk of humiliation, guilt, anger and disadvantage at the hands of our education system. Reflecting on this, I wonder if we in the Christian community can approach Te Wiki o te Reo Māori - Māori Language Week with elements of the Christian principles of repentance, reconciliation and renewal. That by embracing te reo in our PCANZ context we in part signal sorrow for the suppression of the language in times past? And that in the Presbyterian pakeha exploration of tikanga and te reo - listening, learning and incorporating - there is a growing, genuine and heart-felt desire for restoration and renewal of this language in our context. Certainly, as I move around our Church I observe increasing respect for Māori

tikanga. In the growing natural incorporation of Māori language in our services of worship there is a clear and obvious embracing of the spirit of Te Tiriti o Waitangi in our context.

See our Church website for links to Te Wiki o te Reo Māori - Māori Language Week in-person and online events, training and resources.

Right Rev Hamish Galloway  
Moderator Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand  
moderator@presbyterian.org.nz

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## Newsletter

Flagstaff Community Church September, 2022



### Gathering for worship and Covid19.

As of Monday 12 September, the COVID-19 Protection Framework, also known as the traffic light system, has been removed so all New Zealanders can continue to move forward with certainty.

While this is great news, we at Flagstaff Community Church want to ensure the most vulnerable in our faith community are protected. We will still be vigilant in our care for each other as we move forward to better days.

In relation to our face-to-face worship at Flagstaff Community Church

Please stay home if you are unwell.

The wearing of a face covering is optional.

We respect those who choose to wear a mask and who continue to practise safe distancing.

We are practising good air ventilation and spacious seating.

Morning tea will be served and you are welcome to stay.

Thanks everyone for playing your part. He waka eke noa! We have all been in this together.

**Young Families Camp** – ‘The Big Sleep Away Overnighter’. Keep Saturday 19th to Sunday 20th November free for a 24-hour camp at Lake Waihola. Heaps of cool stuff for the tamariki like Water slide, Flying fox, Jet Skiing and Bubble Soccer. Details soon.

**Message from the Moderator on the death of Queen Elizabeth II.** The Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand acknowledges the death of Queen Elizabeth II with deep sadness and with heartfelt thanksgiving for her life. We are sad to lose someone who has had a special place in our lives for so many years. We are thankful for the Queen's long and full life of faithful, loving service that has helped to navigate countries like ours through the good times, and the difficult times, for over seven decades. As Christians, we also give thanks for the sincere Christian faith that guided her and sustained her throughout her life. We extend our condolences to the Queen's family and all those who are grieving at this time. We offer our prayerful support for the new King, Charles III.

**New Library Book:** "Oscar, Xray Calling" by Betty Scarlet, tells the adventures of the Scarlet family, who went as missionaries in Papua New Guinea. Sue Morey. Librarian

**Caversham Baptist Church:** is hosting a Voice of the Martyrs movie called Sabina at 7pm on Friday, 23 September. The suggested donation is \$10 per person.



**Interested in studying Theology?** The Theology Programme at the University of Otago offers a wide range of papers and qualifications, all available via distance learning. Some papers are taught via videoconferences, others include teaching days in Wellington, while a few involve week-long intensives. For further information go to [www.otago.ac.nz/theology](http://www.otago.ac.nz/theology) or ph 0800 80 80 98 or 03 479 8639.

**Flagstaff Prayer Time:** Sharing life, ministry and prayer together. Everyone Welcome. Every Tuesday 8.30 – 9.30 am in Tocher Lounge. Join us as we share and celebrate stories of God's action amongst us and pray for one another and discern God's leading into the future.

**Dunedin Local Body Election Meetings:** You're invited to Ōpoho Church, 50 Signal Hill Rd for meetings with the candidates. It's a 2 parter. The meetings are on Sunday, September 18 and Monday, September 19 from 7pm to 9.10pm. Half the candidates on each evening will try to win your vote. Philip Somerville will once again be chairing the meeting in his Dr Suess hat. The wearing of masks is mandatory for everyone. There will be a cash koha opportunity, with the money going to the Dunedin Night Shelter Trust.

**A Bug Day Out –Sun. Sept 25, 3-5pm Opoho Church, Signal Hill Rd:** Opoho Presbyterian Church is celebrating the season of creation. We are building a bug hotel in the Opoho Church Garden; we are going on a bug hunt, and afterwards we are having a bit of grub. You are welcome to join us for some family fun at our Bug Day Out. The event is suitable for primary aged children and their families. All children must be accompanied by a responsible adult. We will be outside much of the time, so dress for the weather. RSVP [opohominister@gmail.com](mailto:opohominister@gmail.com); if you are coming.

**Green Fingers:** We are currently restoring our awa next to the church. This little creek is showing signs of life and is breathing again and some native birds are showing up. There are a few folks who meet for a couple of hours on a Monday and pot away at planting, trapping pests, removing, weeding, etc. Occasionally we have a project in which everyone is invited including our local school. If you want to join us ring Neil Brown 027 435 4672.

**Pastoral Visit:** If you would like a pastoral visit from someone from within the pastoral team or the minister, please ring elder Sarah Barton 021 385905.



**Listen  
to the Voice  
of Creation**  
*an evening prayer series*

4 September: earth  
11 September: wind  
18 September: water  
25 September: covenant  
2 October: renewal

**Knox Church  
Ōtepoti Dunedin  
Sundays 7pm**

SEASON OF CREATION



**Life Groups:** Life Groups @Flagstaff are a vital part of who we are as a community of faith as we seek to grow in Jesus. Not only do we explore the messages God has for us from the Bible but we also have the opportunity to connect with others and experience a place where no-one stands alone.

**Community Facing Groups:** Where the focus is on friendship around a common interest. These groups are welcoming which may centre on an activity, a hobby, a talent, a life stage, a project or service. Groups include, Steady as you Go, Hire a Helper, Community Garden, Women's Coffee Group @ Coffee Culture (Held 1st Tuesday of the month at 7.30 pm), Green Fingers, Walking Groups and more! If you would like to join a group, start a group or find out more information then please contact Brendon on 0273569200.

**Discipleship Groups:** which focus on study and prayer. Wednesday 1.30 p.m. Contact Sarah 021385905.

**Tithing/Giving:** There are many ways we can support the activity of God in our church, community and world. Two ways of making your church offerings.

1. Use internet banking to make direct credits or automatic payments to the Flagstaff Community Church. Westpac bank # 03-0903-0192517-03. Please include your name for reference or if you use Envelopes use your Envelope reference/number.
2. Join the envelope system by contacting Alison Jenkin (Wakari) 021 1052 320. You will receive a set of personally numbered envelopes. This can be placed in the kete/

basket at the foyer entrance anytime during Sunday Worship.

If you give to special appeals or missions, you can claim on these donations by identifying the appeal by naming it when you make the internet payment or by putting your number or name and address on an envelope.

**Contacts:**

**Prayer Chain:** Sue Yule 476 7655, or Sarah Barton 021 385905

**Pastoral Care:** Sarah Barton 021 385905

**Envelope System:** Alison Jenkin 021 1052320

**Hall Bookings:** Sarah Barton 021 385905

**Technical Equipment:** Gary Dent 027 4763155

**Church Newsletter:** Jenny Neill 467 5813 [dandjneill@xtra.co.nz](mailto:dandjneill@xtra.co.nz)



**Kaumātua - Elders**

**Presbytery Elder:** Sarah Barton

Phone: 021 385 905

[sarahbarton629@gmail.com](mailto:sarahbarton629@gmail.com)

Vanessa Gordon: [ness.gordon@gmail.com](mailto:ness.gordon@gmail.com);

Alastair & Sue Yule: [yules@xtra.co.nz](mailto:yules@xtra.co.nz);

Tim Mephram: [tmephram@rautakiadvice.co.nz](mailto:tmephram@rautakiadvice.co.nz);

Gary Dent: [gary.dent7@gmail.com](mailto:gary.dent7@gmail.com);

Andrew Sims: [andrewcarolynsims@gmail.com](mailto:andrewcarolynsims@gmail.com);

**Minister:** Rev. Brendon McRae

Phone: 027 356 9200

[brendon@churchatflagstaff.co.nz](mailto:brendon@churchatflagstaff.co.nz)

Flagstaff Community Church Services 9:30am (Communion 3rd Sunday of each month)

**Parish contact details:** PO Box 10074,  
Halfway Bush, 9042, Dunedin

**Website:** [www.churchatflagstaff.co.nz](http://www.churchatflagstaff.co.nz);

[www.facebook.com/churchatflagstaff](https://www.facebook.com/churchatflagstaff);

**Office** 9 Centennial Avenue Wakari  
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