



MODERATOR'S MESSAGE
WORLD CHILDREN'S DAY
20 November 2022

Greetings

At the recent World Council of Churches Assembly in Karlsruhe, Germany, real effort was made to have significant youth representation. And the youth voice was loud and strident, especially around the need for Christian action on the issue of climate emergency. They spoke out for the children of the world who will inherit a world that the older generations shape and form by the things they decide and the way they live.

This was an inspiring, timely and relevant message because:

- Half of the world's population is under 30 or younger.
- By 2030 this will rise to 57% and the decisions the older generations make now will hugely impact their future lives.
- In the Western world, younger generations have experienced an alarming increase in levels of anxiety through the COVID pandemic.
- Children and youth are largely missing from our churches.
- The scriptures are clear in the call to connect life-giving faith with the children, nowhere more so than Deuteronomy 6 which calls us to impress God's loving commandments on our children, "to talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up".'

In response to this need to connect with the young, Pope John Paul II in 1985 instigated an event called World Youth Day (WYD). Sometimes nicknamed in later years as the 'Catholic Woodstock' it has proven incredibly effective! The 1995, the World Youth Day closing Mass in the Philippines set a world record for the largest number of people gathered for a single religious event with 5 million attendees. A wonderfully successful response to the need to connect with our young.

In a similar way in 1954 the UN instigated World Children's Day. It is celebrated on 20 November and the theme this year is 'Inclusion, for every child'.

What can we do in our local churches?

- Listen to the UN messaging for 2022 that seeks to amplify the message that action is needed across all generations to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and leave no one behind. The catch cry 'Intergenerational Solidarity: Creating a World for All Ages' is so in tune with my Moderator theme of Empowering Generations.
- Look for ways to empower voices, ideas, and opinions of children in our churches.
- Orientate our way of being church to the younger generations.

This week I was lamenting to our PCANZ Mission Resource Team about a recent combined service of five local churches that I was part of organising. While the numbers were great and the service was inspirational, and 'a good time was had by all', there were only five children present! Rev Robin Humphreys, Director, PCANZ Children and Families Ministry, brought me up with a start when she asked me if the service was orientated to families, youth and children. Absolutely not I thought! We get what we aim for. Maybe it is well past time to adjust our aim.

Right Rev Hamish Galloway

Moderator Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand

moderator@presbyterian.org.nz,

Newsletter

Flagstaff Community Church November, 2022



Christmas and New Year Worship Services. Joy to the world! Kia pupū, pupū āke!

- Whānau Family Christmas Eve Service. Saturday 24th December. Early Evening.
- Christmas Day Service 9.30 am Sunday 25th December
- Sunday Worship continues 9.30 am over the holiday period including a short reflective service and coffee on Sunday New Year's Day.



FLAGSTAFF -- HIGHGATE -- LEITH

F R I D A Y
F U N

Years 7 - 10 (& year 6s for term 4)
Fortnightly Friday nights 28/10, 11/11, 25/11 & 9/12
6 - 8 pm for dinner & games - - \$5
267 Malvern Street, Leith valley
See your youth pastor for more details
Or call Jono (022 399 6824).



HELP: We are a bit on the skinny side with our Tech Team Volunteers. We have a fantastic team of volunteers led by Gary Dent who wires our Sunday worship team up for sound each week and makes sure our PowerPoint is in sync with our singing. We currently require some volunteers who would be available to control the sound desk and operate the PowerPoint. Training will be provided. You will be rostered on the number of Sundays you are available and with flexibility if needing to swap. Time involves a Saturday 5 pm practise for 45min and an early 8:45 am Sunday morning start. A PowerPoint template is provided each week requiring songs from the PowerPoint library to be inserted. Thanks for considering. Please talk to Gary or Brendon if you are interested!

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.

Season Of Peace

Ōtepoti Dunedin 2022

During this season, we remember some of the big stories relevant to us in Aotearoa, including Parihaka, Armistice, Rā Maumahara – National Day of Commemoration of NZ Land Wars, and Archibald Baxter.

Let us consider again these important themes of peace, justice, separation, loss of land, peace in a troubled world, and hope.

Naumai, haere mai koutou!



Remembering Parihaka



Planting and upkeep continue at the Parihaka Memorial by members of the Flagstaff Community Church and Community Choir and it looks well-loved! The Dunedin City Council, on request, gave the area surrounding the Rongo Stone a spruce up also.



Dawn Service 7 am, November 5th at the Rongo Stone. Close to 100 people attended.

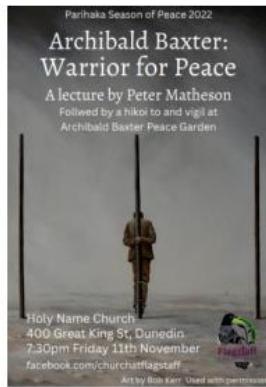


Following the dawn service, we shared a warm breakfast hosted by Araiteuru Marae



A number of activities were organised over the two weeks inspired by the story of Parihaka. We visited a local Restoration Project.





We attended a lecture by Peter Matheson followed by a hiko and peace vigil to Conscientious Objectors' Memorial



We walked gently through a beautiful spring garden



We joined with 'The Seedling' and hiko to Rongo



We attended a Peace vigil for Parihaka at Knox



These pūrakau, ancestral stories, can challenge/inspire us to respond in a personal and creative way.



Wreath making: Mahi Toi:



Poetry: Te Reo Rongo



The tamariki made a prayer for peace



A koha was taken during these events. Over \$600 was raised donated to the Dunedin Night Shelter Trust.

These activities have been made possible by funding from The Synod of Otago & Southland.

**Kia hora te ma-rino
Kia whakapapa pounamu te moana
Hei hua-rahi mā tatou I te rangi nei
Aroha atu, aroha mai
Tātou i a tātou katoa.
Hui e! Tāiki e!**

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. or ph 0800 80 80 98 or 03 479 8639

CAMPUS AND DISTANCE LEARNING



Theology@Otago 2023

Explore faith, yourself and the world...

Pre-Christmas Summer School
14 November – 17 December 2022

CHTH 235/335 Special Topic: Theology and Science
CHTH 237/337* Moana Pasifika Theology (with intensive, 13–17 November, Mangere, Auckland)

Summer School
9 January – 24 February 2023

PAST 323/MINS 415* Christian Ministry in Te Ao Māori (The Māori World) (with intensive 16–20 January 2023, Te Rau College, Gisborne)

Semester 1 2023

PAST322/MINS414* Christian Theology and the Arts (with intensive 13-17 February, 2023, Dunedin)

BIBS 112 Interpreting the Old Testament
BIBS 131 Introductory New Testament Greek Language 1
BIBS 221/321 The Gospels
BIBS 227/327* Mātauranga Māori and the Bible
CHTH 102 History of Christianity
CHTH 111 Doing Theology
CHTH 235/335 Special Topic: Theology, Money and Markets
CHTH 305/405 Roots of Public Theology
HEBR 131 Introductory Biblical Hebrew 1
PAST 321/MINS 413* Missional God, Missional People
MINS 406* Theological Perspectives on Leadership

Contact

Theology Programme
4th Floor, Arts Building
Tel 03 479 8639 | Email theology@otago.ac.nz
otago.ac.nz/theology
Or AskOtago: ask.otago.ac.nz or 0800 80 80 98

Semester 2 2023

CHTH 236/336* Māori Theology & Religion (with intensive 3–7 July, Ohope Marae, Bay of Plenty)
BIBS 121 Interpreting the New Testament
BIBS 132 Introductory New Testament Greek Language 2
BIBS 218/318 Judaism in the Time of Jesus
BIBS 322/423 The Epistles
CHTH 131 God and Ethics in the Modern World
CHTH 212/312 Spirit, Church and Sacraments
CHTH 319/415 Reconciliation, Christian Ethics and Public Theology
CHTH 323/423 Theology and Human Wellbeing
HEBR 132 Introductory Biblical Hebrew 2
PAST 219/319* Christian Witness in a Secular World
MINS 411* Chaplaincy in Diverse Contexts

Pre-Christmas Summer School 2023
13 November – 16 December 2023

CHTH 224/324 Special Topic: Theology and the Environment

Full year

BIBS 213/313/411 Hebrew OT Exegesis
BIBS 223/323/421 Greek NT Exegesis

All papers are taught on campus and by distance learning, except where indicated (*distance only)



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.

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



Kaumātua - Elders

Presbytery Elder: Sarah Barton

Phone: 021 385 905

sarahbarton629@gmail.com

Vanessa Gordon: ness.gordon@gmail.com;

Alastair & Sue Yule: yules@xtra.co.nz;

Tim Mephram: tmephram@rautakiadvice.co.nz;

Gary Dent: gary.dent7@gmail.com;

Andrew Sims: andrewcarolynsims@gmail.com;

Minister: Rev. Brendon McRae

Phone: 027 356 9200

brendon@churchatflagstaff.co.nz

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

Parish contact details: PO Box 10074,
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Website: www.churchatflagstaff.co.nz;

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