

Pastoral email

Dear Church

A couple of weeks ago I wrote to you and asked that you hold in your hearts those in the North Island impacted by flooding and the devastating Cyclone Gabrielle, which particularly affected the East Coast.

Please continue to remember those who have lost lives, family and friends, homes and livelihoods. Continue to pray for strength and resilience for the people and churches and church leaders in the most impacted areas; they are being called upon to give so much, often while contending with their own difficult situations.

When I wrote previously, we were in the process of contacting our presbyteries and reaching out to affected parishes. They continue to face very difficult and challenging circumstances. And a few of our parishes remain isolated.

So that we can share information as we receive it, we have created a [PCANZ Cyclone and Floods updates](#) page on the Church website. I encourage you to read there what our parishes and presbyteries are sharing on how they are working with their communities, what help they might need, and which relief funds they support.

You will see that our churches have responded amazingly well given the conditions and limitations they are under. Some are better resourced than others, yet all are responding as much as they can, in ways that they can. And warmth and hospitality are to the fore.

Mangapapa Union Church are dealing with terrible flood conditions, their foodbank has been overwhelmed with requests for assistance, yet they persevere overcoming numerous obstacles to make deliveries to isolated homes.

Wairoa Union Parish also face terrible flood conditions in an isolated community. Their halls have sheltered rest home residents and a play centre. They are supporting many in their community who have no insurance.

St John's Presbyterian Church in Hastings is currently without a minister but continue their commitment to their community care ministry; buying groceries and cooking them to provide frozen meals to those in the community who need them most.

St Columba's Presbyterian Church in Taradale continues to provide a warm welcoming space to talk and have a free cup of tea and coffee. Those without power can cook their food at the church, and they have also provided free meat and hot meals including dietary options.

St Columba's Church, Havelock North have also provided a warm welcoming space, a place to talk, and for those without power a place to charge devices. They gathered blankets, clothing and other necessities on behalf of Civil Defence who distributed the goods within the first few days of the cyclone. Over the coming weeks, the church is donating to the Hawkes Bay Cyclone Relief Fund. The church will host a performance by Lindisfarne College, Hastings, on Thursday 16 March, 12.30-1.20pm. If you can attend, please go. It will be koha only with proceeds to Cyclone Relief Fund.

On the topic of our Church Schools, we have seen an excellent fundraising initiative from St Andrew's College, Christchurch. They fundraised \$34,000 for those affected by Cyclone Gabrielle, with funds going to the New Zealand Red Cross Disaster Fund. Additionally, a \$1,000 was given at their Middle School Chapel Service for St Andrew's Church, Hastings (who are going from strength to strength with their GenLend initiative).

As we receive further news from our parishes and presbyteries, we will update the Church website page <https://www.presbyterian.org.nz/about-us/contact-us/pcanz-floods-cyclone-gabrielle>. Keep checking it and keep in your thoughts and prayers all those on the hard road to recovery.

*Yours in Christ
Hamish*

Right Rev Hamish Galloway
Moderator
Moderator@presbyterian.org.nz

Newsletter

Flagstaff Community Church March, 2023



Young at Heart Group: Meeting Wednesday 29th March at 2 pm. Alastair Yule will talk about Mercy Ships which serve as hospital and aid ships in African nations. Afternoon tea. Everyone welcome.

GOOD FRIDAY: Meditation on the Cross: Knox Church, 7pm. All Welcome. Sponsored by the Presbyterian & Catholic Dialogue Group.



Parish Council Update: Thank you all very much. The generous people of Flagstaff Community Church have donated \$3000 to go to the cyclone relief fund at St Andrew Church in Hastings.

We have been contacted by Presbyterian Support Otago (PSO) and asked if we would like to partner with them with the Youth Grow programme. Youth Grow is an alternative education pathway that offers a Life Skills curriculum on the skills needed to become "Life Ready, Work Ready" It is run in small groups led by qualified and passionate youth workers and educators. PSO are interested in the empty rooms in the Hall complex. We have had 2 exploratory conversations with representatives of PSO. Parish Council regards the possibility of partnering and hosting PSO Youth Grow favourably and have agreed to enter into a formal conversation. Parish Council & PSO representatives will be meeting to decide on a process which will include talking to leaders of the various groups in our church and of course with our wider church whānau. We will keep you informed and will plan a meeting to invite your thoughts on this idea. Please pray about this so we can discern what God is calling us to do. Blessings to you all. Sarah

Presbyterian Support Otago: Due to unprecedented demand, Presbyterian Support Food Bank stocks are very low. Any & All donations, would be very welcome, but in particular: Muesli Bars, Spreads (vegemite, Peanut Butter), Canned foods (Spaghetti/Beans), Canned fish. If anyone has any spare ice-cream containers, our food bank would be most grateful as they replace plastic bags which have been phased out. Drop off to PSO Reception Moray Place Dunedin.



D

SHOPON
CARROLL

Vintage Fashion Show

Run in conjunction
with iD Fashion
Week 2023

Come and join us for a night of fun,
celebrating all things vintage!

The night includes the Fashion Show along with an auction of
treasures from Shop on Carroll and raffles throughout the night.

Tickets cost \$15 per person and includes one free drink (wine or
juice) as well as a 10% discount voucher for Shop on Carroll and
one free raffle ticket.

To purchase please visit www.psotago.org.nz/fashion-show

Thursday 23 March, 2023
7.30pm - 9.30pm
Maggies, 46 Lower Stuart Street, Dunedin
Collection curated by Em.J Uson

Your vintage and retro specialist op shop!
When you purchase from Shop on Carroll, you are supporting Presbyterian Support Otago's Family Works social services.

Dunedin North Otago Regional Group 2023 – Conversations that matter: Greetings to the Dunedin North Otago Regional Group - to all congregations, ministers including retired ministers, elders, retired elders, chaplains, members and ministries in our region from Omarama to Maungatua. You are the Dunedin North Otago Regional Group. Unless advised otherwise, a meal will be provided at a cost of \$12 to be paid on arrival at the event. Please RSVP (with accept - or apologise) by the Sunday before the event to dnoregionalgroup@gmail.com. If you wish to attend the event and not the meal, please also advise. The presentations will begin around 6.45 pm. Next event: **Tuesday 11 April – 6 pm to 8.30 pm – On being an Easter people.** Graham Redding will help us explore lessons from Pike River and the Christchurch earthquakes for pastoral care in times of community crisis and trauma. Joy Davis, the new Presbyterian Support Otago Community Relations Advisor, and PSO Board members nominated by Presbytery will explore with us how PSO is seeking to live out the Easter story and together we will explore ways of encouraging collaboration between PSO and the Church in our region.

Eco-Church: Don Lind on behalf of Eco Church team will speak on Sunday 26th March about making good use of energy.



Using energy responsibly as good stewards of creation

- ▶ Energy efficiency
- ▶ Conserving energy
- ▶ Renewable energy

Energy efficiency and conservation helps tackle climate change by making renewable energy sources go further

- ▶ Tackling dampness and ventilation including draughts
 - ▶ Heat retention, cost savings
- ▶ LED lighting
 - ▶ Long-lasting
 - ▶ Uses much less electricity
- ▶ At end of life, replace old, non-renewable and inefficient appliances with energy-efficient ones (the more stars the better)
- ▶ Timers, sensors (lights, heaters)
- ▶ Turn off appliances at the wall; standby mode is not enough

Renewable energy

- ▶ 80-85% of electricity generated in NZ comes from sus (MBIE, 2018)
 - ▶ Hydro-electric (62%)
 - ▶ Geothermal (16%)
 - ▶ Wind (5%)
- ▶ Five major generators: Meridian, Mercury, Contact, G
 - ▶ Meridian: 100% renewables (hydroelectric, wind), carbon-neutral
 - ▶ Mercury: 100% renewable (hydroelectric, geothermal), not carbon-neutral
 - ▶ Trustpower: mostly renewable (hydroelectric), not carbon-neutral
 - ▶ Contact: >80% renewable (hydroelectric, geothermal, gas)
 - ▶ Genesis: on the way
- ▶ Compare providers at www.canstarblue.co.nz/energy/electricity-providers

Can You Help Get Kids to Camp? Each week of term Rock Solid is working with around 150 young people in South/southern Dunedin and in Brockville. The majority of these kids will have no contact with any other kind of youth group or church. Each year we offer the young people we work mostly closely with (through Clubs and mentoring) the chance to go on one or two camps with us. In three weeks we have a group of young people we'd like to take to the Christchurch Easter Camp – an 'amazing experience' with up to three and a half thousand other young people gathering to learn more about Jesus & his message of hope, new life and 2nd chances. We are hoping to take two van loads (eleven young people) to Christchurch. The total cost will be around \$200 per person. For families who are struggling, that's a lot, and we don't want price to be barrier for them. Our plan is to raise enough so that each of the families only has to contribute \$50, and we can subsidise the rest. If you'd like to contribute towards this (or any of our camps), you can make a tax-deductible donation to this account: Write "Rock Solid Camps" - 38 9018 0715929 02 (Kiwi Bank) If you are able to help us, that would be fantastic! Many thanks, Kristin for the Rock Solid team.



FLAGSTAFF -- HIGHGATE -- LEITH

FRIDAY
FUN

Years 7 - 10

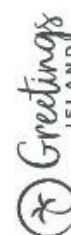
Fortnightly Friday nights 10/2, 24/2, 10/3 & 24/3

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).





NEIGHBOURS AOTEAROA

Churches let's share kai! March 2023

Message from the Moderator Neighbours Aotearoa March 2023

I love our Church theme for Neighbours month this year, *Let's Share... Kai with our Communities*. This is deeply Christian, this idea of sharing food and around a table.

The Australian theologian and missiologist Mike Frost once commented that Christianity captured the Roman Empire not by sword but by table! What a wonderful thing to be captured by, the hubbub of neighbours sharing food together. This vision for hospitality, of reaching out inviting and including, is even more urgently needed in our communities following the shocking destruction of the recent floods and cyclone.

I encourage you to see our Church [website resources](#) for parishes. These include an offer for our churches to enter a draw for supermarket gift cards, download a poster, get advice on how to set up a pataka kai, and examples of how our churches are sharing food and meals with their communities. I hope you are inspired and encouraged to find your own way to share kai with community this year.

Nga mihi nui
Hamish

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

Neighbours Aotearoa

Every March, Neighbours Aotearoa offers a great opportunity to connect the people in your neighbourhood and community with your church. There are so many ways you can take part - it can be as big or small as you want to make it. For 2023, we're encouraging you to embrace our 2023 theme, *Let's Share... Kai with our Communities*.

Enter the draw now for a \$50 grocery gift card for your church!

The PCANZ has 10x \$50 grocery gift cards for churches to buy kai/food to share with their communities. To enter, email your: PCANZ church, contact, physical address, how you will use the \$50 card to: angela@presbyterian.org.nz by 5pm, 14 March.

How can your church participate in Neighbours Aotearoa?

We encourage you to try one of many ways to share kai with your neighbours: start a pataka kai community pantry; host or contribute to a foodbank; crop swap; community BBQ or pizza party; baking and sharing muffins; host a community picnic, potluck, beach day; host a dinner/lunch/brunch/breakfast/morning tea/afternoon tea; drop off parish veggies & preserves etc. Not sure how to begin a pataka kai? Presbyterian Support Northern can offer advice. With Northern Presbytery, they run a pātaka kai (free pantry full of dry goods like canned food, pasta and rice etc) that's accessible to all. The idea is that people are welcome to come take what they need and bring what they can. Read more at the Church website link below.

[See the PCANZ website for ideas & resources for churches](#)
[Neighbours Aotearoa 2023 - Let's Share Kai](#)

www.presbyterian.org.nz/for-ministers/prescare/neighbours-day/neighbours-aotearoa-2023





Otago & Southland
Baptist Association

Ko te Roopu Iriiri ki Otakou
me te Taurapa o te Waka



TE KĀRETI IRIRI O CAREY
CAREY
BAPTIST COLLEGE

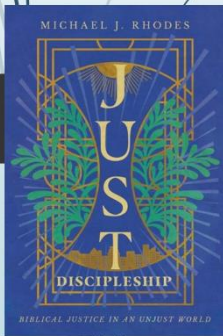
Just Discipleship: Biblical Justice in an Unjust World

with Dr. Michael Rhodes

**Saturday 1 April; 1:00pm-4:00pm; \$10pp
Caversham Baptist Church, Dunedin**



"What exactly does the Bible mean by justice, and what does it have to do with poverty, racism, and other issues in our world? More importantly, how do we become the kind of people who practice justice?"



Michael teaches Old Testament courses in Carey Baptist College's undergraduate and postgraduate programmes. An ordained Presbyterian minister, he has worked for Christian community development programmes in Kenya and in South Memphis, USA, and been involved in racially and economically diverse church plants. Michael's passion is to help the Church hear and respond to God's call in Scripture to become a community that embodies Jesus's good news for the poor. As a result, he has studied and published works on economic discipleship, racial justice, and poverty in Scripture, at both the academic and popular level.

This seminar will draw from Michael's latest book of the same title (released August 2023).

Please RSVP to Rachel: Rachel at osba@baptist.org.nz or ph/text 027 220 9082

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.

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.

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.

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. If you would like to join one of our weekly groups please contact Sarah Barton 021 385905.

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,
Halfway Bush, 9042, Dunedin

Website: www.churchatflagstaff.co.nz;

www.facebook.com/churchatflagstaff;

Office 9 Centennial Avenue, Wakari
Dunedin, 9010

