# WHITE RIBBON DAY



# We invite you to join us in celebrating White Ribbon

# Wednesday 22nd November @ First Church 10:30am - 12:30pm

We invite you to decorate the front fence at the First Church of Otago in White Ribbons to raise an awareness of White Ribbon Day

#### Wear a white ribbon in support

International White Ribbon day is on November 25th every year.

The key focus in 2023 is the role we have to ensure the next generation understand what 'respectful relationships' are (which by definition do not involve violence), and the need for us to role model 'healthy masculinity'.







## **Shine Family Violence Webinar**

This webinar is for those involved in Children and/or Youth ministry leadership within the Presbyterian whānau. It aims to increase your general awareness of and helpful responses to family violence.



## Newsletter

Flagstaff Community Church November, 2023



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

- Advent Service with Flagstaff Community Choir. Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December.
- Family Christmas Eve Service at First Church 5.30 pm. Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December.
- Christmas Day Service 9.30 am Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December
- **Sunday Worship** continues 9.30 am over the holiday period including a short reflective service and coffee on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December New Year's Eve.

#### **Parish Council News**

**Tim Mepham-Presbyterian Support Otago Board.** We would like to acknowledge the work Tim has done on the PSO board. He has stepped down from his role on the board and was presented with a gift at the PSO AGM in October. Thank you, Tim, for all you do in your many roles.

**Dunedin Night Shelter Trust.** Thank you to all who contributed during Season of Peace, \$344 was raised for the night shelter.

**Church & Hall Exterior Painting:** This job has been brought forward and starts this week. It will continue over the next month.

**Halfway Bush Building Update.** Synod, Presbytery and the Property Commission have approved our application. The Synod lawyers and the Otago Foundation Trust Board have signed the agreement. The next step is that Habitat for Humanity are waiting for resource consent and then a settlement date will be formalised.

**Young at Heart Christmas Party:** Wednesday 6th December at 2 pm at Wakari Church. Join us for a Christmas carol sing-a-long and a reflection by Rev. Brendon McRae. Afternoon tea. Bring a friend or neighbour, everyone welcome.

**Christmas food and gifts:** Paper bags will be given out at church over the next few weeks for you to fill with items of food, toys and gifts for the Presbyterian Supports Christmas hampers and for some families we know within our community. Please return them to church by Sunday the 10th December.

**School Creek Restoration Project:** 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. Others involve week-long intensives. For further information go to 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 Church foyer. 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.

**Mission Membership:** There are a number of people who have moved from the original place where they were baptised and made a confession of faith, and who now make Flagstaff Community Church the place they live out their faith. To arrange an appointment to explore fully the implications of becoming a committed member of our congregation please contact Brendon McRae, 027 356 9200.

**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 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 contact Sarah Barton.

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

**Technical Equipment:** Andrew Sims <u>andrewcarolynsims@gmail.com</u>;

Church Newsletter: Jenny Neill 467 5813 <a href="mailto:dandjneill@xtra.co.nz">dandjneill@xtra.co.nz</a>



#### Kaumātua - Elders

Presbytery Elder: Sarah Barton

parishclerk@churchatflagstaff.co.nz;

Vanessa Gordon: <a href="mailto:ness.gordon@gmail.com">ness.gordon@gmail.com</a>;

Alastair & Sue Yule: <a href="mailto:yules@xtra.co.nz">yules@xtra.co.nz</a>;

Tim Mepham: <a href="mailto:tmepham@rautakiadvice.co.nz">tmepham@rautakiadvice.co.nz</a>;

Gary Dent: <a href="mailto:gary.dent7@gmail.com">gary.dent7@gmail.com</a>;

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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