

March 2018



The

# EAGLE

Newsletter of the Anglican Parish of St John Campbells Bay

# He is risen!



## Our parish family

### Baptisms:

Bailey Rose Mackintosh	13 January 2018
Lucy Genevieve Wood	21 January 2018
Riley Jack Greer	4 March 2018
Willow June Kitchen	4 March 2018

### Celebrations:

**Murray and Meriel Johansen** are celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary in March; whilst **Bruce and Jocelyn Pratt** will be going 10 years better and celebrating their 60th Wedding Anniversary during April.

### Retirement from vestry:

**Chris Lane** is retiring from vestry this year after many years of service to the parish. His skills and knowledge have been much in demand and the parish has benefited enormously. Thank you from us all.

### Thank you:

**Peter Gilderdale** for your beautiful calligraphy and for updating our Memorial Book in the prayer corner.



*Photos of the baptism of Lucy Genevieve Wood at St John's on 21 January 2018*



*We have been privileged to have Mary Read and her son with us yet again to visit her other son here in New Zealand. She has flown from Scotland for several summers now and has regularly joined in our worship. Seen here chatting with Harry Shirley. During each recent visit she has celebrated her birthday, and on the 29<sup>th</sup> January this year, Mary was 105 years old! What a delight it has been to get to know such an indefatigable centenarian.*

## Notice of parish AGM

**Notice is hereby given of the AGM of the Parish of St John the Evangelist, Campbells Bay to be held in the Church Hall, 327 Beach Road, Campbells Bay at 11am on Sunday 18 March 2018.**

If you have any questions for the AGM, please submit them in writing to Alison at the parish office, so that we can give you the best answer. **AGM annual group reports** may be submitted to the parish office by email [admin@stjohns.net.nz](mailto:admin@stjohns.net.nz) or handed into Alison, by Tuesday 6 March 2018.

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## From our wardens ... Update on the Vicarage

Last November at a Special General Meeting the Parish resolved to sell the Vicarage and build a new Vicarage on the Church grounds.

Since then, events have moved quickly:

- The Diocesan Council approved our plans at the November meeting.
- The Diocesan Faculties Committee in January gave approval for us to proceed, but on the proviso that the final plans for the new Vicarage need to be submitted to them for final approval.
- The General Trust Board (in whom ownership of all Church property vests) gave approval for us to proceed with the sale of the Vicarage, subject to receiving a Valuation from a Registered Valuer, and three separate Property Appraisals from three Real Estate Agents operating in the Murrays bay area. The Trustees of the General Trust Board will have the final say on accepting (or not accepting) any offer.
- Subsequent to the above, we have received an offer to Purchase which is attractive and suits the needs of the Parish and is within the range of the Valuation from the Registered Valuer and Real Estate Agent Appraisals given the condition of the Vicarage, and the General Trust Board has agreed to accept this offer on certain conditions. (Given that this is not an unconditional sale we cannot disclose more information at this time). Being a Private sale offer, this needed to be reviewed by a full Board meeting of the General Trust Board, which gave an in-principle approval on 23 February 2018.
- Negotiations are well advanced, and all relevant stakeholders have been fully consulted and have supported and/or given their approval/blessing to our efforts to dispose of the Vicarage.

Our intention is to finalise the sale of the Vicarage in due course in a manner which involves no cash expenditure by the Parish (if possible), and thereafter to apply our energy to building a new Vicarage on the Church property.

Finally, it is our understanding that any remaining funds after building the new Vicarage will be ring fenced for use on the Church Facilities or to be retained as Investments to our order, and that any interest income on these funds will accrue to Parish Income. We also note that standard Diocesan operating procedures are that the cash funds will be invested to our order with the General Trust Board, who will pay us interest at market rates.

*Gill and Kath*

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**Front cover: The background photo is of the St John's Sunrise Service on Easter Day 2014 on Campbells Bay beach led by Revd Shann Craig.**

This newsletter is published by the Anglican Parish of St John Campbells Bay, Auckland. The views expressed are not necessarily those of the editors nor the church. Please direct any correspondence to : The Editor, P O Box 65-029, Mairangi Bay. or email: [mandmjohansen@outlook.com](mailto:mandmjohansen@outlook.com)



## Lent and Easter message

Just before Christmas I thought I saw a Hot Cross Bun in the Supermarket. It was a scary moment and I was reassured on retracing my steps that I had only seen a Chelsea Bun.

Perhaps I was already worrying subconsciously about making the leap from Christmas into Lent without any time in-between to turn around.

Christmas seems as though it were only yesterday. In fact it was. Easter is very early this year on the first Sunday in April – April Fool's Day and there will be no end of comment on that or jokes made.

With this shortened time between Christmas and Easter it feels like there is not enough time to make the jump spiritually, emotionally and theologically from the awe of the shepherds, the tenderness and protectiveness of the young parents, the vulnerability of the baby born in the stable, with the Wise Men already on the road and Herod on the prowl to Jerusalem and three crosses on a hill.

By the time you read these words, the Ash Wednesday services will be over and we will be well into Lent.

At the Ash Wednesday service the mark of the cross will be placed on our foreheads, in ash from last year's Palm Crosses using the words:

### **“Repent and believe the Gospel.”**

I'm looking forward to using these words this Ash Wednesday, as my traditional go-to for Ash Wednesday services are the rather more 'stop you in your tracks' words:

### **Remember from dust you came and to dust you will return.**

Both of them relevant to Ash Wednesday.

Words that bring us to a full stop, with the renewed realisation that despite what we would want to believe, but are very often confronted with, life is fragile.

Christmas is fragile in a different way that reminds us that new life is often dirty, messy and needs to be nurtured carefully and gently.

I'm glad that the Season of Lent follows Ash Wednesday – it is six weeks to consider the messiness of nurturing new life spiritually, perhaps re-establishing faith or to breathe new life into faith that might have lost its lustre.

Time to consider what our faith means, both to us personally and also how it impacts on us as we interact with our families, our community and the world in which we live.

As John Donne said many years ago, “No man/one is an island.” And it is so. The Christian faith calls us to live our faith amidst everyday life, to bring the love of Christ to our world now, today.

To do that we need to take time out regularly to ponder

our faith, but also in these great seasons of the Church, to take the opportunity to ponder as a people our combined journey of faith.

A bridge is a good metaphor for this. It can be viewed in a number of ways. An engineer would study its physical properties: how it is put together, what materials it is constructed from, and the stresses it must bear on a daily basis.

A historian would be interested to know who built it and how it has been updated and maintained.

An artist would examine it from the standpoint how best to paint or photograph it.

A traveller would consider it geographically -- whether it leads to a place worth visiting.

Similarly, the resurrection accounts of the New Testament can be viewed many ways.

Yet only one aspect is of any real importance to us personally -- whether it will bear our weight when we walk over it.

The only way to determine that is to try it. The truth of Jesus' resurrection has borne the weight of many a believer in generations past.

Each one of us has to decide if this bridge is strong enough to carry us too.

This Lent, may you find the Living Christ in your reflections and be ready come Easter Sunday to say “Alleluia, the Lord is Risen.”

With God's blessings

*Jan Olsen*

*Priest in charge*

## For your diary

Every Sunday	Services at 8:00am and 9:30am including January
Every Wednesday	Holy communion – 10am except after Christmas and through January
Mar 6 Tuesday	AGM reports deadline
6 Tuesday	Women's Fellowship – 10am Garden Room
7 Wednesday	<b>Lenten Study 3</b> – 7:30pm in church
14 Wednesday	<b>Lenten Study 4</b> – 7:30pm in church
18 Sunday	<b>AGM meeting</b> – 11:00am in church
18 Sunday	Knightsbridge service – 11:00am
20 Tuesday	Bereavement group – 10am Garden Room
21 Wednesday	<b>Lenten Study 5</b> – 7:30pm in church
22 Thursday	Vestry meeting – 7:30pm
23 Friday	Palm cross making – 10am in church lounge
25 Sunday	<b>Palm/Passion Sunday</b> – 8am and 9:30am
26 Monday	Holy communion – 7:00am in church
27 Tuesday	Holy communion – 7:00am in church
29 Thursday	<b>Maundy Thursday</b> service – 7:30pm
30 Friday	<b>Good Friday</b> services – 9am and 2:00pm
Apr 1 Sunday	Daylight Saving ends - clocks go back one hour at 2:00am
1 Sunday	<b>Sunrise</b> service – 6:30am Campbells Bay beach (Esplanade Road access)
1 Sunday	<b>Easter Day</b> services – 8am and 9:30am
3 Tuesday	Women's Fellowship – 10am Garden Room
4 Wednesday	Reflective service in Taizé style – 7:30pm
5 Thursday	Men's Group – 7:30pm at Stephen Warnes' home
15 Sunday	Knightsbridge service – 11:00am
17 Tuesday	Bereavement group – 10am Garden Room
20 Thursday	Vestry meeting – 7:30pm
29 Sunday	Shared morning tea between services – 9am
May 1 Tuesday	Women's Fellowship – 10am Garden Room
2 Wednesday	Reflective service in Taizé style – 7:30pm
3 Thursday	Men's Group – 7:30pm at Stephen Warnes' home
6 Sunday	BRUNCH service on Campbells Bay beach – 9:30am
15 Tuesday	Bereavement group – 10am Garden Room
20 Sunday	<b>Pentecost</b> services – 8:00am and 9:30am
24 Thursday	Vestry meeting – 7:30pm
27 Sunday	<b>Trinity Sunday</b> services – 8am and 9:30am
27 Sunday	Deadline for contributions to <i>The Eagle</i>
Jun 3 Sunday	<i>The Eagle</i> to be published

## Women's Fellowship

Once again, we had a successful Christmas lunch with plenty of delicious food for our guests. This year we were pleased to host the President and Secretary of the Auckland branch of the Association of Anglican Women together with representatives from local Churches. Following lunch, we were entertained by an old-fashioned Music Hall provided by members of choirs our member Valerie Finlayson is involved with. As the initial plans had changed at a late stage we were grateful to them for filling the gap with such fun and great show.

We met again in February on a beautiful morning for our garden meeting, no formalities but time to catch up with each other, included in the 17 present there were three ex-Presidents.

The meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month between 10 – noon with a short service followed by some business, morning tea allows time for chatting and we then move on to greeting a guest speaker. At the March meeting Ngaire Muller will talk about her 61 years living in Mairangi Bay, plenty of changes I am sure.

If you have a topic you would like to share with us or know of a charity or organisation prepared to come to us please let me know.

We would welcome new members but if you are not sure just come along and meet us, you will find enthusiastic, friendly and committed members of St John's who meet regularly in Fellowship.

*Carol Groom*, Leader

### Next issue of *The Eagle*:

**Publishing date: 3 June 2018**

**Deadline for copy: 27 May 2018**

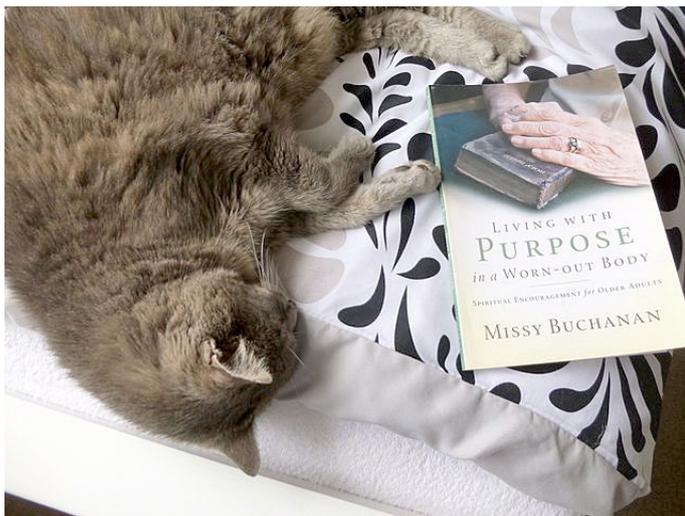
## Book reviews

*The Comfort of Cats  
They rely on us,  
Lean on us,  
Allow us to stroke them,  
Attend to their needs.*

*They purr,  
They trust us,  
They have confidence in us,  
It builds our esteem.*

*They respond, according  
to their age and ability,  
Meeting us, finding us,  
Playing with us,  
Relaxing together.*

*Thank you Lord for the comfort of cats.*



### **A book review “Finding Purpose in a Worn - Out Body”**

*by Missy Buchanan, Upper Room Books, Published - 2008.*

This book is available in our Church Library. I thought it had an intriguing title - but not for me! However, when I looked inside and noted the large print and each page with a prayer followed by two scripture quotes, I began to read. I found many gems of wisdom and shared it with our Home Group.

**Another book review** - from the flyleaf of the book:

### **“Sea of Glory”**

*by Ken Wales & David Poling*

## Earth Care column

Most people are now aware of climate change and the dire effects it can have on our lives, but very few are translating this into meaningful action. Governments, of course, need to instigate the major changes and give incentives to encourage people to make the right decisions, (e.g. electric cars, trains and solar usage). But there are many changes responsible individuals can make, and these have featured in previous “Earthcare Columns.” The total of many individual actions can make a difference.

As Anglican Christians, we are encouraged to take positive actions by our diocese – See website for Anglican Diocese of Auckland home page/ Diocesan News/Bishops’ Climate Change Statement – signed by 15 NZ Archbishops and Bishops. Also, Google “Cherished Earth” – the website of the Diocesan Climate Change Action Group. Here you can learn what some Anglican churches in Auckland are doing to reduce climate change. Read also about the work of John Allen, – Sustainability Field Worker for the Anglican Diocese of Auckland. (Could be a useful consultant when planning the new vicarage.)

*Eric Martin*



### **Book reviews continued**

*a novel based on the true WW II story of the four chaplains and the U.S.A.T. Dorchester;*

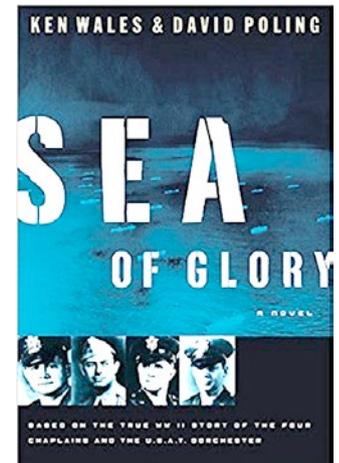
*Broadman and Holman Publishers, Nashville, Tennessee, 2001*

*A saga of faith, adventure, and sacrifice in the U-boat-infested North Atlantic at the height of World War II.*

“In the early morning hours of February 3rd, 1943, the American troop ship *Dorchester* is torpedoed by a German submarine enroute to a top-secret radar installation in Greenland. The four Army chaplains on board could scarcely be more different from each other: Methodist pastor and WWI veteran George Fox; intellectual and athletic Rabbi Alex Goode; scholar, poet and Dutch Reformed minister Clark Poling; basketball fan and “regular guy” Father John Washington. Yet in the terror and confusion following the attack by a deadly U-boat wolf-pack, the chaplains unite in a final, triumphant sacrifice that transforms the life of every survivor who sees it - and inspires Sergeant Wesley Adams to exchange the bitterness of the past for the promise of the future.”

Contributed by:

*Hazel Hipkins*



## Points to ponder

### POINTS TO PONDER – ONE

At the heart of the Gospel narratives is controversy concerning the identity of Jesus Christ. In the Synoptic Gospels, those closest to Jesus regularly misidentify him. The Gospel of Matthew is structured around the distinction between **disciples** (*mathētēs*) and **those who follow** (*akolouthēin* and its variants). Often the disciples are physically in close proximity to Jesus, yet they often misunderstand his words and actions. An epithet Jesus uses of the disciples on a number of occasions is “those of little faith” (*oligopistoi*). The ones who most often recognise Jesus’ true identity are the apparently minor characters in the stories: a leper, a Roman centurion, the Gadarene demoniacs, a paralytic, a haemorrhaging woman, two blind men, a Canaanite woman, and the centurion at the Cross. Within the Passion narrative itself the only true followers, the ones who recognise that Jesus’ mission and ministry must follow the road to crucifixion, are Joseph of Arimathea and, most important, Jesus’ female followers.

So the Gospels themselves witness to the fact that Jesus’ own identity is most likely to be recognised by those who live on the boundaries, beyond the pale, and on the margins. These stories give no support to those who would assert that **insiders** have a unique and incorrigible grasp of the Gospels’ truth. On the contrary, those who are apparent **outsiders** recognise Jesus’ identity and thereby witness to the truth.

**Consider:** who are those considered ‘outsiders’ today? What might they have to tell us about Jesus?

### POINTS TO PONDER – TWO

Christianity basically claims that the truth about God and the world is to be found in the story of the execution of a political prisoner at the hands of the Romans. This itinerant preacher who now becomes the crucified victim of the state is, nonetheless, declared by Christians to reveal the loving being of God. Moreover, Christians further assert that this crucified man now lives through the resurrecting power of God - that the one who died by crucifixion now lives as exalted Lord of the universe.

No simple **act of reason** can possibly incline Christian believers to commit themselves to the belief that Jesus the crucified now lives and that we, too, will live in him. Such a commitment entails an **act of faith** that contradicts ordinary experience concerning the finality of death. That is why Christians confess in the book of Hebrews that “faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen” (Heb. 11.1). That is why Christians confess with St Paul that “now we see in a mirror dimly” (1 Cor. 13.12) and cannot know with absolute certainty that the path of discipleship leads to its promised end. Still, believers follow on in hope, awaiting that day when “we will see face to face.” But for now, Christians have only faith, the demands of discipleship, and the beckoning presence of one who bids us come and follow.

**Pray:** Give thanks to God for your faith in Jesus Christ; pray that your faith may be deepened by the forthcoming experience of Holy Week and Easter.

*Stephen Warnes*

## New Year message from Archdeacon Carole Hughes

Happy New Year. I hope that each one of you has found time to enjoy the summer and relax. As you know I have been keeping in touch with Anna and she continues to work with a number of health professionals to work toward her recovery. I am aware that many of you have supported Anna and her family in so many ways, including providing meals and praying for them. It has been nearly nine months since she has been with you, and I recognise that this has caused much uncertainty and frustration. We remain unclear about what is ahead for you in terms of Anna’s return, but after a meeting with the Wardens I understand that there is a need for stability in the Parish.

I am immensely grateful for The Reverend Jan Olsen’s contribution as Priest in Charge. I want to reassure you that Jan, as Priest in Charge, has been given all the responsibilities of a Vicar and under her leadership the Parish can continue to proceed with mission and ministry, and working on long term goals. I will keep in touch with the wardens, and we will continue to determine what is best for the Parish. I very much appreciate all the work that the Wardens are doing to manage this difficult situation, and my prayers are with you all.

*Carole Hughes*

## For the peace of Jerusalem

Abraham journeyed, Tribes settled,  
Solomon taught his wisdom here.  
Jesus walked these hills and vales,  
Disciples followed Him and heard God's Word  
Muhammad, too, taught a way of peace\*-  
The way of those who strive\*\* for God

Abraham would not recognise this land -  
"The land that I will give thee," God had said  
Jesus' heart, once broken here upon a Cross,  
Would break again.  
Muhammad too would rend his robe and say,  
"This was not what I meant; it's not  
God's way."

Can Abraham, Moses, Solomon and  
prophets see  
A way ahead, or must it be like this?  
Can Islam's followers declare more  
loud and plain

"You do this, not for Allah, but yourselves!"  
The Way of Jesus, hid from many who  
call His Name,  
Must be by all made straight  
and clear again;  
A highway for our God whose name in  
Allah, Yah, and Love.

*Stephen Warnes*

\* Peace = *Islam*

\*\* Striving = *jihad*

## Pastoral Care report 2017

### For St Johns, Campbells Bay

St John's community is blessed with an ethos of support and care for each other. Friendships offer visits, food, lifts, sharing of experiences and other practical support. There are, however, situations when another aspect of care is required, a listening, confidential and spiritual dimension.

The work of Pastoral Care by the clergy is supported by a group of dedicated people who give their time, experience and listening skills to those in spiritual, physical or emotional crisis, chronic need or those who are housebound.

Members of the team have experience and training in providing home communion when a ordained minister is unavailable or in an ongoing situation.

Through the year the team have met to review the contacts, discuss situations encountered and offer support to each other in what can be draining situations.

Referral for care may come through a request to the Vicar, direct contact with a team member or through feedback from a friend or relative. Support is offered by a visit or face to face meeting, telephone contact or email.

Involvement with the team may be on one occasion only or the need may be for years. If the need is complex referral back to the clergy or to an appropriate agency will be arranged.

During the year there has been the opportunity to come to a group for those suffering a loss. The drop-in session is held on the third Tuesday of the month for tea and a confidential, listening and caring atmosphere which, we hope, provides the opportunity to share memories of the loved one and hard emotional and practical difficulties with others in a similar situation.

The quiet dedication of all the team members throughout this year is wonderful and their contribution to our community is profound and far reaching. On behalf of St John's community, I would like to express gratitude for the understanding, patience and spirituality each member of the team has shown throughout the year.

*Carol Groom*, Pastoral Care Coordinator

*Continued on page 8*

## Waskia update

### Old Testament translation, and making progress on the new Waskia hymn book are current priorities

I am aware that in Papua New Guinea the Waskia people will have started into their Lenten studies just like we have here. And soon it will be Easter time which is always a big time of the year for the church congregations there, with lots of programmes.

In Papua New Guinea, January and February has been the season of heavy rains and winds. The mobile network has been down a lot, so communication has been difficult. Also, sometimes I think people maybe had no credits for their phones and had let them go flat. Fortunately, a call did come through yesterday to let me know that very sadly a young mother in my PNG family had died in hospital and would be brought back home by boat for burial.

### The Old Testament Scriptures draw the Waskia people's interest in a special way.

I have noticed this for a long time. As far as Jesus and the New Testament writers were concerned, the Jewish Scriptures that Christians call the "Old Testament" *were* the Scriptures. They *were* the living resource for understanding God, God's ways in the world, and God's ways with us. To use the apostle Paul's words, these Scriptures were "useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that the person who belongs to God can be proficient, equipped for every good work". (2 Timothy 3: 16-17).

When we think of the stories of people such as Zechariah, Elizabeth, Mary, Joseph, Simeon, and Anna (see Luke 1-2), they show that people living before Jesus could gain quite an adequate understanding of God in those Scriptures. They were the fundamental basis of their relationship with God.

### The "lively oracles of God" make God known anew in each new situation

Currently the books of the prophets are the main ones for the translation and checking work. People enjoy and learn a lot from reading them in groups. Then they'll recap the stories and the dominant themes in their own words. When reading Isaiah 1-39 people noticed how there were many warnings (oracles of doom) but there were also encouragements (oracles of hope) interspersed all the way. "I like it when God talks strongly to us," one person said. "It makes us really take notice and think of what isn't pleasing to God in our communal and personal lives which we need to change. And God's encouragements in these chapters too lift our hearts."

### Learning about the main story line for the Old Testament

I keep learning a lot myself as I work together with the

Waskia people! I invite you to see how you go yourself matching the information in the left column with the correct century BC in the right column:

King Saul, King David	a. 900s
Jeremiah, King Josiah; Babylon the superpower	b. 700s
Rome the superpower	c. 100s
The "judges"	d. 1000s
Syria and Egypt the regional powers pulling Judah one way or the other	e. 400s
Ezra, Nehemiah	f. 200s
Greece the superpower	g. 000s
Judah's rebellion against Syrian power and gain of independence	h. 300s
Moses, the exodus, Joshua	i. 1100s
King Solomon; the nation splits into two, Ephraim (Israel) and Judah	j. 1200s
Ezekiel; the fall of Judah; Persia the superpower; Judahites free to return home.	k. 800s
Amos, Hosea, Isaiah, Micah; Assyria the superpower; the fall of Ephraim.	i. 600s
Elijah, Elisha	m. 500s

(Answers: 1d; 2l; 3g; 4i; 5f; 6e; 7h; 8c; 9j; 10a; 11m; 12b; 13k)

Well done if you have got most of them right!

### Approaching our God in the humility that is appropriate

It is Ash Wednesday as I write, and my mind goes to Joel 2:12-19, one of the lectionary readings for today. There we hear the call for the rending of our hearts, for that deliberate exercise of will and thought that will turn our lives in opposite directions and point us toward, and not away from, our God. In truth our lives depend on our response to this call for penitence and trust.

I remember as a teenager the invitation before the Lord's Supper included the requirement of the desire to walk in newness of life. I think that at its core Biblical faith involves taking ourselves in hand, making up our minds "even now" to be obedient to God, and then attempting to walk steadfastly, determinedly, every day in God's way. And we can't do that apart from the help of God.

God accepts us as we are – we believe – and we come with great confidence to the table. But are there not also conditions which our Lord puts on our entrance into God's presence? (e.g. Matthew 5:23-24, Mark 17:20-25, and Luke 14:15-24.) I think about how Joel and Paul also remind us that we must work out our salvation "with fear and trembling" (Philippians 2: 12), for we cannot presume on God or guarantee the Lord's acceptance of us. God is free, and God is Lord and we

*Continued on page 10*

**Waskia update continued from page 9** are utterly dependent on God's forgiving mercy. It is a paradox that we can't logically work out: the grace of God's and our needed response. But the two belong intricately together.

### **Jesus acting in love over against God acting in wrath – is that a true concept?**

We recoil at the bloody pictures of God's destruction of enemies painted in the Old Testament. "God is not like that," we say. God is gentle and kind and loving, we say, and would never wipe out opponents as a farmer mows down grain. But the idea that God judges people for their wrongdoing runs through both Testaments.

Many modern people don't like the way the book named after him portrays Joshua leading Israel and killing many Canaanites, but there is no indication that the New Testament shares this modern unease. The New Testament pictures Joshua as a great hero (Hebrews 9) and portrays God's violent dispossession of the Canaanites as part of the achievement of God's purpose in salvation (Acts 7). Food for thought!

Evil and sin are very real, and their forces are very strong, encompassing the ability to torture and degrade, to warp and destroy every form of life. A God who is merely friendly is no match for such evil. The true God to be fully good must be an enemy of evil. It is the New Testament not the Old Testament that says: "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God" (Hebrews 10:31).

What is great about working with the Waskia people is that they like to meet and grapple with what does the Bible say to us on different issues. They don't go by the hands on the clock; they persevere with what the present task is until it is complete.

### **The new Waskia hymn and liturgy book is "a work in progress"**

Albeit it is very hard work, I think the Waskia church is blessed in that they have no choice but to do the translation and checking work themselves so that they can have the Bible in their own language. And if they don't compose their own songs and write their own liturgies they won't have a new hymn book for the contemporary generation. Hard work yields rich learnings.

Many songs are being composed: songs to say to God (and to one another), "You are great!"; songs to say, "God, please help!"; songs to say, "I trust you!" (like Psalm 23); songs to say, "Thank you!" And that is a great joy. With so many villages and congregations, it is the logistics of getting all the songs written down, typed, recorded, checked and organized into their right sections which is a challenge we have to keep persevering with.

### **A personal time of grieving and rejoicing**

I have a dear friend who lived at my home for 6 years who died last week and his tangi was held at Ruatoria on the East Cape. It was sad to see him pass and at the same time a

relief to see the time of great struggle ended.

This story all began when Mose, an elderly Maori man, came to my door one morning and asked if I'd have a spare room where he could stay. "I work from home," I explained, "and I'm busy all morning with appointments. Do you think you could come back at lunchtime and we can talk it over?" At noon on the dot, Mose drove up the driveway again. Except this time his little red Daihatsu was packed full to overflowing with boxes plus his treasured tennis racquets and tennis shoes etc. "Oh," I said, "It looks like you have come to stay. So, welcome!" Normally I'd ask a person who was a potential boarder more about himself, but all I asked Mose was, "What do you like doing every day?" "Oh, playing tennis," he said. "Oh, I can see all your racquets and tennis shoes! If you like the room here, we can get everything unpacked." (I didn't want to be the person who met the stranger Jesus spoke of - but didn't invite him in. (Matthew 25:43).)



*Mose's daughter showing him my last letter before he died.*

I didn't know that Mose had the start of Alzheimer's disease. But very soon it became apparent that he had significant memory loss. For his first few years with me the prescription medication helped and the decline was only gradual, as the specialist had explained would be likely. But then the memory loss and general cognitive functioning began to deteriorate much more rapidly, and all that could be done was to care for Mose and keep him stimulated and keep him safe.

There were many transitions to negotiate: first Mose had  
*Continued on page 11*

**Waskia project continued from page 10** to be content with having only a restricted licence, then there was the loss of a driving licence altogether and with it the loss of the freedom to drive himself. There was increasing confusion and befuddlement and greater dependence on others. But Mose always remained “the perfect gentleman” and did his best to help in every way he could. In the final months he’d forget he’d just brought me and anyone with me in the house a cup of tea and in a little while he’d be back again with a smile and more cups of tea and more biscuits!

But then the day came when I saw that this very sure-footed, world champion tennis player couldn’t balance on his feet. I thought, “This is strange. We’d better get it checked out.” The doctors did their tests and said he had a brain tumour, bone cancer and lung cancer.

It was time for Mose to leave me and his good tennis mates in Auckland and go back to his roots, to his daughter Rita and all his Ngati Porou people in Gisborne and on the East Cape for the last leg of his journey. I was privileged to go down and see him and his whanau there before he died. Rita told me how Mose was farewelled “in a perfect way”. And he was gathered to his ancestors on the ancestral mountain to receive his ancestors’ praise too. Well done Mose! His people wrote these words: ”Mose Matemauroa Harvey: A World Champion Tennis Champion passes. He wore his mantle with humility.” “Kei te rukuruku a Te Rangitawaea i ona pueru.”

**Thank you** for reading my story and thank you for your interest in and prayers for the progress of the Waskia work. That is a great encouragement to me.

Sincerely in Christ’s service,

*Jan Lee*

## Ukraine news update

**From:** Church of the Living God

**Sent:** Thursday, 28 December 2017 2:57 a.m.

Dear friends and family

For the first time in our history our president signed the document where December 25<sup>th</sup> is an official Christmas Day off for all those who celebrate like the rest of the world!!! Praise God.



So, this year we celebrate both December 25 and January 7<sup>th</sup>. Here are some pictures of the water baptism service that was a week ago and Christmas production for the

city kids we did last Saturday.



Slowly but surely Ukraine is changing. Thank you, guys for standing with us and Merry Christmas again.

*Sasha*

**Sent:** Saturday, January 27, 2018 2:31:41 AM

Dear friends and family

Greetings to each one of you, Ukraine is again on line. I would like to inform you about the situation with the election of the senior pastor for the Kiev region network (41 churches).

Last Saturday I gave my OK (with Oksana’s and churches support) to lead the network for the next 12 months.

Did I hear specifically from God?? No, I didn’t!!! After giving 10 years as an assistant alongside with our senior pastor who died I just couldn’t drop the ball, (at least for 1 year).

This means, that I have to oversee the network with a group of men (the board) and give between 1.5 to 2 working days to the job. I also will have to travel some weekends within 150 miles range, but I do not leave Vyshgorod church.

Please pray that what God deposited into my life (through many of you too) He will use to extend His Kingdom!

*These are two most immediate needs. Congratulations on the job or condolences? Only the time will show!!!!!!*

Please pray for me, it's a very real challenge.

Love, *Sasha Ozeruga*

**Sent:** Saturday, 24 February 2018 00:33 am

Dear friends and family

I have a real praise report! Little over a month ago, God drastically changed the life of my middle son Benjamin by filling him with Holy Spirit all on his own (not even in church!!!)

Benjamin already fasted 3 times, three days each time. He is now looking for the Bible school and I began kind of hiding from him because of all the questions he has for me from the Bible. Thanks for praying for us and standing by us all these years.



There are couple of big challenges in front of me right now.

1. Find more committed men (hopefully younger generation) who will step up as volunteers to be on the board and develop other pastors, to get involved into building this network.
2. Try and raise better money to cover the basic needs of the network (secretary #1, and a few other bits and pieces). You perhaps know that our currency lost another 15-20% last 6-8 weeks and we have to face this challenge.

Over all now a huge horizon of good things is opening up for us both in church and region. In church we are bringing up/forward some younger generation people. Getting ready for five summer camps, one of which (new one) will be 5 days each time, English speaking kind for non-believers of our town. We are also getting ready a ministry group for villages (evangelism) and trying to move up that shell building in Dubetchnia village to finish at least one/two rooms to begin services by this fall.

In the region, we are trying to build a better team (board), visiting churches (those who really need it), bringing some order and structure and finding some real ways to build up and encourage 42 pastors and their teams.

Please continue to believe and pray with us. Really appreciate all you have for us all these years.

Greetings and blessings from Ukraine.

*Sasha Ozeruga*



## News from Sarah

Dear Friends

Greetings from Cape Town. The New Year is in full swing and life in YWAM continues to move full steam ahead.

We continue to be in the grip of the worst drought in years. We have been on strict water saving rations for months and were only using 100 litres per person per day, but the City was struggling to get the awareness out to the suburbs of the severity of the situation. By mid-January it was projected we would run out of water by 12 April. It was a nasty wakeup call – the thought of queuing for water and the potential challenges that could come with that. People went into a panic and stocks of buckets, 25 litre containers and bottled water flew off the shelves.



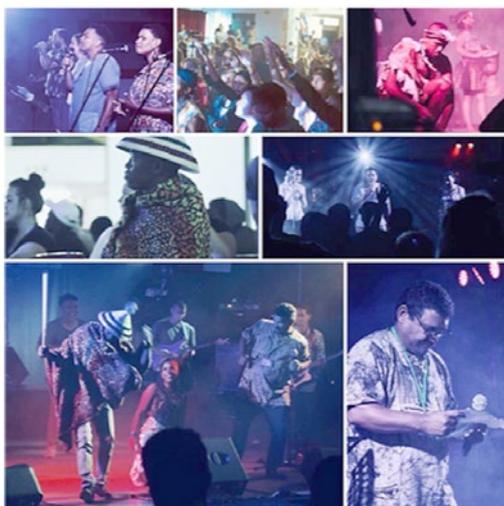
As a YWAM community we had to navigate water use at our properties and find ways to reduce consumption massively and recycle water when we could. We have installed two well points and continue to look at other long-term options. I seem to have moved from fire things to water. At home we have a fantastic system of recycling all our water into the toilet,

so we are not using drinking water to flush.

Thankfully there was a massive decrease in water consumption and it now looks like we will make it through until July and we continue to pray for good rains this winter. Please keep praying with us for good rain as we are now on water restrictions of 50 litres per person per day until things improve.

As a community we have just last week hosted our annual missions mobilization festival – **Nations to Nations**. We had over 200 young people from thirty nations represented. They were being challenged to continue to go to the least, the last and the lost. The focus this year was on the refugee crisis and nations where the gospel isn't normally preached such as China, Iran and Japan. Many of the young people were from South Africa and it was encouraging to see them being challenged that they too can be missionaries because for many of them they come from difficult backgrounds and it feels like missionaries are only white people. We are trusting God to raise up a generation of missionaries sent out from South Africa to all nations which haven't been deeply impacted by the gospel yet. It was beautiful to see the expressions of the nations represented and see the gifts that there are to bless the nations within these young people.

After three days of teaching, worship and prayer, the students took the final day to spend the day at the University of Cape Town Campus sharing the gospel with



the students there. Here is a testimony from that time - *“Before I went for outreach I was having my personal prayer time; that’s when I heard a name “Kelvin”; then I prayed to God to show me this guy. When we started our outreach,*

*somehow God just showed me the guy and I spoke to him and guess what?! His name was Kelvin!! I was so overwhelmed by that. I got to share the gospel with him.”* – Bruna from Brazil.

On Wednesday I leave for a month in the United States. I am travelling to be in Hawaii for a week of meetings with our YWAM leaders and am thankful I can also use this time to visit other supporters and friends while I am away. I am looking forward to this time of rest and refreshing.

Please also continue to pray with us. We have seen an uptake in crime in the Muizenberg area and it is an area where I continue to be vigilant but also trust God for his protection, personally and over all our YWAM community.



Thank you so much for your on-going love and support.

*Sarah xx*

<b>Sunday</b>	8:00 am	Holy Communion	St John's Church
	9:30 am	Family Communion	St John's Church
	9:30 am	BRUNCH informal communion (first Sunday of month)	St John's Church
<b>Monday</b>	7:30 pm	Home group (1st and 3rd Mondays)	Various venues Ursula Scogings – 479 8036
<b>Tuesday</b>	10:00 am	Women's Fellowship (first Tuesday of month)	St John's – Garden Room Carol Groom – 479 5899
	10:00 am	Bereavement Group (third Tuesday of month)	Carol Groom – 479 5899
	1:30 pm	Home group	18 Knightsbridge Drive, Forrest Hill Fay Aitken – 410 4819
	7:30 pm	Home group	Sunnynook Kath Freeman – 478 4958
<b>Wednesday</b>	10:00 am	Holy Communion – weekly	St John's Church
	7:30 pm	Reflective (Taizé) worship (first Wednesday of month)	St John's Church Meriel Johansen – 415 3070
<b>Thursday</b>	10:00 am	Home group (third Thursday of month)	Hazel Hipkins – 478 6508
	7:30 pm	Vestry (4th Thursday of month)	St John's Church
<b>Friday</b>	1:00 pm	Contemplative Prayer Group (2nd & 4th Fridays)	Val Harris – 479 6873
	7:00 pm	Junior Youth Group – for young people in school years 8 to 10	in the church hall
	7:00 pm	Youth Team	St John's – Garden Room Jono Scogings – 021 172 2463

## Parish Directory

Vicar	Revd Anna Lindsey		Synod Representatives	Gill Barthorpe Alison Bargh	488 0329 478 3575
Priest in charge	Revd Jan Olsen	027 662 9417	Home Group Coordinator and Hall Convenor	Church Office	478 3575
Priest Assistant	Revd Shann Craig	478 5780	Women's Fellowship	Carol Groom	479 5899
Youth and Family coordinator	TBA <i>Youth Team contact:</i> Jono Scogings	021 172 3463	Food Basket	Shann Craig	478 5780
People's Warden	Kath Freeman	478 4958	Envelope Recorder	Beth Willmott	476 1591
Vicar's Warden	Gill Barthorpe	021 263 1220	Prayer Wheel Coordinator	Felicity Martin	479 1190
Parish Secretary	Alison Bargh	410 1606	Music Convenors	Sandy Latimer Felicity Martin	410 3456 479 1190
Parish Treasurer	Lorraine Buck	478 7580	Wedding Flowers Coordinator	Shann Craig	478 5780
Priest in charge's email:	<a href="mailto:olsenji@outlook.com">olsenji@outlook.com</a>		Website administrator	<a href="mailto:website.stjohns@gmail.com">website.stjohns@gmail.com</a>	
Parish office email:	<a href="mailto:admin@stjohns.net.nz">admin@stjohns.net.nz</a>		St John's Trust - wall plaque secretary	Roy San-Garde	479 5393
People's Warden's email:	<a href="mailto:kfreeman756@gmail.com">kfreeman756@gmail.com</a>				
Vicar's Warden's email:	<a href="mailto:gillian.barthorpe@gmail.com">gillian.barthorpe@gmail.com</a>				



On Sunday 25 February following the 9:30am service a morning tea was held, with "Go Well" cake, to congratulate and farewell Val Harris and Jim Baxter who depart shortly for two years in Glasgow, Scotland (Jim's hometown).

## Our Kidz in action



# Our Children's Christmas Pageant

