



Weekly Newsletter
Sunday 24 August 2014

"Being the Gospel to all People"

A very warm welcome is extended
to all visitors to St Johns

Morning tea is offered after the service today, so please stay and enjoy
some time with us.

Today's theme: "Take Action"

Focus Scripture: Exodus 1:8-2:10

Other Readings: Psalm 124; Romans 12:1-8; Matthew 16:13-20



In this week's story, we meet several strong, influential women. The role of these bold women from very different backgrounds is striking. We see the courage and creativity of midwives Shiphrah and Puah when they disobey the king's orders and let the babies live; we see the courage of Miriam who watches over her brother, regardless of the danger; we see the courage of the pharaoh's daughter when she acts against her father; and we see the courage of Moses' mother to do what is best for her son, even if it means giving him away twice. The pharaoh's daughter renames the child Moses, which in Hebrew means "the one who draws out." Later, Moses will be crucial to Israel's delivery from slavery.

Exodus 1: 8-22 (NIV): Moses' birth

Then a new king, who did not know about Joseph, came to power in Egypt. "Look," he said to his people, "the Israelites have become much too numerous for us. Come, we must deal shrewdly with them or they will become even more numerous and, if war breaks out, will join our enemies, fight against us and leave the country." So they put slave masters over them to oppress them with forced labour, and they built Pithom and Rameses as store cities for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread; so the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites and worked them ruthlessly. They made their lives bitter with hard labour in brick and mortar and with all kinds of work in the fields; in all their hard labour the Egyptians used them ruthlessly. The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, whose names were Shiphrah and Puah, "When you help the Hebrew women in childbirth and observe them on the delivery stool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, let her live." The midwives, however, feared God and did not do what the king of Egypt had told them to do; they let the boys live.....Because the midwives feared God, he gave them families of their own. Then Pharaoh gave this order to all his people: "Every boy that is born you must throw into the Nile, but let every girl live."

NEXT WEEK: Sunday Worship: 31 August

Theme: "Here I am"

Focus Scripture: Exodus 3:1-15

Other Readings: Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c; Romans 12: 9-21 Matthew 16: 21-28

Prayer points: Please pray for: Ron Ashton with his cancer diagnosis, those with winter illnesses, Shelia Simmons for back pain and Alan Busfield whose health is deteriorating. The kindergarten has a number of children going off to school so they need prayers for their role to increase again. Also both the Little Cubz Kindy and Home based care have their ERO reviews in the coming weeks and the teachers and owner Anne need prayers of support through this quite stressful process.

CHURCH NOTICES AND EVENTS:

NOTICE OF AGM: The AGM will be held on Sunday 14 September 2014 immediately after the Sunday service.

POSITION We do have one significant position to fill for the Leadership of the parish – Peter Hancock has stepped down as our Financial Team Co-ordinator. He has held this position since 2010. He has done a wonderful job for us; his meticulous care and ability and attention to detail have been fantastic gifts for us in the financial field. Peter, we are in your debt and pray for easier days ahead – without the responsibilities you have shouldered on our behalf😊.

As our Financial Team Coordinator, Peter was a co-opted member on the Leadership Team. We need your prayers for this position to be filled. It is a responsible and necessary role in the daily life of our parish. Blessings Lorraine

ALPHA: Please pray for those attending and the leaders.

FRIENDLY VISITORS:- We have had a number of ants decide they like our kitchen in the main foyer area of the church. Can we please be extra careful with leaving food or drinks around on the floor or benches. Thank you Jeannine (AKA Exterminator)

End of year AGM. With this fast approaching can all Team Leaders please forward their reports to the office as soon as possible for preparation of the AGM document. Thank you.

AGM Hi everyone we are currently in the process of putting together the AGM document and would like anyone who has photos of any events within the church to please forward them to the office via email (office@stjohnsbb.org.nz) or drop in the original and I will scan and return to you. Thank you Jeannine

HEATING UPDATE: Our first full month heating account with all of the new heating in place has arrived and it is \$51.00 cheaper than the same time last year. So It appears with the new heating we are now able to save a small amount of money for a much better heating output. A huge round of applause for all of us as a family who made this happen. Thank you .

Life with John Cowan: This Sunday night (24th August) John Cowan's guest will be This Sunday night (24th August) John Cowan's guest will be former Prime Minister, the **Rt Hon Jim Bolger**

Inspirational/Anglican TV "Are we prepared to be the one to make what needs to happen, take shape? This week on www.inspirationaltv.net Ian Jones with advice from his grandmother, Jenny on imagination and Matthew 16:13-20 Peter's declaration about Jesus. All the best for a great week."

St Paul's Presbyterian Church in Manurewa would like to invite anyone interested, to a seminar "**Making Disciples**". The speaker will be **Rev Peter Cheyne**, former Moderator of the PCANZ. It begins on Thursday 4th September with an evening session on "A Leader interacting with Leaders", then on Friday 5th September an evening on "A Leader interacting with Young People" and a morning programme on Saturday 6th September. For more information call St Paul's.

Migration, Cultural Diversity, & the Church in Aotearoa NZ –*a conference co-hosted by Knox Centre for Ministry & Leadership and Carey Baptist College.* Tuesday 9th & Wednesday 10th September. This conference brings together practitioners, academics and researchers to seek fuller understanding of these realities and consider what authentic Christian Community and practice might look like in our new context.

Hymn Festival on Saturday 13th September at St Columba at Botany, 480 Ti Rakau Drive, Botany. Cost \$20 adult or \$10 youth, door sales only. The church's magnificent Rodgers Infinity Organ and grand piano will be used to accompany the hymns. Past events under the name of "Soul Music" demonstrated the power of massed singing while individual & group items added to the spirit of praise & adoration. Reflective numbers performed by the quartet ANIMA VOCE and individual singers will add to your overall uplifting experience.

The City of Auckland Singers will be performing at **St Andrew's Centre**, 85 Queen St, **Waiuku** on **Sunday 14th September** at 2pm. Entry is \$5 which includes afternoon tea.