



Weekly Newsletter
Sunday 22 March 2015

"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: "On Our Hearts"

Focus Scripture: Jeremiah 31:31-34

Other Readings: Psalm 52:1-12



Our hearts call out to God – for healing, wholeness, mercy, salvation, wisdom. Jeremiah's prophecy assures God's people that God intends to draw close to us, claiming our very being as the centre of the new and everlasting covenant. Deep in our hearts, we will know God's word; we will live in God's ways.

Jeremiah 31:31-34 (NIV)

"The time is coming," declares the LORD, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant I made with their forefathers when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them," declares the LORD. "This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after that time," declares the LORD. "I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. No longer will a man teach his neighbour, or a man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest," declares the LORD. "For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more."

NEXT WEEK: Sunday Worship: 29 March 2015

Theme: "Palm Sunday"

Focus Scripture: Mark 11:1-11

Other Readings: Psalm 118:1-2; 19-29

Prayer points: Please pray for: Mainly Music for an increase in numbers attending; Youth Band for more band members please; Ron Ashton and Margaret Morrison.

4eva@6: Next Sunday evening, Kate McEwan will be speaking about her life in Israel. Everyone is welcome. There will be time for questions.

Special Easter Services:

Maundy Thursday: 2nd April at 7pm

Good Friday : 3rd April at 9.30 am

END OF FINANCIAL YEAR This Sunday 22 March and next Sunday 29 March are the final Sundays for donations via the envelope system to be included in your receipt for your end of year tax rebate. Anyone who wants information on eligibility for tax rebates or joining the envelope system/direct credit system please see Bob Williamson or Brannie Ma.

Cyclone Pam Emergency Appeals: The Anglican and Presbyterian Churches have launched appeals in response to the devastation across Vanuatu caused by Cyclone Pam. Donations to **Pacific Vision: Vanuatu** can be made directly to Presbyterian Church by making a deposit into this bank account: BNZ Willis Street: 02 0500 0086963 000 (please add a reference "Pacific Vision: Vanuatu" and advise Katrina Graham if a receipt is required) . Cheques can be posted to the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand, ""Pacific Vision Fund", Box 9049, Te Aro, Wellington.

Girls Brigade: Girls' Brigade recommenced on 10th February with 9 girls. Our priority now is forming a new leadership team to share more equally the planning and delivering of weekly programme to girls in our community. **Please continue to pray for a new group of leaders to come together in these early weeks of the year.** For those who aren't aware, Wendy is now running a newly opened GB Company in her home church in Huntly. I would like to acknowledge the wonderful support she has been to me over these past 2 and a half years and pray God will lead many girls from the Huntly community to join this new 1st Huntly Girls' Brigade Company. *Julie Dickey 535 5814*

New Fenced area: This week the new fence was installed by the Kindy for the Kindy. It provides a safe grass playground for the children and has already been put to good use. This has taken a wee while to come to fruition and has been subject to much discussion between the Leadership Team and Kindy as we worked towards a successful outcome. We are pleased to offer a safe outdoor area for children to play in. Upon installation the fence became ours – with all responsibility – so please drive carefully ☺.

Coffee at the Bamboo Garden For the time being we will no longer be meeting on Wednesdays at the Bamboo Garden, Highland Park. We will keep you posted when/if this changes. Loas and Liz

New Sign: Recently we have installed a new sign in the carpark. This explains clearly that our carpark is not a pick up and drop off zone for BBI children. We are all very concerned with the safety of our little children and especially with the kindergarten and their high number of special needs children and carers that have more than one child at the kindergarten, one split second is all it can take. Children of the age of year 7 and 8 are more than capable of walking to school and we have full support from the school's Principal. This also impacts our evening renters of the building when there is a function on at the school and our tenants do come first. Thank you for your understanding and support of this. If you have any questions please see Jeannine or Alan.

Study Leave: Lorraine has been given permission by both the Leadership Team and the Northern Presbytery to use 60 days of the Study Leave she has accumulated in the past few years. When her annual holidays are included it means in the months of July, August, September and October she will not be around very much. Parish cover has been arranged with the support of our own members, Rev's Grahame Drummond and Dianne Miller-Keely. More details will be shared in the coming months as the Study Leave plans are finalised.

An **ORGAN RECITAL "ANCIENT & MODERN"** by **Christopher Hainsworth** the Entertainer **Sunday 29th March 2015 at 4:00 pm at Takapuna Methodist Church 427 Lake Rd Takapuna** *A programme of Surprises* Admission by donation & programme at door. Proceeds to the TMC Organ Fund.

Real Life: This Sunday night (22nd March) John Cowan's guest will be

Classical Music Lovers: There is a box of free classical music CD's on the table next to the pigeon holes. They have been donated by Eddie Simmons. Please help yourselves and enjoy!

Handel's *Saul* will be performed by the Handel Consort & Quire directed by Robert Howell on Saturday 18th April, 7pm at Pitt St Methodist Church and on Sunday 19th April, 3pm at St Andrew's Anglican Church, Pukekohe. Saul recounts the biblical story of King Saul, his daughters Merab and Michal, his son Jonathan, and David. The oratorio contains powerful, dramatic, thrilling choruses with trumpets, trombones, kettle drums, oboes and strings and full choir as well as exquisite airs for leading soloists Joel Amosa, Gina Sanders, Iain Tetley, Carolyn Medland and Elizabeth Mandeno. Save \$10 off the door sale price by purchasing your tickets now through eventfinder: <http://www.eventfinder.co.nz/2015/handel-consort-quire-present-handels-oratorio-saul/auckland/newton>