



St John's
Being the Gospel to all People

**Sunday
7 August 2022**

A very warm welcome is extended to all visitors to St John's.

**“Remaining Alert in the
Inbetween”**

Scripture readings: Luke 12:32-40 The Voice



32 My little flock, don't be afraid. God is your Father, and your Father's great joy is to give you His kingdom.

33 That means you can sell your possessions and give generously to the poor. You can have a different kind of savings plan: one that never depreciates, one that never defaults, one that can't be plundered by crooks or destroyed by natural calamities. 34 Your treasure will be stored in the heavens, and since your treasure is there, your heart will be lodged there as well.

35-36 I'm not just talking theory. There is urgency in all this. If you're apathetic and complacent, then you'll miss the moment of opportunity. You should be wide awake and on your toes like servants who are waiting for their master to return from a big wedding reception. They'll have their shoes on and their lamps lit so they can open the door for him as soon as he arrives home. 37 How fortunate those servants will be when the master knocks and they open the door immediately! You know what the master will do? He'll put on an apron, sit them down at the kitchen table, and he'll serve them a midnight snack. 38 The later he comes home—whether it's at midnight or even later, just before dawn—the more fortunate the alert servants will be.

39 In contrast, imagine a complacent, apathetic household manager whose house gets robbed. If he had been aware that thieves were waiting in the bushes and what hour they were coming, [he would have watched and][a] he never would have left the house! 40 I'm trying to tell you that these are times for alertness, times requiring a sense of urgency and intensity, because like the master in the first story or the thief in the second, the Son of Man shows up by surprise.

Next Sunday: 7 August 2022

Theme: Dynamic Faith

Scripture readings: Isaiah 1:1, 10-20;
Psalm 50: 1-8, 22-23 Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16;
Luke 12:32-40

Prayer points for: peace to be restored in Ukraine; for Dick and Judy McDonald; for those testing positive for Covid in our community and for all those working in the health, social services and other essential services during the pandemic. Also pray for wisdom for the processes surrounding the new community pastor and a replacement administrator.

Connecting with life

Spend time sitting with the image *Seeing by Heart*. Place yourself on the bench looking out. Imagine the open window is inviting you to enter into a new place.

Q What might it take for you to venture out?

Scripture

Jesus' statement in **Luke 12:32-40** that the disciples should sell everything and give the money to the poor has caused difficulty over the generations. Some see it as a literal commandment, while others see it spiritually.

Q To what extent does interpreting such passages spiritually let us off the hook?

Q How realistic an instruction is this from Jesus, in the society in which you live? What are ways you could live this out?

Jesus reminds us that our hearts and our treasures are intimately connected.

Q How might this give shape to our life of faith?

Connecting scripture and life

Put Hebrews 11:1 – “Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen” – somewhere where you can see it and reflect on it often.

Q How do you find yourself living that phrase each day?

Q What does your vision of the future call you to do and be now by faith?”

THIS WEEK 7 Aug –14 Aug

Sunday 7 August

9:30 am Worship Service

Food Bank Sunday!

Monday 8 August

10 am SPACE programme (foyer)

Thursday 11 August

3.15 pm MusiqHub (foyer)

Friday 12 August

9.15 am – noon Knitting Group (gallery)

7 pm Youth Group (upstairs community hall)

Sunday 13 August

9.30 am Worship Service

IMPORTANT REMINDER

COVID-19 is still present in the community.

Please remain vigilant for symptoms.

Stay at home if you are unwell. If you or a member of your household tests positive for COVID-19 and you need to self-isolate, let Alison at the Parish Office know if you need assistance.

Wear a mask when attending church.

Coffee and Chat Postponed for August

In the interest of best practice for health and safety at this time the organizers have opted to postpone this gathering. Thank you for your understanding. Please do look after one another and reach out for support in the meantime.

St John's is Hiring!

Please remember that we are hiring for a new community pastor position and preparing for a new administrator as Alison wishes to retire. We are very excited about the new possibilities for these two roles and that we won't lose Alison completely! A big thank you to everyone on Parish Council who has been diligently working on all the necessities.

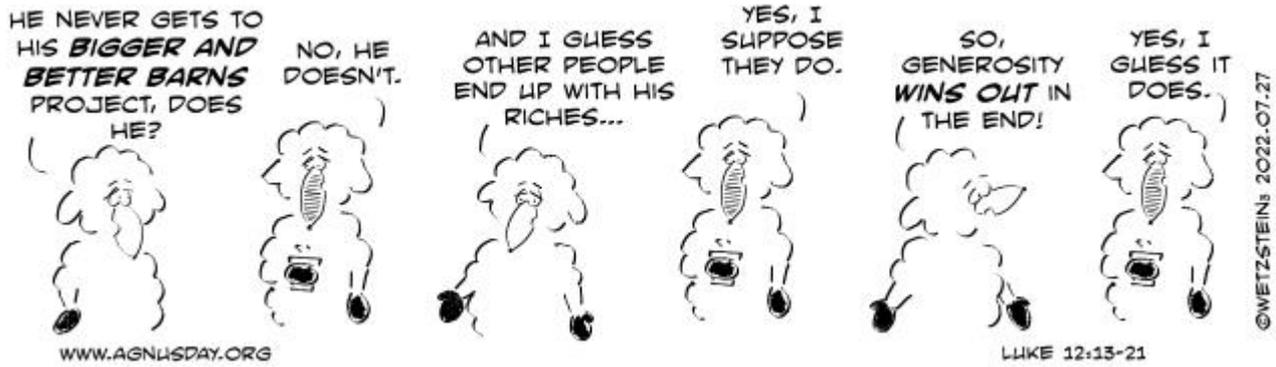
Sunday 14th August: Wesleyan/Methodist Historic Tour including to the forgotten cemetery

Special tour in Howick & districts 175th anniversary year of historic Wesleyan/Methodist sites in Howick and Pakuranga including a forgotten cemetery unknown to most passers-by. The tour will be escorted by Rev Dr Richard Waugh (President of the World Methodist Historical Society) and Alan La Roche (Howick Historian).

1.30pm: Meet at Fencible Walk (110 Picton Street), site of 1852 Wesleyan beginnings.

2.15pm: Gather at old Wesleyan Methodist Cemetery at 337a Pakuranga Road (park around corner in Gossamer Drive and walk back to cemetery).

2.45pm Visit Howick Historical Village (discounted entry fee of \$11 per person) to visit the historic 1852 Wesleyan Methodist chapel (one of the oldest buildings in East Auckland). Sing some favourite hymns by Charles Wesley (accompanied by pedal organ) and with thanksgiving prayers. Afternoon tea at the Homestead Café. **All welcome.**



Sunday Services: Worship 9:30a.m.
 Office Hours: Tues & Thurs 9:00am – 2:00pm, Fri 9am-11am
 Phone: 534 2305 Email: office@stjohnsbb.org.nz
 Website: <https://stjohnsbb.org.nz>

Minister	Rev Jeff Odhiambo	022 674 0044
Administrator	Alison Stanton	534 2305
Property Manager	Daniel Smart	027 554 2309
People's Warden	Julie Dickey	535 5814
Minister's Warden	Daniel Smart	027 554 2309
Pastoral Care	Judy McDonald	274 8534
Prayer Chain	Judy McDonald	274 8534

Youth Group: Contact Jeff 022 674 0044 minister@stjohnsbb.org.nz

	This Week's Helpers (7 August)	Next Week's Helpers(14 August)
Preacher	Rev Jeff Odhiambo	Rev Jeff Odhiambo
Musician	Rahil John	Winnie, Jeanette & Albert
Projector	Alicia Odhiambo	Jed Stanton
Sound Desk	Collin Francke	Daniel Smart
Reader	David Hall	Trevor Haigh
Intercessor	Rev Jeff Odhiambo	Mavis Haigh
HC set up	Rev Jeff Odhiambo	N/A
HC Serving	Rev Jeff Odhiambo	N/A
Prayer ministry	An opportunity to serve here	TBA
Welcome Desk	Betty Curd	An opportunity to serve here
Usher	Sami Smart	Trevor and Mavis Haigh
Counters	David Hall, Christo John	Trevor Haigh, David Hall
Morning Tea	No servers required	Betty Curd, Joan Jones