wanaka
PRESBYTERIAN
COMMUNITY CHURCH CENTRE

loving God, loving people

From the manse……

Change is in the air……

Dear friends

We are moving from Summer to Autumn. The nights and mornings are getting chillier. The magnificent Autumn colours are starting to show in all their glory and splendour. The days are getting shorter – especially after the conclusion of daylight saving - and we have been having a spell of lovely sunny days. Someone suggested to me that we have finally had summer in the last few weeks – a bit late!

And there are changes in the church – we are farewelling Tracy and Alon Mayhew who have served the Lord in his church for over 35 years in a whole variety of ways –thanks Alon and Tracy! Session have appointed Tammy Clegg as our new Church Administrator.

continued…

And we welcome some new folk into our midst. It's great to have Aaron and Laura Johnstone and their son Luke here. Aaron is our Ministry Intern who will be with us until the end of next year and is serving in a whole range of different areas in the life of our church.

In February we thanked 2 of our elders who have served on Session for a number of years and have now retired from Session – Shona Lorimer and Bev Lovelock. Thanks Bev and Shona for the variety of ways you have served the Lord in leadership here! Shona and Bev will continue to be involved in the life of our church –watch this space!

General Booth of the Salvation Army once said 'You can't alter the future without disturbing the present'. The Chinese symbol for change is the combination of 2 words – opportunity and danger. Now, for us as followers of Jesus, some things do not change. For instance - what we believe. Some things are 'not negotiable' including the Trinity, the birth, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, human sin, justification by faith and the life of the Spirit given to Christians. And as we come close to Easter we celebrate some of these great realities in the life of Jesus –remembering his death and all that means and the joy and glory of His rising from the dead. I hope you are able to join with us for some of these special times remembering and reflecting on the death of Jesus and celebrating the resurrection.

There are other aspects of the life of the church that inevitably will change –people come and go, there are different styles of worship and music, structures (which are there to support the mission of the church) will change and how we minister to people will vary in different contexts with different age groups.

Billy Graham used to talk about being '*anchored to the Rock and geared to the times*.'

This year we have a Bible text for our church which is Jeremiah 6:16

'Stand at the crossroads and look;
ask for the ancient paths,
ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls.'

We all regularly face crossroads in our lives – some big and some small. This is true for us as individuals and as a church community. My prayer is that we will discover the good way and walk in it and find that rest for our souls that only God can give.

May you and yours have a blessed Easter.

Motatapu Bike Race
March 2017

Your pastor and friend
Ian Hyslop

Stewart Island Summer 2017

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SESSION Report

We are just 3 months into 2017 and already, as touched on by Ian, we have had a number of significant happenings in the parish.

At Session we have said farewell to Shona Lorimer and Beverley Lovelock. Both have stepped down from the team of elders who lead the parish. Both have given many years of dedicated service to the work of the Lord in the Upper Clutha. Both I know will continue to make their contribution in other areas.

This year we have agreed to host, and fund, Aaron Johnstone – an Intern in training for the ministry in the Presbyterian Church. Aaron, Laura and wee Luke will be with us till the end of 2018.

In recent weeks we have been encouraged and blessed to have visiting preachers. Rev Kevin Ward (from Knox Centre for Ministry and Learning) who commissioned Aaron Johnstone, Right Rev Peter Cheyne, who led a retreat with our elders and Rev Malcolm Gordon who led a worship seminar and worked with our musicians.

Alongside this we have had inspiration and teaching from Ian and Aaron, from the series on 1Peter.

In March, Session agreed to hold Sunday worship at 10am in Wanaka. This will be reviewed in August. Hawea Flat continues to be the first Sunday of the month, with a fellowship lunch to follow. Communion continues to be the first Sunday of each month at both Wanaka and Hawea.

On behalf of the parish, Session welcomes all who have joined us over recent months. Our many ministry groups are growing and developing in new areas, across the ages, in our congregation.

It is with sadness we say farewell to Alon and Tracy Mayhew – our Church Administrator. Both have made a huge contribution to our parish, and the community, during their time in Wanaka. We wish them well in Christchurch. We have appointed Tammy Clegg as our Church Administrator and look forward to working with her.

Rena Cowie
Session Clerk

Presbyterian Women (APW)

Due to a funeral on our meeting day in March, the group have not met formally yet this year. However, we have been active in keeping in touch through sharing information from National office. "Bushfire", the newsletter from the National Executive, has told us about a Conference to be held in Mosgiel from November 3rd-5th this year. If you would like to read about this, copies of "Bushfire" are available in the vestibule at St Andrew's Wanaka or from me, Catherine Little.

The Fellowship at Florence's coffee every Tuesday between 10 and 11:00 am is a good place to share and hear news

"The Gathering" will be hosted by the Alexandra Clyde Lauder Union Parish in Alexandra on April 6th. This is a time of Fellowship and Learning for women in Central Otago from Presbyterian and Union Parishes. We will be car pooling from the church carpark to attend.

Catherine Little President

443 1620

Come along for great coffee, conversation and a sense of belonging!

Fellowship At Florence's is a weekly social event for the women of our church.
If you're new to Wanaka you'll fit right in - many of us are!

Venue: Florence's Foodstore & Cafe, Corner Cardrona Valley and Orchard Roads, Every Tuesday at 10am

The following list of food stuffs are helpful contributions to food bank parcels:

Rice and pasta , Baking goods, Tinned fish/meat , Pasta sauces, Single serve meals, Crackers, biscuits and muesli bars, toilet paper and toiletry items (e.g toothpaste),

If you can help please put in the food basket at church on a Sunday for delivery to Community Networks

From The Intern's Desk…

Having arrived at WPCCC just over a month ago, things have since flown by. We've been warmly welcomed and have been able to meet most folk in the church, as well as experienced many aspects of church life over this time. It's been encouraging to see the church full of activity, and with exciting prospects ahead.

Particular highlights for me have been seeing our 2-yr old Luke join in with the other 20+ children at mainly music on a Tuesday morning, enthusiastic meetings regarding music ministry, Sunday evening worship and church planning, and leading communion for the first time at Hawea Flat.

Outside work, Laura and Luke both had a birthday on St Patrick's day so we took Luke for his first trip in our sea kayak, to Mou Tapu island.

We plan to travel to Dunedin early May for the birth of our second child, due the 15th. We look forward to getting to know many more of you, to doing life alongside you, and particularly celebrating Easter with our brothers and sisters in Christ, in the coming weeks.

Blessings,

Aaron Johnstone

Ministry Intern 0273106489

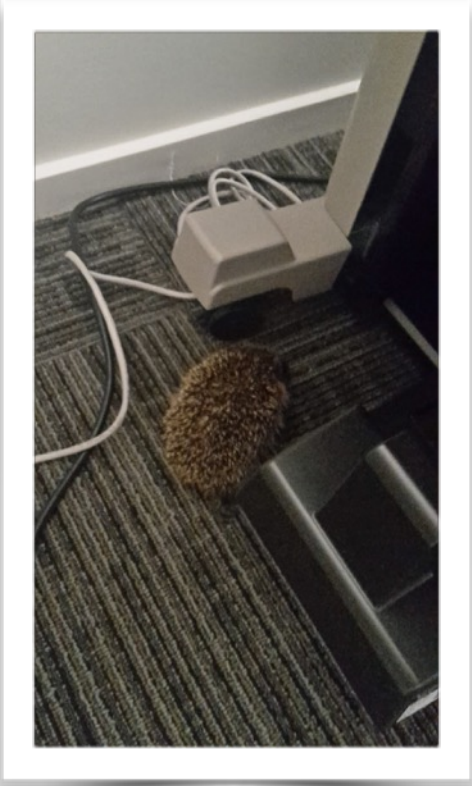
It has been a good start to 2017 with several extra men joining with us which is an encouragement - we don't want to be static but grow in depth of knowledge of the Word of God and also in number of men participating in this special time.

We have been carrying on in our study of Romans and it is good to share with each other what we feel God is saying to us through our reading and praying about each particular passage.

Our monthly get together for breakfast has involved arranging the trip for the church up to the Bendigo Historical area. A special thanks to Graham Taylor for his effort in coordinating this and also for his in depth knowledge of the history of this place and for sharing it with all who attended. Some of our group are going to take a reconnaissance up to Macetown to plan for a future 4WD trip.

Since our group started we have had support from a dedicated group of men and none more so than Alon Mayhew. It will be sad when he and Tracy move to Christchurch. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Alon for the support and help he has given us and pray God's blessing on them as they move to something new. As a final farewell from the group we will be having our April Men's breakfast on Saturday 8th April at 8am at Russell and Bev Lovelock's home on Mt Barker road.

Murray Bennett



All Creatures Great and Small

Spotted near the photocopier in the Church Office, perhaps he'd heard about the Administrator vacancy?

Night Church is coming……

Sunday nights

7pm starting 7th May

A range of inspiring preachers from our church

A message from the Word and Contemporary Worship

This month, we farewell Alon & Tracy Mayhew……..

Both originally from Christchurch, Alon and Tracy Mayhew have been in Wanaka since 1981 and 1982 respectively and right from the beginning have been active members of our church, with Alon initially teaching Bible Class and then Youth Group throughout the 80's. Tracy was a JAM club teacher for 2 years.

We often say that church is not just a building, but a huge amount of team work goes on in the background to ensure the efficient management of the practicalities of stewardship…and none more so than in a town that has been growing rapidly. If there was such a thing as a 'Parish CV' Alon's would show his commitment to such teamwork….Managers since 1981, including Chairman for 5yrs. He was on the team for the Luggate Church Extension, the Hawea Church Extension and on CET – (WPCCC) Church Expansion Team as well as a member of the Combined Tarras Church Committee. Both Tracy and Alon were enthusiastic members of the Church Gala team for many years.
Office Administrator is such an important role in the life of the Parish,a role which Tracy has faithfully fulfilled for the last 17 years (during which time she was Treasurer for 2 years). The "Go to" person with questions and requests ("Tracy will know") and 'doer' of a myriad of tasks that no one would really think about until they weren't done!

As they leave for Christchurch Alon and Tracy say,
"We have loved the closeness of our small town parish and are encouraged seeing the church family grow. Favourites have been the church outings, picnics, bus trips and latterly the 4wheel drive trips - we learn so much about each other in these environments."

With a nod to their love of a Model T, we can all offer them this blessing……..

May the road rise up to meet you.
May the wind always be at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
and rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of His hand.

THE ART OF WORSHIP

After fifty years as the church organist, Gladys made a genuine effort to adjust to the new worship format.

What is it we do on a Sunday morning and how do we do it? Have we always done it like this?
How do we come together as the people of God?
I couldn't resist the cartoon above. As cartoons should be, it is ridiculously simplistic in it's exaggeration, but we identify it's message. It makes us smile…or maybe it doesn't…maybe it makes us sigh, nod and lament.
Ah 'lament',now there's a word that would be familiar to the ancient peoples of the Old Testament….just look at the Psalms.

There often seems to be a divide between what is viewed as 'traditional' and that which is 'contemporary'. We can debate till the cows come home which is which and which is best, but somewhere along the way did we lose something?

During the weekend of 1st April, we were blessed to have a visit from Malcolm Gordon. Malcs was initially appointed to a newly created position of 'PCANZ Worship, Music & Arts Enabler' back in February 2014 and now carries out his role through the Knox Centre for Ministry and Worship in Dunedin.
As well as sharing songs and stories at a Saturday evening concert and working with our musicians and the team leading Sunday worship, Malcs ran a hugely inspiring morning workshop here entitled 'The Art of Worship.'
Yes, when styles of worship are debated, it often becomes all about the music. And that is where Malcolm Gordon…..Malcs ***the musician…*** blindsided us. Because it wasn't all about the music. He led us back to the basics of the liturgy and on a journey to explore the possibilities. We were truly immersed in worship and reminded of it's beauty.

The Parable of the Lost Coin inspired a Call To Worship…we are all lost, we all need to be present. Prayers for All Creation, candles on a map. Lyrics and readings, each part flowing, linking to the next.

continued…..

I can only speak for myself…….we are all individuals and I would guess that each of us at the workshop found meaning in different parts….some of us were encouraged out of our comfort zones.The important thing is that we all felt safe.
Like the pieces of coloured glass we each placed on the lightbox, we all have our edges (some of them no doubt sharp) but when we come together with a common purpose - to worship our God, if we forget the ***art*** of our practise we are missing out.

Helen Brooks
Communications Team

On 19th February we were pleased to commission Aaron Johnstone as our 2017/18 Ministry Intern.

Kevin Ward from the Knox Centre for Ministry and Leadership officiated, with Deborah Bower representing Southern Presbytery & Presbyterian Synod of Otago and Southland

Our kids groups, represented by Matai & Amos Wells, were pleased to offer a special welcome to Aaron & Laura's son Luke!

Trust In God

Never Too Old….Before the children leave the Sunday service and head off to their groups, our Children's Time stories and demonstrations often provide just as much for the grown ups to reflect on.

Together we are stronger

Nurturing faith

RAINBOW CLUB & YOUTH 101

Since our last report, we have had exciting events happening!

Years 7,8,9 (school grouping) now meet in the Upper Room and are known as Youth 101. We welcome new leaders for that group: Joan Luke, Jacinta Hyslop and Anna Winter.

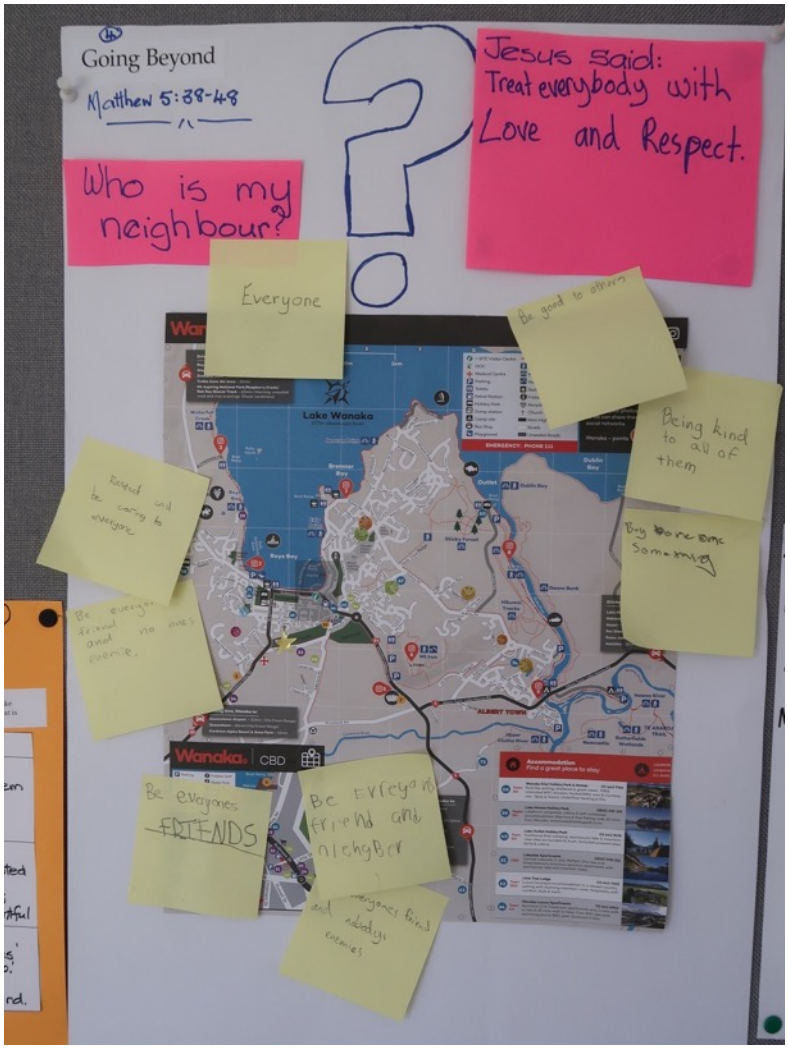
Youth 101 share their Rap version of the bible text for the year Jeremiah 6:16

It is so good to see further growth in the Christian Education Programme which began way back in 2001, after the Tuesday afternoon programme JAM Club ended. Val Kilpatrick took up the task of Sunday teaching which has now grown into the two groups known as Rainbow Club - 3 years of age up to when they turn 7 (Junior Group) —and then the group of children 7 years through to 10 years of age (Senior Group). It has been good to welcome new leaders here too. Sue Knauf and Judy Reid have joined the teaching team, along with more helpers who come into the groups when this is needed.

We plan to have teams with a leader and a helper taking 3 or 4 lessons, then another team taking the next 3 to 4 sessions, so that the work load is lightened and more people can become involved.

continued.....

We have also set up a roster to help in the supervised crèche, where we have the under three year olds keeping happy and busy during worship.



Teaching though the months since Christmas, has been based on the Gospel stories from Matthew & John.

In Matthew we spent time looking at what Jesus said to the people as they sat and listened on the mountain side. Look at Matthew 5:1-12 and think about it like we did. We also liked the idea that we can be like salt - adding flavour to life, and preserving what is good by being kind and helpful to everyone. Jesus also asks us to be lights in the world. There is a lot of common sense 'stuff' to be read and thought about.

In the Season of Lent we have looked at Jesus meeting people -Nicodemus who came at night asking all sorts of questions; the Samaritan woman at the well whom no-one else would talk with; the man born blind whom Jesus healed; grieving with Martha and Mary and then raising Lazarus from the dead. Lots to think about.

The Senior Rainbow Club group have made a neat poster. They took photos of each other and then wrote their name up in glitter and made a poster which says "GOD SO LOVED ...then their name with the photos.....THAT HE GAVE HIS SON"

Rainbow Club will run through the Easter holidays with stories and activities for the children.

Did I offer peace today?
Did I bring a smile to someone's face?
Did I say words of healing?
Did I let go of my anger and resentment?
Did I forgive? Did I love?
These are the real questions.
I must trust that the little bit of love that I sow now will bear many fruits,
here in this world and the life to come.

Henri Nouwen

Welcome to the second of our new **TAKE FIVE** feature…a great way to introduce people……

……it's just what it says, we ask you 5 questions, you answer!

This time it's the turn of our new Church Administrator Tammy Clegg ….

1. Where did you grow up?
North Island - Auckland. On the North Shore by the Beach in a place called Browns Bay.

2. Where did you live before coming to Wanaka?
We lived 3 hours South of Sydney in NSW, Australia in a holiday town called Jervis Bay, which is also on the Beach.

3. Why Wanaka?
Simon got a job in this area - we had lived here in 2001 and think it is a great town and place to bring up a family.

4. What are you most looking forward to in your new role?
I am looking forward to meeting and getting to know more people in the church community and getting involved and serving in the Office/Admin area of Church

5. It's your day off...what would you most like to be doing.
Spending time with Simon and the four kids ….a picnic at the lake.

MISSIONS ABROAD TEAM

The building of the new Naogoan Children's Home in Northern Bangladesh has started!

Thanks to our church's enthusiasm and contributions so far, as well as a substantial donation from International Needs donors in Canada, it was decided to honour our commitment and in faith, commence building the first level of a new centre.

This centre will be used in many ways - as a training centre and other outreaches into the community as well as an education and accommodation centre for the children.

There is already a list of children waiting. Some are the young street workers in Dhaka whom I saw come in to the headquarters in Dhaka for a few hours each day for a wash, some food and a lesson, in between their work on the streets, where they are controlled by adult gangs.

By taking them far away from these influences, they will have a chance to start their lives again and with a good education, have some hope for the future.

continued.....

The Mission Abroad team have decided it is now time to start planning another quiz evening and George Smyth has kindly agreed to be quizmaster again.

So save the evening of Monday 1st May at the church at 7pm and bring along a team of 8 people to take part. If you can bring team members from outside the church, so much the better, to increase the numbers. Also if you can let the office know your team name and numbers, we may be able to join up smaller groups.

Remember to bring along a pocketful of gold coins, so you can buy the answer to the round if none of your team know it, We will be having a silent auction again as well, so any good items or services that you could provide will be very welcome. Donations of a supper plate would be much appreciated by some of you good cooks and bakers. We had very positive feedback on the lovely supper last time. Let Liz Hall or myself know if you can help there.

This is a real team effort and a lot of fun. Tickets will be sold at the door and cost $20 again.

We are so blessed by God, let's be a blessing to those who have so little and where we can make such a difference in many people's lives.

Inez McClea
Mission Abroad Team

Thursday 20 April

Missionary meeting with Aung Mung (from Myanmar)

at Alvin and Judy Reid's home

7 Norman Terrace

6pm BBQ tea

- bring some food for the bbq

Aung and Tony Plews will speak after tea

Prayer Notes

More answers to prayer. We are encouraged.

Remember the church prayer meeting is the power house of the Church.

We continue to meet every Sunday at 5pm in the upper room.
You are very welcome to join us.

June Harris
Prayer Convenor 4431788

The following funerals took place at St Andrew's:

15 December	Ngaire Matchett
12 January	Gareth Mowat
25 February	Robin Copland
13 March	Peter Marshall

and at St Ninian's:

16 January	Helen Anderson
22 February	Keith Taylor

The following weddings took place this summer:

6 January	Timothy McEwan & Lu Lu
10 January	Kapil Sareen & Jennifer Legerton
5 February	Johannes Jansen van Vuuren
22 March	Jay Shadlow & Tyrah-Jade Wallis

Church Office

Administrator: Tammy Clegg Phone 03 443 7887
Cell 0274334395

email: u.c.pres.church@xtra.co.nz

New Office Hours After Easter:

Tuesday to Thursday 9am-12noon, Friday 9am-1pm

Our updated 2017 **Parish Directory** is available in the foyer or on PDF from the office

We welcome your offering by automatic payment to the church account
02 0673 0001745 00

For God so loved the world !

"Power, no matter how well-intentioned, tends to cause suffering. Love, being vulnerable, absorbs it. In a point of convergence on a hill called Calvary, God renounced the one for the sake of the other."

— Philip Yancey, The Jesus I Never Knew

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Easter In The Upper Clutha

13th April Maundy Thursday

Tenebrae (Service of shadows)
Communion service
8pm St Ninian's Hawea Flat

14th April Good Friday

Walk of Witness meet 9am
Dinosaur Park finish at WPCCC
for coffee and hot cross buns

16th April Easter Sunday

He's Alive! a celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ with Communion