



wanaka

P R E S B Y T E R I A N

C O M M U N I T Y C H U R C H C E N T R E

loving God, loving people

From your Interim Minister.....

Comfort For God's People

Not that I am much of a music lover but in recent days one of my lecturers from Knox Centre for Ministry and Leadership reminded me that for everything we encounter there is a lyric from a "Beatles" song that could be used to describe our situation.

I wonder if the the period of Minister vacancy being experienced by the congregation of the Wanaka Presbyterian Church could be described as 'the long and winding road'.

There will be times over the next few months as work is done behind the scenes in committee rooms, where we may need to sing... 'let it be, let it be, let it be, let it be'.

In seeking out the future direction of the congregation – some will sing 'All we need is love, love. Love is all we need'.

Others may sing from the song Hey Jude – 'and don't you know that its just you, hey Jude, you'll do'.

Mostly though as we continue down the road together, waiting for God's leading, it is wise not to turn to song lyrics but to the word of God. Isaiah 40 is a chapter of comfort for God's people. Within this chapter are the words.....

'He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.

They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.'

continued...

Please pray for Session as they lead the congregation - the comings and goings, the day to day, the pastoral needs, and the worship rhythm of the church in this time. They are an incredible group of leaders that desire to serve God to the best of their abilities. Please pray for Neil Cowie as he is assisting Session in their desire for the congregation to minister to each other during this stage of the journey along the winding road.

Please pray for the Settlement Board as they continue on in the task charged to them by the congregation to discern the will of God in regard to seeking to fill the role of Ordained Minister. Please also pray for the Management team of the church – especially the Finance team as they seek to resource the mission of the church here in Wanaka.

As with many journeys, there may be times when we get the wobbles, from either going so slow we may well be standing still or going too fast. May I encourage you in the times you wonder if this road will ever end, to think of this:

"If the distance between the Earth and the sun, which is 92 million miles, was the thickness of a piece of paper.....the diameter of our galaxy would be a stack of papers 310 miles high.

Yet our galaxy is less than a speck of dust in the part of the universe that we can see.

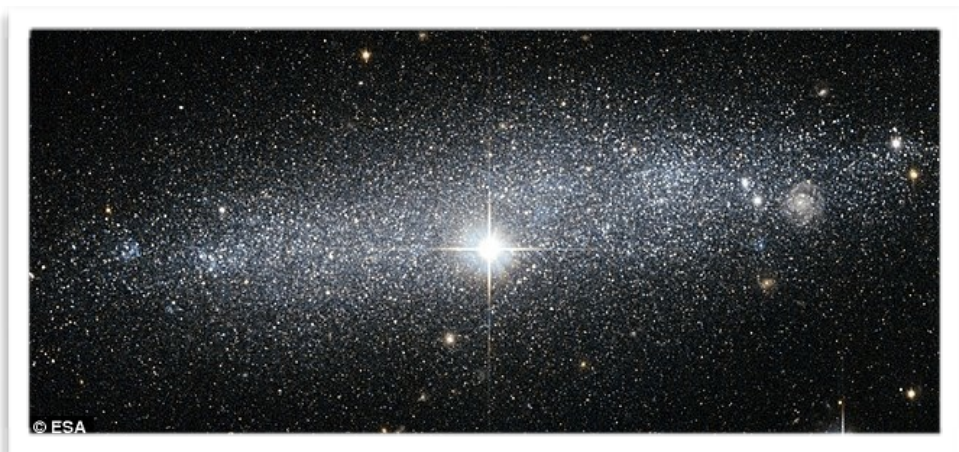
And that part of the universe might just be a speck of dust compared to all the universe."

And if Jesus is the Son of God who holds all this together with the power of his word, is this the kind of person we can trust with the next chapter of our congregations' missional future?

When the wobbles come, when the doubt rises, when the long and winding road goes on a bit too long, when we wonder really what is the point, I suggest we go outside and look up (for a period of time) and say nothing.

"Just think about what this means to you."

*Your friend in Christ
Rev Erin Pendreigh
Interim Moderator*



SESSION Report

Welcome to mid-winter!!!

We have now had a month back in vacancy, after the 3 month Interim Ministry with Rev Erin Pendreigh. I know people appreciated Erin's ministry - as did our Session. Her guidance and teaching was inspiring to get us re-focused on our tasks in vacancy.

Erin introduced monthly Communion and Session has decided to continue with that timetable.

Communion will be the first Sunday of August and September at St Andrews. A monthly service continues to be held at Hawea - on the 4th Sunday of each month.

Erin continues as our Interim Moderator, and will be moderating Session meetings and is the person we can go to for clarification on parish matters.

Rev Ian Guy is our Convenor of the Settlement Board, as we continue to seek a new minister.

Please pray for the Settlement Board as we meet to discern God's plan for our parish.

During the next 2 months we will be ministered to by members of our congregation. Thank you to those who have stepped up and are willing to share with us. We look forward to your leading in worship.

You may have noticed some new fences have been erected - around the Manse and the East side of the church. A big thank you to the hardy volunteers who worked in challenging winter conditions!!!

Thank you too, to all the willing volunteers who offered to take on tasks in and around our church and added more names to our latest clip board.

Finally I want to leave you with a promise from Jeremiah, that I shared with the congregation last Sunday.

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."

Jer 29:11 - 13

God Bless.
Rena Cowie
Session Clerk



Group has been going well with studies in 1 Corinthians where different men have been leading the discussion and we have all been challenged by what Paul is addressing in this

letter to the church in Corinth. Monthly

breakfast has been well attended with a good turn out for the trip to visit the goldfields around Luggate. There is a good core group who make these times a real special occasion as we meet to learn from God's word and from each other.

Murray Bennett family.bennett@xtra.co.nz

From the church prayer group.

We continue to meet on Sundays at 5pm.

Charles Spurgeon (the 19th century London preacher) called the church prayer meeting "The Power House of the Church". He explained if the engine room is out of action "then the whole mill will grind to a halt"

Please come and join us. It is very encouraging.



June 443 1788

Thursday Ladies Study Group Thursday ladies group continues to meet each week at 12:30pm.

We are finding a chat and catch up over lunch (we bring our own) is such a blessing and caring time. We are an interdenominational group and are studying the book of

Philippians, followed by prayer times. We can vary from 6 - 16 in number, with people often away on trips, minding grandchildren or called away urgently. Regardless the group meets for those who are still in town. Do feel free to join us when you can.

We meet in our homes and so it is not always possible to put the venue in the Sunday bulletin.....and sometimes we have to change for various reasons, but phone numbers are always in the bulletin, so please feel free to call.

Rena 443 2909 or Jen 443 2424. Everyone welcome.

Rena Cowie.

Presbyterian Women (APW)

"THE GATHERING", which was held on April 16th in Wanaka, was well attended by women from the Union and Presbyterian Parishes in Central Otago.

It was good to share with everyone including with some local women who do not come to the monthly PW meetings.

The next GATHERING will be on **September 3rd**, in St Enochs Church lounge, Alexandra, beginning at 11 am. You are welcome to attend even if you do not attend PW monthly meetings. Let either Catherine Little 443 1620, or Lynley Ives 443 6899 know if you would like to come along, as we 'car pool'.

We have also had a meeting in the Common Room of the Wanaka Retirement Village where we saw a DVD "Gardening with Soul".

At the Annual meeting held in June the same office bearers were re-elected, and we discussed the Treasurer's report. This will appear in the Church's Annual report. We are glad that we have been able to help in the mission work at home and overseas, as well as contribute to the local church finances. Again we thank the willing people who give of their help when we are catering for funerals.

During the time that Florence's Cafe was closed we met for Tuesday Coffee at Edgewater from 10-11am, but are now back at Florences. If you would like to come along on a Tuesday, feel free to do

so, for a chat, a laugh, and sometimes serious discussion!

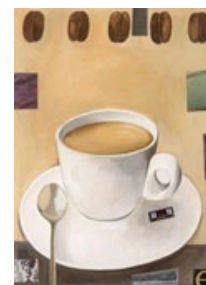
No PW meeting this month, next meeting **August 10th**, venue to be arranged.

Catherine Little President 4431620

Fellowship at Florences

Tuesdays 10am

All Welcome !



Welcome to a brief update for your next gala on **Thursday 7 January 2016**

At the meeting we had with the parish, it was decided to change the day for the gala as the Saturdays clashed with other events.

The meeting was a huge help to your committee and we have been working through many of the the items brought up at it.

We are all taking a break from meetings over the next few months and believe that the foundation work for the next gala is well in place.

Commitment for continued support from 2015 gala is fantastic with everyone (except one) committing again. At this stage we are slightly ahead and I hope that this will increase as time goes on.

Keep warm and enjoy the winter its very hot where I am

Best wishes,

Jude Smith,
Gala Convenor

Other news.....



The role of Tracy Mayhew has been redefined. Tracy fulfils the role of

Parish Administrator. This encompasses the core roles of Facilities Administrator, Accounts Administration and Office Duties.

Also at this time the decision has been made to increase the hours Tracy will be in the office to better reflect the work that is done.

The office will be open **Tues, Wed, Thurs 1pm-4-pm**, *an additional 4 hours flexible time on Thursday* and **Fri 9am-1pm**.

Alison Southwick has been appointed Treasurer for the Upper Clutha Community Presbyterian Church. We are happy to have her strategic skills helping to guide the financial arm of the church.



A huge thanks to the Finance Team and especially Alison and Tracy for helping UPCCC to move to a

new accounting system. UPCCC is now maintaining accounts on XERO.

From the Property Management Team -

Recently completed projects include a new fence on the boundary line of St Andrews and new hot water cylinder at St Ninians. The manse is in the process of having new fencing put up and in a couple of months time the remaining carpet upgrade will go ahead. The manse has been re-painted inside and is looking great. A big thank you to the members of the PMT and those volunteers who have worked long and hard especially in getting the washing line moved and part of the fence erected at the manse.

The PMT continues to address issues of leaks, outside lighting and a whole raft of small maintenance issues in order to keep our place of worship in ship shape. Due to an increasing work load I am stepping aside as manager of the PMT but will continue to give of my time where I am needed.

Kind regards
Colleen Topping



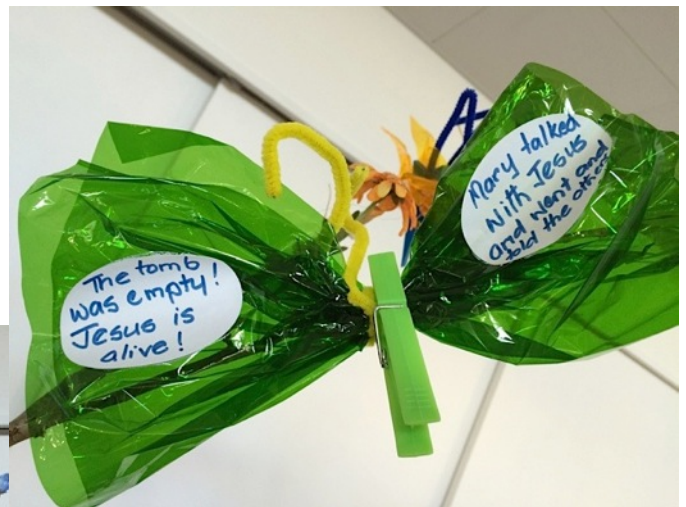
RAINBOW CLUB

like Jesus being the Good Shepherd. We made cut out sheep and wrote messages on them.

Since our last report we have celebrated Easter, and during the fifty days after Easter Day, we thought about how the disciples and the other friends of Jesus really come to know that He was alive in a new way, and would be always with them. It must have been hard for them to understand, but Jesus was so kind and helpful and patient.

We read too, about the things that the friends of Jesus remembered about Him—

During the fifty days of the Easter season we decorated the bare branches of a tree with flowers and butterflies as we celebrated Jesus being alive for ever.



continued.....

THEN it was time to celebrate PENTECOST.



We had fun in church when the Rev Erin Pendreigh made popcorn, which helped us understand that Holy Spirit can help us live in God's loving ways. Then we all went to the Upper Room and saw the story of Pentecost on a DVD, and made flying doves and flying flames. When Holy Spirit came to the disciples they saw flames and felt a wind blowing, and they felt warm and glad deep down inside, and began to tell everyone about

living in God's loving ways. The dove is a symbol of Holy Spirit too.

After our lesson time we went down stairs and had a celebration with special cakes and a candle, and sang Happy Birthday to God's church all around the world.



We were sorry to see Rev. Pendreigh go, but we made her a thank you book from us all, because we had enjoyed her stories and teaching so much. Matai Wells presented it to her on our behalf.

It has been good to welcome Jonty and Ryan Keenan to our Club, and Elliot Lovelock who is now three.

See you on Sundays at 9.30am

Mission Abroad Team

We are fortunate to have Inez McClea, a recent newcomer from Tauranga in our congregation. Inez is well experienced in Christian overseas missions, and has started a group of interested people in our church. We have named our group Mission Abroad. Inez is presently on a mission in Slovakia and is leading a group to Bangladesh in October/November.

Our first meeting was in May. We plan to meet once a month on the **third Thursday at 7.30pm** in each others houses.



Our work so far has centered on Orphans Aid International.

We met with Sue Van Schreven from Queenstown, who started Orphans Aid International by going to Romania and Russia to set up healthy orphanages with local staff. Sue's work has been a great success without much expense on infrastructure. She trips away often and works very hard on fund raising for her projects.

She plans another orphanage in northern Nepal so we have been helping her by selling Nepalese crafts in Wanaka. So far we have sold over \$700.00 worth of knitted yak hats, socks, slippers, blankets and gloves.

Other projects in mind are:-

- A Tauranga couple has started a programme to strengthen families in Uganda.
- A suggested visit from Rob Pendreigh from Cromwell Presbyterian Church to speak on their work in Thailand and possible future mission projects.
- After a visit to our church from Gradon Harvey of International Needs, we like his idea of having a sister church in the third world which we could visit and help.

Please call me Ph 443 8081, if you are interested in joining our group.

Elizabeth Hall.

From The Youngs In Malawi

Greetings from Malawi,

We are grateful for your prayers and support to our ministry here.

Jim travels to South Africa today (June 28th) for medical appointments.

Sarah and Michael finish their school year on the 15th July and return to Malawi until the end of August. Robert has just finished his first semester at University of Otago in Dunedin studying Computer Science.

Diane is busy at the clinic, malaria cases have declined but the 24 hour opening appreciated by the patients has added to the workload.

It is exciting to see the work developing under STUM (Sunday school Teachers United Movement) as it empowers Malawians to do the training of childrens workers. We continue to help STUM District committees to develop the work in their areas.

Give thanks with us for our team of 8, plus Biu Thabah our fellow SIM missionary, working together.



Pray for the initiative to start fundraising ventures in Malawi to support STUM financially.

Give thanks with us that we have been able to replace 2 of our vehicles with a 2005 Toyota Avensis station wagon, and a 2009 Nissan Hardbody twincab.



These photos are of a section of the wall of our compound which fell down and its' rebuilding.

It collapsed right outside the workers quarters so we are very thankful it fell during the early hours of the morning, otherwise someone may have been seriously injured. We are also thankful that the compound remained safe while the wall was rebuilt.



The harvest of maize was an average one this year. Pray for the leaders of the country as they grapple with trying to develop the country with limited financial resources to work with.

Thank you for your partnership with us here.

God bless
Jim and Diane Young.



from Project Radical Grace in Thailand

Bringing hope to all of life

What do you say to a young girl who will live in prison until she is adult? When she asks you to pray for her where do you begin?

Our Thai expression of Radical Grace's ministry is 'The mission to bring hope to all of life'. How do we bring hope to young girls like Jay?



In the book of Matthew (have a read of 25:31-46 if you dare!) Jesus gives us some good advice for situations such as this. As we focus on the young life of Jay, Jesus suggests we need to **see** her, **act toward** her and **love** her like she was Jesus.

With thanks:

As always there is much we are thankful for including.....

- The amazing opportunity we have to invest in the lives of the young girls currently residing in the juvenile prison.
- The encouraging and productive time away that the team enjoyed to reflect on our work and ministry over the last year and look to the future.
- Recent opportunities that Kenneth has had to share the vision of Radical Grace with churches across New Zealand.

Upcoming:

- Ongoing work with the juvenile prison as we seek to empower the young girls with knowledge and skills to protect themselves (and others) and to navigate life within broader Thai society.
- Ongoing prevention and life skills strengthening workshops at Concordia Dormitory, a residence for hill tribe youth studying in Chiang Mai.
- Kenneth's continued vision sharing around New Zealand.



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Contact Us

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Wanaka Pauline 443-8044

Hawea Lynda 443-8708

Youth

Jenni 443-4678

Study Groups

Barbara 443-6068

Prayer requests

June 443-1788

Mission Abroad

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Communications & News

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The Last Word.....

**How many lessons of faith
and beauty we should lose,
if there were no winter in our
year!**

Thomas Wentworth Higginson



wanaka
PRESBYTERIAN

COMMUNITY CHURCH CENTRE

loving God, loving people

***We welcome your offering by automatic
payment to the church account***

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