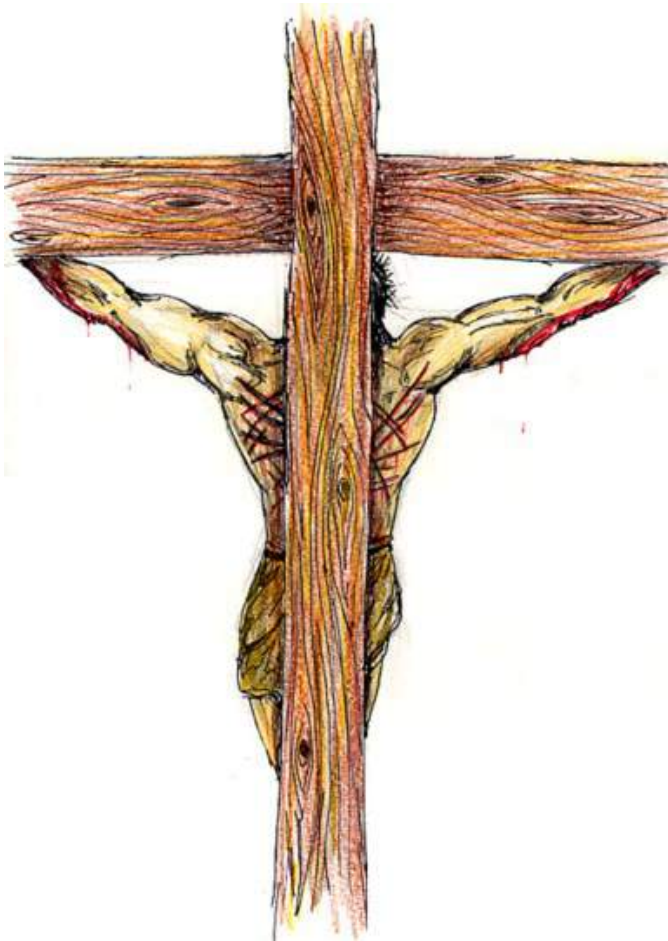


HALO



April 2022

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH TARADALE

From the Minister



I have been trying to be more positive in life. It is too easy to look and see problems everywhere. This person has a problem so they need a visit, the sound system has a problem, and that church has a problem I have been learning that when I look at problems I get depressed and demotivated because there are always more problems. The opposite occurs when I look for what is working, what are a person's strengths, where are the signs of hope. I am energised to do more of what works, I get to celebrate tiny successes, and I think of people as amazingly resilient and capable.

I think some Christians need to do this with Easter. If we do any introspection, we see our faults and sins (we might quote Psalm 51 "For I

know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me"). We may be grateful for Easter Friday – that Jesus suffered in my place and through his death I am forgiven. However, like any problem solving focus, there is always another problem just around the corner (I will fail again.) The end result of this approach is often a lack of energy in our Christian life because it is always lived backwards. I sin, I ask Jesus to forgive which he does, repeat cycle. I don't see my successes and growth, only my failures.

A focus on Easter Sunday changes our thinking. We start by thinking no matter what I do or have done – Jesus has already overcome it, I am already loved, I am already a child of God. An Easter Sunday focus recognises that I have done horrible things (rejected God, hurt others...) but God has already dealt with that. Our focus is on the generous, relentless love of God. I can also focus on new life and the blessing and opportunities I am given. I can dream about what I can become, how I might use this new life God has given me.

Appreciative inquiry has been a help for me in this quest to be more positive. Appreciative inquiry (AI) is appreciative in that you focus on what is good, on what gives life, before you dream about “What Might Be?”. It is inquiry because you can dream your desired future and then decide what steps to take to build on your strengths and create the better future. It is much more forward focused. Martin Luther king embodied this in his “I have a Dream” speech.

During March we are looking at some of the anxiety inducing challenges of our time, Carona virus, war, the economy, the climate... The news has more than enough to provoke an anxiety attack or encourage you to start drinking. But an Appreciative Inquiry approach might say lockdowns are hard but we can get to know our

neighbours better and the church can live out what it means to be a community. Wars are horrible, but we have survived them before by pulling together and working for peace. The cost of living is a challenge but maybe we can learn what our grandmothers knew. We may not have solved Climate change yet but we are riding our bikes more and have more efficient fires and cars, we have taken small steps in a bigger journey.

So I am looking for strengths, I am looking for signs of love and hope, I am looking for signs that God is at work. And the result is I am more grateful. The result is more optimistic, the result is I am more energized to keep working. Easter is going to be marvellous, a reminder that new life has come, that death is vanquished, that God is at work even on the darkest of days. We hope you can join us for our Easter services:

He is
not here,
He has
Risen!
Luke 24:6

Good Friday

9.30am at the church
11am Walk with the cross
from All Saints

Easter Sunday

9.30am at the church

Brett

MODERATOR'S 2022 SEASON OF LENT MESSAGE

The temptation of Jesus speaks to me of our human condition stretched to the limit! That in turn speaks to us at this time, as we enter a third Lenten season under the shadow of Covid, with angry protestors camped outside Parliament, hospitality and tourism businesses going to the wall, and heightened anxiety in response to the fast-approaching Omicron wave. We are being stretched.

For us, as for Jesus, there are tensions, temptations, and taunts to cope with.

In my mind's eye I can see the tension on the face of Jesus as he came to the end of his 40 day fast. The biblical text simply says, 'he was hungry'. I read a quirky novel once that went into graphic detail about how a fast this long would actually affect him! The haggard tension on his face from the sustained deprivation would be palpable. We too know tension from sustained pressure. We face ongoing cycles of

planning and cancellation, anxiety and relief, hope and despair. Most of us have relationships strained by differing opinions.

At this point of extreme vulnerability for Jesus, he is tempted to take false paths. What are the temptations we face at this time of vulnerability? Early in the pandemic the temptations were around economy verses health. Now it comes to us in the form of demonizing those who disagree with us, and some proclaiming individual rights versus the good of all.

And there are the taunts. The devil saved this best for the last when it came to Jesus – "if you are the son of God...". I see this kind of behaviour on TV, and I hear it on the deck after a game of golf: politicians mocked and even threatened, police belittled, and school students teased for wearing masks! It is hard to deal with.

So how did Jesus deal with the tension, temptations and taunts? Huge resilience indeed. And the text gives two sources for this resilience, still available to us today. One was the filling of the Holy Spirit. The other, a deep and informed use of scripture that empowered him to combat the misinformed misuse that was thrown at him

As we navigate the tension, temptations, and taunts in our context this Lent, may we too draw on these deep spiritual resources to sustain us.

In a season popular for what we can give up, I have always thought the emphasis should be more on what we can take up! Now, as much as ever, we need to be taking up spiritual practices which allow us to be more and more open to the sustaining power of the Holy Spirit and to the scriptures that carried Jesus through a time such as this.

Right Rev Hamish Galloway

Moderator Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand

moderator@presbyterian.org.nz

Those who live
in the shelter
of the Most High
will find rest
in the shadow
of the Almighty.

-Psalm 91:1



Getting Stumped

The reality check conversation is a balance between determination, competence and ability. It is a conversation that is happening across the church as congregations (the metaphorical body of Christ) experience the challenges of being older. Some of our congregations are fit and strong, but many are struggling with the impact of Covid, inflation and reducing capacity.

The metaphor draws links between our human and organisational response to these challenges.



- Work smarter, not harder
- Prioritise what is important
- Have a realistic timetable for what can be done
- Ask for help (and don't consider that weakness)
- Give up some things to give energy for others

Pray for the churches that are beginning these conversations – and pray for those that are avoiding the topic. Give guidance to our leaders to find solutions with dignity and independence that affirm the dreams and legacy of the congregation.

Peter MacKenzie
Executive Secretary

Sound System Fundraiser

By now you will have received a letter from the Board of Managers which we trust you have had time to read and contemplate. If you would like to contribute please note the following ways to do so.

- Internet banking:
Taradale Presbyterian Church
03 0631 0174357 01
Reference: Sound System

- Offering envelope system: place cash in an envelope marked with both your offering number and “sound system”
- Cash: place in an envelope marked “sound system”. If you would like us to issue you a receipt please include your name.

Bear in mind that your donation will qualify for a tax rebate.

Retired Session Clerk—Pam Thrupp

In 2005 I was made redundant from my job as a Sales Representative. My job had been demanding and required me to spend every second week away from home so Barry, my husband, suggested I take some time off before deciding my next step.

However either God, Brett or both, made that decision for me, as the next day Brett turned up on my doorstep asking me to be his Session Clerk. I was pretty overwhelmed at the thought, as I was a reasonably inexperienced Elder and wondered how I could live up to the expectations of this position. However I threw myself into doing the best I could and with help from God, Brett and the wonderful Congregation I completed 17 years in service last September. God helped me grow in my faith, my prayer life and with my relationship both with Him and with the people of St Columba's. It has been an absolute pleasure getting to know so many of you personally and I thank you for the support and friendships I have developed. Working alongside so many

wonderful Session members for 17 years, many who possibly, at times, didn't always agree with me, but still showed me love and support. It has been amazing. I am extremely grateful to you all. I always saw my position as being the Ministers main support person and I like to think I did that well.

I am grateful to Brett for having faith in me as he has helped me grow both in confidence and in my Christian walk. We are blessed to have a wonderful Minister who cares for each one of us. My thanks also goes to Joanne Magill who stepped up and took on the role from me. Next Halo Joanne will give you a little bit of her story.

Never regret a day in your life. Good days give you happiness, bad days give you experience, worst days give you lessons, and the **best days** give you memories.



Do you know who the Samaritans Are?

They are a confidential, non-judgemental and non-religious listening and support telephone service operating 24 hours a day for people feeling depressed, lonely, suicidal or just needing to talk to someone.

Volunteers have provided invaluable service to anyone who needs it since 1965 and have provided support to over 4000 callers per year in our region.

The values they strive to achieve are; listening, confidentiality, helping people to make their own decisions when possible, being non judgmental and human contact. Giving people time undivided attention and empathy meets a fundamental emotional need and reduces loneliness and despair.

All Volunteers are fully trained and have ongoing support. If this interests you, you can apply for a volunteer application pack at Rotorua. lifelink@xrta.co.nz

Funds are always needed to support the regional services and pay for everything from power bills to the telephone lines. Volunteers are just that and are not paid.

Donations are always well received—bank account number 03 1552 0094855 00 and are fully tax deductible. They are a Charity, registered under the Charities Act, registration number is CC38030.

Phone 0800 726 666

samaritans
Aotearoa New Zealand

Leaving a gift in your Will

Have you thought about leaving our Church a legacy once you pass away?

Leaving a gift in your Will, also known as leaving a 'bequest' is an incredible way to be remembered.

So if you'd like to leave a gift, please remember the Church when you next update your Will.



Grown Up Kool Kids

A brief look at what our past Kool Kids are achieving in their lives right now. Amazing achievements by them all.

- **Aaron Argent** graduated with a Bachelor of- Engineer working in Brisbane in a New Grad role as a Project Engineer
- **Euan Argent**—2nd year Mechanical Engineering student at Auckland University—Ex Prefect N.B.H, Swimmer and a Bag Piper
- **Aimee Argent**—3rd year student at Iona. Plays hockey for the top team and is a canoe star, winning two golds at Nationals last year
- **Cael Hanlon**—just completed 3 years in the Navy
- **Liam Hanlon**—1st year Refrigeration Engineer apprenticeship at Napier Port
- **Anok Tremain**—1st year at Otago studying for a Law and Science degree
- **Edu Tremain**—Year 13 at Napier Boys High, Head Boy
- **Mela Tremain**—Attends Napier Girls High
- **Kallie Tremain**—Year 8 at Hereworth School
- **Tobias Mukti**—Studying at Wellington University—4th Year doing a degree of Computer Science and Physics. Remember his beautiful piano playing in Church.
- **Hannah, Frances and John** McLay's Granddaughter was Dux at Iona last year and this year is in Dunedin doing a Science degree and Spanish language
- **Olivia Druzianic** completed her Law and Commerce degree in 2020 and is her 2nd year working for a Law firm in Wellington. She was admitted to the Bar last year
- **Lucy Druzianic** has finished her Science and Commerce degree at Victoria and is now starting a Masters in Drug Development
- **Will Druzianic** has completed a degree in Broadcasting in Ara Christchurch and is doing a six month internship with Mediaworks in the Coromandel and Auckland
- **Tom Druzianic** has just started a B Com at Victoria University
- **Jonathan Demetrius** is 2nd year into a builder apprenticeship. He is active in endurance activities having achieved the Coast to Coast
- **Christine Demetrius** is an avid horse show jumper, lover of her own horse. She is in year 12 this year
- **Michael Demetrius** has added Philosophy as another degree to his Politics, Economics and Finance.

Year 9 Camp—Brooke Cuneen

I'm really enjoying being at Sacred Heart College. I am playing Futsal and we have won all of our games so far. I have also just started netball pre-season training to get me fit for when netball starts. And I also start school football soon. Last week I had school camp last up at Whakamaru which is not far past

Taupō, which was fun. I got to do lots of different activities, and I got to swim in the lake lots of times and jump off a pontoon.



There was a zipline which was really cool (especially going backwards with my eyes closed and no hands), and we got to go kayaking. The camp had its own chefs who made delicious food for us, including butter chicken and roast dinner. I am doing online school at the moment because some people at

my school have Covid, but I should be back to school next week.

Here is a photo from camp.

Year 9—Zach Donovan

I have started in year 9 at Taradale High School and so far am having a great time. My favourite subject is digitech which is about computer animation and programming.

I like how we take our bags everywhere and have different subjects in different classes. It's a big school and been a big change, but it's been fun!

Be Anxious For Nothing

but in everything, by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God.

And the

*Peace
of God*

which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in

CHRIST JESUS
PHILIPPIANS 4:6-7

The Barnard family moving from South Africa to New Zealand



We are a five-person family who relocated from South Africa to New Zealand in July 2019. Steve was extremely fortunate to find work in the forest industry, which he continues to enjoy to this day. Henri and Karlien began their education at Eskdale School, while Rubin attended Napier Boys High.

Life had been kind to us, but we needed each other to get through

all of the difficulties we faced. On some days, more ladders were falling than pulling us up, but we persisted and did not give up.

Karlien could only communicate in Afrikaans and had to learn to understand and speak English. All of the children missed their friends and family terribly, and they had to make new friends and adjust to their new school and new home.


But things gradually improved because our neighbours and the people we met welcomed us with open arms and helped us in any way they could.

We bought a new house in 2020 and had to learn about the new legislation and why houses in New Zealand are made of wood rather than brick, as we were accustomed to. We will have been in New Zealand for three years in July 2022, and all we can say is, "What a wonderful journey we've had so far!"

Helen Barnard

Thank you Helen for sharing your journey with us. I want to add that the Barnard family are valued members of St Columbas. Karlien who couldn't speak English 3 years ago regularly takes part in our Services by reading the Call to Worship and writing and reading her prayers. Rubin and Henry are committed Youth Group attendees and Helen (Mum) is an enthusiastic Kool Kids Teacher. Steve (Dad) is working hard to renovate their home. We pray you continue to enjoy life in Napier.

Pam Thrupp



Kids Friendly Care

We provide a **FUN** and safe environment for children aged 5-13 years old.

Before School: 7.30am - 8.30am
After School: 3pm - 5.30pm
Holiday Programme: 7.30am - 5.30pm
WINZ APPROVED

Our doors are always open so feel free to come in and meet the team!

176 Gloucester Street, Taradale Anna Neil: 022 643 1691

The advertisement features a green header with the text 'Kids Friendly Care' in a stylized font. Below the header are four images: a group of people holding a white pyramid, a cartoon house with a sun and 'KIDS FRIENDLY' text, a child in a Spider-Man costume sitting on a red dog, and a group of children sitting on the ground in a forest. The background of the right side of the ad shows a child playing on a slide.

St Columba Throwback

St Columba's 100th Anniversary



Above: In 1906 costume, the Church choir at a Parish Concert, vocal item given by Rev. Russell Jamieson and his piano accordion.

During the period of a week from the 18th to the 25th of September, St Columba's Presbyterian Church, Taradale celebrated their 100th Anniversary. The celebrations took the form of Choir reunions as well as Bible Class reunions, Youth evening, "Old" Fashion parade, and a Dinner on Saturday the 24th followed by entertainment. All in all a most successful weeks celebrations.

Left: At the dinner, Mrs A. Martin, 93, cuts the Centennial Anniversary cake.

Right: Young ladies' attire in 1910 Helen Jackson, Jan Hughes, Elizabeth Lothian and Anne West.

Bottom: Past and present members of the Church Choir enjoy singing under the conductorship of Mr Robert Salthouse.



What on in April/May 2022

Sunday	03	April	9.30am	Church Service
				Daylight Savings ends
Sunday	10	April	9.30am	Church Service
			1.30pm	Patoka Church Service
Friday	15	April	9.30am	Good Friday Service
Sunday	17	April	9.30am	Easter Sunday Service & Communion
Thursday	21	April	7.00pm	Board of Managers Meeting
Sunday	24	April	9.30am	Church Service—Family Service
Thursday	28	April	7.00pm	Session Meeting
Sunday	01	May	9.30am	Church Service
Sunday	08	May	9.30am	Church Service
			1.30pm	Patoka Church Service
Sunday	15	May	9.30am	Church Service
Thursday	19	May	7.00pm	Board of Managers Meeting
Sunday	22	May	9.30am	Church Service - Family Service
Thursday	26	May	7.00pm	Session Meeting
Sunday	29	May	9.30am	Church Service

**I will say to the Lord, "My refuge
and my fortress, my God, in
whom I trust."**

- Psalm 91:2

Regular Events

Tuesdays	<i>Op Shop open</i>	10.00am - 4.00pm
	Contact: 844 5004	
	<i>Tuesday Church Service</i>	10.30am - 11.30am
	2nd Tuesday of the month	
	<i>House Group</i>	7.00pm
	Contact: Colin Zachan 844 8050	
	<i>Women's Fellowship meeting</i>	7.30pm
	4th Tuesday of the month	
Wednesdays	<i>Mainly Music</i>	9.30am - 10.30am
	Contact: Margaret 843 2272	
	House Group @ Church	10.15am and
	Contact: Brett Walker 844 2256	7.00pm - 8.30pm
	<i>Op Shop open</i>	10.00am - 4.00pm
	Contact: 844 5004	
	<i>Craft Group meet at the church</i>	7.00pm
	1st Wednesday of the month	
	Contact: Sue Walker 844 2256	
Thursdays	<i>Mainly Music</i>	9.30am - 10.30am
	Contact: Karen Jensen 843 9447	
	<i>Op Shop open</i>	10.00am - 4.00pm
	Contact: 844 5004	
	<i>Board of Managers meeting</i>	7.00pm
	3rd Thursday of the month	
	<i>Session meeting</i>	7.00pm
	4th Thursday of the month	
Fridays	<i>Massive Bible Study</i>	6.00pm - 7.00pm
	Contact: Steve Demetrius 844 2734	
	<i>Massive Youth Group</i>	7.00pm - 9.00pm
	Contact: Steve Demetrius 844 2734	
Sundays	<i>6789 Youth Group (fortnightly)</i>	6.00pm - 7.00pm
	Contact: Steve Demetrius 844 2734	

St Columba's Elders

Reverend Brett Walker
027 408 3658

Joanne Magill—Session Clerk
022 687 9130

Nancy Bryan
845 4111 or 021 267 0459

Joes Polehwidhi
021 215 8729

Jon Read
027 236 1314

Claire Smith
844 1222 or 027 678 8849

Stefan Steyn
845 4116 or 027 436 1708

Barry Thrupp
835 5785 or 021 0269 8370

Pam Thrupp
835 5785 or 027 429 6305

Keith Woodcock
844 1424 or 027 449 5948

Colin Zachan
844 8050



Board of Managers

Reverend Brett Walker
027 408 3658

Mike Latter—Chairperson
027 441 0749

Dean Ackland
021 270 0837

Gavin Long
021 165 8102

Edward Smith
844 6324

Barbara Stewart
021 053 4248

Anne Tristram
021 118 6516

Jenny Ziebe
027 466 424

Children's Programmes

Kool Kids

Pam Thrupp
835 5785

Youth Groups

Steve Demetrius
844 2734

Mainly Music

Margaret de la Haye
843 2272
Karen Jensen
843 9447

Kids Friendly Care

Anna Neil
022 643 1691