

# Charter



Bi-monthly magazine of Chartwell Cooperating Church

Anglican | Methodist | Presbyterian



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# Parish Information

## CHURCH OFFICE:

PO Box 12034, Hamilton 3248

Phone: 855 7434

**Office Hours:** Monday – Friday 9am-2.30pm

**E-mail:** office@chartwellchurch.org.nz

**Internet:** chartwellchurch.org.nz

**Parish Administrator:** Keri Anderson

**Facility Supervisor/Office Assistant:** Ruth Bridge

**MINISTERS:** *The whole congregation*

Contact phone numbers for:

Rev Ken Olsen 855 7434

Rev. Chee Keong Yong 855 7434

## PARISH COUNCIL:

Chairman

Aaron Bennett 027 497 6209

Deputy Chair Catherine Polglase 855 5443

Secretary

Carol Webb

853 3915

**CHARTER:** Aaron Bennett, Amanda Bowcott, Alec Utting.

## MILESTONES

Compiled by GWEN KENTISH

**BIRTHS:** Congratulations to **Derek Kingsbury and his partner Jackie** on the birth of their son, who was born on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> September at 2pm. All are well.

**CONGRATULATIONS:** to **Loris and Colin Eyre** who celebrated their 67<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on 23 September.

**DEATHS:** We offer condolences to those who have lost family members in the past two months: to Marita and Richard Broadhurst whose father, **Ian Smith** [d. 9/8] was also a member. Ian's funeral was held at Chartwell Cooperating Church on 14 August; to Liz Rossiter, sister of **Helen Sill** whose funeral was held at Chartwell Cooperating Church on 22 August; to Margaret Thomson and family, whose mother **Catherine Peel** [d.30/8] was also a member. Cath's funeral was held at Chartwell Cooperating Church on 4 September; to June Haultain whose daughter-in-law **Rosie Haultain** [d.7/9] and whose funeral was held on 13 September.

**YOUTH:** AIMS Games is a huge sporting event held in Tauranga each year for Intermediate and Middle Schools. This year teams, including some of our younger church members had some great success. Congratulations to the Fairfield Intermediate girls football team who finished 6<sup>th</sup> in their competition. The team, including Maddy and Emily Cox, was coached by Tim Cox.

Congratulations to the Rototuna Junior High Futsal (indoor football) team, who came home with a bronze medal for finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> in their competition. The team, including Michelle Bennett, was coached by Aaron Bennett.

**CONTRIBUTIONS** The editor would love to hear from you if you have a contribution for publication in Charter. If you have something you want to share, or come across an article you think others would find interesting then please let us know.

Email: office@chartwellchurch.org.nz or leave at the church office.

Deadline for next issue: **Thursday 23rd November 2017**

# Minister's Message

## MISSION TRIP TO THE DIOCESE OF KUCHING

Some years back, the Dioceses in New Zealand went into companionship with Dioceses in Malaysia and Singapore, for example – Nelson with Singapore, Wellington with Sabah, West Malaysia with Dunedin and Waikato with Kuching.

When John Fairbrother was the Dean of St Peter's, he took a group to visit Kuching and that started the exchange in visits. The current dean, Peter Rickman, did a scouting trip to Kuching two years ago. That put into motion the recent visit of a group from Waikato.

This group consisted of around twelve people including the Archdeacon, the Dean and myself.

My interest in joining this group's visit were for the following reasons –

- 1) In the 1970s and 1980s, there was a spiritual revival among the local tribe that led to the conversion of thousands of villagers. The revival had been documented as similar to the Welsh revival. I wanted to see whether the fruits of this revival have lasted.
- 2) Sarawak is a state that I have never been before in my whole life. This is on my bucket list to visit.
- 3) One of the churches in Kuching that was a centre to the revival was St Faith's Church. I wanted to preach at the church and appeal for the Christians there to uphold our Diocese in prayer.

The journey to Kuching was not without its negatives. First and foremost, our flight schedule which was booked and confirmed early in the year had been changed constantly up to the few days before the trip. This resulted in an unplanned night stay at Kuala Lumpur as we could not catch the connecting flight to Kuching. Secondly, we had to re-book our flight to Bintulu with another airline as the flight from Kuching to Bintulu was rescheduled five hours early.

Our journey took us to four main centres in Sarawak – Kuching, Bintulu, Miri and Bario.

We spent an initial two nights' stay at Kuching and were treated to a memorable trip to Semengoh where the wild orang-utans (meaning "jungle-people") inhabit. We spent the whole morning there interacting with humans and the wild life. On Sunday, the Dean preached at the Cathedral, the Archdeacon at St Basel and myself at St Faith's. The first service was at 6.30am followed by the second service at 8.15am. I preached at both of the English services. Other services in different languages continued throughout the day at all three locations.

# HOW ACCURATE IS THE BIBLE?

In an internet forum I follow, there is regularly a question and answer section where well known theological writers answer a question sent in by readers. I found the following one and interesting read. (Aaron Bennett)



Nancy from Illinois, writes:

## Question:

I hear people quote **2 Timothy 3.16** as their way to “prove” the Bible is historically accurate and should be obeyed in every way. With all the violence and out-dated rules in the Bible, this interpretation seems hard to justify. Is there another way to read this?

## Answer: By David Felten

Dear Nancy,

I don't think it's too much of a stretch to suggest that 2 Timothy 3.16 is one of the most misused passages in the Bible – responsible for untold grief and misery. Why? Because this is one of the “proof texts” exploited to claim that scripture is inerrant, perfect, and without error. Over time, It's been used in arguments justifying (among other things): slavery, the inequitable treatment of women, the pillaging of natural resources, and the hatred of other cultures and religions. Most often used as evidence of inerrant scripture's witness to its own authority, 2 Timothy 3.16 has been so valuable as a pious rhetorical sledgehammer, that many otherwise intelligent people have been slow to admit that it doesn't actually say what they claim it says.

First of all, it's in correspondence that was written by someone who is not who he claims to be. Although the text starts out with “I, Paul,” the majority of scholars agree that 2 Timothy wasn't written by the author of the authentic letters of Paul. The tone, grammar, vocabulary and subject matter just don't align with the original Paul. The vocabulary and theological ideas are so similar to those in the epistle to Titus that Titus, 1 Timothy, and 2 Timothy are generally considered to be from the same source. Written somewhere between 85 and 100, these “pastoral epistles” were written as small fellowships of Gentile and Jewish Christians started organizing themselves into what would become the church.

Authorship aside, keep in mind that much of the authority of this passage is placed on a very narrow interpretation of just a couple of words: “scripture” and “inspired”.

When Timothy was written, the canon had not yet been set. Some books of what we now call the New Testament probably weren't even written yet. So it's debatable exactly what "scripture" is being described. It's likely that the γραφή (graphe) spoken of by the author is Torah, not the gospels or the Pauline letters, but *Hebrew Scripture* – never mind how presumptuous it would have been for the "I, Paul" of this letter to imply that his own writings were equivalent to scripture!

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## Recent Progressive Exploration services

The last two months have been busier than usual for the Progressive Exploration Service, with three services occurring over a six week period. For most of the year we have been exploring the theme of an evolving faith (which we will be returning to in October), but we shifted focus temporarily to issues affecting society in the lead up to the General Election. By re-jigging our service night we were able to avoid Father's Day and add an extra service, allowing for a good breadth of relevant topics to be covered leading into the election.

On August 6th, Bishop Richard Randerson returned for his second visit in two years and spoke on "Trumpism, Brexit, Neo-liberalism, the Gospel and the General Election". Just like last year, this service was very well attended, proving that Bishop Randerson is very well known and his insights appreciated by many, both within our congregation and visitors from outside our church. Bishop Richard was previously in charge of the social justice arm of the Anglican church in New Zealand, and he brought a wealth of knowledge and experience, along with recent research on the consequences of inequality in New Zealand.

Award winning business journalist Rod Oram led the service on August 27<sup>th</sup>, but rather than focusing purely on the current economic climate, he shared his passion for focusing on the interrelationship between Christianity and environmental issues. In a topic titled "Creation's Care for Us" Rod tried to explore how faith can help lead us to an understanding where we ensure everything we do works with creation, our life support system, rather than against it.

And finally on September 10th, Robert Moore from Anglican Action shared some of his research on the social benefits that are being obtained by Kaivolution, Hamilton's food rescue service. Kaivolution's operations are simple: "Every day significant amounts of food that is good enough to eat but not good enough to sell is needlessly disposed of. We collect this food from producers and redistribute it to community organisations who can use this food in their community". While the environmental benefits are well recorded (the volume of food rescued), the social benefits of this service have not been as well known, but Robert has been involved with research understanding the benefits to people in society.

## Upcoming Progressive Exploration services:

We are returning to the theme we have been running for much of this year, looking at the evolving nature of the Christian Faith.

### PROGRESSIVE EXPLORATION SERVICE

**1st OCTOBER 7pm**

Continuing our recent theme of “an evolving Christianity” is Brenda Rockell. Based in Auckland, Brenda was a Baptist Pastor for a number of years, but has recently become an Anglican Minister.

This year she taken up a role at St Johns, Royal Oak.

Brenda will explore what she believes are the strengths of the different expressions of Christianity she has experienced, what she values about both, her reasons for changing from Baptist to Anglican, and what she misses about her previous church. She will provide her insights into the things that transcend denominations, where the church needs to be focusing now and what the label “progressive” could come to mean as part of that.



### November 5th

Historian, Rev Allan Davidson will lead an exploration of the changing response of churches to war.

After 27 years lecturing at St John's Theological College in Auckland, Rev Allan Davidson was made an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to history in the 2010 New Year's Honours. He is one of the foremost church historians in the country and has made a unique contribution to the telling of the Anglican story in New Zealand and the Pacific Islands. This is remarkable in that he is not only an academic but is an ordained Presbyterian minister. He has authored 20 books and booklets and written 72 academic papers, the best known being “Christianity in Aotearoa: a history of church and society in New Zealand” now in its third edition.



## December 3rd

Our very own Rev Ken Olsen will lead a service reflecting on his time in ministry, particularly the last 15 years which he has spent at Chartwell.

*Please note: Ken's official farewell service will be held on Sunday the 17th of December at 9:30am*



## IMPORTANT SERVICE REMINDERS FOR NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

- Sunday November 5<sup>th</sup> – At both 8am and 9:30am we will have a Mission Service with a guest speaker from Christian World Service
- Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November – St Andrew's Day Service which will be followed with Bag Pipes and Haggis
- Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December - Nine Lessons and Carols
- Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December – Children's Advent Service
- Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December - Official farewell to Ken and Julie Olsen

Full details will be included in the December Charter of Advent and Christmas Services.

**Disclaimer:** The articles contained in Charter do not necessarily reflect the views of the Ministers or Chartwell Cooperating Church. We seek to represent as wide a range of views as possible within Charter, to reflect the diversity within our congregation.



In August we welcomed a new member to our Parish Council, Jenny Warren. We still have one vacancy on Parish Council, with this being left unfilled at the AGM in August. Parish council has the ability to co-opt someone on to fill this vacancy during the year, so if this is something you would be interested in considering please contact either Aaron Bennett (Chair) or Carol Webb (Secretary) for more information.

Plans are underway for Ken's final service. Although Ken will not finish at Chartwell until the end of January 2018, he will be on leave for much of January, and with parishioners taking holidays as well, we decided to have a celebration of Ken's ministry on December 17<sup>th</sup>. Ken will also lead the Progressive Exploration Service on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, where he will have the opportunity to give some more indepth reflections on his ministry.

The Ministry Settlement board met for the first time on September 22<sup>nd</sup>.

The Parish elected Evelyn Johnston, Aaron Bennett, Gloria Zanders and Amanda Bowcott to this board, and the Parish Council appointed Warwick Silvester and Michael Scott as our final two representatives. Rev Jenny Doyle from Huntly is the convenor of the board and represents Presbytery along with Graeme Westrupp and Barbara Wenham as Presbytery elders. Bishop Helen-Anne will represent the Anglican Diocese and Rev Metui Tafuna represents the Methodist Synod. The MSB is in the process of making final adjustments to the draft Parish Profile, which will need to be approved by Parish Council and by the Parish before work can begin on selecting a new minister. We are looking to hold a Parish Meeting to gain approval of this profile within the next month, and are tentatively looking at Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> October as a possible date.

Financial highlights Jul-Aug:

- YTD deficit \$8,473, \$4,632 less than budgeted .
- Giving has been \$108 more than budgeted,
- Total revenue \$7,478 more than budgeted with \$3,074 of fair income being received early, hall income up \$1,518 and After School Care being \$2,928 ahead of budget.



# What's Happening

for families



<b>Mainly Music:</b>	Every Friday in term time 10-11am	
<b>Church Fair</b>	<b>Setup—Fri 13th Fair Day—Sat 14th</b>	
<b>YACC youth group:</b>	Sunday 29th Oct	6pm-8:30pm
<b>Light Party:</b>	<b>Tuesday 31st October 5:30pm-7pm</b>	
<b>Messy Church:</b>	Sunday 12th Nov	4-6pm (dinner provided)
<b>YACC youth group:</b>	Sunday 12th Nov	6:30-8:15pm
<b>YACC youth group:</b>	Sunday 26th Nov	6pm-9pm (dinner inc.)
<b>Youth Christmas Play:</b>	<b>Sunday 10th Dec 9:30am</b>	
<b>Ken's Farewell Service:</b>	<b>Sunday 17th Dec 9:30am</b>	

*Calendars Mark Your Calendars Mark Your*

Chartwell Church invites you to...



Join us for the last  
Messy Church of 2017!!

Loads of Christmas fun,  
games, crafts, and  
activities for all ages and  
stages



**SUNDAY 12th NOV from 4pm-6pm**

**@ Chartwell Church Hall, Comries Road, Chartwell**



**A relaxed, interactive, family-focused service followed by dinner for the whole family.**

**\$5 per family**

More info? phone 8557434 or email [amanda@chartwellchurch.org.nz](mailto:amanda@chartwellchurch.org.nz)

# “The Serve” Hamilton

The Hamilton Homeless Trust, now known as “The Serve”, is a place for anyone who needs food and cannot afford it themselves. The Serve runs seven days a week, 365 days a year. Every night meals are prepared by volunteers for people who need them.

Each night the volunteers bring their dishes to the venue and set them up on a divider. Before the serving begins, the people that are attending are informed by the host about the rules of The Serve. These include rules such as no smoking, no drugs, no alcohol etc. Once they have been informed about the rules, the host then asks them if anyone would like to volunteer to say the karakia (prayer). The host will then call upon the women and children to come up to the serving station and get their dinner. Once all the women and children have taken their seats, the host will call up one table at a time to get their food.

After dinner has been served, dessert is brought out to the tables. The dessert usually consists of things like ice cream, cakes, fruit etc. The people attending are then asked to help with washing the dishes. After that, everyone is free to go.

My experience at The Serve has been very enjoyable. The people are always very grateful and kind to the volunteers. They seem to really appreciate the meal. Everyone also seems to know each other and all of them get along. Most of the people attending have an obvious love for meat. That is why most volunteers cook things like big bowls of mince with vegetables and food like that. From helping at The Serve, I have really grown to appreciate what I have that some people do not have. I have also learned how important it is to give back. I encourage more people of Hamilton to volunteer for The Serve. Not only are you helping those in need, it is also a very pleasurable experience.

**By Charlie Cox**



**Desserts prepared for the Serve**

# Y.A.C.C. lends a hand to Foster Hope

Each year the Youth at Chartwell Church (YACC) choose a charity to fundraise and donate their weekly offering. This year our youth chose Foster Hope, a charity providing basics for children entering foster care. Our youth found out that most foster children arrive at their new placements with nothing but the clothes on their backs or with their belongings in a black rubbish sack. They felt Foster Hope was a cause they would really like to support. Their first fundraising event was at the beginning of the year, washing cars while the Progressive service was on, which raised over \$200. At the start of winter Foster Hope asked for donations of pajamas so we were able to respond with 15 sets. Last week with the remaining funds the youth went shopping at Chartwell for personal hygiene, comfort and fun items and assembled 17 backpacks.

Kellie Knight (second in charge for the Waikato/BoP area) came from Foster Hope to receive the backpacks, talk about Foster Hope and their work and thank us for the backpacks.

Kellie told us of two girls who had recently received the backpacks; one sister was so excited to have a toothbrush of her own, one that she didn't have to share with her sister. "Makes you realise how lucky we are" was a comment from many of our youth. A book sale and bake sale are being organised which will give us opportunities for more backpacks to be filled and given to this worthwhile charity before the end of



the year.

So many awesome goods donated and monies raised by the YACC group throughout the year.

Jackson presents one of the bags to Foster Hope volunteer, Kellie Knight.



thank you!

## **BAKE SALE**

**Sunday 19th November**

A bake sale will be held in the church hall after the 9:30am service on the 19th November.

Organised by Emily Hollis.

Bring some change along and take home some treats for lunch and afternoon tea !



*All proceeds will support YACC's charity for 2017 - Foster Hope.*

## **BOOK SALE**

**Sunday 1st of October**



After church this Sunday, Sarah will be selling prayer, meditation and reflection books.

These books will sell for a recommended koha of between \$2 and \$5.

The books are written by authors such as Joy Cowley, John Hunt, David Adam, Eddie Askew and more.

*All proceeds will support YACC's charity for 2017 - Foster Hope.*

"There's good news and there's bad news," a minister told the congregation. "The good news is that we have more than enough money for all the current and future needs of the parish. The bad news is, it's still in your pockets."

"If I sold my house and my car, had a big garage sale, and gave all my money to the church, would I get into heaven?" a teacher asked the children in her Sunday school class.

"No!" the children all answered.

"If I cleaned the church every day, mowed the yard, and kept everything neat and tidy, would I get into heaven?"

Again the answer was, "No!"

"Well," she continued, "then how can I get to heaven?"

A five-year-old boy shouted out, "You gotta be dead!"



CHARTWELL CHURCH'S FAMOUS

# FAIR

Saturday 14th Oct

9am—1pm

*Something for everyone  
New or Recycled*

**Cakes** Bric-a-Brac PLANTS JAMS

**Sweets** Handcrafted gifts **BOOKS**

**Tools** **Toys** SPORTS GEAR

FURNITURE *Appliances* **JEWELLERY**

*Sausage Sizzle* **Lucky Dip** LINEN

KITCHENWARE Tea/Coffee *KIDS THINGS*

***Cnr of Bellmont & Comries Rd,***

***Chartwell***



## CONNECTIONS!!

Lego is all about the power of connection!

It's all because each tiny brick connects with every other tiny brick—giant, complicated structures can be built. We saw this in action in the **Youth Service** which was held on the **17th September**; our 'Young at Heart' people got to

have a play with Lego and build some cars to race against each other. Crystal Barlow got our volunteers organised and with a bit of team effort we had three cars race each other with Peter Hollis's creation taking 1st podium position!

The youth went on to talk about how in life we can often be surrounded by people but feel disconnected and like we don't belong.

Nicola said, "We just love celebrating our differences, so much so that they can become the focus of our daily lives. Don't get me wrong, differences are great, they make us who we are, make us individuals, unique with different talents and skills than others. Differences are awesome! But when we focus ONLY on our differences and on what SEPERATES us from others, it can cause discord, division, disharmony and a breakdown of families, friendships, teams, businesses and communities."

The youth suggested that as individuals and communities, we should focus on what brings us together, our similarities, our common goals and our beliefs.

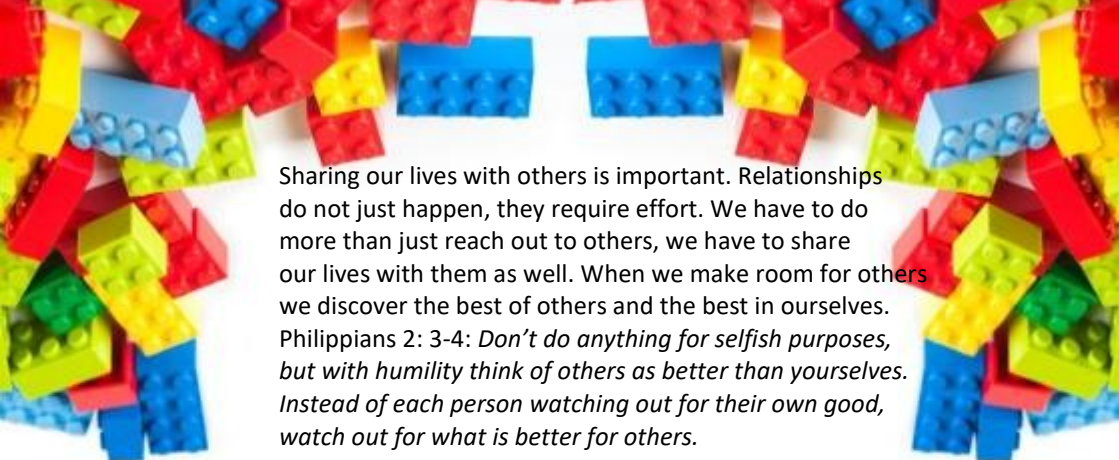
When we stop focusing on our differences and start focusing on our similarities we can bridge the gaps. We can find our common ground and learn from each other.

We can start to form a community, a family and a stronger congregation AND by working together we can make cool and wonderful things – just like lego bricks.

Nicola went on to say that there are many examples of how to create significant relationships and maintain connections in the bible, such as in First Thessalonians.

Need is a vital part of our being.

1 Corinthians 12:20-22 : *The eye cannot say to the hand, "I do not need you". Nor can the head say to the feet, "I do not need you". On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable.*



Sharing our lives with others is important. Relationships do not just happen, they require effort. We have to do more than just reach out to others, we have to share our lives with them as well. When we make room for others we discover the best of others and the best in ourselves. Philippians 2: 3-4: *Don't do anything for selfish purposes, but with humility think of others as better than yourselves. Instead of each person watching out for their own good, watch out for what is better for others.*

This is great advice for building connections. If we treat each other with love and respect, interact with humility and watch out for the other's welfare, the connections in our families and church will be deep and strong. When we carry this over into our community, connections continue to grow.

Connections also unleash the power of synergy. Synergy is combining the efforts of two or more things to produce a result greater than either could have achieved alone. Or to put it more simply, it's when 1 plus 1 equals 3.

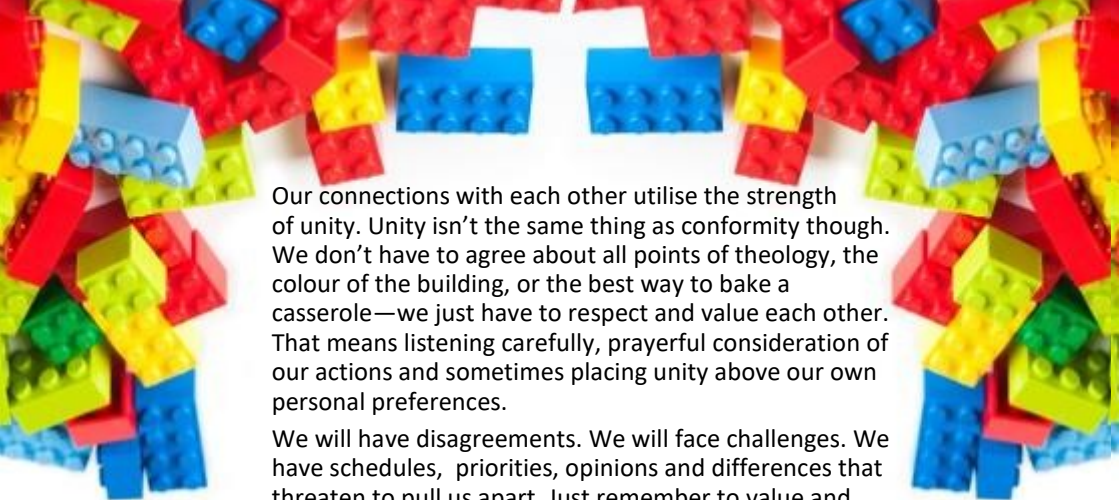
A good illustration comes from Exodus 17: 8-13. *By himself, Moses didn't have the strength to keep his arms lifted and keep the army going. If Moses, Aaron and Hur had worked separately, there would have been no hope, but working together, the efforts of three men kept an entire army going.* You may know the feeling if you've ever served a church meal. From the efforts of a few, an entire congregation can get fed! You get working together, and it becomes clockwork. Someone mans the food table, someone else is washing dishes, and another is plating more food. It's magic! Or, it's a miracle of the loaves and fishes kind.

**Here is an over-riding basic truth of our community—we are MORE together.**

Individually, we are good, well-intentioned people, but together we can change the world!







Our connections with each other utilise the strength of unity. Unity isn't the same thing as conformity though. We don't have to agree about all points of theology, the colour of the building, or the best way to bake a casserole—we just have to respect and value each other. That means listening carefully, prayerful consideration of our actions and sometimes placing unity above our own personal preferences.

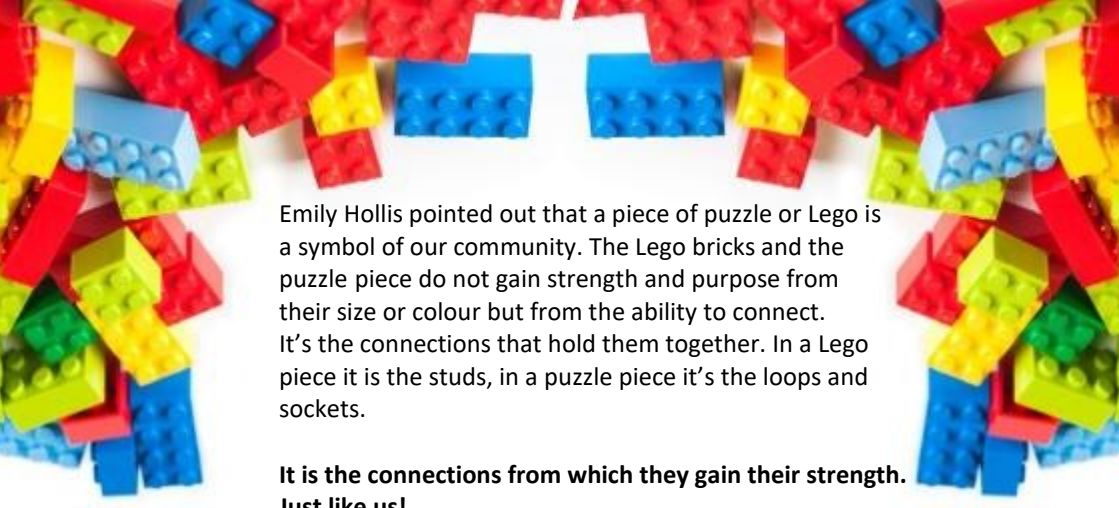
We will have disagreements. We will face challenges. We have schedules, priorities, opinions and differences that threaten to pull us apart. Just remember to value and respect each other. Remember the joy and blessings that come because of our connections to one another and do what you can to preserve our connections and unity.

We are a community. We have common beliefs and goals, and we care for each other. It is when we work together and make strong connections that we gain our strength, just like the Lego bricks. We are unique and different and have so many different things to offer, but when we come together we fit just like a lego tower or a puzzle: each piece unique but designed to link with others.

At this point the youth sent us all on a treasure hunt. Hidden around the chairs in church were 60 pieces of a jigsaw puzzle! It was loads of fun and a great way to get the whole congregation involved. It was wonderful to see a range of ages and stages up the front constructing the puzzle.







Emily Hollis pointed out that a piece of puzzle or Lego is a symbol of our community. The Lego bricks and the puzzle piece do not gain strength and purpose from their size or colour but from the ability to connect. It's the connections that hold them together. In a Lego piece it is the studs, in a puzzle piece it's the loops and sockets.

**It is the connections from which they gain their strength.  
Just like us!**

It was wonderful to have so many youth involved in the service. We had Derek and Catherine lead our Joyful Noise music group in playing and singing (fabulous music too!) and Charlie playing during the puzzle construction. There were Readings by many and Kennedy and Derek singing during the offertory hymn.

So many others who were unavailable on the day helped with planning and it was fabulous!

At the end of the service Madison Bowcott got us all to write our names on handprints that form the 'leaves' of the Chartwell Church Family Tree in the foyer, which is looking fantastic.

A huge thanks to all the youth for organising and participating in the service. We need these services more often as they are always a highlight. Thanks also to Amanda and Brad for their leadership and encouragement of the youth.



# Introducing our 2017 Mentors

## -Transformers and All Stars -



**NAME:** Derek Kingsbury

**TRANSFORMER MENTORING:** Sean Clark and Charlie Cox

**ABOUT ME:** The main reason why I enjoy doing Transformers is supporting young people in finding a place within the church. Our church offers such a variety of options for people to be involved and the youth can make wonderful contributions.

I have been involved in this church for over 40 years and have seen some incredible stuff happening here. It was as a teenager that with support and encouragement I found my voice in the church. That led to me doing youth work at all levels.

I now see being involved in the Transformers programme as being a role model, giving back and supporting some youth to strengthen their faith journey.



**NAME:** Renette Louw

**ALL STAR MENTORING:** Emily Hollis, Madison Bowcott and Crystal Barlow

**ABOUT ME:** I am Renette Louw and I am newish here. I've been at Chartwell Church for almost a year and decided to commit myself to three awesome girls for a year as their mentor.

The responsibility of being a mentor to any young person is a great honour, so being part of the All Stars programme has given me a chance to show my love and support to young people finding their way in life and in Jesus' footsteps.



**NAME:** Gwen Kentish

**TRANSFORMER MENTORING:** Kennedy Bowcott and Sarah Cathcart

**ABOUT ME:** I have been lucky enough to be a mentor in the past Transformers programmes. Again being asked to mentor two of our youth (Sarah and Kennedy) has been a privilege.

I enjoy building relationships with them, encouraging them on their faith journey, listening to their interests and guiding them through processes as they learn to plan an event, and as they offer service in our church and community. This is all part of transformation into leadership.



**NAME:** Brad Clarke

**ALL STAR MENTORING:** Nicola Hollis, Danyon Hardie and Stephanie Clark

**ABOUT ME:**

Experiencing the growth of others through the Transformers camps for the last eight years has been mind blowing. Every year we see young teens come forward and step up and take on the mantle of leadership. The question always is though, what more could be done?

My answer to this is mentoring.

I have personally benefitted in a significant way from mentoring so this is a chance for me to pass that on.



**NAME:** Tim Cox

**TRANSFORMER MENTORING:** Scott Cathcart and Carlos Hardie

**ABOUT ME:** It's been my pleasure to serve as a Transformers mentor this year. I've really enjoyed getting to know my two mentees better (they're very cool dudes!), but also getting to know all the kids a bit better and to see their growth in the church community. It has pushed me to think back to my youth and to remember the things that most resonated with me, in my Christian journey, as a young person. Well done to Chartwell Church, and particularly Amanda and Brad, for providing this opportunity for the youth!

For those who don't know me, I am married to Anna and we have three children. When I am not at home with the family, or behind my computer doing my sciencey stuff, you might find me coaching on the sidelines of a football field or a basketball court. I do quite a bit of that these days. I also enjoy playing sports when I can (as long as the body holds up), getting outdoors with my family and visiting our extended family in the USA. Professionally, I've spent my career studying and analyzing freshwater systems. This, of course, is a hot topic in NZ these days, in the face of a changing climate and agricultural intensification (sorry, couldn't resist the pseudo-political plug!), so there's plenty to keep me busy! Congratulations to all the Transformers and All Stars!

A new pastor was visiting in the homes of his parishioners. At one house it seemed obvious that someone was at home, but no answer came to his repeated knocks at the door.

Therefore, he took out a business card and wrote 'Revelation 3:20' on the back of it and stuck it in the door.

When the offering was processed the following Sunday, he found that his card had been returned. Added to it was this cryptic message. 'Genesis 3:10.'

Reaching for his Bible to check out the citation, he broke up in gales of laughter. Revelation 3:20 begins 'Behold, I stand at the door and knock.' Genesis 3:10 reads, 'I heard your voice in the garden and I was afraid for I was naked.'



**Trudy Field**  
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### Three Hymns

One Sunday a pastor told his congregation that the church needed some extra money and asked the people to prayerfully consider giving a little extra in the offering plate. He said that whoever gave the most would be able to pick out three hymns.

After the offering plates were passed, the pastor glanced down and noticed that someone had placed a \$1,000 bill in offering. He was so excited that he immediately shared his joy with his congregation and said he'd like to personally thank the person who placed the money in the plate.

And there sat our Rosie all the way in the back, she shyly raised her hand. The pastor asked her to come to the front. Slowly she made her way to the pastor. He told her how wonderful it was that she gave so much and in thanksgiving asked her to pick out three hymns.

Her eyes brightened as she looked over the congregation, pointed to the three most handsome men in the building and said, "I'll take him and him and him!"



# CHURCH LIBRARY NOTES

Compiled by  
Gwen Kentish

**Please place your returned books into the basket on the floor between bookshelves. I will card them back on to the shelves.**

The first two books reviewed have been donated.

**BIOGRAPHY: *The Visitor: An African woman's story of travel and discovery*** introduces us to a woman whose personal journey on four continents has never diminished her rootedness in, and concern for, Africa. Eva Chipenda tells of growing up in rural Angola, where she was reared by her brother, a Methodist minister; her study in Brazil and return home to Angola during the country's struggle for independence from Portugal; her marriage and move to New York; life with her family in Geneva, Nairobi and Angola. From these vignettes emerge pointed reflections on colonialism and development, missionaries and the church and the role of women in a changing continent.

**MEDITATION AND SPIRITUALITY:** In ***Dear Heart Come Home: The Path of Midlife Spirituality*** Joyce Rupp shares her own midlife journey, its ups and downs, with such honesty and insight that we can identify and benefit from the discoveries she has made along the way. This book is a spiritual feast.

**PASTORAL: *The Four Things that Matter Most: A Book about Living*** by Ira Byock

was highly recommended by a speaker at our Pastoral training morning in June. Dr Byock, an international leader in palliative care, explains how we can practice the life-affirming words: *'Please forgive me, I forgive you, Thank you, I love you'* in our day to day lives. His insights and stories help us to forgive, appreciate, love and celebrate one another, enabling us to live life more fully. He also shows that, through the very end of life, surprising degrees of emotional healing are possible. We can experience a sense of wholeness even in the wake of family strife, personal tragedy, or in the face of death. I also recommend this helpful book.

**MISSION:** Wellington's Scottie Reeve, who founded Georgia's and Stories, two container cafes which offer employment to young people, won the 2017 Ashton Wylie prize with *21-Elephants: Leaving Religion for the Reckless Way of Jesus*. Scottie Reeve is only thirty-one, yet has lived a full life and had his share of troubles. His aim through this book and his way of life is to make a difference. He rails against the unfulfilled promises of living in the Western world with its commercial emphasis and the rapaciousness of society, yet somewhat ironically brings entrepreneurial skills to his spirituality. He runs social enterprises giving work to young people in need and has set up a community with people of like mind who provide food and comfort for the less

fortunate. It is a life after the style of St Francis of Assisi – personal denial for the greater good, a courageous way to live a sacred, spiritual life. He leads Blueprint Church in Wellington. Prior to this he spent nine years working with young people through Zeal, a creative arts trust.

**INSPIRATIONAL:** In April 2015, Desmond Tutu travelled to the Dalai Lama’s home in India to celebrate His Holiness’s eighti-

eth birthday and to create this book, *The Book of Joy*, as a gift for others. They looked back on their long lives to answer a single question: how do we find joy in the face of life’s inevitable suffering? They traded intimate stories, teased each other continually, and shared their spiritual practices. By the end of a week these two wise men had stared into the abyss and despair of our times and had revealed how to live a life brimming with joy.



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Our youth featured in a recent article in the Spring edition of SPANZ magazine. Copies are available in the church foyer.

## YOUTH CREATE JOYFUL NOISE

Music has long been known to bridge cultural, economic and language barriers, but in Hamilton music has now brought two different churches together. Students from the Chartwell Cooperating Church have joined forces with youth from Te Whanau Putahi (TWP), also known as the Family Church, which was born out of the Baptist Church in 1997.

Amanda Bowcott, Chartwell's youth and family coordinator, says she has long been keen on fostering the musical talent of her church's youth. "I knew we had some great musicians and singers among our youth but they didn't quite have the confidence to get up and help lead the singing," says Amanda.

"I was trying to find a way to encourage that confidence and to showcase some of the great Christian music I knew they had been listening to."

At a combined service of local churches in 2015, Amanda says she was inspired by the musical talents of the TWP music team. When she found out the TWP youth were looking for donations to help get them to their annual Baptist Youth Camp, she suggested to Rebecca McTanish at TWP that the youth from Chartwell and TWP get together to form a music group.

"At the end of April, we asked who would like to be involved and on the first day, five from our church turned up and six from TWP," explains Amanda.

"We were blessed with the talents of singers, piano, violin and keyboard players, while our new friends from TWP arrived with more voices and even more skills and instruments, including the drums, guitar and saxophone. Suddenly we were in business."





Amanda laughingly admits she doesn't have a musical bone in her body, so instead called on the talents of parishioners Derek Kingsbury, who has extensive experience in musical theatre, as well as Catherine Polglase, a mother, youth group helper and violin teacher who is a member of several orchestras.

The first order of business was to come up with a name. Joyful Noise was chosen, inspired says Amanda, by a conversation with Derek.

At the group's first meeting, the students discussed their favourite Christian music and, surprisingly, it wasn't all modern. "They also liked a lot of the more traditional music, so we opted to play the hymns 10,000 Reasons and Here I am to Worship," she says.

The group only had two practices before their first performance in May but Amanda says they came together well and sounded great. "I think a few of the older parishioners may have thought the drums were a bit loud, but overall people loved them."

The second performance was in June and there are two more to come. "They've really gelled as a group and their confidence has grown to the point where they are able to get up in front of the church and help lead musical worship. It's wonderful to see," says Amanda.

Rebecca McTanish, from TWP, says she was excited by the suggestion that youth from her church could work with youth from Chartwell Cooperating. "I was so excited because this is what I had been thinking and praying about," says Rebecca. "As a parent of two 15-year-old boys I noticed within our church that there were no opportunities for my sons to be involved with the worship team. There were many other youth I knew would also love the opportunity to share their talents through worship."

Joyful Noise has been the gateway for TWP youth to serve, grow and develop their musical gifts, as well as being blessed by strangers who have welcomed, accepted and loved them, she says. "We are so thankful to Amanda for her vision and passion that inspired Joyful Noise. What an answer to our prayers!"

Nicola (16) and Emily (14) Hollis are both members of Joyful Noise. The sisters are singers and say they enjoy being part of the group. "It has broadened my horizons and I've met people from different backgrounds, which has been great," says Nicola. Emily says her highlight has been singing a medley including This Little Light of Mine and This Train is Bound for Glory.

*Written by Sharon Stephenson*



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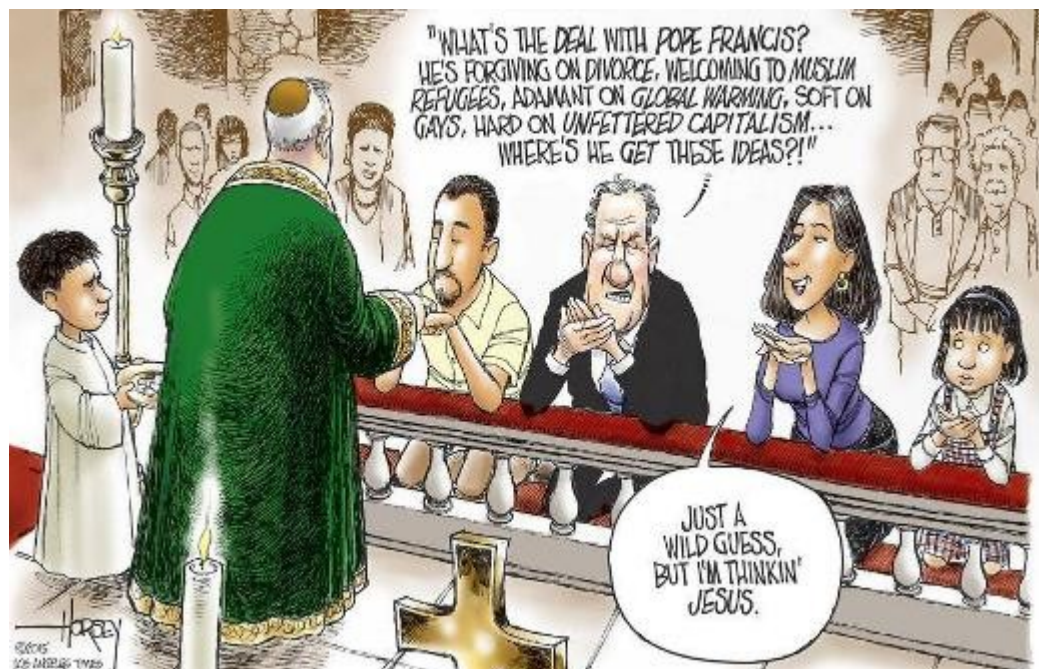


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And those who pass over it,  
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grieving.

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light.

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limitation of our vision.

Death is an experience for those left behind,  
Not for those who are moving on from one stage of  
living to another.

*Provided but not written by Gillian Woodward*

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