

KEEPING CONTACT - May 2017

The Monthly Newsletter of the Parish of St Mark's and St Andrew's

From the Pastor's Study The Experiment Has Begun



Rev Dr Don Smith
Interim Minister

For two Sundays now we have been away from the usual and in a new place – the Lychway. The hymns and songs sound different and when the congregation responds to a litany, the voice is stronger because more people are speaking. Many of our parish have enjoyed meeting old friends and renewing friendships. The seats are comfortable and we are slowly bringing the tools and supplies we need for our worship to feel as familiar as possible.

At the same time, a lot of work went into the smooth transition from our moving the office from St. Andrew's to St. Mark's. Many man (and woman) hours were spent planning the move, sorting, storing, and disposing of items in both locations.

Then there was the shift itself. Professional shifters were hired and they went about their work efficiently. It all went well, and Marie and Don went about putting everything in order. Now, we are waiting for Chorus to come and install the fibre connection so the office will have phone, email, access to the net, and a

connection to the internet.

That should occur on **10 May**. Until then, if you want to talk to us, you will have to come to the office in person or call Marie or me on our cellphones. (022 323 1958 for Marie and for Don 022 230 4762)

The Nest has become a major gathering place for the Ukulele group and the Tongan congregation. The entry area is now available for small Team meetings, the Steering Committee and Bible Class. Mini-movers has moved to St. Peter's Anglican Church for the time being and the Korean congregation will have their morning prayers during the week and their Sunday worship at the Salvation Army location until the St Mark's church room is strengthened.

The Fellowship Group and the Game Day Group plan to use the Nest for their programmes.

So, we have a home.

Now, as we look forward, we don't need to be afraid of being homeless. Whatever decisions we make, can be made peacefully.

We have time to be thoughtful and prayerful.

The Parish Council is gathering all the information the parish will need for the deliberations ahead.

I've been reminded that the website requires some adjustments because of the changes. And little by little, we're catching up with business left alone while we focussed on the shift. Our parish life goes on and we are looking forward to sharing activities with our brothers and sisters at St David's.

There's a Quiet Day ahead. Mission fundraisers will be held in May and June. Special guests will be with us on the third Sunday for worship to expand our knowledge of ministries around us.

Above all, be in prayer, and when the Spirit inspires you, write down your thoughts so that we can search together for God's input.

Don

**Both the Church Office and Ministers Office
have relocated to our St Mark's site at
117 College Street, Palmerston North
in compliance with the Presbyterian Church's earthquake policy**

Parish Council Notes by Peter Thomson



Peter Thomson
Parish Clerk

A meeting had been held with the Presbytery Council at a recent Presbytery gathering to discuss the way forward for us and the Presbyterian Church in Palmerston North as we each consider our particular situations. At that meeting it had been agreed between the Parish and Presbytery Council that Presbytery would appoint two representatives to work alongside us as part of this process. We were concerned that no further contact had been received from Presbytery and we agreed to write to Presbytery seeking their taking action. The draft letter was approved and is being delivered to Peter McKenzie as Executive Secretary of the Presbytery Council.

We have agreed that a request be made to reconvene the Ministry Settlement Board and Parish Council will work together with the Ministry Settlement Board to sort out Ministry supply beyond Don's contract.

We approved Don taking a week's vacation from May 22-28 which will mean his employment as Transitional Minister concludes on 7 August (including holiday leave).

Rev John Lee talked about the event the Korean Congregation hosted on the weekend 21-23 April. The Korean Church will be worshipping in the Salvation Army Citadel while St Mark's and St Andrew's are worshipping at the Lychway, and they will be using the Salvation Army building for their music practice and early morning prayer meetings.

Don Smith expressed appreciation for the participation of the Korean Congregation and Tongan Wesleyan Church at the Easter Day Service. Rev John Lee also gave us an impassioned plea to renew our vision for the church and overcome our present circumstances.

We reviewed the team reports. The Connecting Team reported on the Quiet Day obtaining more information about the possibility of appointing a Pastoral Worker and holding a fundraiser for Bay of Plenty relief at our next Soup and Rolls at the Lychway. The Property Report contained the quote from Colespec and we formally approved the quote of \$14,960 plus GST, and the engineer's drawings at \$2150 plus GST.

Parish Offering	Month	January 2017	February 2017	March 2017	April 2017
	Budget	\$6,542	\$6,542	\$6,542	\$6,542
	Actual	\$6,581	\$5,224	\$6,662	\$5,026

If you would like to set up an automatic payment, direct credit or Internet Banking for your offering, please see Marie at the church office.

Contents

Pastor's Study.....	1	Merino Baby Wool Available	4
Parish Council Notes	2	Church Calendar/Upcoming Events	5
Parish Office	2	Activity Groups/Contact People	6
Connecting Team Notes	3	Special Services.....	6
Quiet Day	3	Meals on Wheels.....	6
Soup and Rolls	3	The Good Samaritan.....	7
Director of Music Notes	4	Milestones	8
		Lectionary	8

Connecting Team Notes *Judy Seccombe, Connecting Team Convenor, 359-0070*

- Thank you to Lesley Shaw (ably assisted by Barbara Gibson) for sharing her birthday and baking delights with us after the service at morning tea - a wonderful spread!
 - Services at the Lychway are progressing well and the choir will be back on deck this Sunday for our Communion Service. We are thrilled that some St David's folk have said they would like to join us for choir practice resuming this week at Roy's.
 - We look forward to seeing you on Sunday 7 May - remember it is **10.00 am**. For those people who struggle with mobilising, you can be driven right up to the front doors to disembark if needed.
 - **NB:** If you need transport, please contact Don, Judy or the Office
 - **Our buildings**
 - The shift of St Andrew's office and other artefacts took place on Saturday last and went well. It was completed in just over 2 hours by some very friendly young men. Other articles of value are being stored in the vault meantime e.g. data projector, the old framed lectern fall. Patricia Pearce has taken home the collection of pulpit falls that she made meanwhile.
 - The Communion Table from the chapel is being taken to the Lychway this week and we will be using St Mark's trays and glasses, and St Andrew's chalice and silver trays for communion.
 - The office has been re-located to St Mark's and is taking a few days to get settled and properly up and running with internet, phones etc. so please be patient; the new office looks much brighter with the walls removed and Don and Marie are getting used to working in close proximity!
 - Once the hall at St Mark's is closed off, the library will be re-established in the passageway and you will be able to borrow books again. **NB:** At Roy's request, the Clavinova piano (donated to the parish by the late Helen Brechin) has been shifted from the Nest to the Hall for storage.
 - When the contractors are ready to strengthen the church area, they will shift all the pews and remaining furniture into the hall. We are presently looking at late May or early June.
 - The Nest is now set up for the Tongans' services, and also provides space for the ukulele group and the Games afternoon group for their activities.
 - St Andrew's will be able to be accessed until Friday 5th May for any forgotten items. After this date, the locks are being changed at both venues with limited keys available to users.
 - **Parish Quiet Day** is planned for Saturday 13th May - venue at Foxton Beach Church. Guided by Pamela and Don, this is an opportunity for us to individually to take time to reflect on our faith and faith journey. Everyone is welcome including St David's parishioners and transport can be shared. Please contact Judy Seccombe 3590070 if you will require transport on the day.
 - **Soup and Rolls resuming 21st May.** For our first meal together at the Lychway and as a community outreach effort, your donation for the meal will go to support the churches and the Maori Synod Te Ako Puaho in Edgecumbe which are struggling after their recent floods. If you are able to assist with making soup on the day, please contact Lesley Shaw 3583185.
 - **Our Parish Duty Teams at the Lychway** - to clarify, as per previous practice, it will be part of the duty team's responsibility to check the worship area for cleanliness and to tidy up after worship each Sunday. The morning tea team will be responsible for the cleanliness of the kitchen and lounge area.
- If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Rev. Don Smith or a committee convenor so any issues can be addressed.

Parish Quiet Day

**Saturday 13 May - 9.30 am to 3.00 pm
St Luke's Church, Foxton**

Guided by Pamela Tankersley and Don Smith, this is an opportunity for us to individually take time to reflect on our faith and faith journey.

Everyone is welcome and transport can be shared.

Please contact Judy Seccombe 3590070 if you will require transport on the day.

Soup and Rolls

resuming 21 May

For our first meal together at the Lychway and as a community outreach effort, your donation for the meal will go to support the churches and the Maori Synod Te Ako Puaho in Edgecumbe which are struggling after their recent floods.

If you are able to assist with making soup on the day, please contact Lesley Shaw 3583185.

Out and About with Parish Music from the Musical Director's Music Stand Roy Tankersley



I suppose our musicians have a lot in common with Mr Whippy: Always on the move, singing our tunes and 'busking' our songs.

The Easter Season was full of activities, many of the events were recorded for later release. Your support was greatly appreciated. I enjoyed leading the All Saints choir at the 5.00 pm services for the last two Sundays.

MOVING OUT

Our own parish choir practices are being held at 51 Roy Street with singers from St Davids joining us. The Grand piano has been moved from St Andrews to the Lychway- special thanks to Piano tuner Allen Birchler, Timothy Tankersley, William Maitland-Round, Ian Maitland Round and Malcolm Manson for assisting with the move. Musicians from both parishes are combining to lead the congregation – this is fun!

FUTURE CONCERTS AND WORKSHOPS

Flyers are available in libraries, music shops and churches. Do take one. Here are the concerts and events for the rest of 2017. We are using St Peters, Palmerston North Central Baptist Church and St Davids.

Wednesday 10th May 12.30 pm
St Peter's Church, Ruahine Street
Concert: Maurice Quinn (recorder)

Saturday 20th May 10.00am to 3.00 pm
'You hum it, I'll Sing it' A workshop exploring the variety of music for worship @ St Davids, cnr Main and Rainforth Streets. Contact Roy on 355 3908 for further details.

Wednesday 21st June 12.15 pm
Palmerston North Central Baptist Church
Organ Power No 109 (Roy Tankersley)

Saturday 24th June 7.00 pm
St Peter's Church, Ruahine Street
Robert Matthews Memorial Scholarship Concert – local artists –free concert.
'Sing, sing a Song' Donations invited.

Saturday 19th August 7.30 pm
St Peter's Church Ruahine Street
Celebrity organ recital: Leonard Cave Whanganui
Admission \$20, concession \$15 18 years and under – free

Wednesday 9th August 12.15 pm
Palmerston North Central Baptist Church
Organ Power No 110 (Roy Tankersley)

Wednesday 13th September 12.30 pm
St Peter's Church, Ruahine Street
Guy Donaldson (Piano) Schubert Impromptus

Wednesday October 11th 12.15 pm
Palmerston North Central Baptist Church
Organ Power No 111 (Roy Tankersley)

Saturday October 21st 4.00 pm
St Peter's Church, Ruahine Street
Ingrid Culliford (flute), Hye-Won Kim, (violin) Kris Zuelicke (piano)

Wednesday November 8th 12.30 pm
St Peter's Church, Ruahine Street
Concert: Chris Dann (Jazz Piano)

Wednesday 13th December 12.15 pm
Palmerston North Central Baptist Church
Organ Power No 112 (Roy Tankersley)

See you around –
here and there –
and everywhere. Roy



Merino Baby Wool to knit baby singlets, hats and booties for the Palmerston North Maternity Unit is available Reita Barrow at our Sunday Service (phone 357-5869). While Marie will not be involved with the bookkeeping of wool, the office can still be a pick up and drop off place for wool and completed garments. Please contact Reita for wool to be left at the office. Your name will be on the wool, and **must be on the garment** on their return.

Wool will be available from Reita at our Sunday Services.

Prayer

God's **peace** in anxious times,

God's **love** in heartbroken times,

God's **hope** in uncertain times

Church Calendar

 **MARK** your **CALENDAR**

Wednesday 10 May

- 10.00 am Bible Study** at Jeanette Clark's home
12.30 pm Music Concert: Maurice Quinn (recorder) at St Peters Church, 229 Ruahine Street, PN
5.00 pm Finance Meeting St Mark's foyer

Thursday 11 May

- 9.30 am Mini Movers** St Peter's
7.30 pm Choir Practice at Roy's home, 51 Roy Street

Saturday 13 May

- 9.30 am to 3.00 pm Parish Quiet Day**
St Luke's Church, Foxton

Sunday 14 May

- 10.00 am** Parish has Worship at The Lychway with St David's, 5 Roy Street, PN
 Rev Johanna Warren,
 Interim Moderator of St David's
 Rev Don Smith,
 Minister of St Mark's and St Andrew's

Tuesday 16 May

- 7.30 pm Connecting Team** *venue tba*

Wednesday 17 May

- 9.45 am Fellowship Group** meet in 'the Nest' at St Mark's, commencing with a shared morning tea. Everyone is very welcome.
5.00 pm Spirit Life *venue to be announced*

Thursday 18 May

- 9.30 am Mini Movers** St Peter's
1.30 pm Games Afternoon St Mark's Nest. Everyone welcome.
7.30 pm Choir Practice at Roy's home, 51 Roy Street

Friday 19 May

- 7.00 pm Friday Nighters** at 15 Murphy Court for a games evening, playing in teams. Games such as Pictionary, cranium, Junior Trivial Pursuit and others will be available to choose from. Please bring a small plate of eats for supper. If you are planning to come, please let Reita Barrow know by Wednesday 17 May. (phone 357-5869)

Saturday 20 May—10.00am to 3.00 pm 'You hum it, I'll Sing it' A workshop exploring the variety of music for worship @ St Davids, cnr Main and Rainforth Streets. Contact Roy on 355 3908 for further details.

Sunday 21 May

- 10.00 am Parish has Worship at The Lychway** with St David's, 5 Roy Street, followed by **Soup and Rolls**. For our first meal together at the Lychway and as a community outreach effort, your donation for the meal will go to support the churches and the Maori Synod Te Ako Puaho in Edgecumbe which are struggling after their recent floods. If you are able to assist with making soup on the day, please contact Lesley Shaw 3583185.
 Rev Don Smith, Minister of St Mark's and St Andrew's (Preaching)
 Rev Johanna Warren,
 Interim Moderator of St David's

Tuesday 23 May

- 7.30 pm Parish Council**
 at the Tankersley home, 51 Roy Street

Wednesday 24 May

- 10.00 am Bible Study** at Jeanette Clark's home

Thursday 25 May

- 9.30 am Mini Movers** St Peter's
11.00 am Service at Masonic Court led by Lesley Shaw
7.30 pm Choir Practice at Roy's home, 51 Roy Street

Sunday 28 May

- 10.00 am** Parish has Worship at The Lychway with St David's, 5 Roy Street, PN
 Rev Don Smith, Minister of St Mark's and St Andrew's
 Rev Johanna Warren,
 Interim Moderator of St David's

Thursday 1 June

- 9.30 am Mini Movers** at St Peter's
11.00 am Service at Olive Tree led by Lesley Shaw
1.30 pm Games Afternoon St Mark's Nest
 Everyone welcome
7.30 pm Choir Practice at Roy's home

Sunday 4 June

- 10.00 am** Parish has Communion at The Lychway with St David's, 5 Roy Street, PN
 Rev Don Smith, Minister of St Mark's and St Andrew's
 Rev Johanna Warren,
 Interim Moderator of St David's

Activity Groups/Contact Person

Mini Movers

Annette Gregg - 357-0560 & Pene Pratt - 355-1429
Pre-School music programme 9.30 am **every Thursday**
@ St Peter's *except School Holidays*

Director of Music Roy Tankersley - 355-3908

Choir Practice 7.30 pm **every Thursday**
@ Roy's home *except School Holidays*

Ukulele Group Alison Soper - 356-8591 (not January)

Meet in 'the Nest' at St Mark's. 6.45 pm Ukulele Group
meets for beginners and 3 chord songs and at 7.15 - 8.00 pm
for more advanced songs and picking.
Generally it is the 1st and 3rd Mondays during Term time. In 2017
there are three 5th Mondays as well, in May, July & Oct so we can
have 5 sessions a term.

Bible Study Group Neal Gilchrist - 358-6467

Meet at 10.00 am on the 2nd & 4th Wednesday of each month at
Jeanette Clark's home. (not January)

Prayer Chain Vonette Pearce - 357-3997

Cell Phone: 021-0221 7895
or e-mail: p.d.pearce@xtra.co.nz

Finance Team 5.00 pm. 2nd Wednesday of each month in the foyer at St Mark's. Convenor: Tim Burgess

Games Afternoon in the Nest at St Mark's

1.30 - 3.30 pm. 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month. (not
January)

Connecting Team 7.30 pm. 3rd Tuesday of each month vtba (not January). Convener: Judy Seccombe 359-0070

Fellowship Group Reita Barrow - 357-5869

9.45 am on the 3rd Wednesday of each month
in the Nest at St Mark's (not January)

Spirit Life Team 5.00 pm. 3rd Wednesday each month vtba (not January)

The Friday Nighters Good fun and fellowship.

3rd Friday of each month. (not January)
Bob Stewart - 355-5736
Elizabeth Manson - 357-8029

Parish Council Meeting

7.30 pm 4th Tuesday of each month at Roy and Pamela's home
(no meeting in December)

Special Services

MetLife Care Service

10.45 am, 1st Monday of each
Month except January.
Service led by Neal Gilchrist.

Olive Tree Service

11.00 am, 1st Thursday of each
month except January at
Olive Tree Apartments
Service led by Lesley Shaw.

Masonic Court Service

11.00 am, 4th Thursday of
each month except January
at Masonic Court.
Service led by Lesley Shaw.

Meals on Wheels

Convenor for
St Mark's/St Andrew's:
Elaine Bostock: 350-3061

Red Cross Organiser
(Lynnette Grayson)
phone 356-8152.

Rosters

Annette Gregg: 357-0560

Lapel Crosses

Silver lapel crosses can be
purchased through the church
office for \$4.00 each.

They are also available from
Jan Smith or Lesley Shaw
at Sunday services.



From the desk of the Good Samaritan by Harry Tan

In Praise of the two greatest gifts from God – life and love.

In 1 Corinthians 13:13 New International Version (NIV)

'13 And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.'

Jesus taught us to abide by two of His greatest commandments and, they both centred on love. The first is *'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.'* This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is: *'Love your neighbour as yourself.'* *All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments*" (Matthew 22:37–40). Personally, I would like to add what I believe is the third greatest gift that God has bestowed on us: Give thanks for the gift of life and, embrace it with a sense of purposeful living to serve your fellowmen and for the glory of God'

In the month of April-May, as we remember ANZAC Day and celebrate Mother's Day I am dedicating 5 short stories in praise of love and life in order to enrich your relationships with your mother, father, brothers and sisters, your love ones and your neighbours. I believe these 5 inspiring stories may even make you cry. If you do, do something about it by translating it into actions of love.

1. The Hardest Bullets

She moved her delicate fingers across his medal clad chest as she bade him goodbye. Unsure if he would see her again, he planted a kiss on her forehead and turned abruptly towards the door. No bullets had him hit so hard as much as his daughter's tears.

2. The Kiss

'Getting late for a meeting, need to run', he said, as he slung his coat over the shoulder, and bounded out of the house. As he drove away, her daughter came running down the stairs two at a time. 'Wait, wait', she yelled, but he had already left.

Her mouth crumpled like a used wrapping paper. 'He forgot to give me a goodbye kiss', she whispered in a voice that trembled under the weight of her hurt. She called him, 'you left without giving me a kiss', she said accusingly. 'I am sorry sweetheart', he said, his voice contrite. 'It is okay', she said, trying to be all grown up as she cut the call.

She gulped down her breakfast morosely, wore her shoes, picked up her school bag and started to walk out of the door, her shoulders slumped. As she climbed down the steps, the car glided to a stop outside the house. He got out of the car. She ran to him, her whole face lit up like a Christmas tree.

'I am sorry I forgot', he said, as he picked her up and hugged her. She said nothing. Her jaw ached from smiling. Fifteen years later, no one would remember he was late for a meeting, but a little girl would never ever forget that her father drove back all the way home just to kiss her goodbye.

3. Lesson for Everyone

A son took his old father to a restaurant for an evening dinner. His father being very old and weak, while eating, dropped food on his shirt and trousers. Other diners watched him in disgust while his son was calm.

After he finished eating, his son who was not at all embarrassed, quietly took him to the wash room, wiped the food particles, removed the stains, combed his hair and fitted his spectacles firmly. When they came out, the entire restaurant was watching them in dead silence, not able to grasp how someone could embarrass themselves publicly like that.

The son settled the bill and started walking out with his father. At that time, an old man amongst the diners called out to the son and asked him, "Don't you think you have left something behind?"

The son replied, "No sir, I haven't".

The old man retorted, "Yes, you have! You left a lesson for every son and hope for every father".

4. The Sweeter Apple

A lovely little girl was holding two apples in her hands.

Her mum came in and softly asked her little daughter with a smile, "My sweetie, could you give your mum one of your two apples?"

The girl looked up at her mum for some seconds, then she suddenly took a quick bite on one apple, and then quickly on the other.

The mum felt the smile on her face freeze. She tried hard not to reveal her disappointment.

Then the little girl handed one of her bitten apples to her mum, and said, "Mummy, here you are. This is the sweeter one."

5. Without Your Love, I Would Die

One day a boy and a girl were driving home after watching a movie. The boy sensed there was something wrong because of the painful silence they shared between them that night.

The girl then asked the boy to pull over because she wanted to talk. She told him that her feelings had changed and that it was time to move on.

A silent tear slid down his cheek as he slowly reached out to his pocket and passed her a folded note.

At that moment, a drunk driver was speeding down that very same street. He swerved right into the car killing the boy.

Miraculously, the girl survived. Remembering the note later, she unfolded it and read, 'Without your love, I would die.'

Have a happy Mother's day and heartfelt ANZAC day.

Shalom and God bless. *Harry*

www.markandrew.org.nz

Please deliver to:

St Andrew's - in the City - Phone: 358-0884
 St Mark's - Awapuni - Phone: 358-3500

Church Office:

Cnr Church and Ashley Streets
 Palmerston North. Phone: 358-0884
 e-mail: markandrew@inspire.net.nz

Postal Address:

PO Box 12-130, Palmerston North 4444

www.markandrew.org.nz

If you know someone who is not well,
 PLEASE let the office know! Someone will get someone in contact.

Milestones

Happy Birthday to everyone who celebrates their birthday in May and early June.

Birthday to: John Francis celebrates his birthday on 9 May; **Daphne Stern** celebrates her birthday on 23 May and **Tim Burgess** celebrates his birthday on 24 May.

Congratulations to Bruce and Diane Ayers who celebrate their Wedding Anniversary on 1 June

If you have any special occasion (your birthday, wedding anniversary, other celebrations) or personal story you would like to feature in our Newsletter, please contact the Church Office.

Lectionary <http://presbyterian.org.nz/for-ministers/worship-resources/lectionary-resources>

May 14

- Acts 7:55-60
- Ps 31: 1-5, 15-16
- 1 Peter 2: 2-10
- Jn 14:1-14

May 25

- Acts 1:1-11
- Ps 47 or Ps 93
- Eph 1:15-23
- Lk 24:44-53

the Revised
Common

May 21

- Acts 17:22-31
- Ps 66:8-20
- 1 Peter 3:13-22
- Jn 14:15-21

May 28

- Acts 1:6-14
- Ps 68:1-10, 32-35
- 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5: 6-11
- Jn 17: 1-11

Rev Dr Don Smith, Transitional Minister, for the Presbyterian Parish of St Mark's and St Andrew's
 388 Church Street, Palmerston North

revLdonsmith@gmail.com / www.markandrew.org.nz

Home: 260-0135 / Cell Phone: 022 231 4762 / Church Office: 358 0884

Rev Don Smith, Transitional Minister of St Mark's and St Andrew's
Rev Johanna Warren, Interim Moderator of St David's