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PLAINS PRESBYTERIAN PARISH 16TH JUNE 2024

Holy Spirit, you join us together in a common bond of love and faith in Jesus Christ.



We gratefully receive donations Can be sent to; Plains Presbyterian Account Number: 02 0868 0091269 00

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Follow up: From newsletter 26th May *Unsung Hero*—played at Ashburton 30th May. If you have a review of this movie; please send through plainsoffice@gmail.com

Online Worship

Click the following link for worship at home;



Cashmere Presbyterian: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0n184-vTt7k>

Hope Presbyterian: www.youtube.com/hopepresbyterianchurch/videos

WORSHIP SERVICES 16/06/2024 through 21/07/2024

16 th June	9:30 am	St. Andrew's Rakaia	Linda Cowan
	10:30 am	St. John's Methven	Pastor Paul Eden
<i>Communion</i>			
23 rd June	9:30 am	St. Andrew's Rakaia	Video Service
	10:00 am	Trinity Mayfield	Pastor Paul Eden
<i>Combined with Foothill churches</i>			
30 th June	9:30 am	St. Andrew's Rakaia	Video Church
<i>Combined with St. Mark's Rakaia</i>			
7 th July	10:30 am	St. John's Methven	Rev. Laurence Ennor
14 th July	9:30 am	St. Andrew's Rakaia	Rev. John Titlow
	10:30 am	St. John's Methven	At All Saints
21 st July	9:30 am	St. Andrew's Rakaia	Video Church
	10:30 am	St. John's Methven	Rev. Laurence Ennor

PLAINS PRESBYTERIAN NOTICES

IMPORTANT PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

PAGE 2— update from our second congregational meeting that was held on 9th June

St. Andrew's Rakaia

Tuesday 18th June

10:00 am **Rakaia Fit Kidz** Welcome all preschoolers

1:00 pm **Steady As You Go** Exercises with Dorothy

2:00 pm **Mission Meeting** in the lounge.

Thursday 20th June 1:30 pm Euchre with Fay and Norm



St. John's Methven

Friday 21st June **Methven House service**—this is our main outreach at the moment. It is good to have as many as possible come to support it and we never go home regretting the time and effort as generally we are blessed ourselves.

Brick Club—Find last week's notice from Newsletter 9/6—on our Facebook page!
Meeting 1, Tuesday 18th June 3.15pm St Johns Foyer. Planning **Meeting 2**, Friday 19th July 10am **Prep Start July Tuesday 30th?** Contact Jayne Clark for more info!

Deepest Sympathy to the Cairns family at the passing of Graham A loved husband of Laura, loved dad and grandfather. of Malcolm, Alison, Kate and children. Loved resident of Lauriston and Rakaia Community. Funeral at St. Andrews Thursday 20 June. God's blessings



PRAYER "Loving heavenly Father, thank you that we don't need to be passive and allow fear to overcome us. Help us to always choose to put our trust in You. Help us to remember Your promise to always be with us and never leave us, in Jesus' name, Amen"

Parish Council Update

Our grateful thanks to all who turned up for the 2nd Congregational Meeting last Sunday. While it may have felt a bit like a repeat of the first congregational meeting, it was important we kept to the process that many parishes have undergone before us. The revisiting of previous decisions is a chance to really **discern** the impact it will have on the future for us all, making sure it is what we need right now. The act of discernment is often used when calling clergy to a vacant parish. It is the art of listening to God and gently coming to a decision. This second meeting was an opportunity to do just that.

For the past two years we have been in discussion groups regarding 'where to from here' for Plains Parish. Our local Mission and Focus groups held meetings in April this year and the feedback we received from them was helpful, positive and acknowledged the importance of worship –

RAKAIA

We wish to acknowledge the positive opportunity to establish a new form of Ministry for the Parish as a whole. If at some point the building at Rakaia is to be sold our preference is that this be offered to another Christian organization with the proviso for us to have use of it for Worship and our Community outreach programmes.

MAYFIELD

As a group we agree that Plains Presbyterian Parish become the ownership of Alpine Presbytery and we realise this may involve losing our buildings. A worshipping faith community to continue in our area.

METHVEN

We agree that the current parish structure is not sustainable. We want to make sure our focus is "all about the people" rather than bricks and mortar. We would like to grow regular ecumenical worship opportunities in the Methven community.

29 people attended this meeting, and we also welcomed Rev John and Barbara Titlow, Rev Martin Stewart, Rev Dan Spragg, and Peter Yates (one of the Commission members from St David's Union Parish in Ashburton). The resolution was put "To confirm the decision made on 5th May that Plains Presbyterian Parish be closed in order to pursue new ventures in the region".

This was CARRIED – with 26 people voting 'yes', 1 'no' and 2 'abstentions'.

We know there will be a lot of emotions to be worked through in all corners of the parish while we plot a pathway ahead to an unknown future. While some find this exciting, others find it frightening. This is completely normal in any change process. The Bulletin will continue in the foreseeable future as a key communication tool to keep our people informed not only of changes coming up, but of worship opportunities each week.

The word F.A.I.T.H, when separating out the letters, gives us words of encouragement;

"Feeling Afraid I Trust In Him"

it is a reminder on the need to focus on trusting the Lord and having faith,
instead of being overcome by emotions of fear and anxiety for what the future holds.



Liz and Annette Co-Parish Clerks.