



CENTRAL ROUNDUP

15
December
2021

Weekly news from Presbytery Central

Meri Kirihimete



Twenty years ago my family travelled to Canada, via the USA, to show the children where they had lived 10 years earlier. The security at the airports, in the wake of the September 11 attacks, was not comforting – it was frightening. Armed soldiers angrily patrolled the terminals and it seemed that everyone was a suspect. Since then it has become normal to pass through security – take off belts, remove shoes, discard water or liquid. That terrorist attack, on the other side of the world, changed how we do air travel and has cost billions of dollars in security even though the actual threat has never been significant.

As we head into Christmas 2021 there is a stark realisation that Covid19 has also brought a profound change to our sense of normal. We will understand the true impact in 10 years' time but for now we accept as the new normal mask wearing, QR scanning, event uncertainty and a decreased freedom of travel. I have a feeling we will look on 2021 as a pivotal year in history.

Another pivotal year was year 0. So important that our calendars begin from that date and we celebrate the life of the Christ who brought new hope to the world. At Christmas we acknowledge the birth of Jesus and the beginning of his journey on earth and his mission to open the eyes of humanity to the love of God and the task of loving our neighbour.

Pray this week that the Prince of Peace may be present with us as a church and country in this time of uncertainty and change. Pray for one another and pray for us all.



Peter Mackenzie Executive Secretary

**The Presbytery office closes on Friday and all staff will be on holiday until 10 January at the earliest.
The telephone will be unmanned and responses to emails will be slow during this time.**



Moderator's Message

What does the sign mean? What does it mean for you and your church family this Christmas?

The Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand, the Right Reverend Hamish Galloway, has a thought provoking Christmas message out now, it's an excellent read and something to think about as you walk through advent in your context. Have a look [HERE](#)

Christmas Greetings from the team

Thinking of you this Christmas and hope your Advents are going well. Hopefully some of you have received the booklets 'It Begins in Bethlehem' - from the Bible society or the ones I posted out. This Nativity Rhyme for Christmastime helps the younger generation to engage with the story of Jesus's birth. It is a fun resource which can captivate kids with wonder. Hopefully it can be a support to get the story of Christ out to the children & whanau in your intergenerational faith community.

Meri kirihimete, Anna



Kia ora all

What an eventful year it's been as my first year in this role as the associate youth enabler. I have learnt so much from everyone that I have been working with and it has been such a privilege to be able to listen to your wisdom and knowledge. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with my amazing colleagues at presbytery central and have loved meeting so many new people this year and look forward to connecting with you next year. Supporting our youth ministry leaders has been such a joy and I can't wait to get to know and meet all of you more next year. Thank you everyone for the incredible work you do in each of your ministries you are so valued and appreciated.

I am taking a good solid break over Christmas so looking forward to spending some good time with my family and resting.

Wishing you all a Wonderful Christmas, Kyle



Meri Kirihimete whanau, it has been an absolute blessing to journey with many of you this year. Looking forward to some new adventures next year! Thank you for all you do, we know for many it has been a challenging year.

Nga



As we draw closer to Christmas, I am once again reminded of how God is a God of mission. I am reminded that God will do everything, including giving up power to become a human baby, so the world can once again know the profound love of God. Thank you for the privilege of allowing me, as mission catalyst, to visit many of you, to hear your stories and witness your desire to be faithful to God's call to mission. I pray that you have a wonderful and peaceful Christmas and that you continue to remember you are God's missionary people.

Yours in Christ, Stuart



My prayers for the wider presbytery are that we may all find a star to follow, a stable to rest in and a gift to offer the Christ. May the New Year brim with hope and joy for you all. Thanks for your support of the Presbytery Team as we work in a difficult season.

Peter



I wish a relaxing and refreshing advent season to those working to keep our parishes running. Thank you for your efforts through a challenging year and I pray God's richest blessings on the year ahead. May Christ be very present in your Christmas,

Andrew



Farewells

We recognise the retirement of Rev Andrew Callander from St James' New Plymouth this coming Sunday – Andrew will be moving to Motueka and we give thanks for his contribution to Presbytery Central and the wider church.

Several ministers from other denominations will be moving to other positions over the summer. We say farewell and thanks to Rev Paul Bowers-Mason (Anglican) from Brooklands, New Plymouth; Rev Tania Shackleton (Methodist) from Tawa Union; and Rev Andy Hickman (Anglican) from Milson Combined, Palmerston North.

We have been notified of the passing of Rev Keith Weavers, who ministered in our presbytery as a chaplain at Lindisfarne College and in Hastings East parish in the late 70's to early 80's.

Ethics Workshops via zoom

Attendance at these workshops is required for ministers to retain their Certificate of Good Standing.

It is open and highly recommended for all church staff; and elders and pastoral visitors.

The workshop will

1. Introduce/reintroduce participants to the Code of Ethics
2. Refresh some key aspects of the Book of Order and Conditions of Service Manual
3. Reflect on key aspects of natural justice
4. Reflect on key aspects of high ethical behaviour in practical situations
5. Reflect on appropriate levels of competence
6. Reflect on best practice

And enable us all to learn from one another

Register by emailing:

aes@presbyterian.org.nz

advising date and time; zoom link will be sent to those who register...

WEDNESDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2022 9-12

WEDNESDAY 23 MARCH 2022 1-4

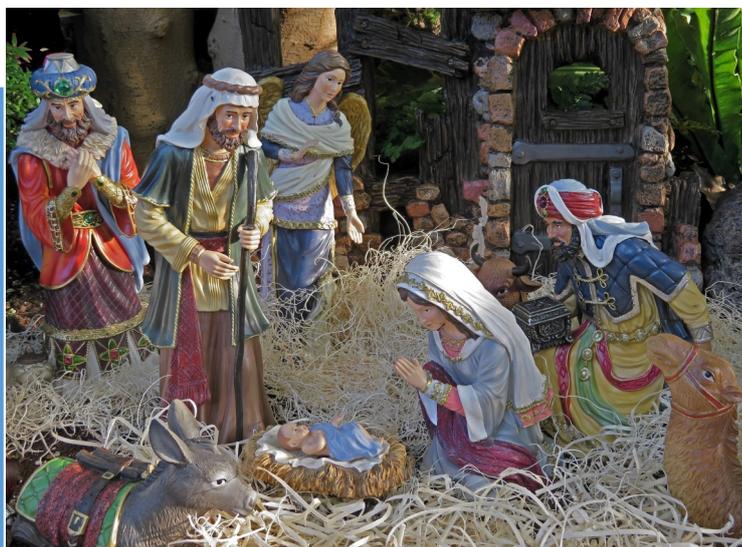
Notices to Churches and Community Choirs.

There will be NO carol singing around the wards of Wellington Hospital this year.

Our usual carol singing around the wards will not happen this year due to COVID 19

We give our thanks to those who have regularly joined us over the last few years, we hope to re-sume our greatly valued carol singing next year.

Wellington Hospital Chaplains



Youth & Children's Pastor

We need someone who is ...

- Fun and energetic
- Able to connect
- Organised
- Tech savvy
- Strong Bible knowledge

If you are interested in this role and need more information please contact us by email, and indicate "Youth Pastor" in the subject line.

**Hawera
Presbyterian
Parish**

E: theprez.hawera@inspire.net.nz

We are seeking a dynamic youth pastor. This is a part time role of 20 hours per week, which includes oversight of the Children's ministry in the rural town of Hawera. Currently we have over 35 youth and 12 children attending our programmes.

Applications close
10th January
2022 unless filled
earlier



You can learn more about our church at
<https://www.haweraprezchurch.org.nz/>