



## **Kapiti Uniting Parish**

**Annual reports for the year to June 2022  
prepared for the Parish Annual General Meeting  
held at Raumati on Sunday 11 September 2022**



***Our mission: to promote Christian faith and values in  
the communities of the Kapiti Coast.***

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N.B. The Financial Reports for the year to June 2022 will be published separately prior to the AGM. Copies will be available at Church or on our website [www.kapitiunitingparish.org.nz/annual-report](http://www.kapitiunitingparish.org.nz/annual-report)

Some reports in this booklet have been edited.  
Edited by Kate Foley. Thanks to John Lawton for his assistance.

## Minister

It is four months since the Induction Service which marked the beginning of a new partnership in ministry between Kapiti Uniting Parish and myself.

I am writing this report as a newcomer, as ignorant as I am knowledgeable about the life of our parish and its three congregations. I would like to begin, therefore, by thanking those who have kept KUP not only functioning but also in good heart during the past church year.

In particular, I acknowledge the exceptional work of Mary White. As Chair of the Parish, Mary did not have an easy ride. She faced the many challenges of the Covid journey with a staunch spirit and a deep concern for the well-being of members. We are all sorry that the need to bring in new rules hurt long-standing and active members of the parish. The Council under Mary's leadership did its best to lessen the hurt, but the differences caused us to lose very valuable members. Mary and all the leaders who supported her, both on Council and off it, had other problems which demanded of them a huge investment of time and energy.

Inevitably we said farewell to people like Agusta McRae, who had played a big part in the life of the church as well as in the wider community.

The networks of support, which are so strong in the Raumati and Waikanae churches, provided prayer and practical assistance for families and members facing serious challenges. I would like to acknowledge Bruce and Alison Johnston who have had a tough year and yet continued to use their gifts for the strengthening of the Body of Christ through worship and music.

I believe we all have a sense of going forward and of wanting to go forward as a parish. There are new initiatives in worship and in the Playgroup ministry. Churches are finding new ways and new reasons for getting together. The core ministries are strong, including Thrifty Place, Women's Fellowships, Hospitality, Pastoral Care, Communications, and Management of church properties.

Covid is still with us and we continue to monitor the measures we have in place to protect our members. Covid has also had an impact on our functioning as a church and on our numbers at worship. This experience

is full of lessons which I am sure will make us better and stronger in ourselves in the long run. It's important, too, for us to be mindful of the ways in which those outside our doors are struggling with the long-term effects of the pandemic.

It is a welcome experience joining with Kapiti Uniting in the many facets of its life as a parish. As we face the future let us remember that it is not we who fix our problems, nor we who know where our path is leading. Let us give thanks for the Way, the Truth, and the Life which are God's gifts to this servant Church.

*Rev. Anna Gilkison, Minister*

## **Parish Council**

Dear Church Family

This time last year, we here in this part of the country, though totally aware of Covid, were largely untouched by it. What a difference a year makes.

As your Parish Council we have had to make decisions that were unprecedented, regarding lockdowns, vaccine passes, and other health and safety matters. These were difficult and divisive. The majority of the congregation indicated that compliance with the government requirements was their chosen path and we strove to keep to the guidelines recommended to us by Synod and Presbytery. UCANZ also were involved, and our diversity was obvious, but we undertook to keep our people safe.

We have met monthly through these uncertain times and I am grateful for the support and encouragement of my fellow Counsellors.

Health issues have taken their toll and we remain extremely grateful to the Pastoral Care group who have always been there for our people and have had to manage for months with minimal assistance.

Christmas came and went and all services and commitments were met by the incredible group of volunteers who kept everything functioning. To the Rev. Tony Wood and the Rev. Roger Wiig, and our Lay preachers, and of course Bruce Johnston who ensured that we had a person to lead

every service and that the interaction between the visiting Preachers and the Parish was harmonious...thank you.

Kate, our Office Administrator, has assumed a vital role. Often working on her own, she has shared her skill and enthusiasm with everyone who comes in contact with her. Kate is handling all of the community groups who use our premises and this very diverse group of people are unanimous in their praise for her professionalism, saying in short she is a pleasure to deal with. This public-facing part of her role is crucial in letting the community know what the church is about. Thank you Kate, you are a blessing.

Cathy Drummond accepted the role as Treasurer and joined Parish Council. She is doing an excellent job and we are most fortunate to have her.

Ian Marsden informed us that he was standing down from Parish Council as he and Sharon are moving to the South Island. Renata Joyner has replaced him as the Waikanae representative.

An answer to prayer came when the Ministry Settlement Board informed us that they had found a possible candidate to fill our vacancy. Since then we have had the privilege of inviting the Rev. Anna Gilkison to our Parish and confirming her calling to be our new Minister.

We have exciting times ahead as Anna settles in and the opportunities that exist here can be explored. When we called her we vowed to support her and to enable her to step out in faith in the knowledge that we will work with her and always keep her in our prayers. Remember seeds need the right conditions to grow.

Kia Kaha.

*Mary White, Parish Council Chairperson*

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## **Worship and Music Group**

This relatively new committee was formed in 2020 with the purpose of providing support for the three worship services in the Parish. The committee has met infrequently, due to a number of circumstances, but some progress has been achieved. Guidelines have been prepared and include:

- Purchase of new audio resources.
- Liaising with preachers and musicians.
- To maintain a music library.
- Encourage lay members to participate in worship.
- Oversight of musical instruments.
- Prepare roster of musicians.
- Consider the ambience of each worship areas.

Some progress has been achieved at Raumati where a number of new banners are being displayed, highlighting the seasons of the Christian calendar.

The committee assisted with the preparation of services during the Easter period, totalling 17 services and the Induction Service of Rev. Anna Gilkison.

*Bruce Johnston, Convenor*

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## **Social Opportunities Group**

Once again events have been somewhat restricted due to the Covid pandemic, but fortunately its impact has not been as devastating on people as it might have been, for which we can thank God.

The once-a-month lunches programme at local restaurants was interrupted for a few months for various reasons, but during that interruption we were able to come together to celebrate for other reasons, such as the induction of our new minister Rev. Anna Gilkison.

The lunches resumed in August with a lunch at Infinity which was attended by 14 people. It is hoped to have our September lunch at the Waterfront (to test out the new owners etc.)

Board games continue twice a month and have been held at Carole Rudings' home. The group has a regular core of 8-9 players. Lots of fun and laughter and what seems to be good amounts of food for afternoon tea. When we are released from mask-wearing it would pay for us to return to church for the fun, as many others may like to join in.

There is the possibility of again trying to start a “Learn to Knit/Crochet” group and any other suggestions for social events that anyone has will certainly be considered. Let us know what you would like to do. Some warm spring weather will make a difference to all our social aspirations.

*Carole Rudings, Convenor*

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## **Pastoral Care Group**

The Pastoral Care Group meets monthly, and we are very much appreciating having Rev. Anna Gilkison joining us. We discuss concerns re members needing pastoral care and visiting, and despite the current Covid restrictions making this difficult we try to visit as many parishioners as we can and we make many, many telephone calls too.

The Pastoral Care Group are Diane Ammundsen (Convenor), Merrill Baker, Adrienne Burleigh, Erice Carley, Jennie Dickens, Lyn Martin, Kay McIntosh and Carole Rudings.

The group work very well together and are very supportive of each other. The Convenor keeps in touch with all members and organises extra visiting required, especially to those in hospital and those recently bereaved.

Cards are sent to church members in hospital, those who are suffering bereavements, and to those celebrating special birthdays. Pastoral care in Waikanae is well looked after by Diana Roberts.

Pastoral care is carried out by others in our parish too, and is so very important during these difficult days with the pandemic. We also need people to let us know of those who need our support.

We sadly record the deaths since June last year of Jack Snyders, Vida Orchard, David Copping, Elaine Ellison-Smith, Bill Francis, Rosalie Boston, David McAdam, Margaret Keay, Molly Keene, Patricia Winskill, Gus McRae, Rose Hamlin and Robert Johnston, son of Alison and Bruce Johnston.

*Diane Ammundsen, Convenor*

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## **Property and Finance Group**

The Property and Finance Committee has had a busy year with two major projects. The first was the sale of the property at Ocean Road, Paekakariki, which was completed just before the end of 2021.

I personally learned a lot about the ins and outs of church property during the process. The parish did not own the property *per se*, but were the caretakers, with the Methodist Church of NZ as the owners. The proceeds of the sale went to the Methodist Church and are now in a Church Building and Loan account in our name with the Methodist Trust Association. The monies currently in that account can only be used for capital works on Methodist-owned buildings, viz Waikanae Church and the manse at Robert Grove.

The manse at Robert Grove suffered from some long-term water damage behind a shower. This necessitated rebuilding a wall and replacing the shower unit and flooring in the bathroom and living area. This damage repair was covered by insurance, but only to a maximum of \$20,000. We waited a month so that the repair work could be undertaken once the tenant had moved out. With our new minister due to start a month later, we also undertook a refurbishment of the manse, with new floor coverings, curtains, and painting throughout the property. At the time of writing our costs have been covered by a partial insurance payment and we are waiting for the completion of our claim. We will also apply to the Methodist Church to use some of the funds in our Church Building and Loan account to re-imburse the Parish for the remainder of the work. Marie Smith did an incredible amount of work on this project and kept it all going. Thank you, Marie.

The walnut tree outside Thrifty Place was removed earlier this year. It was starting to lean on the hall, and it was felt that it was dangerous. Its removal has brightened up the inside of the Raumati hall. Thank you, Ken Milne, for organising this.

There has been a flurry of activity at Waikanae, which now has a new heat pump in the church. Desmond Corrigan and Ian Marsden have built a new fence at the back of the section, as well as a small retaining wall. Desmond has also carried out many bits and pieces of general maintenance and painting around the property. Thank you, Desmond and Ian.

General maintenance around the Weka Road properties has been taken care of by the Raumati Committee.

Future projects for the Property and Finance Committee include work on the Thrifty Place roof and work on the front of the building, under the veranda. The Waikanae Committee is looking at an upgrade of the electrical system at Waikanae.

The committee has a major project ahead in that the hall has been assessed to be earthquake prone. We can continue to use the building but the Presbyterian Church says that it must be brought up to 67% of code by 2026. We have started to contact structural engineers to obtain a structural assessment. The cost of this will be considerable, between \$6,000 and \$13,000 just for the assessment, before any work is done.

The members of the committee are Cathy Drummond, Marie Smith, Renata Joyner, Ken Milne, Ralph Martin and Carole Rudings.

*Cathy Drummond, Convenor*

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## **Raumati Committee**

This has been a difficult year for this Committee for a variety of reasons. With Covid restrictions and significant changes in personnel, the lines of responsibility have become blurred. While the very small committee has attempted to address any maintenance requirements the passage of time has intervened and ageing, illness and personal loss has impacted on its

efficacy. Previous responsibilities of the committee have now come under the care and management of Property and Finance Committee.

While Bruce Johnston and Ralph Martin have endeavoured to keep things together as Chairpersons, they both have good reasons to move on.

Despite requests to the wider congregation for assistance from this committee there has been little response.

This is our spiritual home and our responsibility as stewards is to keep the property up to par. It is proposed that a new approach be made and we will be following a Keep Raumati Church Beautiful programme. All that is required is just a personal commitment to small jobs on our property. Kate works hard on identifying needs as they arise.

There are a number of small jobs that constantly need volunteers. Some require as little as a once a month commitment to seasonal needs. Some regular jobs such as putting out and/or returning rubbish bins take little time. Gardening is a constant need and has been very well met but people are getting difficult to find and it is falling on a few.

*Carole Rudings, Minute Secretary*

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## **Waikanae Church**

### **Introduction**

The Waikanae Church of the Kapiti Uniting Parish is a small congregation of between 25 and 35 loyal, connected, and caring people. Sadly, some of our congregation can no longer physically attend church services, but others keep them informed and feeling part of the church community through visits, communion, emails, and phone calls.

The Waikanae Committee would like to thank the congregation for electing and/or supporting us as we do our best to keep the church ticking along both physically and spiritually, and especially to thank those of the congregation who tirelessly give of themselves in the background without much notice or thanks. Be assured of this: *we see you*, and we thank you!

We would also like to acknowledge with gratitude the huge amount of work done for our church (and the parish) by Don and Marie Smith, who just get on with things, and keep the church wheels turning. Thank you, too, to all our lay preachers and ministers who have upheld us spiritually over the last year, and all the people in the congregation volunteering on our many church rosters. Lastly, we are delighted to welcome our new minister, Rev Anna Gilkison, to the parish, and especially to our church.

Our annual report is for you, congregation, as a summary of all that has happened in our church this last, Covid-affected year.

### **People**

- Sadly, we lost Vera Lawson during the year. Diana Roberts took the service.
- Ansie Esterhuizen left New Zealand to relocate to Australia, where she has family.
- Stalwarts of the Waikanae Church, Ian and Sharon Marsden, have announced that they are relocating to Christchurch to be closer to family, as soon as they can sell their property. We will miss them.
- We have an informal network in the church for pastoral support. People just ring and visit each other whenever and wherever there is a need. Also, John and Diana Roberts take communion to many folk who are unable to attend church in person.
- Our weekly attendance numbers are small, and much of this is due to Covid and people's health issues, which have kept many at home over the last year.

### **Property improvements**

- We had a new heat pump installed in the church building. This hasn't been without its challenges as the building struggles to keep the power on with the new loads. The rewiring of the church will feature in the next annual report!
- Many of the congregation pulled up their sleeves and helped with the transformation of the manse at Robert Grove.
- Desmond Corrigan and Ian Marsden have maintained the church buildings and grounds all year, including building a new fence and vastly improving the look and function of the foyer.

## Events and activities

Covid kept us locked down for a good proportion of the year, but we still managed to get some of the Lord's work done.

- Last November, we celebrated the 110-year anniversary of the Waikanae church. Diana Roberts led the lively special service and Desmond Corrigan treated us to some intriguing historical facts.
- We had a good Christmas Day service, with lots of visitors and people from the community.
- Easter was equally festive, as the Roberts took us through the service with their inimitable style.
- The Harvest Festival was also a great success, with a wonderful bounty of donated goods.
- Diana Roberts took part in the World Day of Prayer online presentation.
- Although Neighbours' Day was scrapped this year due to Covid, Marie Smith and a few others distributed letters to the neighbours letting them know we would have opened our doors if we could have. The walkabout was a great opportunity for starting conversations with the neighbours.
- Playgroup finished last Christmas, and started up again in May under the guidance of the new playgroup coordinator, Rebecca. We started small but the numbers of mums and children are increasing. Rebecca has since resigned, and we thank her for all that she achieved while she was with us.
- In April we opened the church on a Tuesday for people to come and spend time with the Lord, and we had a good uptake. People appreciated the opportunity to spend quality time with the Lord in peaceful environs.
- Marie Smith has been emailing the service sheets to the congregation every week. It's another way to keep in touch with everyone.
- We regularly hire out the church lounge to various community groups, including a gardening group that has been meeting there since 1993! We have had yoga, artists, and carer groups, and all of them are very grateful for our lounge and its heat pump.

- Lastly, Desmond Corrigan and Don and Marie Smith have struck up a great relationship with the neighbours just west of us during their pool installation. The contractors and the neighbours have been nothing but generous with their care of our property and donations of blocks, diggers, and labour to help us improve our backyard.

The Waikanae fellowship looks forward to the next 12 months under our new minister, as we continue to build relationships with the community in which our church sits, and to care for one another.

*Compiled by Marie Smith and Renata Joyner, Waikanae Committee*

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## **Parish Development and Outreach**

The Playgroups were going along nicely till December, when Melissa resigned due to the pressure of other work. So the playgroups went into obeisance for term 1 of this year, while a new Co-ordinator was found.

Since the beginning of term 2 we had a most enjoyable time with Rebecca and Sal, but unfortunately they had to resign to do other things, and we wish them well. A playgroup support group has now been formed. At the moment, the Waikanae playgroup will continue with Marie and Don Smith, and the Raumati playgroups will be in recess until a new Co-ordinator is appointed. There is no doubt lockdowns and Covid have affected the playgroups in the past year.

*Maureen Calhaem*

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## **Kapiti Family Centre Inc (a charitable trust) operating as the Kapiti Counselling Service,**

The Counselling Service continues to operate in a limited way. Two counsellors, Marie Livesey and Penny Currier, use the premises within the Raumati Church building on a regular basis. There is no cost involved

in this for the counsellors and with power, heating and the availability of phone messages, this remains the Parish contribution to the service.

Angela Claridge, who has been working from the Church since 2018, has left the service and has established her own business in Paraparaumu.

Mary White or Barrie Woods can answer any queries you may have.

*Mary White, Chairperson*

## **Raumati Morning Women's Fellowship**

I am pleased to present this Annual Report. Over the past five years Pat Winskill and I have been sharing the Convenors role. Unfortunately, with Pat taking ill and passing away in February this year, I have been sharing convening duties for a number of years. Pat was very good at finding guest speakers for us. She will be sorely missed.

Because of Covid shutdowns over the last 12 months, three of our meetings had to be cancelled, along with our usual annual dinner.

Our speakers have included Janice Swan who gave us an interesting talk on decluttering. Last November, Bill Day showed slides and gave us a very informative talk about Wellington Hospital Foundation and the new Children's Hospital which is being built. In February, Cheryll Wagener gave us a demonstration of her Nutrimerics products. Hamish Campbell talked to us in March about the work of ZEAL, who support youth in need aged 13-18 years. In May, Valerie Reitenauer from 'We Love Local' gave us an interesting talk about the gift boxes they create. At our December meeting we had a presentation of an 'Alphabet Christmas' by Jan, which members took part in, and a quiz by Pam on Christmas songs. We also brought gifts for the Women's Refuge which were put under the Christmas tree.

Last July our members enjoyed a well-attended luncheon held at the Raumati Waterfront Brasserie. This year's World Day of Prayer service was held at Our Lady of Kapiti, which our members took part in.

On 22 May, Maureen Calhaem led our Special Projects service. Slides with commentary were shown of the overseas project supporting the Pacific, especially Fiji, focusing on supporting family wellbeing. The

New Zealand part was supporting the Anglican Trust for Women and Children concentrating on their Granger Grove Programme. A special morning tea was held and raised \$350.

We have made a donation of \$50 to the Wellington Children's Hospital. We will also be making a donation to the Fred Hollows Foundation of \$63.39, the Least Coin \$44.60, Presbyterian Enliven \$50 and Wesley Community Action \$50.

Thank you for all your support during some difficult times and thank you also to the committee for your support over the last 12 months.

Our members are involved in many aspects of our local church life and we look forward to another year of friendship and fellowship together.

*Lyn Martin, Convenor*

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## **Raumati Afternoon Women's Fellowship**

Due to lockdowns, mandates and Covid, Afternoon Women's Fellowship has stopped meeting. We are welcome at Raumati Morning Women's Fellowship.

*Maureen Calhaem, Co-Facilitator*

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## **Waikanae Women's Fellowship**

Our numbers are small, but members have been able to meet usually monthly throughout the year.

Vera Lawson, a long-time member of the fellowship died on 6 April 2022. Although Vera had not been able to attend meetings for some time her interest was always there. Vera contributed in many practical ways and her smile was a great encouragement to all.

Ansie Esterhuizen shifted to the Gold Coast in Australia in December so that she was closer to her family. Ansie was always willing to assist in

many ways. Waveney Bowman returned to New York in June, after being stranded in New Zealand for two years because of Covid restrictions. We miss her company and her singing.

In July we had a 'Winter Warm-up' at Diana and John Roberts' home. Discussions are always appreciated. Cynthia Brooks hosted us in September, and we talked about where our grandparents had been born.

The NZMWF Convention was held via Zoom over two days in October. Rev. Jill van de Geer, Rev. Tara Tautari, and Mataiva Roberston all shared about their childhood and how adults had had a significant effect on their Christian journeys. We were encouraged to think of ways that we can support and encourage other people.

Yolande Brophy spoke to us from the Kapiti Coast District Council, Recycling Department. She spoke very informatively about recycling. We decided that the Waikanae congregation could collect milk bottle tops, bread bag tags, used batteries, and wine bottle tops that can be recycled. Reuse, Rehome, Recycle. Members of the Raumatī Fellowships had been invited to join us, but they were unable to.

The November Christmas meeting was at Marie and Don's home. We shared Christmases that we had spent outside of New Zealand which covered a wide range of countries. We all enjoyed a bountiful Christmas lunch. A photo taken at the time shows a very happy group of women.

In February we met at Shirley Clarke's home and heard of her recent trip to the Chatham Islands. The World Day of Prayer service on 4 March was pre-recorded in the Baptist Church and available online. Diana Roberts took part in this. Harvest Festival service was on 8 March. Tina Ireland and Pat Souness coordinated the display.

April was a very small meeting as many members were away.

In May we focused on the Special Project - Assistance to Fiji and other Pacific Islands following the Covid pandemic. The NZ project - The Anglican Trust in Auckland - Grange House for Women and Children. The aim, to improve their lifestyle patterns.

On 5 June, the Church service focused on the Special Project to be followed by a fundraiser soup and rolls lunch. However, there was a power failure in the entire church building. The service, led by

Maureen Calhaem and others, proceeded in the dark. Tina and Evan Ireland invited us all to their home where we had an enjoyable lunch and conversation. \$385 was raised for the project.

June was the first Matariki celebration and public holiday. We met at Diana and John's home and other members of the congregation joined us for conversation, devotions and to explore with Diana the meanings of Matariki. In her own special way, Diana provided us all with food for thought and an amazing lunch of soup, rolls, and cake. Thank you for your gracious hospitality.

We have not had a sales table this year or collected donations for the Fellowship of the Least Coin or the Methodist Medical and Educational Fund. The group of eight or nine women meet faithfully, enjoy each other's company and support the activities of the congregation and the MWF and PWANZ Special Projects.

*Marie Smith*

## **Thrifty Place**

Compared with recent years, this past year has been relatively quiet in sales. Much of this is due of course to Covid, and the small lockdown we had last August. However, the enthusiasm of all our volunteers and customers hasn't diminished, and once Covid has run its course, our sales will most likely increase. Donations of goods has continued to be steady, and we've appreciated having new stock for our regulars.

Thrifty continues to support Kapiti Hidden Books, and the people involved with this are most appreciative. This organization collects children's books, puts them into plastic bags, and hides them in playgrounds for children to discover and take home. The aim is to encourage all children to read and have books in their home. Hidden Books has a high success rate, and there has been lots of positive feedback from both children and parents.

Thrifty also supports other organizations such Share the Warmth - Kapiti which provides warm clothes and bedding for homeless people, plus we've offered goods to recent refugees. Most of you will have read a report in the August Together about the amazing Tuesday craft group to whom we provide some craft/art materials, and in turn they provide goods for the shop, as well as being regular customers.

Thrifty's roof is undergoing repairs due to leaks, and painting on the outside of the shop will start soon. This will give it a fresh new look. The new path outside Thrifty, put in just a few years ago, has been much appreciated during all the wet weather we've experienced lately. Also thank you to Ken who has painted the poles outside Thrifty, as well as white lines on the paths and steps. Once again, a huge thank you to all of Thrifty's volunteers, and to all those who donate lovely goods for us to sell.

*Kay McIntosh, Manager*

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## **E-Prayer**

The E-prayer group has continued throughout the year, praying for our Parish and our people. Prayers take many forms and requests are as diverse as our Church family.

As a group we pray each week according to the requests we receive. We have never met as a group, we do not hold meetings to discuss our feelings or beliefs, we simply put our trust in God.

I am taking this opportunity to say thank you to those who, willingly, take the time to stop and think about the people behind the requests and to show they care by bringing these concerns and aspirations before our God.

Illness, anxiety, loneliness, ageing, anger, fear, doubt, death, mourning: how on earth do we deal with these aspects of life that seem so unfair?

Often when we are faced with one of these challenges in life, it is hard to pray. I can only speak for myself, but that is how it has been for me.

I understand that perfection is not for this life: our job is to live humanly with our limits, bad impulses, difficult relationships, struggling communities and flawed church.

This is it, but it is not a recipe for doing nothing. Do we have things to thank God for? I would suggest there is not enough room here to begin to list our blessings.

Set out confident that all the people you meet, all you do and say, are God's gift to you this day.

*Mary White*

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## **Raumati Village Community Garden**

Following on from last year's Annual Report, we were successful in receiving a grant from the Kāpiti Coast District Council, Waste Levy Fund. We subsequently purchased a new three-bin system and are currently in the process of moving compost from the old bin into the new bins. The new compost system is much tidier and will be more productive as we can access the compost once it is ready.



Regular planning and weeding sessions have been held through the year.

The garden is visited by members of the community, the Women's Craft Group on a Tuesday, Thrifty Place customers and members of the Kāpiti Fruit and Vege Co-op.

We welcome Parish members to join in with the garden. If you would like to spend some time weeding or planting, it is always appreciated.

The garden is a valuable resource for the community and with the worst of Covid hopefully behind us, we look forward to planning some workshops and working bees in the near future.

*Kate Foley*

# **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Kapiti Uniting Parish**

Held on Sunday September 26, 2021,  
after the 10am service at Raumati Church

Chairman : Rev Tony Wood

Secretary : Jan Rae

Present: 50 members

Apologies; Kevin and Dianne Boyce, John Calman, Rev. Robin and Heather List, Rev. Roger and Carole Wiig. Merle Stevenson, June Jarvis, Adrienne Burleigh, Jennie and Bevan Dickens, Rev. Bill and Mary Francis, Rosalie Sugrue, Don Smith, Marie Storey, Alison Johnston, Mary Mill, Lyn Martin.

As the minutes of the 2020 AGM had been distributed, these were taken as read. Ken Milne moved and Mary White seconded that these be accepted as a true and correct record of the meeting. Carried.

## **Financial Report**

It was moved by Ralph Martin and seconded by Bruce Johnston that the financial report be accepted. Carried.

There were no comments or discussion.

## **Group Reports**

Kartini Davis moved and Tralee Sugrue seconded that the group reports be accepted. carried.

### Discussion

Joy Mepham thanked those who submitted reports.

Cathy Drummond - Ministry Settlement Board reported that there is someone interested in the Ministry vacancy and the committee is going through the appointment process. The person will be invited to preach and the following Sunday the congregation will vote.

David Davis commented that it was good to see that the Preachers' meeting has been reinstated.

Marie Smith and Maureen Calhaem commented on the value of the playgroups as they provide support for families and a chance for outreach.

## **Election of Officers**

Chairperson - Mary White

Deputy Chairpersons - Carole Rudings and Merrill Baker

Secretary - Jan Rae

Treasurer - Cathy Drummond

Council members - Maureen Calhaem, Bruce Johnston, Barrie Woods, Marie Smith, Derek Townsend, Ian Marsden, Evan Ireland, Kate Foley. It was moved by Ian Patterson and seconded by Bill McKeich that the above be the Parish Council for the 2021/22 year. Carried.

### **General Business**

1. Bill McKeich asked if the various roster organisers could liaise with one another to prevent people having several duties on the same day.
2. Mary White referred to an article in Roundup, the Presbytery Central Newsletter, about the criteria for those who serve communion in the Presbyterian Church. While the Presbyterian church recognises certification by the Methodist Church there is a two-yearly review required in the Presbyterian Church and only two people other than the minister can hold a licence at any one time. The Uniting Church differs in that all types of certificate are recognised and there can be more than two licence holders. At the present time Syd Mephram and Maureen Calhaem are licensed to serve communion as both hold a Methodist certificate.
3. Marie Smith commented on the change to a decision made earlier by Parish Council. In the Covid-19 situation when most of New Zealand moved to Level 2+, social distancing was required to be 2m and gatherings had a limit of 50 people. At this point Parish Council made the decision that services would be suspended until Level 1. However with the recent Level 2 changes - social distancing 1m and gatherings of 100 people - services in the Kapiti Uniting Parish will be able to be held.
4. Syd Mephram asked what the situation with St James Paekakariki is. Marie Smith reported that informal gatherings are still being held there on Sunday mornings but after Rev. John Roberts researched the land history and this was submitted to the Methodist Connexional Property Committee, they have agreed to the sale. We are currently getting quotes from real estate agents and the property will be put on the open market.

### **Acknowledgements**

Ralph Martin thanked Rev. Tony Wood for his contribution to the parish as Interim Moderator.

Rev. Tony Wood commented that we often wait to recognise the extra work that people do in the church and that the AGM is a place for doing this.

Thanks was given and a small presentation made to

- Mary White for her work as Parish Council Chairperson.
- John Lawton who reads notices each week at Raumati and takes photographs of all church events.
- Carole Wiig for all the support that she gives to Rev. Roger Wiig.



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