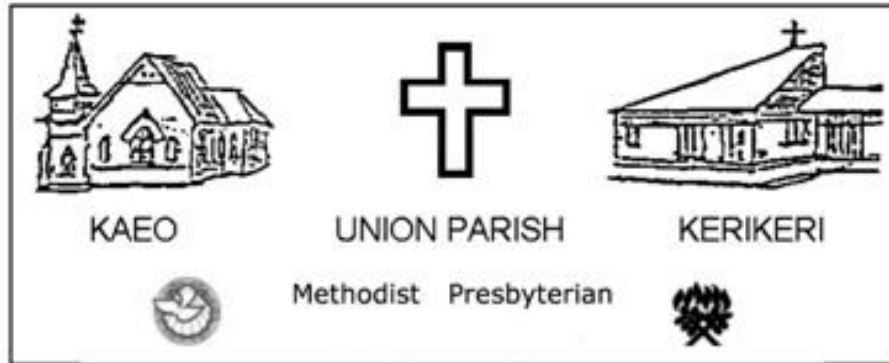




PO Box 166 Kerikeri 0245  
 kaeokerikeriunionchurch.org.nz



**November 2011**

**We want to simplify our lives,  
 but we don't want to be  
 inconvenienced.**

Source unknown

**Life's Passages**

**DEATHS**

- 31.08.2011 Margaret Daphne Miles, of Hall Rd Kerikeri and Kauri Lodge Hospital
- 21.10.2011 Helmut Kool of the Close, Kerikeri Retirement Village

*Our sympathy and prayers are with their families and friends*

**SUICIDE PREVENTION IN  
 OUR COMMUNITY**

How to recognise and help someone who may be at risk of suicide

Nau Mai Haere Mai



Approximately 500 people die by suicide each year, and it is thought that at least 5 times this number will make an attempt.

Suicide is avoidable, and as a community there are ways that we can help to reduce this rate.

You are invited to join Paea Paki and Rachel Ward, Clinicians from the University of Otago study into Multi-level Intervention for Suicide Prevention (MISP), for a two hour workshop on suicide prevention.

**Friday 4th November 2011 7 to 9pm**

**James Kemp Hall, Stone Store Hill, Kerikeri**

During the workshop we will cover information on current trends in NZ Suicide stats, dispel common myths about suicide, discuss how to recognise the signs and symptoms that someone is at risk and provide information on how to help them.

There is no cost to attend the workshop. For more information please feel free to contact either:

Rachel Ward 021 477 595      Rev Yvonne Hooper  
[rachel.ward@otago.ac.nz](mailto:rachel.ward@otago.ac.nz)      ph 09 4076447

**PROPERTY PLANNING UPDATE**

The resource consent application was lodged by the planner, Jeff Kemp, in the middle of September and we are still waiting while it is processed. A small group has studied detailed plans for the kitchen and has provided feedback to the PPG. The full set of detailed plans, and accompanying budget, is still to come from the architect.



With the site now cleared, and with grassing of the area where the gums were felled, we will be able to mow and keep the site tidy.

Brian Stewart

*Floor plan and elevations for the new church and community building can be viewed by going to <http://www.kaeokerikeriunionchurch.org.nz/new-kerikeri-church>*

**Highlight in November**

- **Kerikeri Girls' Brigade Parade and Presentations Sunday 20 November at the Kerikeri Service**

## Robyn's Ramblings

“Spirituality in Palliative Care: Making it part of your everyday care” was a title for a day workshop at Waitangi that really attracted my interest. Hospice and the rural nurses consortium jointly hosted it and I was told that a hanger-on like me was welcome. Richard Egan and Liese Groot-Alberts were the presenters and together they brought a powerful mix of evidence and experience, scientific research and personally searching questions.

Liese Groot-Alberts, on her website, identifies true palliative care as

...an approach to caring for and supporting people who have advanced, progressive life threatening illness, and their families. It aims to relieve and prevent suffering holistically by treating pain and other distressing symptoms and by providing honest information as well as emotional and spiritual support.

As you can see, the spiritual aspect is essential. In fact, without the spiritual it would not be **holistic** caring.

Richard Egan is based at the University of Otago Medical School and is New Zealand's leading researcher into the place of spiritual well-being in palliative care, research that extends his interest to spiritual support within the wider context of medicine. He salutes the chaplains in our hospitals whom he describes as “radically inclusive” in their approach to people they meet, responding to the spiritual perspective and needs of each person. He is concerned however that our hospital system does not enable them to support all who might value their professional presence. If a patient hasn't had a chance or hasn't chosen to tick the box for religion, chaplains have no mandate to approach people.

Spirituality in health is not an easy matter to address but, Richard quotes:

By ignoring the spiritual dimension of health, for whatever reason, we may be depriving ourselves of the leverage we need to help empower individuals and populations to achieve improved physical, social, and mental health. J. P Vader, 2008

The spiritual is back on the agenda, he says, and making its way into medical schools.

For both Liese and Richard, the church, as in the organised churches, sit to one side in this spiritual picture. They need to be recognised as relevant for some people. But the majority experience of church as dogmatic and restrictive gives rise to suspicion

regarding what churches can offer the wider population. We're not readily recognised as a safe place in which a person can “rest their weary or troubled soul”.

Yet the reputation of chaplains within hospices and hospitals is overall very good. Regularly each person they meet finds them to be open and professional in their role. Primarily a chaplain is a listener and, if a person wishes it, they may become a companion and at times even something of a guide. The fact is that the vast majority of them are Christian. They can be people of other perspectives too and, as inter-faith relations develop further in this country, we can envisage a variety among chaplaincy in the future. I recall reading about a chaplain with the United States military who had a kit bag of resources entrusted to him by the different faiths he encounters in his work.

Part of the reason chaplaincy is so well respected in our hospitals and hospices is, as I see it, the way they see their role in relation to their own spirituality. **Their faith is the foundation they stand on and the context in which their own spiritual well-being is reviewed and renewed constantly.** From that basis they are able to give themselves to others without conditions: just to be there and be available. A hospice chaplain commented to Richard: “I see myself often as a translator because people are fishing around for the language to express this impulse, this burning or this passion even in some cases with some atheist people particularly.” I can relate to that because it is exactly how I see my role as a minister.

In our Christian terms, this is what being a disciple is about. So it's the discipleship role for all of us. Our own faith gives us the basis from which we can give ourselves – our ears, our company, our compassion – to others. The measure for our doing well in this is, not that we change them to think like us, but that they grow in their own faith or spirituality or however they see it – that they grow in the Spirit.

Shalom, Robyn

### If Biblical Headlines were Written Today

On Red Sea crossing:

WETLANDS TRAMPLED IN LABOUR STRIKE

Pursuing Environmentalists Killed

On raising Lazarus from the dead:

FUNDAMENTALIST PREACHER RAISES A STINK

Will Reading to be Delayed

## PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

From the meetings on 20 September and 18 October 2011:

David Bates attended the first part of the October meeting to work through with us the Profit and Loss account for the first three months of the new church year, pointing out that we have started to spend money on the new church.

Robyn kindly offered to do some research for us regarding our obligations as an unincorporated group with regard to compliance, and to look for an action plan. The October meeting decided to sign up with PACT (Presbyterian AON Compliance Tool) for church specific instruction and check lists.

Congregational meetings to make parish council nominations to the annual meeting were held on October 9 and the October meeting received the names of Craig Ambler, Ian Hayes, and Alan Robinson to forward to the AGM.

At this stage no one has volunteered to represent us at this year's Methodist conference, so if you feel like going let Robyn know.

The matter of tithing was discussed. Aware of advice from the finance committee that until the new building is completed, we do not have a clear view of available funds from interest payments, it was still thought that tithing was an important principal, no matter what the circumstances. The issue is outreach and making it a basic part of our expenditure. As a parish, we do have outreach with dollars to the partner churches (through UCANZ); to the youth group; and special things like the earthquake appeal. As well we provide a minister not only to nurture the parishioners, but for outreach into our communities; quite a number of members volunteer in the community (tithing with time); and when the new church is up, it, and its use, will allow further outreach to the community. Prudence was recommended.

The Northern Presbytery has communicated with us to remind us about insurance obligations, so our Finance committee has been given the task of looking into it.

A report was received from the Property Planning Group and relevant information is in the PPG update on page one of this newsletter.

Worship on November 27 will be taken by Mike and Beverley Deverell, from Kawakawa. Beverley is the convener of the ministry work group of CTN, and Mike a retired farmer. The Girls' Brigade will have

a Parade service at Kerikeri on November 20, and that is the time certificates of achievements for the year will be presented.

In Kaeo the new screen has been fixed to the wall above the door to the hall, and the projector has now also been installed. Well done, thank you John Argent. It is a marvellous improvement on the old projector and makeshift screen.

The social committee will aim to arrange a Christmas function in December.

Both Girls' Brigade and Kaeo Youth are down in numbers nowadays, but there are still people attending so it is important and worthwhile for them to continue with the good work. Girls' Brigade ended the term with a BBQ tea at Aranga Park and Youth Group tramped and/or boated to Lane Cove, with a climb up to Duke's Nose.

Alan Robinson

### FINANCE UPDATE

For the month of September:

budgeted figure for free-will giving	\$3,000.00
actual figure for free-will giving	\$3,024.00

For the year to date 1 July 2011 to 30 September 2012:

budgeted figure for free-will giving	\$9,000.00
actual figure for free-will giving	\$8,355.00

Note: the money we have in the bank must cover both the building of a new church and a significant "ring-fenced" portion for investment to sustain the parish into the future. Current interest earnings will be an important contribution to likely increased building costs as time goes by. Interest also continues to provide a vital portion of parish operating costs.

People are, if anything, more touchy about being thought silly than they are about being thought unjust.

E.B. White

### A LETTER FROM PRISON FELLOWSHIP

Budget constraints led to the suspension of the Sycamore Tree Programmes that had been run by Prison Fellowship New Zealand under contract to the Department of Corrections. Alan Robinson, chair of Mid-North Prison Fellowship reports that the position of PFNZ Restorative Justice Services Manager has had to be disestablished.

The following letter has been written by PFNZ to the churches to alert us to the situation.

Dear friends in Christ

### **Our promise to your church and its people!**

Prison Fellowship NZ has been in the ministry to prisoners, those who work in the Corrections system, the families and particularly the children of prisoners, as well as to victims of crime, for some 28 years. During all this time we have worked with the churches of New Zealand to fulfil the words of Jesus in Luke 4:

The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.

We find ourselves in the unfortunate situation of going to the wider body of believers to ensure that all are aware of our position at this time. We've never wanted or needed to burden you with this before, but to continue this ministry, it has become apparent to us, that we must. God has given us favour in the past as we've worked alongside Corrections. As we've endeavoured to keep that relationship intact, it has worked well toward keeping doors open to prison ministry groups nationwide. However the management burden of Prison Fellowship has come at a huge financial cost to us for many years now, and we find ourselves no longer able to be sustained beyond October 2011.

Our budget for the work we wish to do is for over \$1.3 million per annum. We are thankful for help from a number of generous private individuals and trusts. Up till now, less than 1% of our financial support has come from churches. Because the demand for our services has kept rising, we have never been able to build up financial reserves. It is expected that we weather the current "drought" in philanthropic and Government funding. Initiatives that we have introduced country wide like Angel Tree, Sycamore Tree and Target Communities may have to cease, and unfortunately there are no other national Christian agencies to pick these up.

In our view the longed for changes in our Correctional system lie mostly with the hope that Jesus brings to those caught up in the revolving doors of crime and punishment. The re-offending rate for ex-prisoners is 52% over 5 years. Therefore in order to reduce crime it is not only necessary to assist families and young people before offending but also to properly support prisoners while in prison and after release. We would like to continue to partner with you, to be part of bringing God's

Kingdom to these dark places in New Zealand life, but we can only do it if we get ongoing adequate financial support from the churches of New Zealand.

If you are able and willing to do this then we, for our part, will do our best to ensure that the opportunity to minister in prisons will remain. Philanthropic and government funding is often uncertain and in the current climate is reducing because of economic pressures and other demands such as the Christchurch earthquake.

It would assist us to continue if at least 10% of our funding came from the churches we enable, i.e. about \$150,000 per annum. We estimate some 300 churches are actively involved in prison ministries at present and trust this will grow as many more catch the exciting vision to change our country for the better.

Our need is acute, our core services have already been curtailed considerably since early July with our passionate, committed staff bearing the brunt of these cutbacks. We continue to negotiate with Corrections to keep the faith unit open, to bring victims and offenders together behind prison walls and to train churches to help fully reintegrate ex-prisoners back into their local communities; and to plan for all the longer term changes to our national prison system such as the new prison in Wiri.

Prison Fellowship is, we believe, a vital Home Mission that could be supported by the Churches of Aotearoa. Please would you take the time to prayerfully consider what God would have your church give.

All details of how to financially support us are here: [http://www.pfnz.org.nz/support\\_pfnz.htm](http://www.pfnz.org.nz/support_pfnz.htm).

We remain your servants in Christ's work,  
Sue Croad, Prison Fellowship New Zealand

**Transform, restore, reconcile**

[www.pfnz.org.nz](http://www.pfnz.org.nz)

Regarding the North, Alan Robinson writes: "We are still hopeful of running a programme similar to the Sycamore Tree Programme very soon. [Northland Corrections Facility Chaplain] Amiria Te Whiu has written this program, which may be called He Kaupapa Hohou rongo."





With the Christmas season rapidly approaching, many of us are already thinking of ways to celebrate with our children. It's a good time to remember a group of children who are often forgotten during this time, the children whose parents are in prison.

Prison Fellowship NZ is sponsoring a programme called "Angel Tree" which will provide Christmas gifts for prisoner's children.

If you would like to help with this project by making a donation towards a child's present (up to the value of \$25.00) or if you can volunteer your time to help wrap or deliver packages, please contact Daniel Garton (09) 9468599, or find Angel Tree on line at [http://www.pfnz.org.nz/angel\\_tree.htm](http://www.pfnz.org.nz/angel_tree.htm).

PFNZ has Charitable Trust status and receipts will be sent out.



### THE YEAR OF MARK

A new church year begins on 27 November, which is the first of four Sundays leading up to Christmas and known as "Advent".

The readings used each 'church year' – from Advent 1 to Christ the King Sunday – follow a three-year cycle, each year using a particular gospel for the majority of its Sundays. The three gospels in the cycle are Matthew, Mark, and Luke, known as the "Synoptic Gospels" because they can be usefully "seen together". They include many of the same stories, often in the same sequence, and sometimes

#### ***Kerikeri***

*Door and Tea Duty*

*6 November* G Traas & H.L Emerson  
*13 November* Ambler Family & W Vine  
*20 November* B Norman & W Judd  
*27 November* D Paterson & T Bedggood

*Readers*

Cameron Ambler  
 Heather McVicar  
 Pat Cooper  
 Craig Ambler

#### ***Kaeo***

*Readers*

tba  
 week  
 by  
 week

exactly the same wording. Where they differ gives insight into the context of each gospel and the concerns and commitments of the early church at the time of compiling.

2011-2012 is the year of the gospel of Mark. This gospel narrates the ministry of Jesus from John the Baptist's baptism of Jesus to Jesus' Ascension, and it concentrates particularly on the last week of his life (chapters 11–16, the trip to Jerusalem). Its swift narrative portrays Jesus as a heroic man of action, an exorcist, a healer, and miracle worker.

An important theme of Mark is the Messianic Secret. Jesus silences the demoniacs he heals, keeps his identity as the Messiah (Christ) secret, and conceals his message with parables. He tries to get his disciples to understand the significance of his healing and miracle-working but they don't get it.

All four gospels in the Bible are anonymous, but Early Christian tradition identifies this gospel's author as Mark the Evangelist, who is said to have based the work on the testimony of Saint Peter. Some modern scholars consider the traditional authorship account to be essentially credible, while others doubt it. Even scholars who doubt Mark's authorship acknowledge that much of the material in Mark goes back a long way and represents important information about Jesus. It was probably compiled at around the year 70. (Some of Paul's letters are dated around 15 years earlier.)

### LECTIONARY READINGS

#### **6 November**

Joshua 24:1-3a,14-25  
 Psalm 78:1-7  
 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18  
 Matthew 25:1-13

#### **13 November**

Judges 4:1-7  
 Psalm 123  
 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11  
 Matthew 25:14-30

#### **20 November**

**CHRIST THE KING**  
 Ezekiel 34:11-16  
 Psalm 100  
 Ephesians 1:15-23  
 Matthew 25:31-46

#### **27 November**

**ADVENT 1**  
 Isaiah 64:1-9  
 Psalm 80:1-7.17-19  
 1 Corinthians 1:3-9  
 Mark 13:24-37

The truth doesn't change with our ability to stomach it.

Flannery O'Connor

# CALENDAR

**Kerikeri Girls' Brigade** Thursdays during school terms 3.30-5.30pm at the Baptist Church – contact Sheryl 4078963

**K-TOWN Shakers Youth Bible Study** Wednesdays during school terms 6-8pm at Drop-In Centre across the road from Union Church – contact John 4051267

**Lectionary Study Groups** to read through the week's Bible readings, learn more about their background, and share thoughts and responses:

*Kerikeri Mondays at 22 Fairway Drive, Kerikeri*

*Kaeo as arranged: possible days Tuesdays 8 and 22 Nov in the Kaeo Church Supper Room time tba*

**Kerikeri Singers** on Sundays following the Kerikeri service (allowing time for cuppa and chat first)

## November

Thursday 3	10.00am	ACW Fellowship at the Library Community Room (opposite the Fire Station)	
Sunday 6	9.30am	Kerikeri Worship: Communion	Sunday School and Youth Group
	11.15am	Kaeo Worship: Communion	Sunday School available
Friday 11	6.30-8pm	Kerikeri Home Group meets for a cuppa, chat, prayers, readings and singing around the table (venue tba).	
Sunday 13	9.30am	Kerikeri Worship	Sunday School and Youth Group
	11.15am	Kaeo Worship	Sunday School available
Tuesday 15	7.30pm	Parish Council meets at Kaeo	
Friday 18		<b>Material for December/January newsletter due</b>	
Sunday 20	9.30am	Kerikeri Worship	<b>Girls' Brigade Parade</b>
	11.15am	Kaeo Worship	Sunday School available
	12.45pm	Communion Service at Kauri Lodge	
Friday 25	6.30-8pm	Kerikeri Home Group meets for a cuppa, chat, prayers, readings and singing around the table (venue tba).	
Sunday 27	9.30am	Kerikeri Worship	<i>Lauren Denblom of Hospice</i> Sunday School and Youth Group
	11.15am	Kaeo Worship	<i>with Jan Gough</i>
	4.00pm	Communion Service at Ted Robinson Chapel	

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May today there be peace within.

May you trust that you are exactly where you are meant to be.

May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith in yourself and others.

May you use the gifts that you have received  
and pass on the love that has been given to you.

May you be content with yourself just the way you are.

Let this knowledge settle into your bones,  
and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise and love.

It is there for each and every one of us.

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## Parish Contacts

Ministers: **Everyone in the parish**

Minister to the Ministers: Robyn McPhail  
ph: 401 7554 fax: 401 7555  
021 0247 6280 [robyn@chirmac.co.nz](mailto:robyn@chirmac.co.nz)

Parish Council Secretary: Alan Robinson  
ph: 405 0688 [robinson21@xtra.co.nz](mailto:robinson21@xtra.co.nz)

Parish postal address: PO Box 166, Kerikeri 0245

Parish Treasurer: Arlene Purdie  
ph: 4079620 [alp45@xtra.co.nz](mailto:alp45@xtra.co.nz)

Kaeo Bookings: Margaret Langman 405 0337

Kerikeri office answer-phone 407 8250