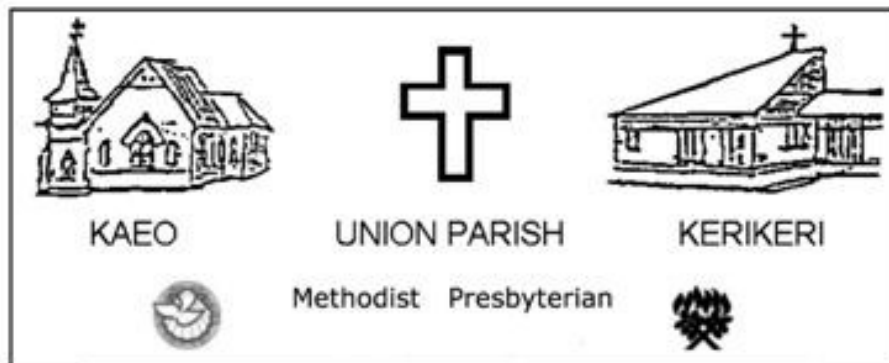




PO Box 166 Kerikeri 0245  
[kaeokerikeriunionchurch.org.nz](http://kaeokerikeriunionchurch.org.nz)  
 Find us on [Facebook](#)



**February/  
 March 2012**

I'm religious not because I'm ignorant. I'm religious because I'm in awe.

Howard Smith  
 20<sup>th</sup> century scientist

### Parish Register

#### DEATH

03.12.2011 Stanley Frank Tupe, of Omaunu Road, Kaeo

*Our sympathy and prayers to his family and friends*

### PROPERTY NEWS

#### A RECAP TO BEGIN THE NEW YEAR

Our site at 144 Kerikeri Road beside the Heritage Bypass offers an exciting opportunity to build a church and community facility that will be both a hive of human activity and an oasis for reflection and spiritual uplift.



The floor plan and elevations for the new building have been agreed, Resource Consent granted by the Far North District Council, and an updated budget

presented to us by our architects Creative Spaces. They have been urged to seek the most cost effective options in construction terms, and for the long-term with respect to maintenance, water, and energy needs. The required plans and information for the Building Consent are now being prepared and these detailed plans and budget will also be submitted for church consent, at parish, regional, and national level.

With two years gone by, it is not surprising that the budget estimates are a 14% increase on the original submission by the architects. The amount to complete the building is more than is currently available for the project, so the decision to continue goes with a commitment to develop a strategy for fund-raising and to establish and maintain the new building as a widely used community facility.

Any people who are interested in our project, church attenders or otherwise, are invited to be involved as they choose. At this point we're looking for people who could be part of a team to work on fund-raising - there are attractive and innovative ways of doing this and it is definitely 'do-able'. And we need people with vision and enthusiasm for our new building to be part of a team to plan its future use 'to the max'.

Interested? Get in touch with Alan (09 4050688) or Robyn (09 4017554 or 021 02476280).

*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>*

### Highlights in February and March

- **Parish Picnic:** Sunday 19 February at Te Ngaere Bay
- **Autumn Harvest Thanksgiving:** Sunday 26 March at each service

***Let us know if you would like to receive your newsletter by weblink rather than hard-copy***

## Robyn's Ramblings

The focus of the church calendar, post-Christmas, is always on "Call". Over a few Sundays we hear readings about calling disciples, going fishing, and taking on the challenge to bring in the kingdom.

It's rather timely with our big challenge of the new church in Kerikeri (see front page). But, oh dear, it does sound so much like a recruitment drive. The inclination? Run for cover!

I have to own up to finding this year a rather daunting prospect, like nothing I have faced before. And run for cover I can't. Fortunately, experience tells me that it doesn't help to focus on what I as an individual need to do or can do. It's not about me.

That extends to *us*. As I think about the jobs we need people for – more Parish Councillors, finance savvy people to add to the Finance Committee (and someone to be convener), a team to work on fundraising, and a team to work on a plan for maximising community involvement with the new building. That's just for now. When the building gets going, there will be more to think about, including the projects sitting on hold from our workshops in 2009. Whew!

However, as I say, it doesn't help to focus on what we as a group of individuals need to do or can do. It's not about us. It is about what God is doing through us, the body of Christ.

I'm here because of a call, a call that I suspect began in the dim and distant memory of growing up in my family and began to form some clarity back in 1983. With a toddler and a brand new baby, an answer started to surface to my question: how can I make good use of all this education – two philosophy degrees and a course in practical philosophy well under way in the form of two small boys. The call to ministry became my answer, and it still is: the call to work with communities of faith, where people grow together in spirit, care for one another, and reach out beyond the boundaries to be witnesses to the hope we have in Christ.

It's about that witness: that's why I can't give up and I won't be daunted.

In everyday terms it's because we have this purpose together – this hope to share – that we know we can do it, together. In theological terms it's because we are the body of Christ – we are the hands and feet, and all the rest of it, of Jesus. He shapes us.

Every person who reads this newsletter, every single one who links in to our church, is part of our particular expression of the body of Christ. And part of this church-building mission we are on.

If something catches your attention, if some aspect in what you read or hear about the project gets you interested, enthused even, let Alan or me know, or someone else who can pass the message on. No-one will be asked to do anything more than they can manage. It's just that often we're shy to put ourselves forward, and sometimes we don't realise what we can do. Just because we haven't done it before, just because we've been more comfortable letting others take a lead...

It is about us in so far as it is not something that **they** – PPG, Parish Council, Robyn, and others – will do. **We** means all of us. But it's not about us in terms of having to make it happen. Because **we** means we're doing it as the body of Christ, and that means miracles happen.

Please keep thinking "we" and listen for that call to you for what you can contribute. When we do that, we trust that an energy source greater than each of us combined will give us all we need to complete this project.

Shalom and God bless, Robyn

### **"Growing Ourselves as a Congregation"**

*Below is a reminder of the particular vision that is leading us to be bold and share ourselves with the Kerikeri community. Here's what we agreed from the workshops we held in 2009:*

#### **Five Core Values**

Hospitality: family-friendly and welcoming

Practicality: faith-in-action; ethics and caring

Bible: Christ-centred and community-facing

Heritage: in the footsteps of our forebears

Community: relationships with all kinds of people

#### **Our Priorities**

Getting to know young mums and families

Build our church building and promote it to be shared widely with the community

#### **Specific Projects**

Gardening: raised vege gardens; seed propagation, planting; open to community participation

Drop-in centre/group/safe place for young Mums to bring children; offering practical courses and advice

## PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

From the meeting on 20 December 2011:

Brian Stewart and David Bates attended the Parish Council meeting to bring the latest from the architects. As can be expected, the price for the building has gone up since the estimate put in two years ago! The final budget and design details are due in the New Year, for submission for the building consent and for our approval.

The budgeted financial situation has come up with a shortfall so the suggestion is to get some fundraising under way, rather than rely on the congregations.

The parish needs to think about how the new facility will function, and how to run it. Thoughts, interests and/or particular talents that people have are welcome. Please share them with Robyn McPhail or one of the Parish Councilors.

Further down the property (below the new church), a commercial building is proposed, possibly a funeral parlour. It will be at a lower level and landscaping will provide good screening between buildings.

The meeting expressed considerable regret that David Bates has chosen to step down as Finance convener, and conveyed our grateful thanks in person to him for the leadership he has given. The Council is delighted that he is willing to remain on the committee. Thank you David!

Best Wishes to the Parish for 2012.

Alan Robinson

### FINANCE UPDATE

For the month of December 2011:

budgeted figure for free-will giving	\$3,000.00
actual figure for free-will giving	\$2,675.60

For the year to date 1 July to 31 December 2011:

budgeted figure for free-will giving	\$18,000.00
actual figure for free-will giving	\$17,327.15

### TRANS-TASMAN 2012 2-6 July

Theme: Resilience:  
"Building robust communities"

Herberton, Atherton Tablelands (West of Cairns), Far North Queensland, Australia is the venue for the 8th quadrennial Trans-Tasman Rural Church Conference.

The Conference begins with the evening meal on Monday 2 July and ends at 3pm on Friday 6 July. Tuesday is set aside for sharing stories and input from a keynote speaker, local mayors, and

emergency services. The theme recognises that many rural regions in both countries have experienced extreme natural events. The Trans-Tasman gathering is an opportunity to share wisdom gained, continuing concerns, solidarity and prayer.

Field Trips on Wednesday and Thursday travel to Mareeba and Southern Tablelands, with half going to each place, each day. Wednesday evening is free time. A keynote speaker on Thursday evening, and our own reflections on Friday, will help gather insights and action plans for use at home.

The conference costs AUD400 (around NZD520) – accommodation, two coach trips, four dinners and breakfasts, all linen, setting up and cleaning etc. The organisers are planning for volunteers to transport people up from Cairns.

Go to [irca.net.nz](http://irca.net.nz) and click on the Trans-Tasman link under "Latest IRCA news", or talk to Robyn who is already booked and registered to go.

**Please tell others who might be interested. The gathering and its theme definitely relate to life in our Far North communities.**

## PARISH PICNIC



### On the Beach at Te Ngaere

On Wainui Rd – the coast road Whangaroa to Matauri



From Kerikeri, turn off SH10 at the sign to Matauri Bay and then left onto Wainui Road at the Matauri Bay corner. Meet at the western end of Te Ngaere Bay where there is some shade available.

Bring your usual beach and picnic requirements: seats, lunch, sun-screen; swimming togs optional but highly recommended.

Phone or text 021 02476280 or 021 0517775 for updates if the weather looks 'iffy'.

## RIB TICKLER

To those of us who have children in our lives, whether they are our own, grand-children, nieces and nephews, or students...here is something to make you chuckle. Whenever your children are out of control, you can take comfort from the thought that even God's omnipotence did not extend to his own children.

After creating heaven and earth, God created Adam and Eve. And the first thing He said was, "Don't."

"Don't what?" Adam replied.

"Don't eat the forbidden fruit." God said.

"Forbidden fruit? We have forbidden fruit? Hey, Eve. . . we have forbidden fruit!"

"No way!"

"Yes, way!"

"Do NOT eat the fruit!" said God.

"Why?"

"Because I am your Father and I said so!" God replied, (wondering why He hadn't stopped creation after making the elephants).

A few minutes later, God saw His children having an apple break and was He ticked!

"Didn't I tell you not to eat the fruit?" God, as our first parent, asked?

"Uh huh," Adam replied.

"Then why did you?" said the Father.

"I don't know," said Eve.

"She started it!" Adam said.

"Did not!" "Did too!" "DID NOT!"

Having had it with the two of them, God's punishment was that Adam and Eve should have children of their own.

Thus, the pattern was set and it has never changed! But there is reassurance in this story.

If you have persistently and lovingly tried to give children wisdom and they haven't taken it, don't be hard on yourself. If God had trouble raising children, what makes you think it would be a piece of cake for you?

Daily Christian Joke at [freechristiancontent.org](http://freechristiancontent.org)

## BIBLE INCOMPLETE

Fill in the missing letters to complete the passage. Solution on next page.

R\_j\_i\_e\_v\_r\_o\_e. r\_y\_w\_t\_o\_t\_e\_s\_n. l\_e\_e\_y\_h\_n\_g\_v\_t\_a\_k\_: f\_r\_h\_s\_s\_h\_w\_l\_o\_G\_d\_n\_h\_i\_t\_e\_u\_c\_n\_e\_n\_n\_y\_u.

## STREET SMART IN SUNDAY SCHOOL

Excerpt from Proverbs 1:20-33

Wisdom cries out in the street; in the squares she raises her voice. At the busiest corner she cries out; at the entrance of the city gates she speaks: 'How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple?

I couldn't stand Sunday school as a kid. Long before the Xerox machine, we sat on uncomfortable chairs filling in the blanks on worksheets we called "dittos". The only good thing about dittos was the smell.

Next came the craft; usually something involving glitter, glue, uncooked macaroni and pipe cleaners. I hated crafts. Everything stuck to my fingers. But if you protested, they stared you down like a blasphemer and gave you yet another tedious activity. "If you can't engage in the class activity, Lillian, you can sit in that corner and colour in this ditto of the blessed baby Jesus." Oh no, anything but that.

Since then, we've come a long way in children's spiritual formation. At our Sunday school, we, like many of you, use the rotation workshop model, in which children learn the same Bible story by engaging it in multiple ways. One week they may be acting out a play, another working on computers, another in the kitchen. In this way we acknowledge that not every one learns in the same way.

In this Bible passage, wisdom cries out in the street. People of faith don't just learn by being book smart. We need to be street smart as well. There is more to being a Christian than filling in the blanks on a worksheet. The church should be forming disciples who can find God's wisdom in all kinds of activities.

So if you have a Sunday school teacher you appreciate, send them this devotional, and thank them for moving beyond the simple answers to the wisdom in the streets.

*Teaching Christ, let me find your wisdom in unexpected places. And bless those who teach our children, drawing out their gifts, in the many wonderful ways they learn. Amen.*

Lillian Daniel, United Church of Christ, USA

# SOLAR POWER UNIT FOR SASAMUQA HOSPITAL SOLOMON ISLANDS

Methodist Mission and Ecumenical  
Special Appeal 2012



## WHY A SOLAR POWER UNIT?

Over the past year Methodist Mission and Ecumenical, New Zealand has provided medical equipment for Sasamuqa Hospital. Some of this equipment is hi-tech and the current electricity supply, which is diesel generated, is not capable of supporting much hi-tech equipment. This can be overcome by installing a quality solar power unit at the hospital, sufficient to meet the operating needs of the new hi-tech equipment. We have seen what this can do at Goldie College (also in the Solomon Islands) where we provided a solar power unit to run the computer lab.

## ABOUT SASAMUQA HOSPITAL

Sasamuqa Hospital (aka P J Twomey Memorial Hospital) is located in Sasamuqa village on remote Choiseul Island. Established in 1905 this hospital was served by Methodist Church of New Zealand deaconesses with nursing qualifications and experience, and missionary nursing sisters for many years. Sr Lucy Money was one of those who served here long-term. Today the staff are all Solomon Islanders, though two doctors supported by the British Methodist Church are spending a few months there until April 2012. You can help Sasamuqa Hospital provide better quality health care to its wider community by supporting this appeal.

**Donations can be sent to:** Rev Prince Devanandan, Methodist Mission and Ecumenical, Private Bag 11 903, Ellerslie, Auckland 1542. Cheques should be made out to **Methodist Mission and Ecumenical** (registered with the Charities Commission so you

### *Kerikeri*

*Door and Tea Duty*

5 February	D Paterson & T Bedggood
12 February	R Jeffs & T Jenkins
19 February	B & L Stewart
26 February	E & I Wright
4 March	M & K Akau'ola
11 March	L & A Purdie
18 March	H & V Driver
25 March	G Traas & H L Emerson
1 April	Ambler Family

*Readers*

Ros Simpson
Trevor Bedggood
Diane Paterson
Jessica Scott
Neil Scott
Cameron Ambler
Helen Norman
Gay Traas
Michelle Akau'ola

### *Kaeo*

*Readers*

Lorelei Hayes
Alan Robinson
John Argent
tba
week
by
week

can claim a tax rebate on the donation.) Receipts will be issued with acknowledgement of your donation.

## LECTIONARY READINGS

### 5 February

Isaiah 40:21-31  
Psalm 147:1-11,20c  
1 Corinthians 9:16-23  
Mark 1:29-39

### 12 February

2 Kings 5:1-14  
Psalm 30  
1 Corinthians 9:24-27  
Mark 1:40-45

### 19 February

Isaiah 43:18-25 **LENT 1**  
Psalm 41  
2 Corinthians 1:18-22  
Mark 2:1-12

### 26 February

Genesis 9:8-17  
Psalm 25:1-10  
1 Peter 3:18-22  
Mark 1:9-15

### 4 March

**LENT 2**  
Genesis 17:1-7,15-16  
Psalm 22:23-31  
Romans 4:13-25  
Mark 8:31-38 or 9:2-9

### 11 March

**LENT 3**  
Exodus 20:1-17  
Psalm 19  
1 Corinthians 1:18-25  
John 2:13-22

### 18 March

**LENT 4**  
Numbers 21:4-9  
Psalm 107:1-3,17-22  
Ephesians 2:1-10  
John 3:14-21

### 25 March

**LENT 5**  
Jeremiah 31:31-34  
Psalm 51:1-12 or 119:9-16  
Hebrews 5:5-10  
John 12:20-33

### 1 April

### **LENT 5: PALM/PASSION SUNDAY**

Isaiah 50:4-9a	Philippians 2:5-11
Psalm 118:1-2,19-29 or 31:9-16	Mark 11:1-11 (Palm) or Mark 14:1-15:47 (Passion)

I am advocating that we see the gospel as story\*, and that we understand evangelism as living and telling the Story of the One who has entered and changed our story and will do so with theirs who also encounter his story. Abraham Joshua Heschel

\* For me, "story" here does not mean "made up". It is truth through narrative as opposed to statement. Ed.

## SOLUTION TO BIBLE INCOMPLETE

Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. I Thessalonians 5:16-18  
More puzzles like this can be found on-line at [www.bible-puzzles.com](http://www.bible-puzzles.com)

# CALENDAR

## REGULAR SERVICES

**Every Sunday:** 9.30am Kerikeri Worship at the Ted Robinson Chapel, Stella Drive, Kerikeri  
11.15am Kaeo Worship at the Wesleydale Memorial Church, Leigh Street, Kaeo

Sunday School and Youth Group at Kerikeri each Sunday from 12 February to 1 April

Sunday School available as needed at Kaeo

Childrens' Projects available at each church during school holidays

**Communion on February 5 and March 4 (with Shared Lunch following March Service at Kaeo)**

**Faith and Science Sunday on February 12 (the birthday of Charles Darwin)**

**AUTUMN HARVEST THANKSGIVING on March 26:** bring supplies from garden and/or supermarket for the district Foodbank

**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. Mondays **2.30-4pm** at 22 Fairway Drive, Kerikeri

**Kerikeri Home Group** 6.30-8pm Fridays 24 February, 9 and 23 March (venue tba) for a light meal (provided), prayers, readings and songs around the table.

**Kerikeri Singers** following Sunday Service allowing time first for tea and chat.

## FEBRUARY

- Thursday 2 10.00am ACW Fellowship gathers at Palmco Garden Lounge, Wiroa Road. Club sandwich and two sweets plus tea or coffee \$10. Enquiries Jan 407 6444 or Jenny 407 8883.
- Sunday 12 Kerikeri Singers after Service singing restarts (see box above)
- Monday 13 2.30-4pm Kerikeri Lectionary Study Group restarts for 2012 (see box above)
- Friday 17 1.00pm Finance Committee meets at 45a Fairway Drive, Kerikeri
- Saturday 18 11am-4pm Churches Together in Northland Day at St John's, Kamo Road, Kensington
- Sunday 19 from 12.30pm **PARISH PICNIC on the beach at Te Ngaere** (see notice p.3)  
4.00pm Communion Service at Ted Robinson Chapel
- Monday 20 11.00am Worship Committee meets at 7 Kerikeri Grove, Kerikeri
- Tuesday 21 7.30pm Parish Council meets at Kaeo
- Friday 24 6.30-8pm Kerikeri Home Group restarts at a venue tba (see box above)
- Sunday 26 12.45pm Communion Service at Kauri Lodge



## MARCH

- Thursday 1 10.00am ACW venue tba. Enquiries Jan 407 6444 or Jenny 407 8883.
- Friday 16 **Material for next newsletter due**
- Tuesday 20 7.30pm Parish Council meets at 542 Kerikeri Road, Kerikeri
- Sunday 25 12.45pm Communion Service at Kauri Lodge  
4.00pm Communion Service at Ted Robinson Chapel

## 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