



# HALO

ST COLUMBA'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, TARADALE

Church Website: [www.stcolumba-taradale.org.nz](http://www.stcolumba-taradale.org.nz)

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## Kool Kidz

Richard Nicholson  
Sunday 9.30 a.m.—10.30 a.m.  
Phone 844 9556

## Youth

Mark Seek 027 478 9404  
Friday: **Contact** 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.  
Wednesday:  
**Pimp My Ride** 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

## MUSIC GROUP Worship Band

Kirsty Jamieson  
phone 844 4652

## Two Fold Op Shop

Verna Gillum  
phone 844 8265  
Open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and  
Thursdays, 10 am—4pm

## Mid Week Church Service

Jeanette Barker  
For transport phone 844 3554

## Missionary Guild

Anne Lanigan  
phone 844 7495

## House Groups

Pam Thrupp  
phone 835 5785

## Kids Friendly Care

Peter Wooten 843 7770  
After School Care  
School Holiday Programme

## Mainly Music

Wednesday 9.30 - 10.30 a.m.  
Margaret de la Haye 843 2272  
Thursday 9.30 - 10.30 a.m.  
Karen Jensen 843 9447

## Men's Breakfasts

Robin Arnold  
phone 844 7808

## Prayer Group

Marjory Yelverton  
phone 843 5331

## Women's Fellowship

Peggy Flack  
phone 844 8412

## Pastoral Care

Robin Arnold  
phone 844 7808

Material for August Halo in by 11 a.m. Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2011 please

## *From the Minister*

I gave up drinking alcohol about 30 years ago, as I no longer needed to be under the influence of a drug to lose my inhibitions or escape my anxieties. I have been learning to ask the question “why?” a lot more recently. Why did I drink? The answer was certainly not because I was thirsty, or liked the taste, I drank for the effect and to fit in. If I was drunk enough I would do silly things and maybe people would like the more extroverted me! The solution was knowing God loved me, accepted me, and forgave me, so my anxieties and my need for the approval of others greatly diminished. If I want to drink alcohol because I am thirsty, or like the taste I can – but I have plenty of other options so choose not to.

I have been learning to ask “Why?” about other actions too. Why do we tell a lie? It is often to make our selves look good or to avoid negative reactions. In one sense it is because we are the centre of our own universe – our comfort, our avoiding consequences our need to keep up appearances... its all about us. In one sense, lies are a symptom that we are the centre of our own lives. We have an idol – a false god - and it is us. I like the definition of sin, which says, “Sin is a little word with 'I' in the centre of it.” Sin is what we do and when “I” am at the centre. Asking “Why?” helps us find what “the sin behind the sin” is, and it usually comes down to our self-centredness and our refusal to allow God to be the one who controls our lives or actions. In one sense sin is always a statement of rebellion and a refusal to trust God to provide for us and reshape us.

Part of the problem with seeking to point people to Jesus today is that people have a very poor awareness of sin and its consequences. We think - it's only a little lie, it's only a few dollars, and I am certainly not as bad as... (usually thinking of some rapist, murderer or major criminal).

But, if Jesus came to restore and renew us – maybe we need to be aware of the damage our self-centredness causes to others and ourselves. Maybe it is not just a little lie, but is really a declaration of rebellion – and as a declaration of rebellion, it is easier to see why God needs to restore and reconcile us. The Cross is important, not because we told some lie or some other misdemeanour, but because it shows people resisting and rejecting God. The crucifixion is done by people resisting God's rule just as we do – in one sense we crucified the Lord Jesus – as 1 Cor. 15:3 says “CHRIST DIED FOR OUR SINS.” When we resist and rebel against God - declaring our independence – we are acting in the same manner as those who nailed Jesus to the cross. Moreover, as Jesus died to restore and reconcile them so he died to restore and reconcile us to God.

When Jesus calls us to be reconciled, he also makes us his ambassadors – urging others to be reconciled with God.

2 Cor. 5:18-20 “All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. In addition, he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.”

Why do we live? It is as God's people, we live in relationship with him, reconciled and restored. We live as those who no longer rebel, seeking to submit to his kingdom rule. We seek in obedience and faith to be agents of reconciliation and healing to a hurting and broken world.

Rather than rushing to preach to people – may you learn the value of asking good questions, including the question “why?” as we help people reflect on their actions, and the actions of others, and maybe we will also get some people to reflect on the question “why did Jesus die and rise again?”

Best wishes to you all

*Brett*

# School Holiday Programme

The time is fast approaching when St Columba's will be running the KFC holiday programme for the school holidays. Last holidays Halo spent two weeks assisting Peter, Kandi and the team.

It has to be said that it was not an easy ride. It also has to be said that it is a great privilege to be part of a family other than one's own. There is a great deal involved in attempting to be part of another person's family. Some of the families may be similar to yours, or mine, but others live very different life styles. Some of the children are absolute darlings, while others are disruptive and manipulative. Some have medical and psychological conditions. Somehow, Peter, Kandi and others have to occupy those children for, in some cases, up to nine hours a day.

The programme is based on Christian principles with the children saying grace before meals and learning bible verses and being involved in biblical and moral themed stories and plays. Trips to outside sites are also undertaken and we can tell you that Halo did not fare well in the Laser Strike arena.

Being Christian-based means we have a moral duty to accept children who have been banned from other programmes, and that requires us to, in some instances, provide one-to-one mentoring which adds to the number of personnel required.

Pam Watkins and Norma Sinton do great work providing morning teas for the children and crew and Halo added a bit of extra to the waistline by sampling the wares.

Halo would suggest that if you can, a word with Peter Wooten might result in you being given a pamphlet concerning the next school holidays which maybe you could give serious consideration too.

## Kool Kids

Kool Kid's have been learning about putting on God's Armour to protect them from the devil's tricks. They have enjoyed making swords, shields, helmets, breastplates, belts and shoes. Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June was our creative family service and they came together to perform a skit that showed how God's armour works. The majority of Kool Kids are boys so a war game was just what they loved. However the moral of the story was that when things get rough and we feel the pain of bullies, hurts from other people's cruel words and actions if we put on God's armour he will protect us because he loves each of us, so much.

With winter sports in full swing sometimes our numbers are down but we know that the kids come when they can and so we continue to try and make the lessons interesting, fun and reliant to their lives.

Thank you to Sheila, Cynthia Louise, Richard and Steve who are loyal and committed to teaching and sharing with the kids.

God Bless

*Pam*

### Reading and Prayer

**Reading:** "Your Father in heaven knows that you need all these things. Instead, be concerned above everything else with the Kingdom of God and with what he requires of you, and he will provide you with all these other things." **Matthew 6:32 & 33**



**Prayer:** Our Father we thank you for providing us with the beauty of the earth and sky, for your love, and providing us with all the other wonderful things. Help us to love you more and to share that love with others we come in contact with. Thank you Father, Amen.

# Children's Story

## The Circle of Life

While standing at the kitchen sink as I either wash or dry the dishes, I look out at our back lawn. We have a large tree dominating the lawn, which provides fantastic shade from the summer heat. In the spring, birds build nests in the tree. They teach their babies to fly from that tree. Both parents and children, to start with, simply have to fall out of the tree to peck at crumbs of bread, cut up apples and wild birdseed that Yvonne and I put out for them. I have to smile at the young birds being fed by their parents. Even though they are big enough to feed themselves, they stand beside their Mum or Dad and flap their little wings frantically until a crumb of bread is dropped into their mouths. In the pot plant base that we use as a birdbath, whole families splash, wash and drink fresh clean water.

From time to time, strong winds buffet the tree. Its branches wave majestically and the wind chimes hanging from those branches tinkle frantically. Unfortunately, the wind also blows some of the bird nests from the tree and eggs get broken or baby birds die. If that happens, the Mummy and Daddy birds build new nests, or repair their old ones, and get on with life again. It does not matter how many times it happens they just start over again.

Then, once summer changes into autumn, and autumn into winter, the tree drops its leaves. By July, all the leaves have gone from the tree. There are just bare branches but the birds are still there: sparrows, thrushes, blackbirds, silvereyes, starlings, mynas and the odd yellowhammer. Occasionally a tui from the neighbour's trees will put in an appearance. The birds require more food in the winter so the amount of bread and seed we buy increases.

Before we know it, the buds are back on the tree and then the leaves appear again and our view of the neighbour disappears. The birds either rebuild their nests or build new ones and the babies reappear.

What I see is the circle of life. Elton John sings of it, and God made it. For the birds, our backyard and tree is their world. God provides the tree for them to live in. He feeds them and he gives them sons and daughters for their families. He gives them life and death. They have disasters like strong winds blowing their homes away and killing their young, and dangers like cats that stalk them. God also gives them Yvonne and me to provide little extras in life, to keep cats away, and give food and love.

While there are some trees that stay green always and never lose their leaves, our tree is not one of them. Our tree does so much work in the spring and summer that it needs to rest, so during the autumn it drops its leaves and goes to sleep for the cold winter months. Sometimes you and I work so hard for God that we need a rest like the tree. God made life like that. He knows we need to have some time to rest so he made Sundays, and holidays, for us. Like the tree though, it does not mean that we forget God or our job. The rest is for us to think about God and the work we have to do for him in our lives. Once we have had our rest, like the tree during the winter, we start our work again for God, just as the tree makes leaves and shade.

*by Jim Payton*

# *Mid Winter Parish Dinner/Farewell to Daniel* 5

What a wonderful night was had by all on the 25<sup>th</sup> June in the Fish Hall. One hundred people gathered to enjoy a lovely dinner, and fellowship over a glass of mulled wine. Who would have thought so many people could fit comfortably into that area! The hall was full of chatter and laughter, great to hear and lovely to see the mixture of ages coming together.

The Sweet Adelines, the Youth Band and Henry Polehwidhi entertained everyone with musical items. Thank you to you all for supporting this lovely social evening.

A very big thank you to the team of people, who worked so hard to make this evening such a success.

A presentation was made to Daniel, who leaves us in a couple of weeks. There were many lovely words spoken about him and everyone agreed he will be sorely missed. A presentation of a variety of gifts was made to him, to remind him of his time spent in New Zealand and at St Columba's.. God bless you Daniel as you return to Germany..

*Pam*

## **IT News**

During the month of May our website [www.stcolumba-taradale.org](http://www.stcolumba-taradale.org) attracted 229 visitors.

Most of these visitors arrived at our home page, but it is good to see that many looked at different pages like "our history", "contact", "meet the staff", "calendar", "small groups" and "youth" pages. Rhonda faithfully keeps our calendar up to date with meetings, funerals and activities so we can find dates and times at the push of a button. Quite a few downloaded previous copies of our Halo magazine.

We had quite a few international visitors too; 41 from Italy (you wonder if the pope is keeping an eye on us?), eight from Belgium, five from Iceland, three from Australia

and single visits from Germany, Israel, UK, Malaysia. Latvia and France.

*Thank you Wim and Techno Joy*

## *The Importance of Loving Others*

*'...Everyone who loves is born of God...' 1 John 4:7 NKJV*

Recently, a 12-year-old boy in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, hanged himself. Why? Because the next day was his first day at a new school, he was overweight, and he dreaded being taunted by other children. Few things are more painful than shame. One of the greatest kindnesses we can show others is to take away their false shame through love and acceptance.

When the disciples met a man who was blind from birth they asked Jesus, '... Was it because of his own sins or his parents' sins?' (John 9:2 NLT) They weren't concerned that the man needed help or that he'd spent his life in total darkness. No, they started discussing his shortcomings - right in front of him! It's easier to label people than love them. We label things because we think we know what's inside, and we label people for the same reason. We'd rather debate homosexuality than befriend someone who's gay, condemn divorce than help its victims, argue about abortion than support an orphanage, or gripe about social services than help the poor. Jesus didn't see this blind man as a victim of fate, he saw him as an opportunity waiting to happen. He said to His disciples, '... This happened so the power of God can be seen in him' (John 9:3 NLT).

If you don't love people, you don't love God; actually, you don't even know Him! You need to pray, 'Lord, remind me today that the greatest gift I have to give others is Your love.' When you get serious and begin to pray that way, people will open up to God's help and healing.

*From The Word for Today written by Bob & Debbie Gass and forwarded by New Zealand's Rhema and Rhema Broadcasting Group Incorporated.*

# "THE ROOM"

17-year-old Brian Moore had only a short time to write something for a class. The subject was *What Heaven Was Like*. "I wowed 'em," he later told his father, Bruce. "It's a killer. It's the bomb. It's the best thing I ever wrote." It also was the last, as he died a few months later in a car accident on May 27<sup>th</sup>, 1997. He emerged from the wreck unharmed but stepped on a downed power line and was electrocuted.

The Moores framed a copy of Brian's essay and hung it among the family portraits in the living room. "I think God used him to make a point. I think we were meant to find it and make something out of it," Mrs. Moore said of the essay. She and her husband want to share their son's vision of life after death. "I'm happy for Brian. I know he's in heaven. I know I'll see him".

Here is Brian's essay entitled: "THE ROOM"

In that place between wakefulness and dreams, I found myself in the room. There were no distinguishing features except for the one wall covered with small index card files. They were like the ones in libraries that list titles by author or subject in alphabetical order. But these files, which stretched from floor to ceiling and seemingly endless in either direction, had very different headings.

As I drew near the wall of files, the first to catch my attention was one that read *"Girls I Have Liked."* I opened it and began flipping through the cards. I quickly shut it, shocked to realize that I recognized the names written on each one. And then, without being told, I knew exactly where I was. This lifeless room with its small files was a catalogue system for my life. Here were written the actions of my every moment, big and small, in a detail my memory couldn't match. A sense of wonder and curiosity, coupled with horror, stirred within me as I began randomly opening files and exploring their content. Some brought joy and sweet memories; others a sense of shame and regret so intense that I would look over my shoulder to see if anyone was watching.

A file named *"Friends"* was next to one marked *"Friends I Have Betrayed."* The titles ranged from the mundane to the outright weird. *"Books I Have Read," "Lies I Have Told," "Comfort I have Given," "Jokes I Have Laughed At.."*

Some were almost hilarious in their exactness: *"Things I've Yelled at My Brothers."* Others I couldn't laugh at: *"Things I Have Done in My Anger", "Things I Have Muttered Under My Breath at My Parents."* I never ceased to be surprised by the contents. Often there were many more cards than expected. Sometimes fewer than I hoped. The sheer volume of the life I had lived overwhelmed me.

Could it be possible that I had the time in my years to fill each of these thousands or even millions of cards? But each card confirmed this truth. Each was written in my own handwriting. Each signed with my signature.

When I pulled out the file marked *"TV Shows I Have Watched,"* I realized the files grew to contain their contents. The cards were packed tightly and yet after two or three yards, I hadn't found the end of the file. I shut it, shamed, not so much by the quality of shows but more by the vast time I knew that file represented.

When I came to a file marked *"Lustful Thoughts,"* I felt a chill run through my body. I pulled the file out only an inch, not willing to test its size, and drew out a card. I shuddered at its detailed content. I felt sick to think that such a moment had been recorded. An almost animal rage broke on me.

One thought dominated my mind: No one must ever see these cards! No one must ever see this room! I have to destroy them!" In insane frenzy, I yanked the file out. Its size didn't matter now. I had to empty it and burn the cards.

But as I took it at one end and began pounding it on the floor, I could not dislodge a single card. I became desperate and pulled out a card, only to find it as strong as steel when I tried to tear it. Defeated and utterly helpless, I returned the file to its slot. Leaning my forehead against the wall, I let out a long, self-pitying sigh.

Then I saw it. The title bore *"People I Have Shared the Gospel With."* The handle was brighter than those around it, newer, almost unused. I pulled on its handle and a small box not more than three inches long fell into my hands. I could count the cards it contained on one hand.

.../

Then the tears came. I began to weep. Sobs so deep that they hurt. They started in my stomach and shook through me. I fell on my knees and cried. I cried out of shame, from the overwhelming shame of it all. The rows of file shelves swirled in my tear-filled eyes. No one must ever, ever know of this room. I must lock it up and hide the key. But then as I pushed away the tears, I saw Him.

No, please not Him. Not here. Oh, anyone but Jesus. I watched helplessly as He began to open the files and read the cards. I couldn't bear to watch His response. And in the moments I could bring myself to look at His face, I saw a sorrow deeper than my own. He seemed to go intuitively to the worst boxes.

Why did He have to read every one? Finally, He turned and looked at me from across the room. He looked at me with pity in His eyes. But this was a pity that didn't anger me. I dropped my head, covered my face with my hands and began to cry again. He walked over and put His arm around me. He could have said so many things. But He didn't say a word. He just cried with me.

Then He got up and walked back to the wall of files. Starting at one end of the room, He took out a file and, one by one, began to sign His name over mine on each card. "No!" I shouted rushing to Him. All I could find to say was "No, no," as I pulled the card from Him. His name shouldn't be on these cards. But there it was, written in red so rich, so dark, and so alive.

The name of Jesus covered mine. It was written with His blood. He gently took the card back He smiled a sad smile and began to sign the cards. I don't think I'll ever understand how He did it so quickly, but the next instant it seemed I heard Him close the last file and walk back to my side. He placed His hand on my shoulder and said, "It is finished."

I stood up, and He led me out of the room. There was no lock on its door. There were still cards to be written.

*"For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16*

*Thank you Harry Renfree*

## **3D Movies come to Napier**

Some say to watch a movie in 3D makes the scenes come alive and seem more real vibrant and exciting. The same is said about living life in 3D — Developing friendships, Discovering stories, and Discerning what next steps the Holy Spirit wants them to take!

Instead of hurrying about their day with one eye on the clock and the other on their to-do list, people living in 3D take a few minutes to intentionally develop friendships with the people God places in their path. Instead of staying in a self-focused bubble, they reach out and learn the life stories of the people around them. When you are open to others around you, and God, suddenly you realise that every moment is in 3D — There is yourself, the other, and God all in full colour active in every moment. Some of us focus only on ourselves — sometimes we can focus on the other — but life in 3D means need to focus on all three dimensions at once.

**Developing friendships** — offering radical acceptance to the people around you and seizing every opportunity to envelop them in grace-filled community

**Discovering Stories** — focusing more on the other person's life than on your own

**Discerning Next Steps** — relying on the Holy Spirit to show you which actions to take in order to keep the conversation going and the doors open for God to work

"Living in 3D" means you:

- Develop friendships
- Discover stories
- Discern next steps

Bill Hybels says, "These days, I try to wake up each morning declaring, 'My life is in your hands, God. Use me to point someone toward you today - I promise to cooperate in any way I can. If you want me to say a word for you today, I'll do that. If you want me to keep quiet but demonstrate love and servant hood, by your Spirit's power I will. I'm fully available to you today, so guide me by your Spirit.'"

*from Bill Hybels', 'Just Walk Across the Room.'*

*Thank-you Brett*

## 8 Cooperation Needs to be About Mission, not Unity by Peter MacKenzie

I have often heard the comment that we are living in a post-modern, post-denominational, post-colonial world. I understand the analysis and the argument; I just object to the timing. We are not there yet and only history will really inform us of when we do make it. We are living in the cusp of this major change and, in many ways, we have to live in two different societies. There continue to be many people who are living with a modern, denominational, colonial worldview. There are many who don't have a computer, email or cell phone. Of significance is the fact that they are often key people in the life of the Church.

When the Church Union movement was in full swing and Cooperative Ventures started to be formed around the country, there was a clear mandate for a cohesive Christian witness. The most cited verse was John 17:20-21 ("that they may all be one"), suggesting that the unity of the Church was paramount. The efforts of many Union and Cooperating parishes were primarily focused on breaking down the denominational divisions and building a unified congregation. For some local churches, this meant living with a diversity of traditions; for others it meant creating their own unified tradition (which melded diversity into one local expression of church).

Experience has shown that the uniting of congregations has generally focused attention internally onto the organisational aspects of parish life, rather than on turning out to the community. Discussions were about buildings, liturgies, equity and oversight – and they have largely missed the missional imperative of taking the Gospel into the community. It may seem a bit radical (especially given my current role) but the quest for a united Church has actually had detrimental effects on the mission of the Church. It has turned our eyes upon a Jesus who stands in the traditions of the Church, rather than the Jesus who stands in the marketplace.

This is not to say that Cooperative Ventures have not worked or that they should not be an option for the future. In fact, I believe that they are a viable alternative for many areas. But... it is important that the motivations for cooperating are clear. When churches come together with a mission imperative, they can achieve great things – and unity is a by-product. It is simple organisational psychology to note that a common goal (or enemy) is a uniting factor for building a team. The unity of the Body of Christ is not seen in us all being the same. Paul describes the body in 1 Corinthians 12 – ears and eyes, hands and feet, all working differently as parts of the body. Here unity and diversity sit side by side. One body – many parts. I sometimes think that the hardest part of being church is to accept that others are also part of the Church. We invest so much into our faith, our theology and our practice that it is difficult to include other expressions of church into the Body of Christ....

It may seem a bit radical but the quest for a united Church has actually had detrimental effects on the Church resources available for mission, and for focus on taking the Body of Christ into the marketplace. It should be an approach that sees a need, identifies the resources required, and builds relationships that make things happen. The focus is not on unity, but on mission - with unity being an outcome, not a goal. ***Such a model is not only relevant for inter-denominational co-operation; I believe it is also relevant for multi-congregational churches and inter-cultural or inter-generational relationships.*** To accept another part of the Church as a valid expression of faith is an important step, and then to be willing to use combined resources for the mission of God. It lets feet be feet and do the walking, while ears are doing the hearing. It affirms that Anglicans, Methodists, Baptists, Assemblies of God, Catholics and Presbyterians are all part of the Body of Christ, and we each have a part to play. It assures us that ancient hymns, choruses, Hillsongs and modern hymns are all valid expressions of faith and are appropriate for the congregations that enjoy that style of music. It reminds us that Maori, Samoan, Tongan, Cook Island, Scottish, English and Kiwi cultures all exist within the Body of Christ and offer diversity of praise. The Body of Christ is not a bland amalgamation of all things to all people, but a vibrant expression of diversity....

As we move through this cusp of history from the modern age to what comes after, we set ourselves the task of finding new ways of being church. We need to develop a clear understanding of the diversity of the Body of Christ and a willingness to accept others into the house of God. Not an easy task, but one that may give longevity to this institution we call Church.

*Peter is the Executive Officer for Uniting Congregations of Aotearoa New Zealand.*

The following is from an article on CrossWalk.Com from the Salem Web Network.

In a recent interview with *Christianity Today*, Billy Graham answered questions about aging and what advice he would give to others growing older. Graham said that despite your age, you are still living because you have a job to do. He later offered words of wisdom to the children who are caring for their aging parents, urging them to be patient and try to understand what their parents are going through. These are the same sentiments expressed by Missy Buchanan, a leading expert and advocate for senior adults.

Even when age creeps up on the body and mind, and life changes from what it once was, is it still possible to have a purpose in life? When it is no longer possible to venture out and do the things you once loved, can you still find a reason to look forward to each day? Author Missy Buchanan believes that you can. Buchanan wants to encourage older adults to find their purpose, share their stories, and make an impact on those around them.

**Q: What made you decide to start ministering to and writing books for older adults?**

**MB:** Well, as a middle-aged adult, I never had any intention of becoming an author of books for older adults. But because of the journey that my own aging parents were on, I realized how they had become disconnected from their church as their lives changed. They started off as active older adults and then that circle got smaller as they had more needs and physical limitations. As I would visit them at their retirement community, I would also see so many others that were just like them. They needed spiritual encouragement. And so that's why I got started. The first book began as a project just for my own parents. I wrote devotions and kept them in a loose-leaf notebook. But others started asking for them and things just spiralled from there.

**Q: What do you think children need to know about their aging parents?**

**MB:** What I realized personally was that I had been so caught up in my parents' physical needs that I had neglected their spiritual needs. They were no longer connected to their church, at least in regular worship attendance, and that had been such a huge part of their lives. I almost made that mistake of just totally missing that, and that was the point where I began to write. I looked and there were other books written about older adults but not very many that were written to them and for them. So the first thing I would tell their children is to pay attention not only to their physical needs but also to their spiritual needs.

**Q: What is your opinion about role reversal with children and their aging parents?**

**MB:** I hear the whole idea of role reversal where the older parent becomes a child and the grown children become the parent, and I understand what they are talking about because my own parents became more dependent on me. But I think that when we refer to it as a role reversal, and we begin to think of our aging parents as children, we strip away their dignity. We rob them of respect and we overlook the fact that they are not children. They have had a lifetime of experiences that a child has not had. And I think that is an important difference that grown children need to think about and pay attention to. It's more of a role shift in responsibilities and not a role reversal. I know how much it hurts an aging parent to feel like they are being treated like a baby or like a child.

**Q: Other than aging adults, who else has benefited from your writing?**

**MB:** A friend of mine in an assisted living facility asked me to bring some books for one of her tablemates. Her tablemate explained that these books were for her adult children. "They don't understand what it feels like to grow old, and I can't seem to make them understand, but your books say it better than I ever could." My books are all written in the first person as if an older adult is speaking directly to God. There are a lot of adult children that are buying them for themselves and older adults buying them for their grown children.

And I've heard of different youth groups that have been reading my books in order to better understand what it's like to grow old. Instead of just mocking their older peers, they are learning that they share a lot of the same feelings - feelings of insecurity, feelings of fear. As a result of reading the books, one youth group in Tennessee has even adopted the residents of the senior living center across from their church. .../

**Q: How can faith change our idea of growing older?**

**MB:** So many see aging as a punishment, and they dread it so much. But even though it is difficult to be limited by an aging body, they need to look at it as a gift that God has given them. They still have so much to give. They have great wisdom to share and stories to share. I always tell my older friends that their story is not yet over.

**Missy Buchanan** is the author of *Don't Write My Obituary Just Yet: Inspiring Faith Stories for Older Adults*, *Talking with God in Old Age: Meditations and Psalms* and *Living with Purpose in a Worn-Out Body: Spiritual Encouragement for Older Adults* (Upper Room Books).

**View From Under the Pew By Church Mouse**

Thank you for the extra crumbs from the mid-winter dinner. Even 'Her-in-doors' had to say a few words of praise at the quality. Thank you to all those involved. Family is family. As we were eating, and sipping on a little mulled wine, the Missus and I had to comment on the positive feeling that we have noticed starting to build over the last couple of months. There seem to still be some entrenched views, but the Parish Review has enabled a bit of venting, we reckon, and let's hope the momentum we feel, for building your Christ's Kingdom, continues. It amazes my Missus and me that in a Christian Community so many people cling to their way as being the only way. Oh well, such is life for you humans I suppose.

**Do You Know Your Hymns?** (Someone spent a lot of time working these ones)

- Dentist's Hymn..... Crown Him with Many Crowns
- Weatherman's Hymn..... There Shall Be Showers of Blessings
- Contractor's Hymn..... The Church's One Foundation
- The Tailor's Hymn..... Holy, Holy, Holy
- The Golfer's Hymn..... There's a Green Hill Far Away
- The Politician's Hymn..... Standing on the Promises
- Optometrist's Hymn..... Open My Eyes That I Might See
- The IRS Agent's Hymn..... I Surrender All
- The Gossip's Hymn..... Pass It On
- The Electrician's Hymn..... Send The Light
- The Shopper's Hymn..... Sweet Bye and Bye
- The Realtor's Hymn..... I've Got a Mansion Just over the Hilltop
- The Massage Therapists Hymn..... He Touched Me
- The Doctor's Hymn..... The Great Physician

AND for those who speed on the highway - a few hymns:.

- 45mph..... God Will Take Care of You
- 65mph..... Nearer My God To Thee
- 85mph..... This World Is Not My Home
- 95mph..... Lord, I'm Coming Home
- 100mph..... Precious Memories

*Give me a sense of humour, Lord,  
Give me the grace to see a joke,  
To get some humour out of life,  
And pass it on to other folk.*

Thanks Brian Neilson

**Do you know what is wrong with the world today? There's too much theologian and not enough kneeologian. – Dallas F Billington**

## CRADLE ROLL

Rylin Glenny	21 <sup>st</sup> July	4 years
Isaac Thomsen	24 <sup>th</sup> July	4 years
William Bathgate	25 <sup>th</sup> July	4 years



**BEREAVEMENTS** Our love and sympathy to the family of Alan Pilkington.

## A CHALLENGE FROM CHRISTCHURCH PRESBYTERY

Rev Sally Carter (St Paul's, Napier) spoke to everyone present at the Presbytery meeting in Wairoa on 18<sup>th</sup> June about the Christchurch earthquake. She has recently shifted from there and has been in communication with the Christchurch Moderator, Rev Martin Stewart. He has a vision of contributing \$200.00 supermarket vouchers to those most in need. To date he has \$30,000.00. Can we (members of the Gisborne Hawke's Bay Presbytery) support him? It was decided that each parish try to contribute \$500.00. A collection box will be in the foyer of our church during July. Many thanks, *Sue Read*

## VISIT BIBLEWORLD MUSEUM AND DISCOVERY CENTRE, ROTORUA!

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## What's on in July

Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> July	10.00 a.m.	Morning tea for Op Shop volunteers
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> July - Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> July		Children's Holiday Programme
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	7.30 p.m.	Board of Managers monthly meeting in the lounge
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	1.45 p.m.	Missionary Guild
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> July	7.30 p.m.	Women's Evening Fellowship
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> July	10.30 a.m.	Monthly Mid Week Service
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> July	7.30 p.m.	Session meeting

## Regular events

Mondays	House Group 7.00 p.m. (fortnightly) Contact: Pam Thrupp 835 5785
Tuesdays	Op Shop open 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Contact: Verna Gillum 844 8265 Prayer Group 11.00 a.m. - 11.30 a.m. Contact: Marjory Yelverton 843 5331 House Group 7.30 - 9 p.m. Contacts: Wim & Inger Slooten 844 9070 House Group 7.30 - 9 p.m. Contact: Robin Arnold 844 7808 Women's Fellowship meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month
Wednesdays	Mainly Music 9.30 a.m. - 10.30 a.m. Contact: Margaret de la Haye 843 2272 Op Shop open 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Contact: Verna Gillum 844 8265 Youth - 'Pimp My Ride' 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. Contact: Mark Seek 027 478 9404 Board of Managers meet at 7.30 p.m. in the church lounge on the third Wednesday
Thursdays	Mainly Music 9.30 a.m. - 10.30 a.m. Contact: Karen Jensen 843 9447 Op Shop open 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Contact: Verna Gillum 844 8265 Missionary Guild meets on the third Thursday of the month Session meet at 7.30 p.m. in the church lounge on the fourth Thursday
Fridays	Youth - 'Contact' 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. Contact: Mark Seek 027 478 9404

The prime need of the Church is not men of money nor men of brains, but men of prayer. *E. M. Bounds*

Church Office Phone and Fax 844-5004 Monday—Friday 9.30am—12.00pm  
 If no reply, please leave a message and we will call you back as soon as we can.

<b>Church Postal Address:</b>	<b>P O Box 7136, Taradale</b>	
Minister	Rev Brett WALKER	844-2256
Acting Session Clerk	Colin ZACHAN	844-8050
Parish Assistant—Youth	Mark SEEK	027 478 9404
Pastoral Care	Robin ARNOLD	844-7808
Communication	Dot McLEOD	844-1211
Af Care/Holiday Programme	Peter WOOTEN (convenor)	843-7770
Change of Address	Church Office	844-5004
HALO - Editor	Jim Payton	843-3937
- Distribution	Wendy GOSLING	844-0282

**Services** – Sunday 9.30 am morning worship

**Communion** is celebrated on the first Sunday of March, August and December and the second Sunday of June, plus Easter and World Communion Day. On the Wednesday following, a Communion service will be held at 11.00 a.m. in the church lounge.



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