

# HALO



**June 2017**

**ST COLUMBA'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
TARADALE**

## From the Minister



### Outreach at St Columba's

Wim spoke at an Elders meeting about how in his travels around the country he had seen many churches that are closed or are likely soon to be closed. Churches with few members or Churches with predominately older members. If we believe the message of forgiveness and life through Jesus then this will greatly concern us. Bill Hybels said "the Church is the hope of the World" because we are called to embody grace and true community and be a living expression of the Kingdom of God. There is a certain discomfort required to become a Church that embodies such hope. A willingness to go deeper with God, deeper in our relationships and deeper in our willingness to serve. Are we willing to do this or shall the last one left turn out the lights here at St Columba's also.

Conversations with some secular people reveal some of the resistance there is to Churches and the message we proclaim. Some fail to see the relevance of the church, they don't believe in the God Christians describe. They haven't experienced the miracles or amazing love of God or even the love of a Christian community. They may be looking for community, they may be looking for hope or answers to life's problems but they don't think the church can provide anything they want. Some think it is a nice club if you want that sort of thing – just don't want to join!

Over the next two years we have committed ourselves to becoming the sort of Church that new people want to join and can find their way to become fully integrated. This is about simple things like making sure our first impressions are great, or our worship is inspiring, or people have opportunities to make friends and easily become a part of community, and where they can offer their gifts to serve in meaningful ways. The particular training we are using is called "24 to Double". It starts with being clear about our Mission.

One of the things Churches have wrestled with for years is the question of mission. Is it the churches role to start groups to meet the particular needs in the community or to encourage people to join the groups that already exist? I remember the very first Parish review when I came here, Bruce Mcleod spoke passionately about the many organisations that the Church members volunteered at: Food bank, the Red Cross, the curtain bank, Lovelink, Napier family centre, Presbyterian Support (especially when they had the rest homes) and many more. But my question was "What is the church's mission?" Are we here to inspire and sustain individuals to use their gifts in the service of the world or are we to connect our message with our ministry in such a way that people are not just helped with their practical needs but also find a connection with God and his people.

One of the challenges Church leaders have to face is that more than 95% of people's time is spent

with their families or at work or play or in other groups. The aim of the Church is not to suck up a bigger percentage of people's time but to encourage people to live authentic, Christ shaped lives wherever they are. Church leaders often think if we could have a bit more of people's time we could really achieve something- so there needs to be some balance. There is a place for the Church to do what it does best, to work cooperatively in a God inspired mission that connects our Message with our Ministry. But we also have to find creative ways to encourage Christians to live and talk about their faith wherever they are.

In this edition of the Halo you will hear about a couple of the groups that people from the Church volunteer in. But there are many ways you can help. Brett has a short Spiritual gifts test that looks at your strengths and areas of interest (Passions) which he can send you if you are interested.

May God Bless you all,

*Brett*



## Golden Thank Offering

St Columba's gives to a number of groups who are doing God's work here in Napier and further afield.

Last year our giving totalled nearly \$4,000 plus what we give to the wider Presbyterian church which includes the Global Mission office and the National Kids Friendly Team.

I was thinking that we should use the golden thank offering as an opportunity to bless these groups which are all running on the smell of an oily rag. Could we double what we gave last year.

### Last years giving was:

|                            |       |
|----------------------------|-------|
| Napier Family Centre       | \$500 |
| Bible in Schools           | \$300 |
| Christian Lovelink         | \$500 |
| EIT Chaplaincy             | \$300 |
| Operation Friendship       | \$200 |
| HB Hospital Chaplaincy Ass | \$500 |
| Other 3rd party appeals    | \$500 |
| Overseas Missions          | 1,500 |

### So where would the money go?

**The Napier Family centre** offers counselling, budgeting, in home child care and a preschool centre. It was set up by the combined churches of Napier – that we might

do together what we cannot do alone. Its board is made up of representatives of several churches although it is a few years since we have had a representative. (They would be grateful if someone was interested).

**Bible in Schools** provides teachers and training for a weekly half hour program in schools telling the Christian story and teaching Values and Morals. In the past few years a number of schools have stopped this but are willing to have a "Champions" program. This is a high energy Christian club held in the lunch times run by professional presenters with volunteers. Steve Demetrius still runs two traditional Bible in Schools classes. Bible in Schools (or officially the Churches Education Commission) also run a Chaplaincy program so Steve Demetrius works under their oversight when he works as Chaplain at Taradale High School and Intermediate.

We have a full article from **Christian Lovelink** about their work and also one from the **Curtain bank** (we would like to add the Curtain bank to our list.) They have a particular

need for a commercial sewing machine.

**EIT Chaplaincy** offers support to students and staff at EIT (St Columba's have several staff members working there). Joanne Magill is newly on the Chaplaincy trust board. **Operation Friendship** offers activities and a chance for international students to make friends with Kiwi's. Sue Walker is on the team leading this.

The Hospital Chaplains offer support to Staff and patients and their families at the Hospital. Barbara Walker is the coordinating Chaplain and has a team of paid and voluntary staff who work with her. This is a pressured and stressful environment when people are facing some of life's most difficult

moments. Chaplains offer a Christ like presence as well as Prayer and Sunday services. Volunteers from St Columba's push beds, taking patients to the Chapel services on two Sundays per year (usually July).

**Overseas Mission.** For the past few years we have supported the Whitestone Chapel in Zimbabwe and Rev Chris Hingley. Chris is no longer involved with Whitestone Chapel and they no longer need our support.

This year I am hoping the Church might also support **Rachel Tovey** who is going on a two year overseas mission trip to help groups working with Human trafficking— particularly to the sex industry (you can read more about her on page 12.)



## Our Mission – To make Jesus Known

This is the Presbyterian Churches mission statement, and it recognises that this is through proclamation, teaching and nurturing, loving service, care of creation and seeking to transform society.

If you have been at Church recently you will know that we are starting a new Alpha course in Mid-June.

Alpha is a course designed primarily for those wanting to know more about the basics of the Christian faith. It is a safe and comfortable place for anyone wanting to ask questions and learn more, and of course eat some good food and enjoy good company.

Alpha is a series of interactive sessions over a period of 11 weeks.

We look at different topics designed to create conversation, suited for non-Christians and "Newbies" starting out on their journey of faith. We discuss life's big questions together, without pressure, follow-up or charge. There is a koha for the meals. At Alpha we meet people from all walks of life; we eat together, watch a DVD, have a discussion and learn from each other in an open and informal setting.

Our next course starts with an introductory dinner on Wednesday, 21 June at 6.30pm.

Contact Wim or the Church office to register your interest.



# Begin your greatest adventure

Watch Bear's story  
[alpha.org.nz](http://alpha.org.nz)



## You're invited...

**To begin the greatest adventure**

### Time and Location

**June 21<sup>st</sup> @ 6.30pm**  
Fish Hall at St Columba  
176 Gloucester Street, Taradale

### Contact Details

Wim 021 550305  
Brett 027 4083658  
Office 8445004

Over 200,000 people in New Zealand and 29 million worldwide have attended Alpha and begun their greatest adventure.

Alpha is an opportunity for anyone to explore the Christian faith in a relaxed setting over a number of weeks with a day or weekend away.

Course covers topics like:

Who is Jesus?  
Why did Jesus die?  
How can I have faith?  
Why & how should I read the bible?  
Does God heal today?  
How do I make the most of my life?

**Alpha**

[alpha.org.nz](http://alpha.org.nz)

## Christian Lovelink

**Why do we exist :** “We look to be the "church in action" showing Gods love for everyone.” HELPING CHURCHES HELP PEOPLE.



### **What do we do:**

- ♦ We collect donated furniture, beds , linen and kitchenware. These are sorted in the clearing house ready to be given out to people in need throughout Napier or Hastings.
- ♦ We receive referrals from over 20 other social agencies for families with needs.
- ♦ We then get an assessor (from a local church) to meet the family and confirm how we can help them.
- ♦ We then give them the items they need (if we have them in the clearing house).

### **What Impact do we have:**

- ♦ The majority of the families we help have been allocated social housing, but have nothing. No Furniture – nothing.
- ♦ We are regularly supplying everything they need to set up home - beds , lounge , dinning , linen and kitchenware.
- ♦ These families have no other source for the support we give them - and are pleased that we exist.

### **How to Help.**

- ♦ We need physical help - drivers, labourers, phone operators.
- ♦ We need prayer support
- ♦ We need financial support - currently we get a lot of our funding from Lotteries and other gaming trusts. It would be great if all our funding came from the Christian community.

Your support is much appreciated.

Blessings,

*Ian Jones*

Volunteers from St Columba's include Nancy Bryan, Wim Slooten, Steve Bevin, Barry Thrupp, Luke Walmsley and others.



# St Columba's Church, Taradale

You are invited to share

## Communion

with us on

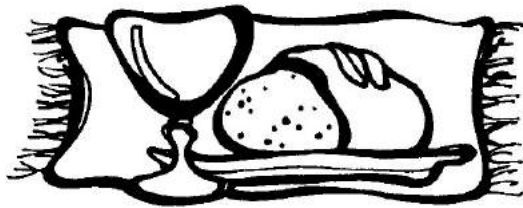
**Sunday, 11 June**

at **9:30 am**

and

**Tuesday, 13 June**

at **10.30 am**



At Christ's table compassion, love,  
and grace are poured out like fine wine.

We come to share our stories and hear God's story,  
to share our hopes and our pain, to share our wisdom and our  
laughter. The table is set, so come let us worship God together!

Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's  
life for one's friends .

John 15:13

## **Hawke's Bay Red Cross Curtain Bank**

**August 2008 to 2017**

Curtain Bank HB is helping families in need to stay warm during the winter months by reducing energy wastage and energy costs. Over 35% of Hawke's Bay people live in the highest deprivation areas. Poor living conditions, together with cold and damp housing, lead to high rates of respiratory conditions such as asthma, whooping cough and bronchitis. Good curtains can almost halve overnight heat loss through windows.

It was started over eight years ago when health prevention programmes came to the forefront. Keeping people warm in Hawke's Bay was seen to be an answer to keeping people, especially children with respiratory illness, out of hospital. Initially a steering group of several social agencies met together and decided to set up a Curtain Bank with donations of recycled curtains. A church hall was our first home and from there we moved into a room at an Insulation firm. A volunteer co-ordinator was appointed and two volunteer helpers mended and processed curtains.

Eight years later Curtain Bank HB is

based in part of David Trim and Associates building at 85 Ford Road, Onekawa, Napier. It is currently open on Tuesday and Thursday mornings and is totally dependent on volunteers. Currently the Curtain Bank is a team of nine volunteers which I oversee as the co-ordinator—ladies who sew on Tuesday, ladies who sew on Thursday mornings and another lady who does outwork sewing. Although these ladies mainly try to keep up with the sewing and mending of curtains, they also help with measuring and bagging curtains and filling of orders for clients.

This initiative in Hawkes Bay encourages donations of curtains from the wider community and from hotels, motels, retirement homes etc. Once donated, the curtains are measured, bagged, refurbished (if necessary) and ready for referrals orders. The curtains are then ready to be distributed to high need families, free of charge, through a referral system. About 90% of the clients and their families have respiratory illnesses or some form of disability. The Child Healthy Homes programmes is also focusing

on providing warm homes for prem and newborn babies – we provide the curtains. Clients measure their windows and send the completed referral through to the Curtain Bank. Curtains are given for lounge, dining and bedroom areas only. The clients or referral agency are expected to pick up and hang the curtains once they are processed.

This project has been up and running for the community for over eight years. During this time we have curtained 995 houses/flats and used over 9,800 curtains to achieve this. Members of the public have donated over 6,000 bags of curtains (usually two per bag) and sometimes curtains come in and go straight out again to clients.

We are pleased to have NZ Red Cross Hawke's Bay Branches supporting the Curtain Bank as a special project and we will continue to provide this valuable service to the community.



We are also very grateful to other organisations for their financial and

practical support by donating curtains.

Thanks, also to Onekawa Curtains and Kathy's Drapes for their support. Also to Peter Hodson who services our sewing machines for free.

The Curtain Bank is also giving to others by making draught stoppers for referrals and Bags for Trauma teddies (hospital).

As a fundraising for the Curtain Bank, we sell recycled fabric shopping bags for \$5.00 which buys needles, thread, unpickers, scissors etc. If we require more expensive items like tapes and linings or new sewing machines, the Red Cross branches in HB and CHB assist by providing us with extra funding. We are also grateful to the Two Fold Op Shop for their financial help which enabled us to buy a new industrial machine.

We would love to be able to provide another worktable for the volunteers and we are also looking to replace a donated industrial sewing machine which is getting tired and seems to need more and more maintenance.

*Janice Zachan*

Co-ordinator Curtain Bank HB

## Rachel Tovey

Rachel is the daughter of friends of ours, she's a Napier girl. She has done a youth ministry internship through Pirimai Baptist Church. She recently ran a fundraiser at the Movies for her current project. This is what she wrote:

Hi there everyone, My name is Rachel, I'm 21, and I'm currently saving up for a mission trip I'm going on in September this year.

My volunteering is going to be with anti-trafficking agencies such as Freeset, A21 and The Hard Places Community. I'll be spending some time in India, Greece and Cambodia, and I'll be overseas for 2 years working with women and children who are currently or have been victims of human trafficking, particularly sexual exploitation.

cotton t-shirts, but our business is freedom! We would like to see the 10,000 sex workers in our neighbourhood empowered with the choice of leaving a profession they never chose in the first place." You can buy their freeset bags at various places in NZ.

<http://freesetglobal.com/>



### **A21: Our mission is to end slavery.**

A21 is a non-profit organisation fueled by radical hope that human beings everywhere will be rescued from bondage and completely restored. "We are the abolitionists of the 21st century. We work with you to free slaves and disrupt the demand. We say Human Trafficking is destroying lives, but freedom will have the final word. Human trafficking is the fastest-growing criminal industry in the world, generating more than \$150 billion USD every year."

[www.a21.org](http://www.a21.org)



freeset™

**Freeset** is a ministry to women in Kolkata India where women who were sold into prostitution can find meaningful employment. Freeset is a Fair Trade business. "We make quality jute bags and organic

## The Hard Places Community

They work in Cambodia, Philippines, Madagascar and India. In Cambodia "We are on the streets of the sex tourist district. Currently we have around 400 children attending our programs in Phnom Penh. We know that healing is a journey. We intervene through taking our kids off the city streets and onto a soccer field and through teaching them computer skills that can change their futures and give them an outlet for their pain and frustration. Our professional counsellors and social

workers dive deep into the lives of our children, bringing freedom and restoration through a long-term program of healing. We boldly stand in the path of destruction and darkness, We proclaim No More! We are dedicated to the whole process of healing and wholeness".

<http://thehardplaces.org/>

Rachel would be grateful for any donations, or better yet, ongoing support through her two year project. You can contact her on 022 405 6171.



The Hard Places  
Community.

## Kids Friendly Care



We provide a FUN and safe environment for children aged 5-13 years old.

Before School: 7.30am - 8.30am

After School: 3pm - 5.30pm

Holiday Programme: 7.30am - 5.30pm

WINZ APPROVED

Our doors are always open so feel free to come in and meet the team!

176 Gloucester Street, Taradale

Anna Neil: 022 643 1691

## **What's On in June & July**

|           |    |      |         |                                  |
|-----------|----|------|---------|----------------------------------|
| Sunday    | 11 | June | 9.30am  | Communion Service                |
|           |    |      | 2.30pm  | Patoka Service                   |
| Tuesday   | 13 | June | 10.30am | Tuesday Church Service—Communion |
| Thursday  | 15 | June | 7.30pm  | Board of Managers Meeting        |
| Sunday    | 18 | June | 9.30am  | Church Service                   |
| Wednesday | 21 | June | 6.30am  | Alpha Course—Introductory Dinner |
| Thursday  | 22 | June | 7.30pm  | Session Meeting                  |
| Sunday    | 25 | June | 9.30am  | Church Service—Family Service    |
| Tuesday   | 27 | June | 6.00pm  | Women's Evening Fellowship       |
| Wednesday | 28 | June | 6.30am  | Alpha Course                     |
| Sunday    | 02 | July | 9.30am  | Church Service                   |
| Wednesday | 05 | July | 6.30am  | Alpha Course                     |
| Sunday    | 09 | July | 9.30am  | Church Service                   |
|           |    |      | 1.30pm  | Patoka Church Service            |
| Tuesday   | 11 | July | 10.30am | Tuesday Church Service           |
| Wednesday | 12 | July | 6.30am  | Alpha Course                     |
| Thursday  | 13 | July | 7.00pm  | Dream Team Meeting               |
| Sunday    | 16 | July | 9.30am  | Church Service - Family Service  |
| Wednesday | 19 | July | 6.30am  | Alpha Course                     |
| Thursday  | 20 | July | 7.30pm  | Board of Managers Meeting        |
| Sunday    | 23 | July | 9.30am  | Church Service - Family Service  |
| Tuesday   | 25 | July | 6.00pm  | Women's Evening Fellowship       |
| Wednesday | 26 | July | 6.30am  | Alpha Course                     |
| Thursday  | 27 | July | 7.30pm  | Session Meeting                  |
| Sunday    | 30 | July | 9.30am  | Church Service                   |

## Regular events

|                   |   |                   |
|-------------------|---|-------------------|
| <b>Mondays</b>    | <i>House Group</i><br>Contact: Bob Wallis 844 5630  | 7.30pm - 9.00pm   |
| <b>Tuesdays</b>   | <i>Op Shop open</i><br>Contact: Cynthia Duncan 845 3539   | 10.00am - 4.00pm  |
|                   | <i>Youth Group Massive Bible Study</i><br>Contact: Steve Demetrius 844 2734                         | 6.00pm - 7.00pm   |
|                   | <i>Tuesday Church Service</i><br>2nd Tuesday of the month   | 10.30am - 11.30am |
|                   | <i>Women's Fellowship meeting</i><br>4th Tuesday of the month                                       | 7.30pm            |
| <b>Wednesdays</b> | <i>Mainly Music</i><br>Contact: Margaret 843 2272   | 9.30am - 10.30am  |
|                   | <i>House Group @ Church</i><br>Contact: Brett Walker 844 2256                                       | 7.00pm - 8.30pm   |
|                   | <i>Op Shop open</i><br>Contact: Cynthia Duncan 845 3539   | 10.00am - 4.00pm  |
|                   | <i>Craft Group meet at the church</i><br>1st Wednesday of the month<br>Contact: Sue Walker 844 2256 | 7.00pm            |
| <b>Thursdays</b>  | <i>Mainly Music</i><br>Contact: Karen Jensen 843 9447   | 9.30am - 10.30am  |
|                   | <i>Op Shop open</i><br>Contact: Cynthia Duncan 845 3539   | 10.00am - 4.00pm  |
|                   | <i>Board of Managers meeting</i><br>3rd Thursday of the month                                       | 7.30pm            |
|                   | <i>Session meeting</i><br>4th Thursday of the month   | 7.30pm            |
| <b>Fridays</b>    | <i>Massive Youth Group</i><br>Contact: Steve Demetrius 844 2734                                     | 7.00pm - 9.00pm   |
| <b>Sundays</b>    | <i>6789 Youth Group (fortnightly)</i><br>Contact: Steve Demetrius 844 2734                          | 6.15pm - 7.30pm   |



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