



# Little Acorns



August – October 2020

The Quarterly Newsletter of  
Holy Trinity Anglican Parish, Woodville

## **Pandemic Reflections...**

I don't have a single neatly themed message for this issue of Little Acorns, instead I offer some reflections on the situation the world finds itself in and the hope we hold as a community of faith through the comfort, love and support of God.

The COVID pandemic is unprecedented in living memory. However, for those alive in 1918 current events would seem very familiar, even if the world at large with its computers and passenger jets would seem bizarre. The 'Spanish Flu' that spread around the world over a century ago, aided by troop movements at the end of World War One, eventually claimed 9,000 lives in New Zealand, and an estimated 20-50 million people across the globe. It is everyone's sincere prayer that the current pandemic doesn't reach these levels, and hopefully with modern medicine and controls it won't! However, for now we continue to read and watch the news with sadness at all the countries still deep in the grip of this new and terrifyingly unknown disease. The need for continued vigilance at our borders and in our community, and for world health authorities keeping watch for emerging diseases, is crystal clear.

The current disease and the lockdown needed to control and eventually eliminate it from New Zealand (outside the quarantine facilities operating for returning kiwis) is a powerful reminder of the importance of community, of our collective actions and responsibilities as family, town, nation and church. Jesus spoke of the community of faith as a body, each with a part to play. This metaphor is helpful for wider community life too. Only when everyone plays their part can the body be healed and healthy. Jesus was also pretty clear in his teaching about humility, selflessness, and helping those in need – it is wonderful to see those teachings lived out both in ordinary life and at times of crisis. The Christian message and teachings underpin a society that cares and acts for the wellbeing of all, and are hopefully continuing to influence the modern world. It is a source of real hope to see those things lived out by most New Zealanders during these hard times. And, we pray, at all times.

It was heart breaking to see people isolated and families apart at times of loss during the lockdown. While it was aimed at keeping the living safe, the loss of physical connection when we naturally want to come together

to comfort and mourn one another would have been such a hard blow. Grief is never easy, but we need to be alert to people who suffered loss during the lockdown and look for ways to help support them as they grapple with the extra ongoing sorrow they bear.

While I was lucky to share my bubble with my immediate family and kept in touch by phone and long distance chat with many, it was a real wrench for me not to have church services with us all together. The absence of that direct fellowship with my church family was a struggle. So it was deeply joyful when lockdown ended and we could all once more spend time together – and that our first service back fell on the Day of Pentecost was so special. I for one will never again take exchanging the peace for granted – to be able to hold another’s hand, look them in the eye and say “peace be with you” seems so simple, yet is a powerful act of Christian community. I know most of us feel the profound joy of meeting once more – in a way I think it gives us a real sense of the excitement early Christians must felt when they got to meet, infrequently and often in secret, during hostile times – I hope it’s a feeling we can all hold on to! May you all stay safe and well in the weeks and months to come.

Arohanui, Rosie



### **In Memoriam**

The past months have seen the deaths of a number of Woodville and former Woodville folk. Our sympathy and prayers go out to the families and friends of the departed. We remember:

- ⊕ Pete Hutchins
- ⊕ Olive Smith
- ⊕ Amelia Karena
- ⊕ Sian Carter



### **Twice-monthly Prayer Meetings**

Prayer and Bible study meetings are held at 2.00pm on the second and fourth Mondays of each month in Holy Trinity, all are welcome to come along!



### **Young at Heart, Older Folks' Social Afternoons**

2pm on the fourth Thursday of each month

Holy Trinity Hall

Please contact Rosie McMillan if you'd like help with transportation.



### **Thank You to Essential Workers**

Woodville District Visions is hosting an afternoon tea

at 3pm on Sunday 30 August 2020

in the Woodville Sports Stadium (Ross St),

to say thank you everyone who helped the Woodville community over the COVID-19 lockdown, whether as an essential worker keeping key services running smoothly, or caregivers and volunteers providing support of all kinds to individuals and families.



## **Bazaar and Flower Show**

Holy Trinity Hall

Saturday 12 September 2020

Doors open at 12pm



- ❖ Baking, produce and raffles stalls, with display by local artist
- ❖ Soup and savoury lunch, \$8 a head
- ❖ Staging of flowers to be finished by 10am, to allow judging to be completed by noon



## **Around the World in 80 Days**

Holy Trinity Spring Dinner

From 6pm, Saturday 3 October 2020

Holy Trinity Hall

Tickets \$20 a head

Pack your trunk with all the essentials you need for a fun evening with games, quiz rounds and a meal that's worth leaving home for!

Prizes for best costumes & travel tips!



### **Stand Up and Sing group**

Stand Up and Sing, the community singing group, meets at 7.00pm on Monday evenings in Holy Trinity. All are very welcome to join!



### **Woodville Food Bank**

Woodville's Food Bank continues to provide food parcels to those in need. A big thank you to everyone who supports this vital community service! If you're able, please feel free to bring a can or packet of foodstuffs along anytime to a service – there is a collection basket at the rear of the church.

### **People in Need?**

As disciples we are constantly called to be the hands and feet of Christ. Please let Rosie McMillan know if you:

- ❖ are aware of someone who would appreciate a pastoral visit, whether it's to discuss a particular issue or just to have a general visit
- ❖ know of someone who is struggling or on a tight budget, and could benefit from meal support or some other form of assistance



## **Affirmation**

We believe that God is present  
in the darkness before dawn;  
in the waiting and uncertainty where fear and courage  
join hands, conflict and caring link arms,  
and the sun rises over barbed wire. We believe in a  
with-us God  
who sits down in our midst  
to share our humanity.

We affirm a faith  
that takes us beyond the safe place:  
into action, into vulnerability  
and into the streets.

We commit ourselves to work for change and put  
ourselves on the line;  
to bear responsibility, take risks,  
live powerfully and face humiliation;  
to stand with those on the edge;  
to choose life  
and be used by the Spirit  
for God's new community of hope.  
Amen

*The Iona Community*



## **Christian World Service Campaign**

CWS, Oxfam and World Vision have launched Big Hearts Connected World, a campaign for a 20% increase in the New Zealand aid budget. Part of our response to the Covid-19 pandemic, the need for climate action and decent livelihoods, and the global recession, Big Hearts is asking the next government to commit to a Collective Resilience Plan. The plan includes putting in place steps to achieve the agreement to spend 0.7% of Gross National Income on aid and a doubling of funding for global climate action.

Last year, Official Development Assistance or government spending was 0.28%, about \$860 million. We need to spend more to protect people's health and livelihoods from Covid-19. The United Nations reports 265 million people could face starvation by the end of the year and last month launched a NZ\$15.7 billion Coronavirus appeal, the largest ever.

Please go to <https://www.bighearts.org.nz> to sign the petition – if you don't have internet access, please get in touch with Rosie McMillan and she can get your name added on your behalf.

With the election coming up, if you're at an electioneering events you might want to ask the candidates to support the initiative.





## **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Race**

It feels like a long time ago now, but back on 25 February the young and young at heart of Woodville turned out in the Holy Trinity grounds to take part in this year's Shrove Tuesday pancake race. This saw teams in a relay rush to get their skilfully flipped pancakes from one end of the course to the other. After all that competition, the exhausted participants enjoyed a free sausage sizzle dinner. Many thanks to all helpers and participants!



## **Young at Heart Mid-winter Luncheon**

Young at Heart gathered at midday on Thursday 23 July to enjoy a soup and savoury mid-winter lunch. It was lovely to resume the Young at Heart meetings with a catch up over a tasty meal. The group got to wish Joyce McIntyre a happy birthday for her 96<sup>th</sup> birthday the following day.



## Events

### August 2020

- |                           |         |   |
|---------------------------|---------|---|
| Monday 10 <sup>th</sup>   | 2.00pm  | Bible study meeting in Holy Trinity                 |
| Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> | 10.00am | Anglican Women's Group meets at the Long Black Café |
| Monday 24 <sup>th</sup>   | 2.00pm  | Prayer meeting in Holy Trinity                      |
| Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> | 2.00pm  | Young at Heart social afternoon in the Hall         |

### September 2020

- |                           |        |   |
|---------------------------|--------|---|
| Monday 14 <sup>th</sup>   | 2.00pm | Bible study meeting in Holy Trinity         |
| Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> | 2.00pm | Anglican Women's Group meets in the Hall    |
| Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> | 2.00pm | Young at Heart social afternoon in the Hall |
| Monday 28 <sup>th</sup>   | 2.00pm | Prayer meeting in Holy Trinity              |

### October 2020

- |                           |        |   |
|---------------------------|--------|---|
| Monday 12 <sup>th</sup>   | 2.00pm | Bible study meeting in Holy Trinity         |
| Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> | 2.00pm | Anglican Women's Group meets in the Hall    |
| Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> | 2.00pm | Young at Heart social afternoon in the Hall |
| Monday 26 <sup>th</sup>   | 2.00pm | Prayer meeting in Holy Trinity              |



## Church Services

### August 2020

Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	9.30am	Eucharist
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Family Service
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Eucharist
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	9.30am	Eucharist
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Eucharist

### September 2020

Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Eucharist
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Family Service
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Eucharist
Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Union Service

### October 2020

Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Family Service
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Eucharist
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Eucharist
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Eucharist

## Key contacts

Parish website: [www.htwoodville.org](http://www.htwoodville.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/holytrinitywoodville/](https://www.facebook.com/holytrinitywoodville/)

Role	Person	Telephone
Local Priest	Rev. Rosie McMillan	06 376 5972
Parish Wardens	Janice Wiri	06 376 4838
	Rona Squires	06 376 5076
Vestry Chair	Vicky Tomlinson	022 643 9419
Parish Treasurer	Janice Wiri	06 376 4838
Parish Secretary	Rona Squires	06 376 5076
Anglican Women's Group	Rev. Rosie McMillan	06 376 5972
Foodbank Coordinator	Jim Worboys	06 376 4023