### **Newsletter November 2017**

#### Advent

Adam Grazanio, age 10, of Queens, New York, had suffered massive head injuries in November 1995 in a skating accident and lay comatose in a New York hospital. His mother, Margaret Grazanio, kept constant vigil at his bedside and consequently lost her job.

As Advent dawned, Adam came out of his coma. His first word was 'Mommy.' And then he said, 'God smiled on me.' Rejoicing over her son's first words, Margaret said, 'I'll remember it as my Christmas gift that came early.'

Christmas is the time when the world rejoices because God smiled on us and gave the gift of the new 'Adam.'

'Gabriel appeared to Mary and said, 'Greetings, favoured woman! The Lord is with you!' Luke 1:28

### **Christmas Services**

This year we will be holding the following services. **Christmas Eve** – Family Carol service at 6.00pm. Holy Communion at 11.00pm. **Christmas Day** – Holy Communion at 10.00am.

Family, friends, visitors all very welcome.

## **Samoan Methodist Congregation**

We have been approached by the Flat Bush Samoan congregation to use our hall for worship on Sunday afternoons. They were meeting in a garage but the Auckland Council has forbidden them to continue with that venue. So they are now hiring our hall from 1.00pm to 2.00pm and then again 5.00pm to 6.00pm every Sunday. As well, they will be using it on Saturdays 6.00 to 7.00pm for choir practice. Naturally, any St Paul's commitments will take priority.

The Flat Bush Tongan congregation will continue to use the church on Sunday afternoons and Wednesday evenings.

It is a good thing to be sharing our facilities with our community, and they are so very grateful.

#### Website

We are looking for a volunteer to load the monthly newsletter on to our website. It is not a straightforward task for anyone who doesn't have some ability in this field. If you think this is something you might like to help us with, please let me know.

# **Working Bee**

We are holding a working bee on Saturday 9 December beginning at 9.00am in order to tidy up the surrounds of our church and have it looking smart for Christmas. Any help is most welcome.

# To Ponder

'When I pray, coincidences happen. And when I stop praying, the coincidences stop.' *Archbishop William Temple* 



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