

St Paul's in the Park June Newsletter

Giving

Giving, as in giving money to our church, is not something we talk a great deal about. However, it is a topic that should be addressed occasionally because without it our financial well-being is inclined to suffer. I am moved to touch on the subject because our books are in the red at this halfway point in the year.

Last year we finished the year with a credit balance, which was a superb effort. Many ministry units don't manage to achieve that. All credit to us! I do need to say that for a small church we do extremely well and I want to acknowledge that.

However, let's take up the challenge of repeating last year's effort. In the end, if we all pitch in, I am quite sure we can meet that challenge. Besides, as we all know, giving is a very important part of our Christian ethic.

There is the true story of a 13 year old boy who read Dr Albert Schweitzer's work on Africa. He wanted to help. He had enough money to buy one bottle of aspirin. He wrote to the Air Force and asked if they could fly over Dr Schweitzer's hospital and drop the bottle down to him. A radio station broadcasted the story about this boy's concern for helping others. The story spread. Others responded as well. Eventually, he was flown by the Air Force to Schweitzer's hospital with over four tonnes of medical supplies worth half a million dollars freely given by thousands of people. This, of course, would be the equivalent of millions of dollars today.

This all happened because a young boy wanted to do his little bit. We can all make a contribution. Even if that contribution is small, the sum total can be something quite significant. This, of course, applies to all areas of life, not just our church.

If you want to donate via the envelope system, email Jenny Burrow (jrburrow2016@gmail.com). She will allocate a donor number to you and issue you with appropriate envelopes. Alternatively, you might like to donate via internet banking. You still need to contact Jenny to obtain a donor number. The church bank account number is 06 0991 0056055 00. Please enter your donor number in Reference.

Your support is hugely appreciated.

Jammies in June

Our appeal for kids' pyjamas for KidzFirst hospital continues until the end of the month. Warm and button-up. Please drop off at the church.

One Can – Two Can Appeal

Over the next three weeks we will be supporting the Auckland City Mission's annual winter appeal for canned food. If you have warm clothing, blankets etc, they would also be gratefully received. Please bring your offerings to the church.

Confirmation

On Sunday June 2nd, Bishop Ross Bay presided over the Confirmation of four of our young people – Neha Joseph, Jordyn Millward, Alaisea Siu and Rosalina Siu. It was a moving and uplifting service as we gathered to support these girls in the very significant step they have taken in their spiritual journey. For photos and a fuller report, please visit our website.

On that note, many thanks to Angeline Narayan for maintaining our website. There are many photos covering a range of occasions, so please do have a look.

Church and hall usage

There is considerable activity taking place at St Paul's during the week. The programme is as

follows:

Scouts – Monday and Tuesday evenings.

Space – Tuesday mornings.

Korean Positive Ageing Group – Tuesday afternoons.

Selwyn Seniors – Friday mornings.

Samoan Methodist congregation – Friday evenings, Saturday afternoons and Sunday afternoons.

Tongan Methodist congregation – Wednesday evenings and Sunday afternoons.

As well, we are often approached for one-off occasions such as weddings or other social occasions. It is so good to have our facilities being used by the community, and as well, it is welcome income for the church.

Selwyn Seniors

We have had to advertise for a new coordinator and as a result Ann Henderson will take up the role on Friday 28 June. Many thanks to Ann McLean for stepping into the breach in the meantime.

Alaisea Siu

Congratulations to Alaisea who has been selected to participate in a leadership programme (BOLD) run by Anglican Youth Ministries (AYM). Over the next twelve months she will attend weekend training sessions, a camp, a youth conference in Christchurch and a ministry exchange in Fiji.

Alaisea does a magnificent job running our Sunday School and we are delighted that she has this wonderful opportunity to grow her leadership skills.

There is naturally a cost involved. Most of the costs are being covered by AYM but the cost of the trip to Fiji (\$2,300) has to be met by the participants. We have successfully applied for a \$500 grant. As well, vestry has agreed to contribute \$500 from church funds, and we are looking to hold a fundraising event after the winter (watch this space). The participants will also be fundraising as a group.

We are very proud of Alaisea and wish her all the very best.

New Church

Planning for the building of our new church is coming along well. I would like to put out a detailed newsletter in a couple of weeks to update you on our progress. Suffice to say, we have reached the Development stage and will be approaching potential donors soon.



To ponder

"You must not lose faith in humanity. Humanity is an ocean; if a few drops of the ocean are dirty, the ocean does not become dirty."

Mahatma Gandhi

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