

Salt of the earth

A man walked into a grocery store and asked, 'Do you sell salt?' 'Ha,' said the storekeeper, 'Do we sell salt! Just look!' He showed the customer one entire wall of shelves stocked with nothing but salt – rock salt, iodized salt, sea salt, garlic salt, seasoning salt, Epsom salts – every kind of salt imaginable.

'Wow,' said the customer. 'You think that's something', said the storekeeper, 'Come with me.' He led the customer to a back room filled with shelves and bins and cartons and boxes of salt. 'Do we sell salt!'

'Incredible,' said the customer, 'You really do sell salt.' 'No,' said the storekeeper, 'That's just the problem. We don't sell any salt, but that salt salesman, oh boy, does he sell salt!'

'You are the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavour? Can you make it useful again? It will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless.' Matthew 5:13

The most obvious quality of salt is that it lends flavour to food. As Christians we should be adding flavour to life. Unfortunately, that is not always the case, and all too often people associate Christianity with negative attributes such as judgmental, exclusive and boring. If we really want to promote Christianity, it is important that we are seen to be full of the joys of life and embracing all and sundry with love.

'Always be full of joy in the Lord. Let everyone see that you are considerate in all you do.' Philippians 4:4-5

Mainly Music

I am intending to get a Mainly Music programme under way at the beginning of November. Mainly Music is aimed at pre-school kids, along with mums (or whoever is in charge at the time). We will meet on Wednesday mornings in the hall 9.30am to midday. I am looking for volunteers to help me with this programme. If you think you might like to help (welcoming, kitchen, counting money, music), please let me know.

Treasurer

We are grateful to Stephen Peat who has volunteered to take over as Treasurer. He will commence his new role on September 1.

I would like to thank both Angeline Narayan and Joseph George who have been holding the fort since Richard Warham's departure.

Finances

Just to report that we remain in the red, by about \$5,000. A credit balance would be a nice present for our new treasurer!

Social/fundraising evening

Just a reminder to mark Friday 11 October in your diary. Details will follow later.

Church build

That newsletter will eventuate, I promise! In the meantime, if you are able to attend church on Sunday September 1st, we will be showing a walk-through of the new church. If you are not excited now, you will be when you have seen this.....trust me!

'Preparing for the future.'

None of us can escape the inevitable – moving on from this earthly realm. On Friday 13 September, Selwyn Seniors are holding a mini-seminar as we look ahead to our 'date with destiny.' A lawyer (wills) and a funeral director will be sharing their experience. We are inviting anyone who would like to attend. If you would like to come along, it would be helpful if you could let Ann McLean know (a.mclean@xtra.co.nz 021 104 1540). It will be an uplifting occasion! We meet in the church hall and you would need to arrive before 9.30am.

At a later date, sometime in October, Ann and I, along with a funeral celebrant, will be speaking about putting together a service and we will also have someone from Manukau Memorial Gardens share with us.

Blessing of pets

Another date for your diary. On Sunday 6 October, in celebration of St Francis of Assisi Day (4 October) we will have a Blessing of Pets service, usual time 10.00am. All pets welcome.



To ponder.

‘The most beautiful thing is to see someone smiling.....and even more beautiful is knowing that you are the reason behind it!’ Anon.

Reverend Warner Wilder

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