

St Paul's in the Park October 2019 Newsletter

Forgiveness

When John Wesley was sailing to America he witnessed the keel-hauling of a member of the crew for an offence on board ship. This was a particularly cruel form of punishment as it meant being tied to a rope, thrown overboard, drawn under the vessel and out the other side. There was always the chance you would drown or perish in some other way.

The captain said to John Wesley, 'You see, Mr Wesley, I never forgive.' It was not for John Wesley to question the captain's power of command but he could and did question that statement. He replied, 'Then, sir, I hope that you never sin.'

Before we pass judgment or condemn anyone, which we are all prone to do, we need to stop and consider our own fallibilities and erroneous ways.

'Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how often should I forgive someone who sins against me? Seven times seven?" "No", replied Jesus, "seventy times seven!"'

Matthew 18:21-22

Fundraising Social

Last Friday we held a very successful social evening which raised over \$700 towards Alaisea's leadership programme. The turnout from our congregation was not large but our numbers were boosted by our friends from the Samoan Methodist congregation, with representation also from the Tongan congregation. It was a fun night with dancing, singing, story telling, a little magic from our MC, Onosai, and a sumptuous spread.

Many thanks to Alaisea and her family, Viv, Tua and Ngaire, who put so much work into the occasion, and indeed have raised a good portion of the \$2,300 needed through their own efforts.

Finances

While we are on the topic of money, we are still in the red by about \$2,000. I am confident we can move into credit by the end of the year.

Prayer for new build

Prayer should play an integral role in our quest for fulfillment, no matter the field or nature of that fulfillment, assuming it is aligned with God's will, of course! I would like you to consider including a prayer for our church build in your daily prayers. I wouldn't want to write your prayer for you but I would like to suggest these elements:

- Diocesan Council to grasp our vision of mission to the growing community of Flat Bush
- Bishop Ross in his leadership role
- our fundraising committee as they prepare to approach potential donors
- that the necessary funds will be realised
- our church as we reach out to our local community
- that God's Holy Spirit will underpin and drive the efforts of us all as we a) raise funds for our new church and b) spread the Christian gospel to our local community

Target for fundraising

At our recent Vestry meeting there was much discussion as to what would be a realistic target for our congregation to aim for in terms of a contribution towards the cost of our build. It is acknowledged that we are small in numbers and, by and large, wouldn't be considered to be an affluent congregation. It goes without saying that the funding of our build is not going to stand or fall on the outcome of the congregation's fundraising efforts.

However, it is most important that we all feel part of the journey we are on, and that we have

made a contribution in our own small way. It is also important that our target does not become a burden. For these reasons we have set a target of \$25,000.

A couple of points to be made. Firstly, we have until the end of next year to raise that money. Secondly, it is important that achieving this goal does not come at the expense of our regular giving towards our church. We still have a church to support and run!

Watch this space for fundraising events. If you have any ideas, we would love to hear them. And finally, if you want to donate, please use BUILD as your reference for internet banking or on your envelope.

Bishop Jim

Many of you will be aware that Bishop Jim White has decided to retire due to health struggles. His ministry will be celebrated on Advent Sunday (December 1) with a service in Holy Trinity Cathedral at 3.00pm. If you would like to contribute towards a gift for Bishop Jim, there will be blank envelopes available at church. Just write Bishop Jim on the front. If you use internet banking, use our bank account with reference Bishop Jim.

Cleaning roster

If you would like to be added to the cleaning roster, please let me know. Even if you can commit to once every three months, it all helps. Or else, you might like to pay for an outside cleaner once every three months (\$75).

INDABA2

Due to a lack of response from our neighbouring ministry units, this event will not be taking place.

Community Walk

If you feel like a little exercise and are free on Wednesday 6 November, come along and join the Community Walk as advertised below.

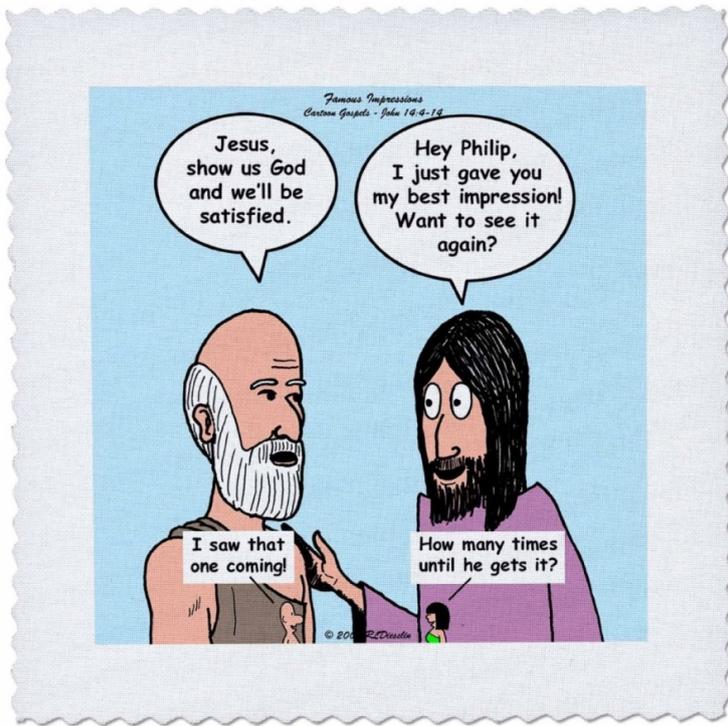
Time for a smile

A man walks into a psychiatrist's office with a pancake on his head, a fried egg on each shoulder and a rasher of bacon over each ear. 'Ok,' says the psychiatrist, 'what seems to be the problem?' 'I'm worried about my brother,' says the man.

Selwyn Seniors

Recently Selwyn Seniors celebrated their 10th birthday. 25 guests, volunteers, coordinators past and present, and Mallika from the Selwyn Foundation gathered for a beautiful morning tea provided by the volunteers. The longest and newest attending guests cut the celebration cake, after Ann McLean, the original coordinator, gave a short history of the group. Then Wayne Woods provided musical entertainment to which we all sung and danced. A fun and happy day was had by all.

On Friday 25 October there will be a further presentation, 'Preparing for the Future', which is open to anyone interested. The focus will be on putting together a funeral service. You are most welcome to come along. Proceedings get under way at 9.30am.



To ponder

'To do all the talking and not be willing to listen is a form of greed.'
Democritus of Abdera

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FREE COMMUNITY WALK



*Get healthy, make new friends and
learn more about health and wellbeing*

▶ **Wednesday 6 November 2019** | 10.00am - 12.00pm
St Paul's in the Park, 141 Chapel Road, Flat Bush

SCHEDULE

10.00am	Welcome and introductions
10.15am	Warm up
10.30am	Guided walk starts (2.5km or 5km option)
11.30am	Morning tea and short presentations, followed by sharing your ideas on what you would like more of in the community

REGISTRATION IS ESSENTIAL FOR CATERING PURPOSES

please leave your name and number of attendees

Email parvink@easthealth.co.nz
Phone 09 538 0599 for further information