

## St Paul's in the Park Newsletter May 2026

### Tolerance

*A father and his son were travelling on a bus. The father inadvertently violated a minor safety regulation on the bus. The bus driver went berserk. He verbally abused the father, humiliating him in front of his young son and the rest of the passengers.*

*After it was all over, the boy said to his father, 'Dad, you didn't have to take that. He was way out of line.' The father replied, 'Son, that poor man has to put up with himself twenty-fours a day. The least I can do is put up with him for two minutes.'*

When we respond to any sort of unpleasantness, negativity or unkindness, all we are doing is letting ourselves be dragged down to the level of the perpetrator. By not responding, we rise above the antagonism, and can actually claim the moral high ground. It is called 'turning the other cheek, and it is very powerful.

'But I say, don't resist an evil person. If you are slapped on the right cheek, turn the other too.'  
Matthew 5:39.

### Rev Bruce Richardson

On Sunday 3 May we farewelled Rev Bruce Richardson. Bruce has been part of our congregation for a few years and has played a significant role in helping out with our Sunday services. Bruce has moved to Christchurch to be with family. I am most grateful for his support during his time with us.



### Pentecost

This coming Sunday (24<sup>th</sup>) is Pentecost Sunday. Pentecost is regarded as the birthday of our church, so it will be something of a celebration. Make sure you join us for a birthday bash!

### Barry Raeburn

On Sunday 7 June Barry Raeburn will be preaching. Barry, who has preached at our church previously, is an experienced evangelist preacher, having preached at a wide range of gatherings in the United States, England and Africa. He is now the National Director for Mission Without Borders New Zealand, a Christian organisation reaching out to the poor and marginalised in Eastern Europe. I can assure you he will be most interesting.

### Blood Drive

On Tuesday 2 June we are hosting a NZ Blood Service blood drive 1.00 – 6.00pm at The Park Community Centre. Please see attached notice.

### **Jammies in June**

It's that time of the year again! It is a cause we have always supported well. Please see attached poster.

### **Stewardship Sunday**

Advanced notice – Sunday 28 June will be Stewardship Sunday. The focus will be on giving! More on this later, but two points to ponder. Firstly, giving should be part of our Christian ethic. Secondly, running a church does entail costs.

### **Car Boot Sale**

Disappointing turnout (\$207 made). However, to be looked upon as a learning experience.

### **Time for a Smile**

Teacher: Glen, how do you spell 'crocodile?'

Glen: k-r-o-k-o-d-i-l-e

Teacher: No, that's wrong.

Glen: Maybe it is wrong, but you asked me how I spell it.

Teacher: Winnie, name one thing we have today that we didn't have ten years ago.

Winnie: Me!

### **To Ponder**

*'The preacher is not a chef; he's a waiter. God doesn't want you to make the meal; he just wants you to deliver it to the table without messing it up. That's all.'* John MacArthur.

Rev Warner Wilder

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