



**Light Party**  
**31 October**  
**2022**



**The appreciative crowd**

**Horizontal  
bungee**



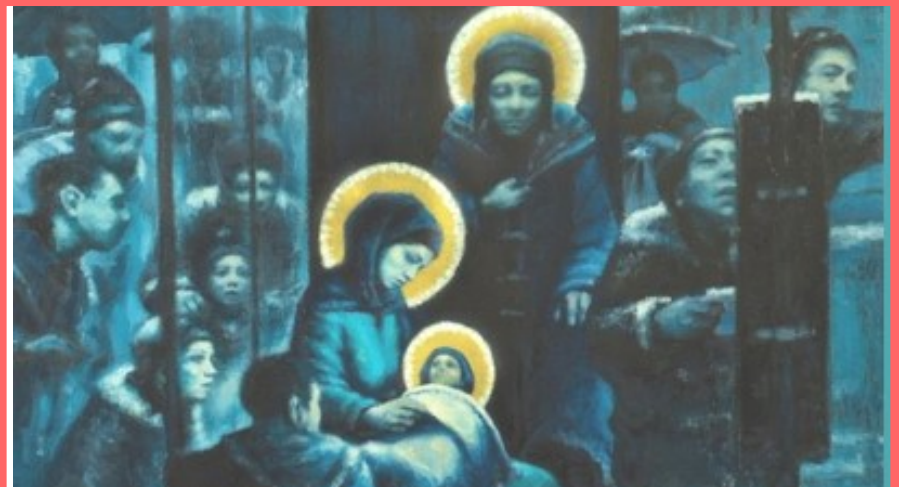
# **ST DAVID'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OTOROHANGA**

**DECEMBER 2022**

Ranfurly St  
Otorohanga

## **OUR MISSION STATEMENT**

**Linked together as disciples of Christ to share our faith with  
and give loving service to the community.**



A freezing bus shelter. See Moderator's message page 4.

## **CHURCH & Parish Life contacts**

**TREASURER** Claire Sherrington (07) 873 7670

**SESSION CLERK** Dawn Phillips (07) 873 8735

**ROOM BOOKINGS** Nina Mark (07) 873 6963

**OTOROHANGA BUTCHERY**

Fresh meat

Professional home kill service, all species

Ph 07 873 7296

15 Maniapoto St, Otorohanga

**LUPTON ENGINEERING**

General engineering

Welding \* Machining \* Engineering supplies

GAVIN LUPTON

26 Progress Drive, Otorohanga

Ph 07 873 8733 Fax 07 873 7306

Calendar for December 2022 and January 2023

Sun 4	10.00am	Morning Worship
Sat 10	4.00pm	Beattie Home Service
Sun 11	10.00am	Communion
Wed 14	2.00pm	Managers
Sat 17	4.00pm	Beattie Home Service
Sun 18	10.00am	Morning Worship
	7.30pm	Carol service, Baptist Church
Wed 21	9.30am	Session
Sat 24	6.30/7pm	Christmas Eve, Harvest Centre
Sun 25	9.30am	Christmas Day Service
Sun 1 Jan	10.00am	Morning Worship
Sun 8	10.00am	Morning Worship
Sun 15	10.00am	Morning Worship
Sun 22	10.00am	Morning Worship
Sun 29	10.00am	Morning Worship

Every Friday 9am Prayer meeting at St David's

What's the difference between the Christmas alphabet and the regular alphabet? The Christmas alphabet has Noel.

News from the AGM held on Sunday 20 November, 11am.

The meeting covered 2 years, firstly due to Covid restrictions, then because we had to investigate the question of a quorum for our AGM.

**Present:** Dawn Phillips (deputed to chair by Rev Ron Bennet, moderator of Kaimai Presbytery), Keith Budge, Monty Graham, Claire Sherrington, Nina Mark, Gwen Kramer, Kathy Harnett, Janice Davis, Eleanor Gibson, Trevor Coley and Jane McIlroy (minute-taker).

**Apologies** were received from Wendy Tolland and Sol and Ella Nelson.

We observed a brief silence in remembrance of those members and associate members who had died in the last two years.

The reports for the year ending June 30, 2021, had been printed in the newsletter at the time and were not revisited. Reports for the year from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022 from Session, Managers, and the Treasurer were presented. These were all adopted.

Claire had prepared a budget for the year ending 30 June, 2023, and this was approved.

Claire was re-elected as Treasurer.

Kathy Harnett and Janice Davis agreed to stand and were elected onto the Board of Managers. Wendy Tolland had regrettably resigned during the year.

Bailey Ingham, having already indicated their willingness, were re-appointed as Reviewers/Compilers for St David's.



What did Adam say on the day before Christmas?

"It's Christmas, Eve."

the complex over the past twelve months, but we were very fortunate to have Covid vaccinations bookings continue over this period.

The complex has been kept clean and tidy, by the hard working volunteers. Repair and Maintenance has continued throughout the year with the whole of the outside of the church complex and Manse being cleaned by Wash rite. The roofs were sprayed with a moss and algae cleaner which should keep them clean for the next two years. The hall, kitchen and toilet floors have been re polished and the Fire Action signs have been put up and Building WF has been received and put on display.

This year shows a surplus of \$5959.00 with gross income of \$115,384 which includes \$70,000 of donations for Stipend Costs and \$5,000 from a legacy, while expenditure totalled \$109,426.

Let's hope the covid issues are behind us and the next 12 months will run smoothly.

Keep Safe and be kind to one another

Claire Sherrington Treasurer/Secretary

\*Editor's note: If you would like to view the full statement of the accounts, please contact Claire.



God was pleased to have all of himself live in Christ. God was also pleased to bring everything on earth back to himself through Christ. He did this through making peace through Christ's blood sacrificed on the cross. Colossians 1: 19-20.



### OTOROHANGA COLLISION & REPAIRS

Ph. 07 873 8832

Plus **SPRAY & BAKE COMMERCIAL**

Ph./ Fax: 07 873 8254

Phillips Avenue, Otorohanga

### PRATTS PLUMBING

ONE CALL DOES IT ALL

0800PRATTS 0800772887

07 873 6642

6 Main North Road

### A Beginner's Guide to revisiting the church after years (decades?)

I used to go, you know. Back in the days when shops were closed on Saturday and Sunday, Saturday was for washing the car, mowing the lawn, watching kids' sport. Sunday morning was attending church and taking the kids to Sunday School. I keep meaning to go back on Sunday morning. I see in the newsletters the forthcoming happenings and think, "I'll do that, go there, meet up", but somehow it doesn't happen. But guess what! I did go. It wasn't scary and the roof stayed on!

I parked in the carpark, walked under the portico out of the rain showers, turned right through the open door and was welcomed! How lovely. I expected to be handed a hymn book to try to read, (eye-sight not so good these days) but no—just a piece of A6 paper with the order of proceedings and an invitation to stay for morning tea afterwards. Into the church I went, and joy of joys, there were soft blue padded chairs to sit on. The old hard pews were still there but it was the chairs that were occupied. You remember that freezing cold place? Gone! In its place was the gentle hum of aircon units. OK so far. We followed through the order of service—the sound system meant I could hear clearly, the words of the songs were up on the screens above—easy to read, and the songs were not at all slow and mournful but moved along, and even if the organ was a bit loud for my comfort, it did mean that I could sing without fear of being heard (if you know what I mean.) Also, I actually knew some of the songs. In less than an hour we were in the lounge with a cuppa and morning tea. More welcoming, inviting and involvement offered if I wished. I think I will go back soon. Will you join me? It's not too scary after all.

JM

**TOWN & COUNTRY PAINTING**  
 FREE QUOTES & ADVICE  
 No job too large or too small  
 Kerry Magee,  
**Mobile: 027 620 7274**

**OTOROHANGA  
 DENTAL SURGERY**  
**25 Haerehuka St**  
**Ph 0800 686 336**  
**or 07 873 8824**

### Moderator's Advent Message

#### *Is Jesus the help we are looking for?*

There is a poignant segment in the Advent readings for this year that finds John the Baptist languishing in Herod's dungeon and doubting whether Jesus is the promised Messiah. Despite his earlier calls to prepare the way for the Messiah, events have turned for the worse. So, he sends his disciples to ask whether Jesus really is the promised Messiah, or should we look elsewhere (see Matthew 11: 2-3)

I am sure that there are many in the world today who share the doubt! Ukrainian Orthodox families experiencing Christmas this year in cramped refugee conditions so far away from home, or worse still, in areas of Ukraine where fear of missile strikes will dominate their 'festive' season! And, in a similar vein, homeless families in our country, crammed into temporary accommodation of motel units, struggling to meet rising food costs

The story of hardship, anguish and suffering is repeated many times over in our world as we approach Christmas this year

So where are you Jesus, in this world with so much suffering? With John the Baptist we may be justified in asking the question, Are you the hope we are looking for? Or should we look elsewhere?

Part of the answer comes for me in asking this question, Where would Jesus be born in 2022? In 2008, the UK Churches Advertising Network asked that question and came up with this answer: a freezing bus shelter. They then made a poster depicting this and had it displayed in over 1,000 bus shelters across the UK

We may be small in number, but Jesus said, "Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father is pleased to give you the Kingdom."

We are content to leave the future in the Lord's hands.

Dawn Phillips

Session Clerk

### REPORT FROM THE BOARD OF MANAGERS OF ST DAVID'S PRESBYTERTIAN CHURCH FOR YEAR ENDED

**30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2022**

**Members:** We started the year off with Monty Graham, Trevor Coley, Gwen Kramer, Eleanor Gibson, Claire Sherrington (Secretary/Treasurer), Wendy Tolland, Nina Mark and June Douglas, and Session members, Keith Budge, Dawn Phillips, Ann Roberts and Sol Nelson.

We welcomed Jane McIlroy onto the Board of Managers in April 2022 with Wendy Tolland resigning April 2022 and with Ann Roberts advising in May that she was on Leave of Absence until next year. Rev Nigel Crocombe left on the 31 May 2022 due to the commission's findings.

Thank you to everyone involved who kept the church running smoothly over the past year, whether it was the people that help in running of the services or programs, through to cleaners and flower arrangers. There is always plenty going on behind the scenes and so thank you all who give your time, or donate items or money.

With Covid 19 restrictions returning to level four in our area on the 16 August 2021 and not changing back to level two until 16 November 2021 and then changing to Traffic lights and staying on Orange to year end it has caused many levels of change. These Covid changes did have effect on the normal running of

## Session Annual Report, July 1 2021 to June 30 2022

It is already strange to think that back in July last year we still had a minister. We were able to retain Rev Nigel Crocombe past 20 November 2021 because of some very generous donations made towards his stipend. During Covid restrictions we met for worship using a very much modified format, catering for social distancing and allowing for mask-wearing. We even tried meeting on zoom, but that attracted a limited number of worshippers. It was a joy to be able to finally resume meeting for worship together and even resume having morning tea together after services.

Nigel's last service with us was on 29 May this year. Some of us attended his commissioning at Raglan, and we were glad to meet the welcoming congregation there. Our loss is their gain.

During the year Doug Patterson had already moved away, then he died a few months later. June Douglas has retired from active service. Ann Roberts is on leave until the end of the year. Two of the four currently serving elders are in their nineties.

With the departure of our minister, a load has fallen on the shoulders of the office bearers. Session are very grateful to Dr Terry Cowland for leading services twice a month. Our lay preachers cover the other Sundays. We thank Jane McIlroy for reliably and consistently providing the music every Sunday.

Members of the Board of Managers have continued to do a sterling job.

Cuppa and Chat was able to resume in March. The World Day of Prayer service was able to be held too, involving all the denominations.

Once again, the decision to hold our Annual meeting was made just too late to get it into the newsletter. We had to rely on the King Country News advertising it for us.

## **HENRY MORGAN BUILDERS**

Registered master builders

Quality Workmanship

Guaranteed

**Ph 07 873 7200**

**Or 027 289 0515**

## **Harcourts**

51 Maniapoto St, Otorohanga

07 873 8700

Farms \* Lifestyle \* Residential  
Commercial

Property Management

Visit: [www.harcourts.co.nz](http://www.harcourts.co.nz)

Or [blueribbon@harcourts.co.nz](mailto:blueribbon@harcourts.co.nz)

This was a message of hope: God incarnated help that comes into the places of poverty and despair. Originally it was a baby born in the middle of a winter night, out where the animals were kept. This speaks a message of God's presence in the most unlikely and despairing places.

In the bus stop posters, some of the bystanders see what is happening and respond with worshipful devotion, while others are too busy checking the bus timetable

May our churches help people to stop and notice the hope that the birth of Jesus brings to our needy world this year.

*Right Rev Hamish Galloway*

Moderator Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand

## **Light Party**

What a joy it was to be able to hold a Light Party again. The combined churches provided barbecued sausages, a talent quest, bouncy castles, and games. Seeing so many families enjoy their evening was a privilege. Watching the parents interact with their happy children was heart-warming. We praise God for good weather, the way all the denominations were able to work together and the great attendance. A big thank you to Ann Roberts for organising it all. There has been lots of encouraging feedback from members of the community. 🍷 ✝️ 😊 ⚙️ ✨ 🏆 🎁 🧑🏻🧑🏻🧑🏻 🧠 🎯 🕊️

Copy for the February newsletter  
is requested by Monday 23  
January. The Editor

Church bank account  
number: 02 0392  
0018524 00

**We do thank our sponsors, who make our newsletter possible.  
Please support them!**

### **BAILEY INGHAM**

Chartered Accountants  
120 Maniapoto St  
Box 225 Otorohanga  
Ph (07) 873 7325  
Fax (07) 873 8461

### **KING COUNTRY SELF-STORAGE**

**Progress Drive, Otorohanga  
and Awakino Road, Te Kuiti.**

**07 873 7271 or  
027 264 7085**

Preaching Roster	
December 4	Terry Cowland
December 11	Dawn Phillips
December 18	Keith Budge
December 25	Terry Cowland
January 1	Terry Cowland
January 8	Dawn Phillips
January 15	Keith Budge
January 22	Terry Cowland
January 29	Keith Budge

### **Romans 8:34 "God's Word"**

Christ has died, and more importantly, he was brought back to life. Christ is in the honoured position — the one next to God the Father on the heavenly throne. Christ also intercedes for us.

*What's every parent's favourite Christmas Carol? Silent Night.*