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Session Report

Session thank Jane McIlroy and Glenys Coley for putting the excellent display in the window of the King Country News Office. When the display had to be taken down because the office was closing, the nativity scene was moved to the church lounge window, and thanks to Keith Budge, was illuminated so that people could view it at night.

We were saddened to learn that Pastor Barry Edward is leaving the Baptist Church here. We have appreciated the working together that has been possible through the Ministers' Association. We pray God's blessing upon Barry and Jenny.

We are looking forward to the picnic service on 12 February, the Harvest Thanksgiving service on 12 March, and a special occasion of like nature about once a month during this year.

 \mathfrak{Pawn} Phillips Session Clerk



FEBRUARY 2023

Ranfurly St Otorohanga

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



Our stark Christmas tree as entered in the display at the Club

CHURCH & Parish Life contacts TREASURER Claire Sherrington (07) 873 7670 SESSION CLERK Dawn Phillips (07) 873 8735 ROOM BOOKINGS Nina Mark (07) 873 6963 / 027 237 2382

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For if you give, you will get! Your gift will return to you in full and overflowing measure, pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, and running over. Whatever measure you use to give—large or small—will be used to measure what is given back to you."

Luke 6:38 The Living Bible

Picnic Service, 12 February

Instead of our usual Sunday service, on 12 February we will hold an outdoor service at the home of Gwen Kramer, 587 Mangawhero Road.

This will be held at the usual time, 10am. Please bring your own utensils, some food to share, picnic chairs if you have them. Some chairs will be provided. Some food will also be provided. The service and lunch are to be followed by some games.

If you will have to travel past the church, please meet there twenty minutes before the service so that you can car-pool.

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Pay careful attention to your own work, for then you will get the satisfaction I of a job well done, and you won't need to compare yourself to anyone else.

Galatians 6:4 New Living Translation

Christmas is not that far behind us, and I'm sure many of us sang, whistled, hummed – out loud or in our heads, the carol "Silent Night". This was written by Joseph Mohr who lived from 1792 until 1848.

Joseph Mohr was born in the city of Salzburg, Austria. As a boy he was an active chorister in the Cathedral of Salzburg. In 1815 he was or-- dained to the priesthood of the Roman Catholic Church. Following his ordination, he served various parishes in the Salzburg area. It was while serving as an assistant priest in 1818, at the newly erected Church of St Nicholas in Obernorf in the region of Tyrol, high in the Alps, that Mohr wrote the text for this Christmas carol.

 Father Mohr and Franz Gruber, the village school master and church organist, had often talked about the fact that the perfect Christmas hymn had never been written. With this goal in mind, and after he had received word that his own church organ would not function. Father Mohr immediately decided he must write his own Christmas hymn, immediately, to have music for the special Christmas Eve Mass and to avoid disappointing his faithful congregation. Upon completing the text, he took his words to Franz Gruber, who exclaimed when he saw them, "Friend Mohr, you have found it – the right song – God be praised!"

Soon Gruber completed his task of writing the right tune for the new text. His simple but beautiful music blended perfectly with the spirit of Father Mohr's words. This tune is known as "Stille Nacht" The hymn was completed in time for the Christmas Eve Mass, and Father Mohr and Franz Gruber sang it, accompanied by Gruber's guitar. The hymn made a deep impact on the parishioners even as it has on succeeding generations.

Neither Mohr nor Gruber intended that their hymn would be used outside of their little mountain village. However, it is reported that within a • few days after the Christmas Eve Mass, the organ repairman, Karl Maurachen of Zillerthal, a well-known organ builder of that area, came to the church and obtained a copy of the new hymn. Through his influ-• ence the carol spread throughout the entire Tyrol region, where it became popular as a Tyrolean Folk song. It was taken to throughout Austria and Germany by such well-known groups as the Strasser Children's quartet and was first heard in America when a family of Tyrolean Singers – the Rainers, used the music in one of their concert tours.

Comments by Kenneth J Osbeck

Copy for the March newsletter is requested by Monday 20 February The Cditor

Church bank account number: 02 0392 0018524 00

Attention all Knitters:

Did you know there are people associated with St David's knitting slippers and peggy square blankets for Romania, and baby clothes for the New Born Unit at Waikato Hospital?

The peggy squares are sewn together into blankets. Each square is 8" x 8" and knitted in double knit wool – either new or recycled from op-shop jerseys – unravelled, washed and rolled into balls. When the squares are sewn together, the blankets are collected and taken up to Pirongia where they join with others from throughout the Waikato, are boxed up and sent to Romania.

The baby clothes are all knitted to a given pattern and are then delivlered to the newborn unit at Waikato Hospital.

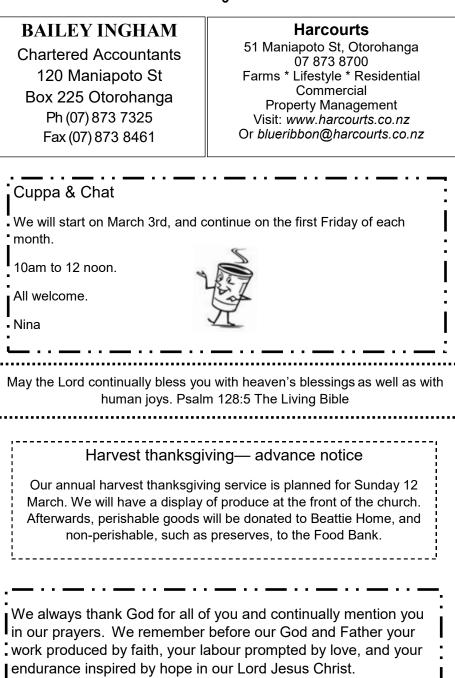
If you would like to join the knitters, get the patterns, provide wool – new or recycled— or donate a few dollars to help in the transporting costs to Romania, please contact Nina at 027 237 2382

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1 Thessalonians 1:2-3. New International Version

Preaching Roster	
February 5	Terry Cowland
February 12	Keith Budge
February 19	Dawn Phillips
February 26	Terry Cowland
March 5	Terry Cowland

Calendar for February		
Sun 5	10.00am	Morning Worship
Mon 6		Waitangi Day
Sun 12	10.00am	Picnic service
Wed 15	2.00pm	Managers
Sun 19	10.00am	Morning Worship
Wed 22	9.30am	Session
Sun 26	10.00am	Morning Worship
Sun 5 Mar	10.00am	Morning Worship
Sun 12 Ma	r	Harvest Thanksgiving

Every Friday 9am Prayer meeting at St David's

Who was the greatest comedian in the Bible?

Samson. He brought the house down.

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