

diggers from around the country into Hawke's Bay as part of the disaster response.

Called **genLend**, the service is a tangible way for people across the country to help power the recovery of Hawke's Bay communities ravaged by Cyclone Gabrielle.

It operates similar to a toy library - if you own a bit of gear and can lend it for a couple of weeks, we will make sure it gets to people who need it

We can arrange the pick-up and delivery, and then return the gear back to owners

A kitchen table idea just 48 hours ago, the initiative has already received donations from as far as Waiouru, and Tauranga, and garnered support and partnerships with NZ Apples and Pears, Farmlands, Federated Farmers, Hawke's Bay Rotary Clubs, and the Hastings District Council

The key items we need:

Generators

Water Pumps

Pressure washers (water blasters)

Small excavators & bobcats

Petrol cans (empty)

Help is also being accepted in the form of financial donations for fuel, transport and insurance etc. Donations can be made to:

St Andrews Church

Acc: 03 0642 0034245 000

Ref: Cyclone

People can register their equipment online at: <https://www.genlend.co.nz/>

We'd be grateful if you could spread the word around your congregation and networks. The clean-up is immense, and the need is urgent."

There are also other relief efforts underway for all areas affected by Cyclone Gabrielle. If you would like to donate or volunteer to help, see the information gathered at

<https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/national/484422/cyclone-gabrielle-where-to-donate>

<https://www.civildefence.govt.nz/resources/news-and-events/news-and-events/mayoral-relief-funds/>

Yours in Christ  
Right Rev Hamish Galloway



# ST DAVID'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OTOROHANGA

MARCH 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.



The picnic service on 12 February

## 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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Calendar for March

Fri 3	10.00am	Cuppa & Chat
	12 noon	World Day of Prayer
Sun 5	10.00am	Morning Worship
Wed 8	2.00pm	Managers
Sun 12	10.00am	Harvest Thanksgiving service & <b>Communion</b>
Wed 15	9.30am	Session
Sun 19	10.00am	Morning Worship
Sun 26	10.00am	Morning Worship
Sat 1 Apr	4.00pm	Beattie Home service
Sun 2 Apr	10.00am	Morning Worship

Every Friday 9am Prayer meeting at St David's

Preaching Roster

March 5	Terry Cowland
March 12	Dawn Phillips
March 19	Keith Budge
March 26	Terry Cowland
April 2	Terry Cowland

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**Pastoral email from the Moderator of the Presbyterian  
 Church of Aotearoa New Zealand. 21 February**

Dear Church

Last week areas of the North Island, particularly the East Coast, were devastated by Cyclone Gabrielle.

As a Church, our hearts and our prayers go out to those who have lost family and friends, homes, and livelihoods. We hold in our hearts the people, the churches, and the church leaders in the most impacted areas.

We have sought to contact as many of these churches and leaders as we can. They tell us of a strong collective community response, with the churches often at the forefront of the caring.

Many of you are making contact to ask how you can help. My immediate response to those we have made contact is, 'please pray for everyone affected'!

We are also seeking to establish the best ways for the wider Church to help. Late last week, we emailed presbytery moderators and EOs asking:

*What is your presbytery hearing in terms of impacted communities, and what are parishes saying about help required in these places?*

*What steps is the presbytery taking in being alongside folk in places, and is additional support required?*

*How might the wider Church assist?*

Once we get a clearer picture of ways the wider Church can assist, we will communicate that to you

There is one initiative that has emerged out of the St Andrew's Church in Hastings, Hawke's Bay, where the minister Rev Jill McDonald writes as follows:

*"St Andrews Church in Hastings has set up a service to bring equipment like generators, water pumps, water blasters and small*

Copy for the April newsletter is requested by Monday 20 March. The Editor

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quakes and mosque attack. Lovely acts of 'random' kindness from complete strangers. And we see it again and again in the aftermath of this latest storm, these angels in disguise.

We find ourselves as churches incarnated in our communities, bearers of the Spirit, guided by the scriptures and with our fair share of angelic readiness for action. In this way we can take a leaf out of the Lenten story of Jesus in a nation hungering for hope!

**Right Rev Hamish Galloway**  
 Moderator Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand

### The Picnic service

Owing to the approach of Cyclone Gabrielle, the Picnic Service which was going to be held in Gwen Kramer's Garden was transferred to the Church Atrium beside the Mural of the Marokopa Falls. Those who attended enjoyed the casual setting and having lunch together afterwards.

Keith Budge

Editor's note: the colour scheme adopted for this month's newsletter is meant to reflect the colours of silt out of solidarity with flood victims.

Leave your troubles with the Lord. Psalm 55: 22

## PRATTS PLUMBING

**ONE CALL DOES IT ALL**  
**0800PRATTS 0800772887**  
**07 873 6642**  
**6 Main North Road**

Church bank account  
 number: 02 0392  
 0018524 00

Leave all your worries with him, because he cares for you.

1Peter 5:7

### Session report

The "picnic" service on 12 February metamorphosed into an indoor service at the church because of the wet weather, but was held in front of the photo of Marokopa Falls in the atrium to give it an outdoors flavour.

The World Day of Prayer service this year was written by the women of Taiwan, and the theme is "I have heard about your faith" (from Ephesians 1:15). It is always good for the different denominations to come together.

We were touched when we received a message from Kaimai Presbytery asking after our welfare. We understand that residents of Maihihi and Otewa were affected by Cyclone Gabrielle, and wish to assure you of our prayers and support. We may be a small and aging congregation, but if there is something we can do to help, please let us know.

Harvest thanksgiving is to be held on 12 March, and though the fruit and vegetables may not be plentiful this year, there is still enough to give generously to those less well supplied.

Let us continue to look to our faithful God for help in times of trouble.

Warm greetings in Jesus' name. Dawn Phillips (Session Clerk)

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Moderator's message for Lent***Sorely Tested***

Jesus was sorely tested through 40 days of mounting pressure brought on by hunger, thirst, and demonic taunting. We too, in these last few years, have experienced the cumulative impact of one test after another. Add up the global financial crisis, Christchurch earthquakes, mosque attack, COVID pandemic, housing crisis, war in Ukraine, impending recession, flooding and now Cyclone Gabrielle, and feel the toll it has taken on us.

How are you feeling this Lenten season?

All that has happened in recent years, and is happening now, leaves me feeling weary and wondering what will be next. It makes me feel sorely tested, in a nation that has been sorely tested. It causes me to wonder about where we put our trust and what will sustain us in this time of repeated trial.

Jesus was sustained by the leading and comforting presence of the Holy Spirit in his time of testing.

Jesus put his trust in scripture to anchor him at a time when it was easy to lose perspective. And then, when the rush of testing began to subside, there were angels who helped pick up the pieces! And haven't we seen our share of angels personified in the aftermath of the latest crisis, Cyclone Gabrielle.

I witnessed this phenomenon in Christchurch after the earth-