

Attitude of Gratitude

Greetings for the New Year everyone.

Today I want to encourage us to cultivate a greater sense of gratitude. Reading "Our Daily Bread" last Wednesday George Herbert, a seventeenth-century British poet was mentioned – he wrote "Thou that hast given so much to me, give one thing more: a grateful heart.". How easy it is for us not to be aware of the abundance God has given us. Being thankful under-girds and enables us to continue through change, difficult times, seasons of sickness, hours of pleasure and happy days.

Paul in writing to the Ephesians asking them "to give thanks to God the Father at all times, and for everything", knew that this was a difficult thing to ask. They were facing persecution and struggling within a Pagan society. Yet Paul also knew the power there was in gratitude, in the recognition that no matter what circumstance we face, God is with us in the midst.

An attitude of gratitude is life changing

This week, this new year, let us keep company with Jesus no matter what happens!!!!

Let us be more aware of the abundance of gifts, benefits, mercies and grace that have been poured into our lives.

Let us curb critical tendencies by upstaging them with thanksgiving

Let us see what we have more quickly than we see what we don't have.

Let us treasure and value people by thanking them often and clearly for who they are to us or to someone else.

Let us daily thank the Lord for his presence in our lives.

Let us notice our lack of gratitude and repent our wrong attitudes.

Let us receive everything we have as a gift rather than our entitlement.

Let us make thanksgiving a discipline, taking time to ponder on the gifts God showers upon us in our daily living.

God bless, Nancy

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CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Miranda Fairmaid 027 518 7360 Children

Donna Gibbons 027 4184 405 Junior Youth

Youth Pastor Announced today

OFFICE STAFF

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Hannah Thompson-Holloway, worship 027 9199310

PARISH CLERK

Ged Forbes 021 852 291

CHURCH ACCOUNT NUMBER

030883 0620501-00

Next week's team

Service Leader	Nancy Parker
Preacher	Helen H
Worship	Rod Galloway
Prayers for Others	Rachel E
Bible Reading	George B
Door & Offering	Scaddens
Morning Tea	Rachel & Russell Kanako
Sound	Ged Forbes
Data	Sandi Jull
Duty Elder	Bill Lee
Prayer Min	Wlldens
Welcome	Judith F
Offering	Camilla
Set up	Jonno's Team
Playground	Dawson, Daley, Bates

LEITH VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday 4th Feb 2018



¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

1 Thessalonians 5:18(NRSV)

Welcome! It's great to have you with us this morning for our first service back at George Street this year. If you are visiting today please help yourself to a WELCOME PACK from the back table. We'd love you to leave us a contact form so we can get back in touch. Hand this to Kristin, Nancy or Russell, our duty elder today.

Lets get started !

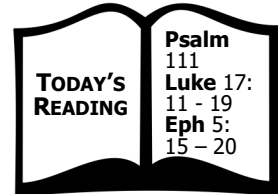
- ♦ Junior Kidztime (ages 0-5) starts today in the staff room
- ♦ Senior Kidztime (years 1-6) starts today in the Learning Centre
- ♦ Junior Youth (years 7-10) starts next Sunday
- ♦ Senior Youth (years 9-13) starts this Tuesday 6 Feb with a potluck BBQ at the church

SERVICE LEADER

HANNAH T-H
PREACHER
NANCY PARKER
WORSHIP
MARIE T-C

**DUTY
ELDER**

RUSSELL
ELDER



Today's Team

Set up Team:	Phil's Team	Offering Counter:	Trudie Clearwater
Welcome Team:	Bruce & Pauline G	Morning tea:	Bill & Daphne Lee Jan Satterthwaite
Door Greeting:	Janine Konings		
Prayers for Others	Alan Paterson	Playground Supervision	Craig & Hilary C William & Kaaren P Graham & Debbie H Miranda Fairmaid
Bible Readings:	Kezia Munro		
Sound:	Barry Clearwater		
Data:	Mark Lokman		
Prayer Ministry	Mal & Helen C	Lock-up	

Seeking God's Kingdom Growing Great Community



Message from the Moderator

Waitangi Day 2018

Ko taku reo taku ohooho, ko taku reo taku mapihi mauria
My language is my awakening, my language is the window to my soul

The whole point of the Treaty, as I see it, was to form a partnership between two peoples – a partnership which valued the culture of each fully and equally. What formed the basis of this agreement was a deep understanding that each culture had significant taonga (treasures) to offer a combined people.

One of the fundamental treasures of each culture was, without doubt, the language. Yet today – despite the fact that it is an official language of this country and despite the fact that the government has supported spending on the development of Te Reo within a Maori context – the language remains unknown by the majority of New Zealanders. This is a huge loss, both to the personal development of all New Zealanders and, indeed, to our nation.

The one thing that will forever be unique about this country is Te Reo Maori. No other nation can ever lay claim to that. Furthermore Te Reo remains the very best pathway to the treasures of Maori, and therefore to true partnership.

This Waitangi Day, as Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand, I call for this language to be placed on the same footing as English in our education system and to become the true possession of everyone who is a citizen of this country. It is not just those who identify as Maori who should have to work to preserve this treasure. This is the birth-right of everyone who calls themselves a New Zealander – a citizen of Aotearoa, and it should be treated as such, I believe.

Many countries teach multiple languages from the start of school. Many teach more than two. It is not a hard thing, but it is the right thing to do, so I call upon the new government of this land to honour the Treaty in this way and to give Te Reo Maori the same resources we give to teaching English. In doing so, this will make the language what it truly is: the legacy of a Treaty between two peoples who desired to become stronger not through conflict, but by sharing their treasures.

We are weaker than we should be because we do not truly hold this treasure. Let us correct this today and more fully resource every educational institute in this country to teach and to speak this wonderful language.

In the name and for the glory of Christ

Richard Dawson
Moderator, Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand

Leith Notices

Kidztime:

We are always looking for people keen to help with our Children's programmes, both primary age and pre-school. Look out for the clipboards coming round during the service today and feel free to sign up, or see Miranda 027 518 7360 for more details. Thank you!

Meals Rosters:

Thank you very much to all the people who signed up last week to help provide meals for people in times of need. If you haven't put your name down yet and would like to help, there is a clipboard on the admin table at the back of the hall.

Set Up:

Every Sunday morning here at George St we need to set up chairs for all to sit on, swing gates to keep the little ones safe, put up tables for admin material, put out welcome signs, as well as a few other jobs none of which are onerous - SO we need people to do this. We have some very faithful people who have been helping in this way for some years now (thank you!) and we would love to have a few more. Men, women, teenagers and older kids are all welcome to help! If you can volunteer in this way please see Kristin.



Missions Prayer meeting

Tonight at 5pm, in the Church lounge, 267 Malvern Street. See Alan Paterson for more information.

Youth Group Pot Luck this Tuesday

Tuesday 6 February from 6.30pm to 8.30pm we will be having a Youth Group Pot Luck BBQ at the church at 267 Malvern Street to meet our new Youth Pastor. Come and bring your friends - time to get into another great year.

Book launch

You're invited to the launch of a new book "MARK: The Illustrated Gospel" Art, Song, Story, at the Knox Centre for Ministry and Leadership on Sunday the 11th of February from 7pm-8:30pm. See the noticeboard for details.

