

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF

ST FRANCIS

96 PARK ROAD, CNR TITIRANGI BEACH RD JUNE 2016

No winter hibernating at St Francis!

The shortest day, 21st June, is nigh, and with it comes our mid winter celebration on Sunday 26th June. More on that later

After that, all downhill to summer? Maybe, though statistics tell us that July is often the coldest and wettest month in.

But courage! We have a number of winter happenings at St Francis to warm you physically and spiritually.



Autumn too had some heart warming events and services. Pentecost was a joyful and inspirational celebration, with colourful surroundings adding to the atmosphere.

What a good idea, those lines across the church, not at all conspicuous. (We didn't notice them last Sunday.) Congratulations to David and Neil.



Our first distinctly arranged healing service was very well presented, and these services

will continue, 11.15am, first Sunday every other month, the even numbers.

So the next will be on 7th August. Remember, however, that prayer is always available at the altar rails after the service.

Our Sunday afternoon Eucharists are meeting a need too, and these will be held the last Sunday every month at 3pm, the next on Sunday 26th June.

This is a short Eucharist particularly for those for whom 9.30am is very difficult to attend, but everyone is most welcome.

Dates are: June 26th, July 31st, August 28th, September 25th, October 30th, November 27th

Our thanks to those who arrange and lead these services.

Thanks also to Betty, Freda and their team of helpers who made and gave away posies on Mothers' day in the village. As always there was surprise and delight at receiving these gifts.

Friendship Circle will next gather at St Francis (nice and warm in our lounge) at 10.00am, 6th July.

Bring a friend and enjoy morning tea, a chat and perhaps some gentle activity.

Diary notes

June

26 Mid winter

30 Cluster

July

3 Visitors

18 workshop

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Funeral brochure available at back of church

A special welcome to our visitors today

Mostly craft meets a need in the community and continues to grow

"Children and families" - where are they! Margaret, our children and families coordinator shares her thoughts.

In many established churches the answer is "They just don't come." Clearly the faith that inspires us and the worship we love doesn't have meaning for them though it inspires and sustains us.

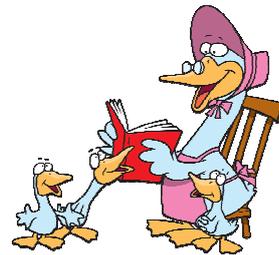
Don't our families want God? Will they come back as they mature and see the need? Perhaps. God's love is still valid, but the message does not get through.

Bishop Justin Duckworth of Wellington said recently "We are out of alignment - with God and with our society." Our grandchildren still love to hear the stories and receive the love, but as they grow, they also grow away from our church culture. Yet surveys reveal a widespread interest in the spiritual world and a willingness to talk about it.

We can do a lot, and we are doing some of it already. At Mostly Craft we have with guidance from the Holy Spirit stumbled on something that seems to be working.

In it we offer things to do which are centred on Christ. We teach

through stories. We offer hospitality. We do it together as families, and we have some rather tentative celebration and prayer. We are growing and learning, while under God's guidance we find out how to offer a version of church that has some meaning to them, for some who come it is their 'church'.



We continue to develop. We have a proposed "Tell the Christmas Story" event on Saturday, 3rd. December and a "Mostly Games" session possibly on a Sunday afternoon next month.

Please pray for us. Please come and visit us and meet some families in our community who don't "come to church" in the usual way but are nevertheless coming into our church, and enjoying the experience.

Put 3rd December in your diaries and plan to be part of the "Tell the Christmas Story" event.

Margaret Strid

**"...love
to hear
stories"**

Saturday gatherings continue

Following a lovely introductory Easter session with a sausage sizzle, we had a smaller group for 7th May, but it was a happy afternoon as usual. The children listened intently and some adult discussion was generated, always an encouraging development.

Yesterday's session was fun too, with lots of ideas generated. Next gathering 20th July



Special mid winter service at St Francis will warm your heart

Sunday 26th June will be our special mid-winter celebration, After the service there will be mulled wine and maybe other goodies.



A special liturgy is planned and you are invited to wear your

briest attire to help chase away any winter blues.

The following Sunday, 3rd July we are marking as Disability Awareness Sunday. We have some special guests, Chris and Mark Grantham. You may have met Mark, as he often is fund selling chocolates in Newmarket.

There will be inspiration for all of us from their presentation.

June cluster meeting to aid creativity

Cluster meetings are designed to bring together all our neighbouring Local Shared Ministry units, and all St Francis parishioners are invited, yea urged, to attend. So do come if you can.

Our next cluster meeting is on Thursday 30th June, from 11am to 3pm, here at St Francis. We are hosting this event for the West Auckland Cluster, the 5 Local Shared Ministry churches within our area

The topic is “**Worship through Art and Drama.**” Do come and share in this very convivial company, interesting topics too, from 11am till 3pm and help us host our fellow churches. Soup and rolls for lunch.

Please let Valerie Parker or Christine know if you can attend.

Important letter for your information

On the notice board at the back of the church there’s a letter recently received from the Archbishops and Primates regarding “The Way Forward”.

This is news of the working party set up at General Synod to con-

sider “possible structural arrangements within our Three-Tikanga Church to safeguard both theological convictions concerning the blessing of same gender relationships.” Please see Deborah or Judy with any questions.

Worship workshop planned for 18th July

This year’s Auckland Diocesan Ministry Conference, a gathering of ordained priests and others, has as its title, “Re-imagining Worship”.

It’s to be held 6th—8th July and a several of our people are attending. So our own workshop will be held after this event so we can use relevant material.

It’s on Saturday 18th July, 9am to 3pm at St Francis. There are sessions for intercessors, readers, and liturgists; a lively and profitable time is assured. There’s no charge; soup and rolls provided.

*“...soup
and
rolls...”*

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Sundays 9.30am**

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Readings for June and July:

19th Liturgy 404 1 Kings 19:1-4, 8-15a; Psalm 42 and 43; Gal 3:23-29; Luke 8:26-39

26th Mid Winter (specially printed service) Readings to be announced

July

3rd Disability Awareness Sunday 2 Kings 5:1-14; Psalm 30; Gal 6: 7-16; Luke 10:1-11,16-20

10th Amos 7:7-17; Psalm 82; Col 1:1-14, Luke 10:25-37

17th Bible Sunday. Amos 8:1-12; Psalm 52; Col 1:15-28; Luke 10:38-42

24th Hosea 1:2-10; Psalm 85; Col 2:6-15; Luke 11:1-13

31st Hosea 11:1-11; Psalm 107:1-9,43; Col 3:1-11, Luke 12:13-21

Appropriate prayer is always available at the altar rails after the service.

Prayers please for: Sally Morgan, recently diagnosed with lung cancer; Margaret Meyer's family.

Council Corner:

It has become apparent that a new organ is needed, and Council has decided to buy a new one which will last for many years.



A small sub committee of Norman and our organists Wayne and Freda investigated the various possibilities, and we are now in the process of purchasing a Johannus Studio 170.

Let's hope we can raise our voices in song to match the beautiful sounds of the new organ! We'll be learning some new hymns too.



Mini Market:

Thank you to Pam and all the help-

ers for the Mini market. We raised over \$350, in spite of the weather.

Travellers' tales:

It was fun to be away, but it is nice to be back home. Thank you for your warm welcome.

We had five weeks in the USA: a few days with old MAGS school mate John in Los Angeles then a drive with him to the Grand Canyon.

It really is all that it's said to be, awe inspiring. We enjoyed Zion and Bruce canyons too, as we drove north to Salt lake City.

We heard the Mormon Tabernacles choir in rehearsal—beautiful—then flew to New York.

Wow! - we stayed the first few days near Times Square, bright, brash, full of light and noise. Lots to see, a week of surprises.

Then a flight to San Francisco, a quaint city in some ways, delightful architecture, hills and valleys, all very appealing.

It took a little while to recover from all this! A marvellous adventure but it's good to be home!