



All Saints Parish  
AGM Reports  
7.30pm  
20 November 2019



*We are Disciples    We are Community    We are on Mission*

## VICAR'S REPORT.

Last year we began with a totally new staff team and I shared about their new roles and responsibilities. It is hard to think of life and ministry without the fantastic team I am privileged to lead! Staff meeting is a pleasure – catching up with the news of the parish and all that people are doing.

I am grateful to my two wardens, Emma Costley and Dan Pitchforth, who have served brilliantly this year. They bring so much commitment and follow through to their roles. We are grateful as a parish for the lives of service that they model – in a busy stage of life!

Andrew Carson has now been in the management role about eighteen months and the change since that time has been extraordinary. He is supported by a team of volunteers who make valuable and exemplary contributions – Carl Kelly in finance and Odette Barsanti and Janet Kelly in administration. The energy and support that this 'engine room' gives the staff and parish cannot be understated. Andrew has built an organizational hub that serves with grace and excellence.

Andy and Bek have brought so much to the parish this year. They have led the 10am service and this taken a weight off me. Their creativity and passion for this has been a blessing. The role Andy has had at the university and in the community cannot be understated – the Christchurch tragedy revealed how much credibility Andy has in the Islamic community. The river clean up and refugee house fit outs have been highlights.

Davis and Renee have served our youth, and the parish, so well. The 'Glory Gang' is solidifying into a caring and learning community – and it was great to see some baptized this year. Easter camp was very significant and we will hopefully have our first intern next year! The 10am service has benefitted from their input too – hospitality and leadership has been strengthened. And baby Uriah as well! They are a gift to us all.

Our children's ministry is fantastic! Sarah Steer and Sarah Hatch do a wonderful job and, more recently, Phil Steer. This year saw the beginning of the Year 6-9 group Above Average – and this has made real contribution to those who are pre-youth (and the topics seem way more creative than my sermons!). Small Saints and Tall Saints seem to be thriving as the number of families with children have solidified this year. Messy church is a proper happening now with up to 150 attending. Messy church has seen a growing roll with many new families connecting.

I am so grateful to our congregation leaders. Sue Fordyce, John Hornblow and Robyn Appleby lead their respective congregations with passion and commitment. A key element of our health, and sharing training and discipleship, is the unified journey we are all committed to. They serve beyond the call of duty and we are privileged to have such great leaders. Thanks also to Roy and Lisa (and team) for their service to the congregation they serve and love, beyond our walls – you do a great job!

We are in the process of 'repotting' St Oswald's church. Vaughn and Marg Barsanti and their committed team have begun Friday night meals/church. We are also moving towards reroofing and painting the church building. Hopefully this can happen soon as the leaks are an issue – this spending has been passed by vestry, as has a paint job on St Columba's, another needed upgrade!

Some of my role has changed a little this year. I have ended up leading the ministry cluster for our region and it looks as though my role in the diocese will have a little more responsibility next year. Our very successful conference in May 'The Gospel in the City' has led to my going to two conferences overseas (paid by City to City) as I contribute to developing a City to City network in New Zealand. We will be hosting another conference next May.

This excites me as I have felt that a part of us being an 'inner city monastery' is being a learning centre who bless our surrounds and the nation. I hope we can find other ways to be a blessing as we slowly grow into a church that is healthy and models the kingdom. Another aspect of the 'monastery' has been developing vision of a City Mission. This will continue to be a key aspect of fulfilling our commitment to be a blessing to the city – partnering with the other Catholic and Anglican churches.

Thanks to all who pray in our prayer rhythms. If we pursue together being a house of prayer, creating a spirituality hub, there is no telling what might happen. We covet your involvement in prayer – it builds community and it deepens the presence of God amongst us. Communitas has been crucial this year. We peaked at about a hundred, and while our commitment this term has been a little disappointing, our themes of 'Alongsiders' (Mick and Ruby Duncan), Missional Community (Bishop Justin et al) and God conversations (our very own Paul Stock). This has been great input to equip us to greater outwardness and confidence.

Arahanga, our leadership development group, has put a great deal of work into developing our vision/mission/strategic plan. Alistair Davis and Debbie Pattullo have put so much time into planning these evenings and next year will see this been launched and each year being shaped by our agreed vision. It has felt like God has given us clarity through a process that has explored so much of our life together. Thanks to all who have participated in this unifying pursuit.

The Building Committee (CBAB) have got it done! The consent application is in – how it goes time will tell. So much painstaking work has gone into this labour of love, on which so many hopes rest. Please pray as at some point we will have to defend our vision/design. Thanks to Vince Neal and David Chapple who have given so much to this massive project.

Thanks to you all for all you do, for the support you give to your leaders and myself. It is an honour to be community with you, to be part of outworking God's calling on us as a community.

Nigel

## **Vicar's Warden Report**

The All Saints vision and mission documents are almost complete. A huge thank you to Alistair and Debbie for facilitating this with the Arahanga leadership group. It's exciting to see our jumble of ideas and dreams come together and to see where the outworking of All Saints is going to be in the next 5-10 years. With this document complete for 2020 its time to see All Saints GO. With this in mind we are going to need to look at how we resource our future. It is the challenge of vestry with a budget and working through next year as to how this is going to work within our budget. As chair of vestry I can see this is going to take up a bit of time and there is going to need to be some creative ways needed to piece the puzzle together.

Thank you to all of the vestry volunteers who give the time to read, think and pray for the church.

I would also like to acknowledge Emma and the amazing job she does as the peoples warden, Andrew in the office and Rev Nigel Dixon. We make a good team, challenge each other, follow up and make sure that the things that we've said we will do, we do and Emma does a great job noting and communicating out to the vestry.

There are exciting times ahead and I ask that as a church we prayerfully consider how individually we are going to be involved as part of this movement of God in Palmerston North.

Dan Pitchforth

## **Wardens Report**

2019 has seen All Saints equipped with a competent and confident team leading our Parish into what God is calling us to do in this city. Again this year, it has been a pleasure to work closely with our vicar Nigel Dixon, Vicar's warden Dan Pitchforth and Parish Manager Andrew Carson. I am very grateful to each of them for the work they do that is seen, and that which is behind the scenes!

Nigel has an expansive and inspiring vision for All Saints' role in Palmerston North, and it is very exciting to be part of this. While somewhat frustratingly, restoring and rebuilding of the old church is slow in progressing; however the building of community in our people and with people around us is strong! Our congregations in each service are unified and growing, and ministries such as Messy Church, Mainly Music and the City Mission continue to thrive. It is wonderful to see our Community Centre utilised for such a varied range of activities.

We are so blessed to have so many people faithfully serve this place each week in so many ways - and I am aware that many have done so for a great many decades! In our busy lives it can be difficult to fit everything in, but I encourage you to consider your role in our parish, and to give some of your time and energy to some part of our community. Together, we can continue to serve through All Saints to influence Palmerston North for the better, and I look forward to being part of this over the years to come.

Emma / Dan

## **Sunday 8am Report**

The 8am service has the privilege of "warming up the whare" by being the first worshippers to pray and give thanks every Sunday, filling our worship space with adoration and praise to God.

Many of our 8am worshippers are long-standing parishioners whose faithfulness and generosity has provided a bedrock of service and giving to All Saints for all generations to enjoy.

We appreciate the treasures we find in the prayer book, we cherish the deep theological grounding of our hymns and we are enriched by following the rhythm of the church's liturgical seasons and festivals. We delight in the Eucharist each week, finding in its celebration a deep well of spiritual nourishment.

We are in good heart and we have a great time every Sunday morning!

Sue

## **Sunday @ 10 am Report**

This year has been a wonderful and fulfilling season of ministry.

Our weekly times of 'Prayer Rhythms' have progressed, and we now have 10 per week. Each 30-minute slot has a particular relevant prayer need that is focused on. We are hoping people attend our newest prayer time, Wednesday 5:30pm.

The 10am congregation has grown in number and the preaching series have introduced opportunities for lay preachers to share. We are grateful for all the people who contribute by volunteering to fulfil the many roles and tasks that make a service functional and hospitable to newcomers.

Pastoral visits across the city has been rewarding, resulting in the opportunity to preside funerals, house blessings, baptisms and other formal celebrations in our city, including representing our church at functions hosted by our local Muslim community.

Successful 'Courageous Compassion' events included supporting the Red Cross refugee resettlement, and the river/park clean-up at Colquhoun Park. This year's All Saints Day will be a 'Celebration of Cultures' event.

Good days ahead, Arohanui, Andy

## Messy Church Report

Messy Church is an intergenerational church service which values being Christ-centred, for all ages, based on creativity, hospitality and celebration. We meet on the first Friday of each month from 4.30 - 6.30pm. We start the evening in the large hall with 45 minutes of activities including craft, science experiments and games. Then we all head through to the Red/Green rooms where we sing together and our creativity team invite us to journey with them in the bible with dramatic retellings, stories and illustrations that share the heart of the gospel message. Our celebration time is followed by dinner and dessert, gathered around large tables back in the hall. At the end of the evening the adults have a chance to grab a cuppa while the children watch a short DVD or work on colouring activities. This year during our cuppa time we have had Andy Hickman or Nigel Dixon interview a member of the parish on various aspects of their life and faith journey. This time of honesty and openness has been an oasis of discipleship and care for our community.

The All Saints' Messy Church leadership team is an amazingly tireless bunch of individuals who love God and so desire to see His love shared with all. Thank you to Elaine Carson, Hannah Carter, Dot Costley, Prue Drake, Andy Hickman, Bek Hickman, Raewyn Hunt, Gaye Philpott, Yvonne Pincott and Davis Sione. Thank you for the hours you put into preparing craft, games, drama, discipleship talks, pastoral care and food for our very special congregation. You are a delight to work with and I am so thankful for your time, energy, support and encouragement.

Messy Church could not happen without the countless volunteers who give up their Friday afternoon/evening once a month. We have a huge team who lend a hand with manning craft tables, running games, providing security, moving tables and chairs, prepping and serving dinner, washing mountains of dishes and getting alongside those on the fringes of our community. Thank you to each and every one of you who have come in to help us run Messy Church this year. We are so very grateful to you and very much appreciate you sacrificing your time in order to help us share Christ's love with our community.

Working and learning alongside our core team and our adult volunteers we have continued to be blessed by a very special group of young people from our Above Average Year 6 -9 Children's Church group. Our Messy Church Junior Leaders have been faithful in serving by helping to run crafts and games throughout the year. Thank you Meg Chilton, Abigail Hickman, Lizzy Hickman, Te Ahu Roberts, Esther Steer and Silas Steer. You are exceptional young people and we are so thankful for your willingness to lend a hand and work hard to ensure the younger members of our congregation enjoy their time at Messy Church.

In October this year we were so blessed to collaborate with members of the 5pm congregation to put on a St Francis of Assisi themed Messy Church evening. All of our crafts, activities and celebrations were around care of creation. It was so encouraging to see so many people from across the All Saints parish contributing together to make such a beautiful and all-age celebration for Messy Church and the wider parish to enjoy.

This year Messy Church has maintained steady growth in numbers. Between 105 -155 people attended Messy Church at All Saints' each month. Please continue to uphold us in your prayers as we work to organise each Messy Church. Please pray that we would continue to have the resources, volunteers and abounding joy for our area of ministry.

Grace and Peace,

Sarah Hatch

## Children's Church

This year we have continued to run three groups for Children's Church. The smAll saints (Preschool), The tAll saints (Year 1 - 5 school years) and our Above Average group (Year 6 - 9 school years). I am incredibly thankful to our dedicated Children's Church team. Sarah Steer and Elizabeth Wright have continued with working so fabulously alongside our preschool group and Philip Steer continues to be such a blessing to our young people in the Year 6 - 9 group. Each of them give so much in order to journey alongside the younger members of our parish, sharing their wisdom and love of God to help our children grow in their relationships with Jesus.

Thank you also to our regular volunteers. Amy Drew, Anne Pun and Stephanie Parson have helped Sarah and Elizabeth to ensure that each Sunday morning runs smoothly in smAll saints. Also thank you to Shiree Sahayam for the work you do to help our mornings run so smoothly with cleaning the kids' dishes.

Thank you to Jo Alderdice, Susannah Chilton, Gina Fermor, Raewyn Hunt, Miriam Peel and Marianne Simon (plus Alan Wright for all your behind the scenes help) who have supported the children's ministry by helping out with the tAll saints group. I want to make special mention of Amon Sahayam, one of our youth group members, who has helped as a leader in most of the tAll saints lessons this year. It has been such a pleasure to see Amon grow in his leadership and wisdom. The children and I so enjoy his input and care.

Thank you to Mike Chilton, Isaac Hatch, Mike Sahayam, Daniel Pitchforth, David Peel and David Unwin who have regularly helped Phil in working alongside our Above Average group. Our intermediate group have so appreciated having such a keen and fun bunch of adults hanging out and sharing God's love with them.

Each Sunday morning for Children's Church we gather the children for an all-in worship and celebration time then split into our different groups for teaching and activities. During our time together we welcome and celebrate visitors by introducing them and giving them a small gift. We celebrate the birth of new babies and birthdays are made a big deal of. With the 10am worship team being a bit stretched this year we have not had the opportunities for our worship leaders to led worship in children's church as we did in 2018. However we have been able to share the songs we sing by leading them in the 10am service and teaching the actions to all tall and small.

Our numbers have grown again this year and we have had a steady increase across all of the three groups during 2019. We have on average over 40 children participating in Children's Church per week with some weeks our numbers jumping toward 60 children. This year we have continued to be excited to see new families join us and to have the children bringing their friends to church with them. We have also been blessed by the births of many new All Saints' babies. As a team our prayers often return to managing our space well and catering for the large groups of children within our current space constraints. With our numbers steadily increasing we are very pleased to have had new volunteers coming on board to help us provide faith-based learning opportunities that are caring, supportive and safe for our young people.

We thank you all for your prayers and encouragement as we journey alongside our young people.

Sarah Hatch, on behalf of the Children's Church team

## All Saints' mainly music Report

All Saints' mainly music is a vehicle for living out the Biblical call to love our neighbour with a focus on pre-schoolers and their caregivers, and hopefully by extension, their wider families. We use the format of half an hour of interactive music followed by morning tea and time for children to play and parents to chat.

Music provides a non-threatening and fun approach to providing a supportive faith based community. We are privileged each week to share God's love through music, prayer and conversation to a diverse group of parents and caregivers. The music, whilst being lots of fun, also allows us to help parents connect with their children, for children to learn important developmental skills and it provides an opportunity to share Biblical truths through song lyrics and sharing. The morning tea time provides a chance for adults to connect with those at a similar life stage while their children are in a familiar, fun and safe environment. Outside of our Friday morning slot our team desire is to continue to share God's love through genuine care for our families with both practical and pastoral support. This is seen through our offers of prayer and home cooked meals when times get tough.

Throughout 2019 we have enjoyed developing further relationships with existing families and beginning the journey with new families. We have also had to farewell families whose children have moved onto school. Our desire continues to be to create connections that exist past the preschool years and we have been encouraged by some of our families joining the Messy Church congregation.

We continue to appreciate the ongoing prayer support from the wider All Saints' congregation. We are grateful for the church's financial contribution to our ministry which allows us to show generous hospitality and gives us a sense of connection to the church as a whole.

We have a great group of people who make mainly music happen each week. I would like to pay special tribute to Lorraine Shaw who very recently passed away. Lorraine was a faithful and tireless helper and was often the first helper to arrive every week. We will miss her.

Thank you also to our fantastic team, Dot Costley, Rebekah Craig, Amy Drew, Angela Harper, Sarah Hatch, Stephanie Parsons, and Leona Round and to our regular helpers: Carol Kimberley, Christina Simpson and Shirley Williams. All of you enable us to spread God's love to our community.

Sarah Steer, Team Leader, All Saints' mainly music

## Glory Gang Youth Report

It's October already and I am staring down another memorable year for All Saints Glory Gang Youth. Similar to last year we had our Easter camp preparations take up the first half of the year, while Friday nights have continued to provide a safe space for young people of Palmerston North to hear and ask questions about God and faith. Last year lead us to dive into the biblical narrative, and how it tells one complete story. This year began with us taking a closer look at Jesus, who he was and what his life stood for. We closed this series by allowing our leaders to speak into the Parable of Jesus and share some of the messages behind them with our youth.

This year has been another awesome year, where we were able to share in the baptism of Sapphire and Caitlin. seeing them and many other young people growing in God, has been the highlight of our year. We have even had a few of our young people begin to attend different churches with their families where they now serve and attend, something we continue to thank God for.

We have also had to say a few goodbyes to a few of our leaders. Abbey who has successfully completed her Nursing degree and is now working full time, and Lucas who is recently married. Abbey and Lucas will be truly missed but are both ready and excited for the next phase of their young adult life.

We want to thank our entire All Saints Family, who continues to pray and support our youth ministry, as we couldn't do this without your help. Big thanks to our awesome helpers and leaders who are passionate for the Gospel to freely be shared, and openly discussed transforming the lives of our young people and their families. Much Love and Blessings,

Davis and Glory Gang Youth Leadership team 😊

## **Sunday 10am Worship Team Report**

The 10am worship team continue to limp along like a slightly injured gazelle, but with hope that there are no more lions on the road ahead. We are small and hoping that 6 talented musicians are about to arrive at church, along with another sound tech, but we are encouraged that we continue to find new members slowly, and those who have joined us have been a real blessing to the team and the church. After ten years of leading the team it will soon be time to let someone else shape the future, but it's always a pleasure to be able to use our talents and passions to serve in a way that is a joy more than a duty.

Tim Costley

## **Sundays @ 5 at All Saints Report**

We're racing towards the end of another year of 5pm 'family life'. This year we have been sad to farewell some dear members of the community and we give thanks for their legacy. We have also welcomed new members to our congregation of approximately 60-90 on any given Sunday.

Often labelled as 'traditional', we loved hearing one of our younger members describe the service as 'counter-cultural'! Maybe that reflects the diversity of our community; the change of pace from the world so many of us live in; the liturgy and music ranging from ancient to contemporary; our efforts to live by the Biblical injunction to 'act justly'. Whatever the reason, we liked the thought!

Hospitality continues to be a vital aspect of our life together. On the third Sunday of the month after communion, nearly everyone stays for a light meal. Thanks to Becky Demchick for her superb oversight, and to thank choir and congregation who help with cooking, serving and cleanup. At other times we provide refreshments before or after services and members of the congregation actively support Parish-wide hospitality with meals in their homes. We particularly loved our involvement with the recent St Francis Day Messy Church event.

Pastoral work is a vital team ministry. We would love to be able to do more visiting and this is an area of ministry we will continue to focus on. Among many community facing activities, members of our congregation actively support refugee resettlement; the work of the Green Task Force; social justice initiatives; and Roy and Lisa's foodbank work.

As a new initiative, we have used the City Mission van to provide transport to the 5pm service from homes and retirement villages. We are grateful to the roster of drivers who make this possible and the Ashworth Trust for funding.

All Saints Choir is central to our services and outreach. A choir highlight was the Christmas Readings and Carols service, held in the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit. Put the 2019 date in your diary now – Sunday December 22 at 7.45pm at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit – and think about who you could bring with you. We're hoping to involve members of the Cathedral and other denominations in a combined celebration. Special thanks to Myra Smith for her expert leadership when Jenny is away, and to Susan Hills for the teaching programme she offers to the junior choir.

We have had a full complement of volunteer helpers for the many roles and tasks associated with the 5pm service. I am grateful for each person who serves, and especially for the oversight of the 5pm leadership team. Thank you!

Rev John Hornblow, Priest for the 5pm congregation

## Thursday @ 10.00 Eucharist Service

Thursday @ 10.00 Service is an excellent example of Church as a way of being the Body of Christ when we do it together. We have different gifts and somehow all work together to make this lovely Eucharist Service happen each week because Thursday is more accessible for those who cannot attend Sunday early morning or evening services.

We have a great leadership team who bring their special touch each time they serve. Rostered helpers support each other, never seem to complain and always encourage each other to good works and faithful living. Binding all together is love and fellowship of the Spirit. We are family as well as community and new people are always made welcome.

Thank you to all who lead the services, do the readings, the setting up, the music. All who take prayers, bring the message – for the soul and those who provide excellent morning teas each week for the body. It's good to be part of this Community.

On the fourth Thursday of each month at 11.30am a small group gets together to engage with a Bible passage in reflection and discussion, pray for each other and share food together. This time is open to everyone and not simply an extension of the 10.00am Service.

Welcome to all who might be thinking of joining us!

Robyn Appleby,  
Congregational Leader for Thursday @ 10.00

## St O's Report

*"We believe that radically ordinary hospitality depends on the family of God knowing where to gather, knowing how to be organic and spontaneous with Scripture and open arms. And we do it because the purpose of radically ordinary hospitality is to take the hand of a stranger and put it in the hand of the Saviour, to bridge hostile worlds, and to add to the family of God."* - The Gospel Comes with a House Key

Breakfast Club started at the beginning of Term 2 this year. Monday, Wednesday and Friday Rosemary Barsanti volunteers and runs breakfast club at Central Normal School. Over 40 school aged children come to enjoy a warm milo, cereal, fruit, a cuddle and chats around the breakfast table together.

Mainly Music has been running this year with the help of Hannah Carter. She has continued to encourage other mums to help in different rolls to keep it running smoothly. This year we have had on average 15-22 families each week join us for music, food and playtime with their preschool children.

Bread Run continues to run with supplies from Just Zilch which are dispersed around Takaro and surrounding areas to families we have met. Currently they have 12 families they are delivering to. Karen Hankin has a team of volunteers which meet together and pray for this ministry.

Whanau Friday has started at St O's with a Team lead by Marg and Vaughan Barsanti. Together on Friday afternoon we meet, share kai, our thankfulness from the week, and break bread together around a table. It is a time of connecting and reconnecting with families from our community who have been apart of different areas of ministry that run during the week.

Team Time, we later share a hot drink with a Team that have been meeting fortnightly this year. We read scripture, share where we are seeing god moving in our lives, pray and seek God together. As we believe prayer is a strong way forward we are currently exploring how we do this better as a team and wider community. Marg and Vaughan and team

## **St Columba Church Report**

Sunday morning service at St Columba is always an exciting and inspiring start to the day. Throughout this year we have been blessed with many gifted speakers who come to teach the Word and share in our fellowship.

The first Sunday of the month we start with a delicious cooked breakfast in the hall followed by a dvd. The third Sunday is also in the hall, starting with home baked morning tea. We have been following a series from David Jeremiah and Charles Price.

On the second and fourth Sunday's we meet in the church with worship, music, prayer and a guest speaker. Debbie Hay has been a regular speaker at St Columba as well as being active teaching and leading seminars on sharing the gospel.

Our congregation is a mix of local families and from the wider Palmerston North area. All are welcome at St Columba and all add to our interesting and unique nature.

We are in the process of painting the church and hall and will soon be erecting new and eye-catching road signs for St Columba.

We give thanks to our Father in Heaven for the many blessings that he gives us every new day.

## **Disability Ministry Report**

We continue to be blessed in our congregation! We have new people joining our service on a regular basis so we are a bit crowded in the green and red rooms and we are exploring alternative spaces for our services. In the 2018 Annual Report, we mentioned that a major challenge was that we didn't have anyone to lead sung worship. Prayers were answered immediately. Raewyn Hunt read the Report and volunteered to assist us! And it has made such a difference – we are so blessed to have Raewyn in our congregation!

At a national level, we continue our leadership role in the Disability Working Group with Archbishop Philip Richardson. We are now looking at the practical implications of Motion #15 - "Disability Responsiveness in the Church" – which was proposed, and accepted at General Synod 2018.

Franco, Zandra and Vincenzo Vaccarino

## **Green Task Force Annual Report**

This has been a busy year for the group as we have expanded both the number of members and also the range of activities.

### Submissions to Local Territorial Authorities.

Following on from the submissions made in 2018 to PNCC and Horizons Regional Council on their respective 10 Year Plans, we submitted to both organisations again in 2019.

PNCC held public hearings of input into the Annual Plan for the city and we attended to give an update on the rate of reduction needed to reduce the city's CO2 emissions to the levels set by the Paris Accord.

Horizons Regional Council invited us to speak at a Council meeting to provide commentary on the Memorandum of Understanding between wider local authorities in understanding impacts of climate change and actions that would likely be needed. After presentations and discussion, Councillors voted unanimously to progress the MoU and work with others across the wider region.

### Zero Carbon Bill Submission and Select Committee

GTF put together a submission on the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Bill and also presented orally to the Environment Select Committee at the hearings held in Palmerston North. The submission commented on specific clauses and offered suggestions for improvement in the delivery of the

desired outcomes and encouraged strongly the need for urgent action and implementation of the bill's provisions. We were commended for this approach to the submission.

#### Meetings for Local Body election candidates

As part of The Care for Creation month of September, the GTF hosted three candidate forums for the local body elections with the format of each differing slightly based on the number of candidates. The forums were for Horizons Regional Council, PN mayor, and PNCC. Candidates were given the opportunity to give their statement based on how they would approach the emerging climate crisis. There was also time for members of the public to interact one-on-one with the candidates. With the PNCC candidate forum lasting from 5:00-9:00 PM, a break was scheduled to serve a light dinner to the candidates. Feedback from the candidates was very positive with one commenting in an email "Your initiative to organise this 'meet the candidates', and the turn-up tonight, shows the church is a strong pillar of the community."

#### Just Transition

Just Transition is a concept that has been maturing globally over the last three decades that captures the idea that even in times of massive corporate change or systemic regional change it is possible to take a people first approach to achieve a just solution for all the people involved that ensures everyone's lives have continuity and that their wellbeing is maintained through the transition. We heard examples from a wide variety of locations and interests, and a range of presentations from so many different groups

#### Local Community Activities

\* Tree Planting : the close connection to the local A Rocha group continues with several people being part of both groups. On Saturday 5 October a group of about a dozen planted 300 trees in a newly cleared forestry block, and this has potential to become a long term project over future years.

\* Care of Creation Month /Messy Church : The Care of Creation month culminated in a wonderful collaboration between the GTF, Messy Church and the 5:00 PM congregation to celebrate the Feast Day of St. Francis. GTF members organised and prepared the dinner, and provided a planting activity for the children.

Barbara Arnold

## **Church Building Advisory Board Report**

This year the Church Building Advisory Board (CBAB) has been concentrating on 2 areas for the strengthening project of All Saints Church.

The first has been fine tuning our application for a resource consent. During this process there have been meetings with Heritage New Zealand, our planning consultants, Palmerston North City Council and our engineering consultants. I am pleased to advise that the consent application was lodged in the last week of September and we expect the application to proceed directly to public notification. We await the next steps. The second has been the process of obtaining a firm cost estimate for a refined design plan, in which plans and materials have been reconfigured or altered to reduce costs. An original quantity surveyed cost estimate was produced last year which CBAB considered was too expensive. At this point we are still unable to produce a realistic quantity surveyed costing for the project that is likely to be reliable. Quotes from suitably qualified companies to complete the strengthening are proving difficult to obtain in the current environment and are still being sought.

It is CBAB's hope that should a resource consent be approved in the next 3 to 6 months we can then proceed without delay to final design plans.

My thanks to all the CBAB members for their time and effort to this project.

Vince Neall. (Chair)

## Tertiary Chaplaincy Report

All Saints has four members on the Massey University chaplaincy team: Paul Stock (Coordinating Chaplain), Dianne Stock, Victoria Sibley-Bentley and Andy Hickman. The 'centre' of our work at the Massey University Chaplaincy Centre is Christ; the quality of our relationships with Him, with each other in the team and with the 500 students that use the Centre each week. We meet each Wednesday for devotional reading of Scripture, prayer and professional development; this is the spiritual core that we minister from. Embodying the welcome of Jesus through hospitality is a vital part of what we do; free hot drinks, a cafe space in the foyer, study spaces, couches and beanbags, and a warm smile are all ingredients that make the Centre a safe, popular social hub on campus. It is from this base of hospitality that ministry flows. Victoria is heavily involved with international students, helping them improve their English while exploring the Bible, and in particular the life of Jesus through the Gospels. Dianne holds a Christian meditation class which focuses on listening to the voice of Jesus. Andy is involved with the student union and social activism, Dianne and Paul host a Thursday night meal for students where they also explore the life of Jesus through the Gospel of John, and Paul runs a Bible study group for students looking in-depth at the book of Romans. There is also a weekly Pancake Night held on Wednesday evenings at the Centre, which many students attend. Our chaplains are involved in a wide variety of activities and groups, but all of it we do because we want to extend the generous hospitality of God to the students and staff on campus. We deeply appreciate the ongoing support of All Saints in the work we do on campus, you are part of it with us.

Regards. Paul