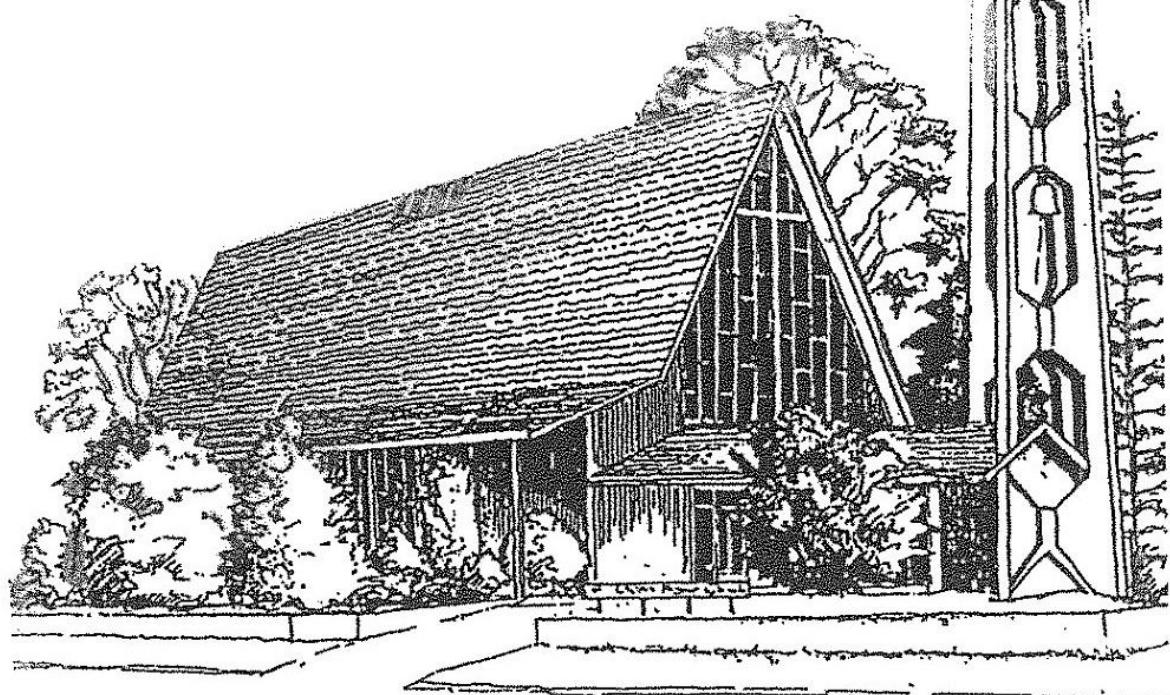


**St Columba's Havelock North
Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand**

Columba News

FEBRUARY - MARCH 2026

Issue No. 70



R. J. Kendal

ST COLUMBA'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, HAVELOCK NORTH

SUNDAY 10.00am MORNING SERVICE
followed by morning tea in the foyer

KIDS ON SUNDAY (Children's Programme) each Sunday (except January) (crèche available)
8 AM COMMUNION - 2nd Sunday monthly except for January

Mission Statement—The people of St Columba's seek through worship and loving service to offer the good news of Jesus Christ to all people.

Minister

Rev. Wayne Toleafoa
 Phone/answerphone: 877 0244
 Mobile: 0211038144
minister@schn.org.nz
 Office: Tuesday to Friday
 9am to 1pm

Church Council

Clerk

Wayne Rewcastle
 Phone 877 5754

Treasurer

Sophie Duggan
 0274804235

Office

Administrator
 Elma Pienaar
 Phone/answerphone: 877 8096
info@schn.org.nz
 Website: www.schn.org.nz
 Postal address:
 P O Box 8487
 Havelock North 4157

Hours

Monday to Friday
 9am to 1pm

Our Bank Account Number is 03-0658-0005625-000, if you wish to make a direct payment or set up an automatic payment, payable to:

St Columba's Presbyterian Parish Havelock North.

FROM THE MINISTER

Greetings and welcome to the new year. I can't believe it's February already!

Every new year, my five NZ siblings and our offspring gather in Auckland on New Years Day. We number about 40 altogether. A time capsule in the shape of a rocket is produced and opened. Inside the hollow rocket are the resolutions we each made at the previous New Years gathering. There's a lot of laughter and applause as we hear the year-old resolutions read out by each 'resolver'. We are allowed three goals each - which are divided into 'spiritual', 'physical' and 'intellectual' goals. Some of us even surprise ourselves by achieving all three of our projected goals. Others are disappointed and others give us a laugh by setting impossible goals – like 'being a billionaire by next year'. We are given a new slip of paper and a pen for this year's resolutions. They are placed in the time capsule and stored away for another year.

I find setting goals is useful. Without goals we become like a ship that is headed out into the ocean with no destination and no charts. A ship with no purpose and direction. Going nowhere fast.

Church is like that too. We need to plan and set goals for the next three to five years. We hope to do that later this year with the help of a facilitator. We hope as many of you as possible to take part.

PCANZ Ministers are required to have three-year goals. My goals are: 1. Keep fit. 2. Write a book. 3. Do a university paper each year for the next 3 years.

I would urge you to earnestly pray for the parish, for myself, our leadership and all members. That we may come up with some worthy goals that reflect the Life of Christ among us. Goals that will benefit our community and not just the church. Goals that will help us to know Christ more and make Him known.

⁵*And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new."* *Revelation 21: 5*

Have a Blessed New Year in 2026

Love & Blessings
Wayne

NOURISHED FOR NIL

Many thanks to all of you who contributed to the foodbank basket over the Christmas and holiday period and continue to do so in the new year. Your support of this outreach is so very valuable. Keep up the good work!

Dianne and John Taylor

TABLE TENNIS

Join us for a relaxed and social game of table tennis every Monday morning from 9.30am to 11.30am at the Orphans Hall, Miller Street, Hastings.

It's a friendly, informal morning with plenty of laughs, good company, and table tennis for all skill levels. The cost is just \$3 per person, and everyone is welcome — whether you play regularly or just come along for the social atmosphere. We had a wonderful turnout of 27 people recently, which made for a great morning.

Jocelyn Kirkwood

BIBLE STUDY GROUP

Bible Study will resume on Monday, 9 March at 2.00pm in the Millar Room. This is a small, friendly group that enjoys thoughtful discussion around specific themes.

Last year, the group focused on women in the Bible, exploring their stories and reflecting on how these continue to speak into modern-day living.

New participants are very welcome — all are invited to join.

Elma Pienaar

FAITH & REASON DISCUSSION GROUP

This group is small in numbers but big in ideas! Anything is up for discussion, so if you enjoy a robust, liberal discourse, then please come along! We try to remain open and non-judgemental.

Meetings begin with afternoon tea at 3.00pm on the last Sunday of the month in the church foyer and finish around 4.30pm. Our next gathering is on Sunday 1 March and again on 29 March. This is unusual, so please write it in your diary!

During the last year we have chosen topics from the book “Hand in Hand” compiled by Ian Harris, who contributed to a column in the Otago Daily Times under the same name as our group. There are several of these groups in other parts of New Zealand.

Group members receive a copy of the paper under discussion during the week prior to each meeting, often with possible questions for consideration.

Do think about joining us. If you have something on your mind, bring it along. We will help you 'nut it out'! We are a friendly group!!!

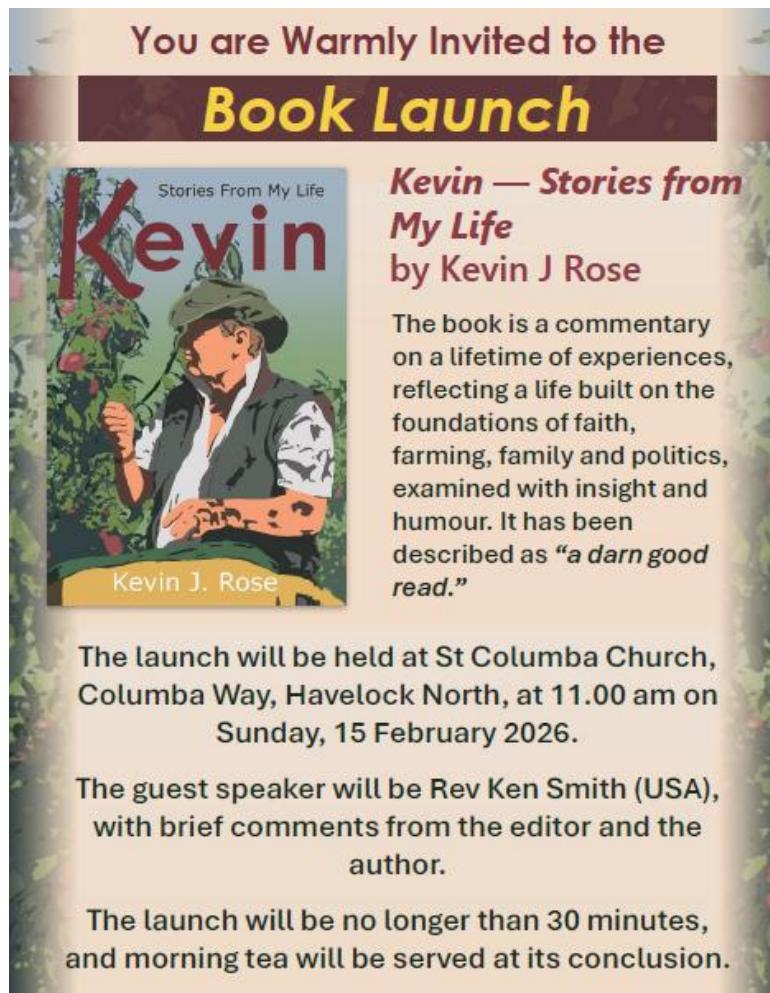
Jocelyn Kirkwood

BLOKES BREAKFAST

Blokes Breakfast begin again on Saturday 21 February. We begin at 8.00am with a cooked breakfast (\$23.00) and follow this up with a guest speaker. We meet at the Function Centre.

You can be assured of good company. We would welcome any newcomers. Bring a friend!

John Taylor



MINI MARKET

All hands on deck!

Saturday 7 February is fast approaching, and, after the Christmas break, everyone is raring to go! Our next Mini Market promises to be another lively morning of fellowship, fundraising, and community spirit.

As always, we would be grateful for donations of goods for the various stalls. Please consider what you might be able to contribute — and of course, come along on the day, enjoy a cuppa with Dorothy, and wander around the stalls to see if there's something you need (or didn't know you needed!).

If you are able to help, donate, or have questions, please speak to one of the following convenors:

Finance & Floats: John Heesterman

Free Coffee/Tea: Dorothy Thawley

Jam & Pickles: Janet Browne

Baking: Elma Pienaar, Ailsa Rewcastle

Crafts: Annette Broadley

White Elephant / Jewellery: Janice Hopkinson, Kevin Rose, Anne Vermunt

Good quality items are especially needed, including jewellery and china

Plants: John Heesterman

Produce: Arthur Peake, Jos Vermunt

Sweets: Jill Thomsen

BBQ: Wayne Rewcastle, Mike Earle, John Heesterman

On the day:

Gazebos will be set up from 7.30am, with the market running from 9.00am to 12.00pm.

Thank you for your continued generosity and enthusiasm — it's this shared effort that makes our Mini Markets such a success. We look forward to seeing you there!

The committee (Phil Carter, Kevin Rose, Wayne Rewcastle & John Heesterman)

WOMEN'S COFFEE GROUP

We would love all women of St Columba's to join in with our coffee group on the second Wednesday of each month. We meet in the foyer at 10.00am and will re-start the year on 11 February. We would love to see you there – and do bring a friend!

Dianne, Janet, Ailsa

ORGAN NOTES

Christmas is now behind us for another year, and it has certainly been a busy time for the organists. It is wonderful to welcome Stephanie back — we have missed you and your playing very much. We are also deeply grateful to Ngaire Anderson for stepping in during this period, which gave both Jenny and me a much-appreciated break.

As many will know, playing the organ is far more demanding than it often appears, and from time to time unexpected “gremlins” can appear in the system. Thank you to the congregation for your ongoing support, understanding, and grace — and for forgiving the occasional mistake along the way.

We now look forward with excitement to welcoming **Hans Hielscher from Germany** back again to play for us on **8 March**. Hans not only shares a deep love of the organ but is also a gifted musician and arranger. Over the years, I have come to know and appreciate a wide range of his repertoire, and we are delighted to have him return.

*Jean Jarvis
Charge organist*

CHRISTIAN WORLD SERVICE

A total of \$602.90 was transferred to Christian World Service (CWS), collected through the retiring offerings at the Christmas Candles Service, the Christmas Day Service, and the Children's Pageant last year.

Christian World Service works alongside communities around the world to support sustainable development, humanitarian relief, and justice initiatives. Thank you to everyone who contributed so generously to this worthy cause — your support is deeply appreciated.

Parish office

INDOOR BOWLS

It doesn't seem long since we played our final game of indoor bowls and went into recess for the summer. I am now reporting on the beginning of our new season. We will meet at Summerset in the Vines at 7.30pm on Wednesday 18th March and play through until Wednesday 15th October. Supper fee is \$2 each night.

New members are always made to feel very welcome whether you've played indoor bowls before or are new to the game, we are a social group who enjoy meeting for a common interest.

At the end of the season, we meet for a subsidised restaurant lunch.

Shirley Hodge

PRAYER GROUP

The Prayer Group resumes Wednesday 4 February at 2.00pm at Janice and Edgar's home – Villa 48, Summerset, Te Mata Road. We remain a very small but dedicated group, meeting for an hour every second month. We remain hopeful that others may join us for this short time of prayers and fellowship.

The April meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 1 April at 2.00pm. Prayer requests can be made to Rev Wayne or Elma in the office.

*Yours in Christ
Mary Sittauer*

MAINLY BALANCE - Stay Strong, Stay Steady!

Our Mainly Balance exercise group meets every Tuesday at 1.00pm in the church foyer for a relaxed and enjoyable hour of movement, laughter, and good company.

Led by Lance Marsh, a professional trainer who specialises in exercise for older adults, the sessions are gentle, safe, and designed to build confidence as well as strength and balance. Just as important, they are a great opportunity to connect with others in a warm and welcoming setting.

The cost is \$5.00 per session, and everyone is welcome — parishioners, friends, and members of the wider community alike. Feel free to bring a friend and come along for both the exercise and the fellowship.

Elma Pienaar

KNIT N NATTER

Our dedicated group of knitters will resume on Wednesday 18 February. We would love to welcome new folk along - many hands make light work. The blankets we knit go to Pregnancy Help – a community-based organisation that offers confidential, practical, and emotional support to women and families facing unplanned or challenging pregnancies. Through listening support, pregnancy testing, and practical assistance, Pregnancy Help walks alongside families with care, dignity, and compassion.

The group has been invited to Pregnancy Help's 5th Birthday Celebration and fund-raising evening on 28 February, and many of us hope to attend.

Any donations of 8 ply pure wool would be very welcome.

Dianne Taylor



PREGNANCY HELP
HASTINGS & NAPIER

5TH ANNIVERSARY FUNDRAISING CELEBRATION

SATURDAY 28TH FEBRUARY 2026
7.00PM
ELWOOD FUNCTION CENTRE,
15 OTENE ROAD, WAIPATU

Guest Speaker - Dr Russell Wills

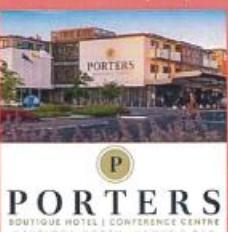
Hawke's Bay paediatrician, former Children's Commissioner and the current chair of the Paediatric Society of New Zealand Child Protection Clinical Network.

Bar service available
& nibbles provided

Tickets \$20 - Scan QR Code

● Raffle & Spot prizes ● Goodie Bags for the first 50 guests














COLUMBA BOOKS

We ended our year with a beautiful morning tea provided from our funds and shared with all the congregation on the Sunday before Christmas. Of special note were the carrot cake and Christmas Cake which were most enjoyable.

Over the months of December and January, the Columba Bookshop experienced a noticeable lift in book sales. This encouraging increase has been largely due to the high-quality donations we received leading into summer. We are deeply grateful to everyone who contributed from within the community and the church.

However, this success has had a small side effect: our shelves are now looking a little bare. To keep the shop well-stocked and welcoming, we would greatly appreciate fresh donations of good-quality books in the immediate future. If you are aware of anyone moving or downsizing, don't forget to mention us. We are always thrilled to receive books of high quality.

When we say *high quality*, we simply mean books in clean, saleable condition. From time to time, we receive items that have been damaged, water-exposed, or affected by mould. Unfortunately, once mould sets in, the book cannot be sold and must be discarded. Your help in checking donations before dropping them off makes a tremendous difference to the shop's operation and to our volunteers' time.

10th Anniversary Celebration – Mini Book Festival

This year marks the 10th Anniversary of the opening of our Columba Bookshop—an exciting milestone for our church community. To celebrate, we are hoping to hold a Mini Book Festival, on a Saturday morning in May or June. More details will follow as plans take shape.

As always, we welcome the creativity and wisdom of our volunteer team. If you have ideas for festival activities, displays, readings, or ways to involve the wider community, we would love to hear them. To gather suggestions and begin shaping the programme, we will hold a volunteers' planning meeting in February. A date will be confirmed shortly.

A highlight of the festival will be readings from *Tall Tales*—Judith's first book about the shop—as well as readings from her new book, which is due for release around the same time. These will be wonderful opportunities to celebrate the stories, people, and spirit that have shaped the shop over the past decade.

My gratitude and thanks to all our wonderful volunteers and to Anne Keown and Rex who not only help with the running of the shop but also have my back.

Judith Bartlett, Manager

OUR PEOPLE

Happy New Year to you all - may 2026 be a good one for all the members of our church and for the lovely community of Havelock North, where we are privileged to live.

Many people in the congregation have been away over the holidays or have had family and friends come and visit. We trust that this time has provided a great opportunity for reunions, happiness and relaxation.

Since our last issue of the newsletter, we have lost a faithful member of the congregation in Dimitria Kyriakaki, who passed away at the end of December. We offer our sincere sympathy to her family and friends. To any other folk who have lost a loved one over this period, we pray that God will comfort you in your loss.

Last (but by no means least) we celebrate with our own Rev Wayne on his award of the Kings Service Medal for services rendered. In fact, we can further extend his KSM to include his care of our congregation and for leading our services week by week. St Columba's is privileged to have him as our minister. Special congratulations, Wayne - as a church, we bask in your reflected glory!!

At the start of this new year, we ask God's blessings on all the organisations connected to the church and thank Him for watching over our various activities throughout the year.

Pat Burden

MAINLY MUSIC

Mainly Music continues to be one of our church's key outreach ministries to young families in our community. Each Thursday morning during school term, we offer an hour of joyful singing, movement, and music for toddlers and their carers, beginning at 9.30am.

This ministry is made possible by a dedicated and caring team: Elma Pienaar, Mike Earle, Ailsa Newcastle, Barbara Randal, Margie Kaye, Stephanie Mueller, Dorothy Thawley, Anne Heesterman, and Jocelyn Williams. We extend special thanks to Lois Churchill for her faithful and dedicated support over the past few years, and to Jill Thomsen for kindly stepping in when needed.

A heartfelt thank you also goes to all those who contribute to the wonderful home baking provided each week. The young mothers especially appreciate being spoiled with delicious baking and shared morning tea. Anne Heesterman and Ailsa Newcastle coordinate the home-baking roster, and we are grateful for their care and organisation.

Beyond music and hospitality, our volunteers provide a warm, safe, and confidential environment where families feel supported and listened to when needed.

We will begin the year with a planning meeting on Thursday, 5 February at 10.00am in the foyer, and look forward to welcoming back our young families for the first session on Thursday, 12 February at 9.30am.

Finally, sincere thanks to Len Hodgson, who generously manages the church office on Thursday mornings while Mainly Music is taking place in the foyer.

Elma Pienaar

IN MEMORIAM



THREE UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS

ART DECO WEEKEND – SUNDAY 22 FEBRUARY

As part of Art Deco Weekend in Napier, parishioners are invited to come to church on Sunday 22 February dressed in Art Deco style if they wish. After the service, we will share a high tea in the foyer, with each family invited to bring a plate.

ORGAN RECITAL – SUNDAY 8 MARCH, 3.30PM

We are delighted to welcome back world-renowned German organist Hans Hielscher for an organ recital on our much-loved organ on Sunday afternoon, 8 March at 3.30pm. This promises to be an enjoyable and varied hour of music, and everyone is encouraged to bring a friend.

The programme will include works by Tambling, Keller, Massenet, Flagler, Verdi, Joplin, and Hielscher, offering a rich and engaging mix of musical styles.

Admission is free, though a donation/koha would be appreciated to assist with Hans's accommodation costs. If you require a ride to the concert, please contact Elma at the parish office on 06 877 8096.

We look forward to sharing both of these special occasions together.

LENTEN STUDIES

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, 18 February, and continues through to Palm Sunday, 29 March. A programme of Lenten Studies will take place during this period, with dates and times to be confirmed. Please keep an eye on the weekly notices at church services for further details.

CAN YOU SPONSOR SOMEONE TO ATTEND THE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP FOR DISABLED WELLINGTON REGIONAL CAMP?

The camp takes place 27 February to 1 March 2026 at El Rancho, Waikanae.

Camp fees: Adults \$150.00; Under 15 \$80.00; Transport arranged by CFFD \$40.00.

Please speak to Rev Wayne or Joan Parker.

BIBLE READING ROSTER

1 Feb	Jocelyn Kirkwood
8 Feb	Wayne Rewcastle
15 Feb	Jocelyn Williams
22 Feb	Barbara Randal
1 Mar	Helen Sinclair
8 Mar	Warren Fortune
15 Mar	Stephen Randal
22 Mar	John Taylor
29 Mar	Kevin Rose

MORNING TEA ROSTER

FEBRUARY	
1 February	Anne Heesterman, John Heesterman
	Janet Browne, Sam Browne
8 February	Ailsa Rewcastle, Wayne Rewcastle
	Jenny Berntsen
15 February	Dianne Taylor, John Taylor
	Judy Bark, Jill Thomsen
22 February	Barbara Randal, Stephen Randal
	Helen Sinclair, Craig Kilgour
MARCH	
1 March	Ngaire Holford, Ian Holford
	Jill Rose, Kevin Rose
8 March	Pat Burden, Grayham Burden
	Elma Pienaar, Louis Pienaar
15 March	Shirley Hodge, Jan Jenkins
	Judith Bell, Jane McElroy
22 March	Jocelyn Kirkwood, Margaret Loughlan
	Colleen Field, Anne Keown
30 March	Sophie Duggan, Mike Earle
	Val Parish, Olive Duggan

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

Sunday 1	10.00am	Sunday Service
Monday 2	9.30am	Table tennis, Orphans Club Hall, Cnr Miller & Albert Streets, Hastings
Tuesday 3	1.00pm	Mainly Balance, foyer
Tuesday 3	7.00pm	Elders meeting, Millar Room
Wednesday 4	2.00pm	Prayer Group, Villa 48, Summerset, Te Mata Rd
Thursday 5	10.00am	Mainly Music TEAM MEETING, foyer
Saturday 7	9.00am	Mini market
Sunday 8	8.00am	Communion
Sunday 8	10.00am	Sunday Service
Monday 9	9.30am	Table tennis, Orphan Club Hall
Tuesday 10	1.00pm	Mainly Balance, foyer
Tuesday 10	7.30pm	Board of Managers meeting, Millar Room
Wednesday 11	10.00am	Women's Coffee Group, foyer
Thursday 12	9.30am	Mainly Music, foyer
Sunday 15	10.00am	Sunday Service [<i>Preacher: Rev Ken Smith</i>]
Sunday 15	11.00am	Book launch – Kevin Rose, foyer
Monday 16	9.30am	Table tennis, Orphan's Club Hall
Tuesday 17	1.00pm	Mainly Balance, foyer
Wednesday 18	10.00am	Knit n Natter, Millar Room
Thursday 19	9.30am	Mainly Music, foyer
Saturday 21	8.00am	Blokes Breakfast, HN Function Centre
Sunday 22	10.00am	Sunday Service – Art Deco dress-up and high tea
Monday 23	9.30am	Table tennis, Orphan's Club Hall
Tuesday 24	1.00pm	Mainly Balance, foyer
Tuesday 24	7.30pm	Church Council meeting, Millar Room
Wednesday 25	10.00am	Knit n Natter, Millar Room
Wednesday 25	5.00pm	SCHNEG, Millar Room
Thursday 26	9.30am	Mainly Music, foyer

MARCH CALENDAR

Sunday 1	10.00am	Sunday Service
Sunday 1	3.00pm	Faith & Reason Discussion Group, foyer
Monday 2	9.30am	Table tennis, Orphans Club Hall

Tuesday 3	1.00pm	Mainly Balance, foyer
Wednesday 4	10.00am	Knit n Natter, Millar Room
Thursday 5	10.00am	Mainly Music, foyer
Saturday 7	9.00am	Mini market
Sunday 8	8.00am	Communion
Sunday 8	10.00am	Sunday Service & Quarterly Communion
Sunday 8	3.30pm	Organ Concert – Hans Hielscher
Monday 9	9.30am	Table tennis, Orphan Club Hall
Monday 9	2.00pm	Bible Study, Millar Room
Tuesday 10	1.00pm	Mainly Balance, foyer
Tuesday 10	7.30pm	Board of Managers meeting, Millar Room
Wednesday 11	10.00am	Women's Coffee Group, foyer
Thursday 12	9.30am	Mainly Music, foyer
Sunday 15	10.00am	Sunday Service
Monday 16	9.30am	Table tennis, Orphan's Club Hall
Tuesday 17	1.00pm	Mainly Balance, foyer
Wednesday 18	10.00am	Knit n Natter, Millar Room
Wednesday 18	7.30pm	Indoor bowls, Summerset, Te Mata Rd
Thursday 19	9.30am	Mainly Music, foyer
Saturday 21	8.00am	Blokes Breakfast, HN Function Centre
Sunday 22	10.00am	Sunday Service
Monday 23	9.30am	Table tennis, Orphan's Club Hall
Tuesday 24	1.00pm	Mainly Balance, foyer
Tuesday 24	7.30pm	Church Council meeting, Millar Room
Wednesday 25	10.00am	Knit n Natter, Millar Room
Wednesday 25	5.00pm	SCHNEG, Millar Room
Wednesday 25	7.30pm	Indoor bowls, Summerset, Te Mata Rd
Thursday 26	9.30am	Mainly Music, foyer
Sunday 29	10.00am	Sunday Service
Sunday 29	3.00pm	Faith and Reason Discussion Group, foyer
Monday 30	9.30am	Table tennis, Orphan's Club Hall
Tuesday 31	1.00pm	Mainly Balance, foyer

EARLY APRIL CALENDAR

Wednesday 1	10.00am	Knit n Natter, Millar Room
Wednesday 1	2.00pm	Prayer Group, Villa 48, Summerset, Te Mata Rd
Wednesday 1	7.30pm	Indoor bowls, Summerset, Te Mata Rd
Thursday 2	9.30am	Mainly Music, foyer
Thursday 2	7.30pm	Maundy Thursday Service
Friday 3	9.00am	Good Friday Walk of Witness
Friday 3	10.00am	Good Friday Service (<i>Venue to be confirmed</i>)
Saturday 4	9.00am	Mini market
Sunday 5	10.00am	Easter Sunday Service & Communion

TIMELESS MOMENTS

PRESERVE YOUR MOST MEANINGFUL MOMENTS

Timeless Moments creates beautifully crafted memory videos using your personal photos and videos. Whether you are honouring a loved one, celebrating a life, or preserving precious memories, each video is created with sensitivity, respect, and care.

These are not just videos – they are keepsakes of the heart.

What we offer:

- Custom memory videos
- Thoughtful music selection
 - Gentle storytelling
 - Personalised with care
- Respectful and confidential handling of your memories

Contact:

 timelessmomentsnz@gmail.com

Creating memories with care



See Matthew 14:14-21)

01-18-2010

LOAVES AND FISH FOR LEFTOVERS AGAIN?!?