



# ST MARGARET'S

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SILVERSTREAM

## NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2024  
JANUARY 2025

### Come let us adore Him

Come, all you shepherds and shearers  
Put down your blades,  
Kick the fleece into a corner  
And hurry on down to the birthing place.  
Christ is with us.

It is dark right now in Bethlehem  
But here the sun blazes in a fanfare of brass  
And gulls float like scraps of paper  
Announcing to a blue, blue sea,  
Christ is with us.

Not in a stable this time,  
But a house-truck parked down by the creek  
under a snow of manuka blossom.  
Mary, the baby, two cats and a dog,  
and Joseph making pancakes over a little gas  
stove.

Go quietly now, for this is holy time.  
Kick your boots off at the step  
And go in with open eyes,  
Ready to be surprised by God.  
Christ is with us.

'Come and See'  
By Joy Cowley  
Publisher – Pleroma Christian Supplies. Otane.



## Greetings

I honestly do not believe that there is another month in the year that carries such deep emotion in it.

There is a sense of great relief for many that the year has come an end, and they have a space to take some leave and relax with the family. Sadly, it is relief because the year has been so busy, some things may have happened that have caused anxiety and then there is the stress that has become a norm to most people.

The next emotional trigger is reminder of loved ones who are no longer with us. Maybe it is the first Christmas without a loved one. Grief and loss seem to amplify during this season.

Maybe it that there are members of your family, like mine, who live a long way away. I know too well that how much we miss family is heightened at Christmas time. Or, you will be with extended family at Christmas which may carry with it the tension of strained relationships.

And in spite of the above we are excited by the prospect of spending more time with our loved ones, doing some of the things we don't get enough time to do during the year and diving into some of those projects we haven't got to.

My prayer is that, during all this we will take time to celebrate the unique and special meaning behind the Christmas season. Our faith would not exist if God had not chosen to take on human form, born as a baby in Bethlehem. The creator of all things became one of us, for us, to save us. This it truly Good News and can be the one 'tonic' we need to lift our spirits and strengthen us for the year to come.

God bless you as you spend time with your loved ones. May God inspire you as you acknowledge and worship this season. And may God's blessing continue with you into the new year.

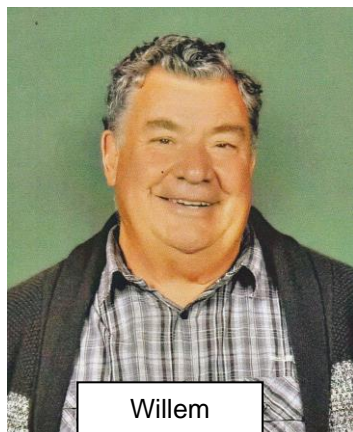


Rodney



## Pastoral:

- Congratulations to Agnes Levi & Daniel Tagaloa on the birth of their little girl Tia..
- Our thoughts and prayers are with Sheryn Jacques and her family. Sheryn's father Vance died recently.
- We also think of the family of Willem Strydom who worshipped with us each Sunday until it was necessary for him to go into care.
- Our thoughts are also with Barbara Moller whose brother-in-law Ian died recently.



- Congratulations also to Caitlin & Josh on the occasion of their marriage.

L-R Mike McInnarney, Josh, Caitlin, Lynley ,Blair McInnarney



year, but everyone is so willing of their time, skills and commitment. We are so blessed @ St Margaret's and take nothing for granted.

Thank you from us all

Sheryn, Lynley, Delena, Malcolm, Dianne, Sarah, Nicole





Christian  
World Service



**Give climate  
hope this  
Christmas**

**DONATE NOW**  
[christmasappeal.org.nz](https://christmasappeal.org.nz)

## Christian World Service appeal

Every Christmas we link in with Christian World Service as the organisation we give to. Christian World Service is an organisation that serves the poorest and neediest communities in our world. The fund projects to uplift and empower poor communities, they support communities that are hit by disasters, and they campaign against the causes of poverty and injustice. They serve people of all ethnicities, religious beliefs, gender and race.

St Margaret's has committed to supporting this incredible work in our world. This year CWS has partnered with the United Nations in supporting people impacted by climate change, especially those in the Pacific islands. Each Sunday leading up to Christmas we will support and motivate for this appeal. We ask that you prayerfully consider giving to this vital work. Giving is quite easy; there are brochures on the table in the foyer that will give you all the details of the appeal. Attached to the brochure is an envelope that you can use to make an online bank payment. You can also put the envelope in the offering plate, and we will deposit it for you. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask myself or Chris.

God bless you.

***Rodney***

### Lectionary

<b>1 Dec.</b>	Jeremiah 33:14-16a	Psalms 25:1-10	1 Thessalonians 3:9-13	Luke 21:25-36
<b>8 Dec.</b>	Malachi 3:1-4	Luke 1:68-79	Philippians 1:3-11	Luke 3:1-6
<b>15 Dec</b>	Zephaniah 3:14-20	Isaiah 12:2-6	Philippians 4:4-7	Luke 3:7-18
<b>22 Dec</b>	Michah 5:2-5a	Luke 1:47-55	Hebrews 10:5-10	Luke 1:39-45
<b>25 Dec</b>	Isaiah 62:6-12	Psalms 97	Titus 3:4-7	Luke 2:8-20
<b>29 Dec</b>	1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26	Psalms 148	Colossians 3:12-17	Luke 2:41-52
<b>5 Jan</b>	Jeremiah 31:7-14	Psalms 147:12-15	Ephesians 1:3-14	John 1:10-18
<b>12 Jan</b>	Isaiah 43:1-7	Psalms 29	Acts 8:14-17	Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
<b>19 Jan</b>	Isaiah 62:1-5	Psalms 36:5-10	1 Corinthians 12:1-11	John 2:1-11
<b>26 Jan</b>	Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5,6,8-10	Psalms 19	1 Corinthians 12:12-31a	Luke 4:14-21
<b>2 Feb</b>	Jeremiah 1:4-10	Psalms 71:1-6	1 Corinthians 13:1-13	Luke 4:21-30



## Christmas Toys, Baking & Toiletries For Family Works 2024

Let's spread a joy again this Christmas by continuing to support Presbyterian Support Central's Upper Hutt Centre, Family Works in Upper Hutt.

All contributions of toys, new or in excellent condition, small toiletries and Christmas baking for the families who use the services of Family Works are always welcome.

This is a particularly difficult year for families as the cutbacks in hundreds of jobs bite.

This is a difficult time for many families and any contribution we can make towards helping make Christmas a special time for children, is always greatly appreciated.

New or quality second-hand toys, Christmas baking and small toiletry items (soap, toothpaste etc.) are much appreciated.

There is a labelled container each Sunday in the foyer of the church.

No need to wrap anything, but donations of wrapping paper are useful.

Last day for gathering items is ***Sunday 8 December*** 2024 for distribution the following week.

*Family Works Centre provides parenting support and education, dispute resolution, social work, strengthening families, courses and resources for new settlers and youth programmes.*

If you have any enquiries contact Pat 9380374







## *Christmas Services*

Sunday	8 Dec	10.00 am	Christmas pageant
Tues.	24 Dec	6.00 pm	Christmas eve picnic
		7.30 pm	Carols on the lawn
		9.15 pm	Christmas eve service
Wed.	25 Dec	10.00 am	Christmas day service
Sun.	29 Dec.	10.00 am	Morning Worship
Sun.	5 Jan.	10.00 am.	Communion

Services during January 10.00 a.m.



## ROSTERS

Date	Morning Tea	Lawns	Church Cleaning	Audio Visual
1 Dec.	Sue Taylor Delwyn Frederikson	1Malcolm Galloway	Carol McConnell	Alfred Enslin
8 Dec.	Lin Coleman Karen Coleman	-	Carol McConnell	Jenny Fisher
15 Dec.	Jan Hill Sian Scannell	Andries Labuschagne	Lynley McInnarney	Chris Rosanowski
22 Dec.	Derilene Aston Jacqueline Kitchen	-	Sarah Smith	David Lottering
24 Dec	-	-		Hazel O'Brien
25 Dec.	-	-		Hazel O'Brien
29 Dec.	Heather-Lee & Malcolm Foster	Rhys West	Helen Bassett	Alfred Enslin
5 Jan.	Sarah Smith Margaret Opray	-	Shirley Harrison	David Lottering
12 Jan	Lynn Russell Jan Hill	Mike McInnarney	Karen Coleman	Jenny Fisher
19 Jan	Sonja Ané Britz Shirley Harrison	-	Ainsley Andrews	Hazel O'Brien
26 Jan	Lin Coleman Karen Coleman	Chris Upton	Rosenda Upton	Chris Rosanowski
2 Feb.	Sue Taylor Delwyn Frederikson	-	Lynley McInnarney	Alfred Enslin



St Margaret's Church council met on Wednesday 27 November for a workshop led by Poojah, our area rep from the 'Wellington Regional Emergency Management Office' to draw up a disaster Management plan for our parish.

As Parish we want to be prepared so that we can serve and look after our members, and the Silverstream community as a whole, in the event of a disaster.

In February we will be holding another workshop where the whole congregation, and the Silverstream community, will be invited to learn how to be prepared at home.

This is part of our mission as a church, to be ready to love and serve our community even in the worst of times.





- **This term Youth Group** has essentially folded. Leaders Jo and Rodney have not been as available and the limited sessions available were not well attended. The end of year dinner was cancelled as only one of our kids indicated they would be attending. Everyone has been busy with exams, sports, end of year

productions, term 4 has always been a hard time for the youth group.

It is with sadness I write, that this is my (Jo) last youth group report. I have been a youth group leader with Sian Scannell, Delena West and recently Rodney for the last 10 years. I have seen many of our rangatahi including my own two pass through youth group and go off to independence and exploration. There is no succession plan for youth group next year, so at the moment there is a volunteer vacancy for a/some youth leaders for our church. You'll still see me around doing other things. Ma te wa. **Jo Rothbaum**

- **Sunday school** finishes after the pageant on the 8 December but the following week, if there are any children in church, we may just have some games/light morning tea. Sunday school will start back 2 February 2025.

**Sheryn Jacques**

- **Friendship Group** finishes on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2024 and recommences on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2025 **Shirley Main Ruth Mackinder**
- No **Evening Fellowship** meetings in December and January. There is lunch on Wednesday 4 December for those who have booked.

A forest of shining lights

**Shine**

**Come and meander through the Christmas forest  
at Lane Park Church**

A free community event to celebrate what  
Christmas is all about

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December**

**22 Lane Street Upper Hutt**

**4.00 – 8.00 p.m.**



# BOARD OF MANAGERS

## Financial Summary

For the month ended 31 October 2024 & 4 Months Jul-Oct 2024

Account	Month Oct 2024	Month Sept 2024	Month Aug 2024	Month Jul 2024	Total 4 Mths Jul-Oct24
<b>Income</b>					
Offering	9,087.10	9,084.80	8,534.50	9,823.50	36,529.90
Fundraising incl. Fair & Donations	310.00	462.00	100.00	735.00	1,607.00
2140 - Other Grants Received	0.00	0.00	4,780.00	0.00	4,780.00
2151 - Donations-General	500.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	1,000.00
2170 - Legacies & Bequests	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
Other Income	1,478.26	4,956.48	919.83	1,947.83	9,302.40
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>11,375.36</b>	<b>14,503.28</b>	<b>15,834.33</b>	<b>12,506.33</b>	<b>54,219.30</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>15,489.42</b>	<b>19,664.38</b>	<b>20,441.38</b>	<b>18,619.22</b>	<b>74,214.40</b>
<b>Net Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>(4,114.06)</b>	<b>(5,161.10)</b>	<b>(4,607.05)</b>	<b>(6,112.89)</b>	<b>(19,995.10)</b>

## Annual Fair

The Fair was held on Saturday 2 November 2024 and bankings to date not included above, total \$23,750.90.

Some expenses are still to be finalised so the overall net result is not yet available.

# December 2024 January 2025

**Minister:** Rev. Rodney Ramsay 0211259835  
**Clerk:** Rev. Chris Rosanowski 971.7530  
**Website:** <https://stmargaretssilverstream.org.nz>  
**Facebook:** St. Margaret's Family Page

**Family Team:** Contact the Minister **Session**

**Hall Bookings:** Carol McConnell 0272210609

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Study group 10 am & 7.30	<b>4</b> Session 7.00 E.F Lunch 12.00 Dance 3.30-7.30	<b>5</b> Prayer 10.00 Dance 4.30-6 Pilates 6.30-7.30	<b>6</b> Dance 4.30-6 Pilates 6.30-7.30	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> Communion	<b>9</b> Friendship Gr Dance 3.30-6.00 Dancing 1-2.30 Pilates 6-8 HV Singers 7-9	<b>10</b> Dance 4-7 Pilates 5.15-6.15 Study group 10 am & 7.30	<b>11</b> Dance 3.30-7.30	<b>12</b> Prayer 10.00 Dance 4.30-6 Pilates 6.30-7.30	<b>13</b> Dance 4.30-6 Pilates 6.30-7.30	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> Pageant	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Bd. Managers	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> Morn.Worship	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 6.00 Picnic 7.30 Carols on the lawn 9.15 Christmas Eve service	<b>25</b> 10.00 Christmas day service	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> Morn.Worship	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>				

Services available on Zoom each Sunday <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89367824002>

If you are unable to watch the Zoom service live, but would like the link, please contact Lynley McInnarney 0272780010