

ST MARGARET'S

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SILVERSTREAM

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2025

Pilgrimage

Lord I'd like to be a pilgrim. By that, I mean
I want to be serious about the spiritual life,
Regular worship, daily prayer, some effort to become
A nice person to my family and neighbours,
The kind of thing You've talked about
For more than two thousand years.
But Lord, I'm not sure I can do it, I've read
About pilgrimage and it seems to me
that You ask a lot of followers, a hard road
And steep mountains that have to be climbed.
That's' okay for holy disciples, but me,
Lord, I'm just your average tag-along.
I've never been one for steep mountains,
I know now that I would never make it.
I'm wondering, is there a compromise,
Some kind of easy slope for beginners?
What's that, Lord? Oh, I see.
The problem is not the mountain.
It's the pebble in my shoes.

From 'Psalms for the Road'
By Joy Cowley
Pleroma Christian Supplies. Otane. NZ

Greetings

I write this article having been back in the office for just one day. I sit here rested, re-energized and excited about the opportunities that lie ahead for 2025. Have you ever had one of those holidays that was so full and busy that you feel that you need to get back to work to get some rest? I have not had one of those holidays. Mara and I relaxed at home with our daughter, Kinta, coming down from Auckland to spend some time with us. My hope is that this holiday season has given you all you need for the year ahead.



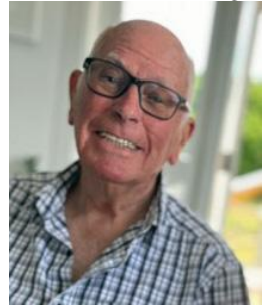
We, as a church, start the new year with many things on the go that we want to build on, like our first steps into Te Hahi ministry, our process of becoming a centre of support for our community in the event of a disaster and the re-igniting of Messy Church. We also have some exciting new things on the planning table. But the one thing that underpins all of this needs to be a deepening of our individual faith walks. Experiencing the joy of Sunday worship together as a faith community, the peace we find in developing a more intimate prayer life with God and the confidence gained through a deeper understanding of scripture as we learn to read, study and reflect of the word of God. These are all fundamental to our faith walk! I would be very happy to repeat the study sessions I led a while ago if there is a group of people who felt they would like to benefit from it. The sessions were on how to read the Bible for your devotional life, how to study the Bible and a few sessions on 'how to pray'. Please let me know if you are keen.

Whatever your goals are for this year, I pray God's blessing on you. I pray that we all discover a deeper relationship with God this year and each of us finds a way to contribute meaningfully to St Margaret's and the Upper Hutt community.

Rodney

Pastoral

- Our thoughts and prayers are with Margaret Patrick and family as they grieve the loss of David who died on 16 January. David & Margaret have been regular members of the congregation and we will continue to support Margaret in any way the parish can.



- We also think of Joy Windelev and family. Ashley died recently in Cambridge. Joy attended St. Margaret's until they moved to be nearer family.
- Pat Rainey would like to thank everyone who helped her on Sunday 19 January when she had a medical incident in church. Pat has recovered from her brief trip in the ambulance to hospital and apologizes for interrupting the service.



Lectionary

2 Feb	Malachi 3:1-4	Psalm 84	Hebrews 2:14-18	Luke 2:22-40
9 Feb	Isaiah 6:1-8	Psalm 138	1 Corinthians 15:1-11	Luke 5:1-11
16 Feb	Isaiah 6:1-8	Psalm 1	1 Corinthians 15:12-20	Luke 6:17-26
23 Feb	Genesis 45:3-11,15	Psalm 37:1-11	1 Corinthians 15:33-38,42-50	Luke 6:27-38
5 Mar	Joel 2:1,2,12-17	Psalm 51:1-17	2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10	Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Rosters

Date	Morning Tea	Lawns	Church Cleaning	Audio Visual
2 Feb	Sue Taylor Delwyn Frederikson	-	Lynley McInnarney	Alfred Enslin
9 Feb	Derilene Aston Shirley Harrison	Clive McGovern	Sarah Smith	David Lottering
16 Feb	Margaret Opray Sian Scannell	-	Helen Bassett	Jenny Fisher
23 Feb	Heather-Lee & Malcolm Foster	Warren & Toby Potter	Karen Coleman	Hazel O'Brien
2 Mar.	Jan Hill Sarah Smith	-	Shirley Harrison	Alfred Enslin

URGENT URGENT!

The morning tea roster really needs some more names. If you haven't been on for a while or if you would be interested in helping with morning tea approximately 5-6 times per year, please see or contact Lynley. Her number is 0272780010. If you don't know who Lynley is, she is the person zooming at the front of the church on Sundays. Also, if there is anyone who would like to take over the roster for morning teas, please also touch base with Lynley. This isn't an onerous task at all.



- On the first Wednesday of each month at 2.00 p.m. a group comes together at the home of Jacqueline and Lynn to share a simple afternoon tea and enjoy a chance to chat. The address is 2 Fendalton Crescent, Pinehaven.
- **Evening Fellowship** begins the year with an informal get-together at 6.00 p.m. in the church lounge on Wednesday 12 February. Bring your own meal and enjoy a time of catching up together. Men and women all very welcome. Bring along a baby/childhood photo of yourself and see how we've all changed.

A cat dies and goes to heaven...



God meets him at the gate and says: “You have been a good cat all of these years. Anything you desire is yours, all you have to do is ask”.

The cat says: “Well, I lived all my life with a poor family on a farm and had to sleep on hardwood floors”.

God says: “Say no more”. Instantly, a fluffy pillow appears.

A few days later, six mice die and go to heaven. God meets them at the gate with the same offer that he made the cat. The mice said: “All our lives we’ve had to run. Cats, dogs and even women with brooms have chased us. If we could only have a pair of roller skates, we wouldn’t have to run anymore”.

God says: “Say no more”. And instantly, each mouse is fitted with a beautiful pair of tiny roller skates.

About a week later, God decides to check and see how the cat is doing. The cat is sound asleep on his new pillow. God gently wakes him and asks: “How are you doing? Are you happy here?”

The cat yawns and stretches and says: “Oh, I’ve never been happier in my life. And those Meals on Wheels you’ve been sending over are the best!”



- **Friendship Group** commences again on Monday 10 February 10.00 – 12.00 noon, St Margaret’s lounge. Come along and join us for morning tea and some games of Rummikub. Contact Shirley Main, Ruth Mackinder.

BOARD OF MANAGERS

Financial Summary

For the month ended 31 December 2024 & 6 Months Jul-Dec 2024

Account	Actual Dec 2024	Actual Jul-Dec 24 6 Months	Budget Jul-Dec 24 6 Months	Total Gain (Loss)
				Actual v Budget
Income				
Offering	10,019.50	56,021.30	56,700.00	(678.70)
Fundraising Fairs & Donations	0.00	25,357.90	23,000.00	2,357.90
2140 - Other Grants Received	0.00	4,780.00	-	4,780
2160 - Special Donations	300.00	300.00	-	300
2170 - Legacies & Bequests	0.00	1,000.00	-	1,000
2200 - Interest Received	4,079.22	8,446.64	6,000	2,447
2310 - Mission - Bible Society Appeal	0.00	174.10	200	(26)
2315 - Mission - CWS Christmas Appeal	639.20	639.20	400	239
2420 - Rent Received - Hall etc	1,391.31	6,239.15	5,000	1,239

2151 - Donations-General	0.00	1,500.00	4,000	(2,500)
Total Income	16,429.23	104,458.29	95,300.00	9,158.29
<hr/>				
Total Operating Expenses	24,287.84	116,197.52	117,704	1,506
Net Surplus (Deficit)	(7,858.61)	(11,739.23)	(22,404)	10,665

Heretaunga Bookfest Grant.

A grant of \$4,700 was received in August 2024 for the purchase of Emergency Management supplies for the local community. Water tanks costing \$2,970.00 incl. GST were paid for on 18 September 2024 and \$1,899.99 incl GST was paid in January 2024.

Funds available for General purposes totalled \$254,209 at 31 December 2024.

Nothing to report this month due to the holiday season. More updates next month.

February 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
						1 Session Retreat
2 Communion	3 Friendship Gr Dance 3.30-9.00 Dancing 1-2.30 HV Singers 7-9	4 Dance 5.30-8.00 Pilates 6.00 Study group 10 am & 7.30	5 Dance 5.00-8.30 Tea & Chat Session	6 Pilates 6.00-8.00	7	8
9 Family Service	10 Friendship Gr Dance 3.30-9.00 Dancing 1-2.30 HV Singers 7-9	11 Dance 5.30-8.00 Pilates 6.00 Study group 10 am & 7.30	12 Dance 5.00-8.30 Evng. Fellowship	13 Pilates 6.00-8.00	14	15
16 Morn.Worship	17 Friendship Gr Dance 3.30-9.00 Dancing 1-2.30 HV Singers 7-9	18 Dance 5.30-8.00 Pilates 6.00 Study group 10 am & 7.30	19 Dance 5.00-8.30 Bd. Managers	20	21	22
23 Morn.Worship	24 Friendship Gr Dance 3.30-9.00 Dancing 1-2.30 HV Singers 7-9	25 Dance 5.30-8.00 Pilates 6.00 Study group 10 am & 7.30	26 Dance 5.00-8.30	27 Pilates 6.00-8.00	28	

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