



Wellington Methodist Parish News
3 Rātapu Poutūterangi (March) 2024

www.wesleychurch.org.nz



TODAY'S SERVICE

3 Rātapu Poutūterangi (March), Lent 3
(Holy Communion)

Worship Leader: Rev Tahi Kato

Organist: Colin Scarf

Notices & Welcome: Alan Dine

Bible Reading: Leatuavao whānau

Door Stewards: Norbert & Philomena
Nziramasanga

Morning tea: Dine/Laurensen whānau

NEXT WEEK'S SERVICE Roster for 10
Rātapu, Poutūterangi (March),
Lent 4

Worship Leader: Philip Garside

Organist: Vivien Chiu

Notices & Welcome: Heather Garside

Bible Reading: Tauamiti Heger

Door Stewards: Fabie, Taeao & Sosefina
Masoe

Morning tea: Tevita whānau

Lectionary Reading for next
week, 10 Rātapu (Sunday)
Poutūterangi, Lent 4

Num 21: 4-9, Ps 107: 1-3, 17
-22, Eph 2: 1-10, Jn 3: 14-21

Meeting / Events Coming
Up:

Lenten Study 2, Wednesday
6 March, 7.30pm, Zoom

Knit and Knatter Group,
Wednesday 13 March, 11am

Leaders Meeting, Tuesday
19 March, 7pm

F & R Meeting, Thursday 28
March, 7pm, Zoom

Ministry Team

Rev Utumau'u Pupulu,

(Parish Superintendent)

021 842 883

utumauu@wesleychurch.org.nz

Rev Nicola Teague Grundy

(10am Presbyter)

021 274 1957 / 04 242 0176

nicola@wesleychurch.org.nz

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Rev Simote Taunga

(Tongan Presbyter)

021 033 3385 / simote@wesleychurch.org.nz

Parish Office

Office staff: Uiesemaalii Holmes
Sarah Laurensen
Kula Bower

Custodian: Sitiveni Pouvalu
027 724 9986

Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday
10am to 3pm

75 Taranaki Street, Te Aro, Wellington 6011
04 384 7695 / office@wesleychurch.org.nz



Thank you for coming to our service!



NOTICES

Meeting Jesus at the Table:

6 part – Lent Study series on Zoom:
7:30pm Wednesdays, 28 February to
3 April 2024.

Please register with Sarah Laurenson
(Sarah@wesleychurch.org.nz) or
phone the office 04 384 7695 if you
wish to be part of this Len-ten study
series.

Gaza Ceasefire Pilgrimage

Tēnā koutou katoa

We would like to share the following
message from Common Grace Aotearoa
and Aotearoa Christians for
Peace in Palestine:

"Gaza Ceasefire Pilgrimage is a network of autonomous Christians groups with shared convictions who are engaging in a prayerful show of solidarity in cities around the world, where people during Lent will walk the length of the Gaza strip.

Here in Aotearoa New Zealand, Common Grace Aotearoa and Aotearoa Christians for Peace in Palestine are collaborating to organise pilgrimages in Tāmaki Makaurau (Auckland), Pōneke (Wellington), Whanganui, and Ōtautahi (Christchurch).

Together we will walk, cycle or roll the length of Gaza - 41km - mirroring the walk Gazans are being forced to

take as they flee bombardment. We share the goals of the global Gaza Ceasefire Pilgrimage movement in calling and praying for the following in the Holy Land:

Enduring and Sustained Ceasefire.
Immediate flow of life saving food, water, aid, fuel and humanitarian assistance. Release of all hostages – both the Israeli hostages held by Hamas – and the Palestinian hostages held in the Israeli prison system. End of occupation so a just-peace can begin.

You can choose to join some or all of the route with us. We will be stopping at churches as well as praying with Jewish and Muslim friends along the way. There are lots of ways to get involved.

The Aotearoa pilgrimages are part of a global movement of pilgrimages happening in 125 cities across 17 countries during the season of Lent. Check out the core convictions that make a Gaza Ceasefire Pilgrimage here.

This is a pilgrimage of solidarity and hope; we walk as witnesses and in love."

<https://www.commongrace.nz/common-grace-actions/gazapilgrimage>

Ngā manaakitanga

Rev Tara Tautari | General Secretary

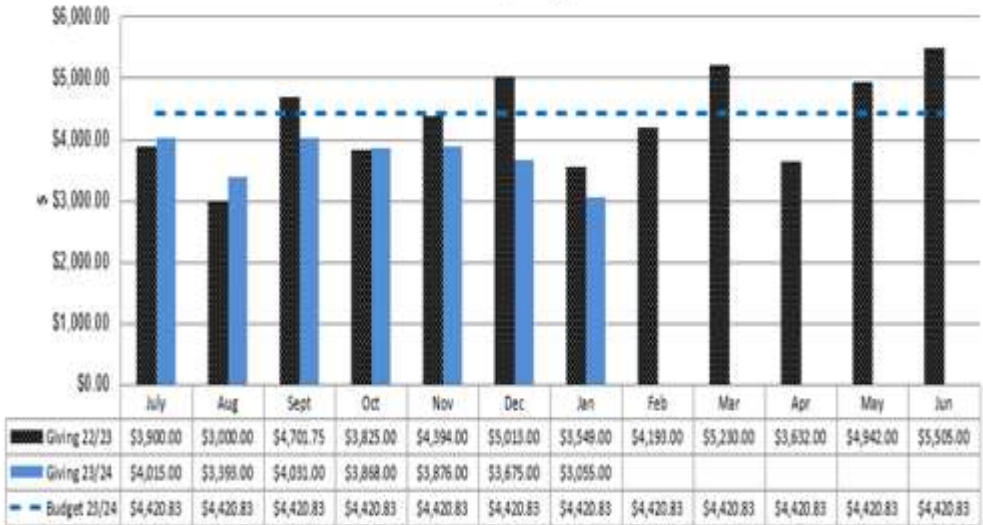


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10AM Financial Update

10AM 2023/24 giving trends



We are tracking well below our budgeted target, and haven't met this in the 2023/24 financial year so far. We now need to give more than \$5,000 per month until the end of June to ensure that we meet this and make up our shortfall.

We are looking at holding several fundraising activities, including a movie night. If you have any suggestions, or can help out, please let any of the leaders know.



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Touchstone

Kia ora

Please find attached a link to the March edition of *Touchstone*.

[Touchstone March 2024 \(hail.to\)](http://hail.to)

This month several contributors reflect on Waitangi commemorations and other significant national hui and gatherings, as they consider the role of church and government in honouring the covenants embedded in Te Tiriti o Waitangi. As Rev Keita Hotere says in her He Whakaaroaro contribution, ‘the erosion of tangata whenua rights in this country ignite discussions and debate of a constitutional nature, with significant consequences for our social and cultural cohesion as a growing nation moving forward.’

Wesleyan missionaries played a significant role in encouraging Māori chiefs to sign the Treaty of Waitangi. At Conference 1983, MCNZ committed to becoming a bi-cultural church. Our church today must be intentional and vocal in ensuring equality and justice for all and safeguarding the Māori interest in their tangata whenua.

Lucy D’Aeth, a lay preacher originally from England, attended Waitangi celebrations this year along with fellow students from Trinity Theological College. She shares how the experience has made a difference to her understanding of the role of Methodism in the signing of the Treaty, and how that should be honoured in a country recently described as ‘fragile’.

Former MCNZ President and respected commentator Rev Dr Keith Rowe, provides an insightful look at the horror unfolding in Gaza and how fortunate we are to have a Treaty that provides a template for unity – but only when parties make an effort to create a respectful and caring partnership.

We recognise the contribution of Rev Kathryn Walters, who is retiring following a 34-year ministry that has impacted church in many significant ways. Known for her sense of humour, her leadership skills, business and financial acumen, and pastoral care, her legacy is immense.

I thank the people and parishes that have responded to the *Touchstone* survey. We welcome feedback until the end of March. Once results are compiled, will share the outcome.

I hope you will be inspired by the news, views and theological insights from a variety of contributors representative of the diversity of Te Hāhi Weteriana o Aotearoa.

Ngā mihi nui

Ady Shannon