

KNOX PARISH

Newsletter January 2025

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A gentle reminder that there is no service on the 29th of December.

Kia ora,

On behalf of Morrinsville Community House I would like to thank Knox Presbyterian Church very much for your kind donation and generosity in supporting the Community Christmas Parcel Project.

We have been able to support over 150 children from 44 families this year.

Each family has received a box of groceries, and each family member has received a Christmas gift.

Thank you for helping us to make a difference in our community.

We wish you season's greetings and best wishes for a wonderful new year.

Ngā mihi nui, kind regards,

Audrey Hutcheson

General Manager

MNZAC



Coming Home

At this time of year, I have quite evocative memories of my years in Auckland where I would drive around the city and the pōhutukawas would be blooming brilliantly, the summer breeze through my window, listening to Christmas songs on the radio. One that is synonymous with this season is, “Driving Home for Christmas”. There is that dynamic for many about ‘going home’ at this time of year. Being with family. Back to familiar places of our childhood perhaps. Feeling ‘at home’ with our family and friends.

And in our church life, as the season of Advent unfolds into Christmas, again there is a sense of the familiar, the sense of home as we hear once more the familiar stories of long ago. “This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered”. Going home. “And the word became flesh and lived among us...” God at home with us. “And Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart”. The family that was home to Jesus as a child.

Christmas is a time for us to ‘come home’ to the One who gives us life. To reflect once more on the wonder of the incarnation, the light of the world, the one who made his home with humanity and through doing so, drew us into closer connection with the divine. A time to celebrate ‘being at home’ with the one who gives us love, life, purpose, direction and hope. A time of renewal. A time of gratitude.

At this time, we are also very aware that there are many who have no physical or spiritual home to go to. Those who are not welcome at home, where there is 'no room in the inn'. Those who search in the darkness for life and light. We hold them in our prayers and also seek practical ways in which we can help.

I wish you all a blessed Christmas with family and friends, a sense of 'being home' with God, and the knowledge and assurance that God goes before us, leading us into the New Year that lies ahead.

Thank you for your support and encouragement throughout the year. I appreciate it very much.

Holy God, as we celebrate the Incarnation, help us to know in a deep way that we find our home in you. Thank you for the gift of the Christ child, the light of the world, for the ongoing work of your Holy Spirit, for the promise of life in all of its fullness. All praise to you O God. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

Meri Kirihimete,

Rose

Right Rev Rose Luxford

Moderator Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand

moderator@presbyterian.org.nz

January Services

05 Jennifer Bills

12 Rev. Clive Thompson Communion

19 John Reid

26 Rev. Joe Beattie

January Duties

Morning Tea Roster

05 Sharon Alexander &

Margaret Sherwood

12 Rhonda Grey & Fatima Lock

19 Brian & Gwen Weightman

26 John & Bev Reid

Door Duty Roster

05 & 12 John & Bev Reid

19 & 26 Glenys Middlemiss &

Viv Robins

Church Cleaning

05 Helen Little

19 David & Dyan Robins

Flower Roster

Duty Elder Jennifer Bills

NOTICES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Session meets on the 21st of January @ 3pm at in the foyer.

Session News

City to city — David Rietveld from Wollongong Australia, who will be visiting us the weekend of **14 – 16th February 2025** and he would love to meet as many of you as possible.

David will be wanting to meet with the leadership teams on the Friday evening and Saturday, as well as join us for church on Sunday.

If you feel God is inspiring and leading you to give a testimony during a Service, please contact one of the elders to organise it.

The Board of Managers will not be meeting this month but usually meets on the first Monday of the month @7pm. Meeting at Martins place.

Board of Managers News

- Exterior painting – the ablutions block has been done
- Kitchen – The new stainless steel bench tops are now in place, with some tidy up work to completed.

CONTACTS



Church office 889 7997

Please leave a message.



admin@knoxmorrinsville.org.nz

Parish Clerk

Glenys Middlemiss



mob 027 453 3956



Tuesday Home Group

Jennifer Bills 889 4199

Finances

If you would like to go on the envelope system for offerings, please contact Glenys. She will give you a number and you can use that for online giving, or envelopes for this purpose.

You are welcome to make online payments.

General Account

01-0367-0007970-00 (use this for normal church offerings)

Mission Account

01-0367-0007970-01 (use this for mission giving)

Building Fund Account 01-0367-0007970-050 (for donations towards Building projects)

PARISH FACEBOOK AND WEBSITE

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/KnoxMorrinsville/>

Website:

<http://www.knoxmorrinsville.org.nz/index.htm?d=50217>

Mission Group News

Bible Study Group

Mets at Jennifer's place on Tuesday mornings 10:15am. **No** meeting during the school holidays.

Knox Kafe

This is held each fourth Thursday of the month at 10am in the church foyer. Please think about who of your friends, family or neighbours you would like to invite for a cuppa.

Everybody's Op Shop

If you would like to be added to this roster, please phone Frances 07 888 7177

Prayer Chain

We have an e-mail prayer chain outreach for intercessory prayer.

If you would like to have a prayer included, please contact Jackie Cantley, via email jacall@xtra.co.nz, Please include "prayer request" in the subject line. If the prayer is urgent, please indicate "Urgent prayer request". Or ring me on 027 227 5012. If I am unavailable to answer the call please send a text outlining prayer request, & your contact name & number'.

You may also like to become an e-mail intercessor, if so, please contact Jackie.

Personal and Property Safety

We would like to remind people to keep a close eye on your valuables while in church.

There have been recent thefts from churches during Sunday services.

Unfortunately there are some in society that do not respect others and their property.

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