

Wellsford Co-operating Parish

APRIL 2020

View this bulletin IN COLOUR, view video clips and other information on our website:

<http://wellsfordmethodistpresbyterian.weebly.com>

Due to COVID-19 these notices are subject to change



Church Office Phone: 09 423 8076
Church Centre,
253 Rodney Street, Wellsford 0900

If you know of someone who was absent from church today, or who is new to our community, would you kindly deliver a copy of this bulletin to them... To Show We Care... Thanks.

WHAT'S UP IN APRIL?

PASTORAL: Please keep in your thoughts and prayers those who are sick and recovering at this time. If you know of any person who is ill or would particularly appreciate a visit, please contact a member of the Pastoral Care team. With Covid-19, please take care.



Women's Fellowship: Women's Fellowship meets **Tuesday 7th April at 10:00am** followed by the inter church Women's Fellowship at **10:30am** at the Co-Op church. With Covid-19, please take care.

Service at the Heritage Rest Home: This month's service will be held on **Tuesday 7th April at 1.30pm.** Heritage Rest Home, 1 Olympus Road, Wellsford.



Parish Council: The Parish Council will meet at the church centre on **Tuesday 14th April at 4pm.**



Birthdays: If your birthday is in April, a very happy birthday to you!



Shared Lunch: This will be held on the **5th April** at the home of the Duinkerke's. You are cordially invited.



WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP SPECIAL PROJECT

Come to the special morning tea after church on **19 April** and learn about the Women's Fellowship Special Project for 2019/20. There will be an opportunity to make a contribution to this worthy cause.

COMBINED CHURCH SERVICES: This year Wellsford churches will continue to hold the combined evening services every two months at 7:00pm.

5 April 7:00pm at the Catholic Church, Matheson Road, Wellsford (Scriptural Stations of the Cross)

28 June 7:00pm Co-operating Methodist/Presbyterian Church, 253 Rodney Street, Wellsford. Please mark these dates in your diaries.

Programmes for Shine Television are in the foyer and on the notice board. Thanks to Pat Bennett who supplies the programmes.



Pastor's Blurb: April

The water shortage continues. We are on tank water, as are so many of you. We have been putting into action several strategies for conserving water – just as so many of you have been doing as well. We take our laundry to the laundromat. We have short showers under a thin trickle of water. We buy in our drinking water. We use half a cup of water to clean our teeth. We boil half a bowlful of water, pour it back into the bowl, and wash the dishes with it. And last, but not least, 'if it's yellow, let it mellow; if it's brown, flush it down'. This last measure produces some interesting smells in our house. So do some of the other measures. Our outlook on the weather has inverted from our normal outlook on the weather. These days, if clouds roll in we're hopeful that the clouds will get even blacker – and then drop their load. And when they pass overhead without letting one drop go, we experience the truth of the verse, 'hope deferred maketh the heart sick'.

Still, it can't be long now. The drought has to break sometime. But until it does, we are forced to live in dirt, thirst, and aridity. And everyone knows it.

There is another kind of dirt, thirst and aridity – a much more serious kind. And, amazingly enough, the worse it gets, the *less* we know it. This is the dirt, thirst and aridity of a spiritual sort. And just as the dirt, thirst and aridity of the natural kind is caused by a lack of natural water, the dirt, thirst and aridity of the spiritual kind is caused by a lack of water: spiritual water. Isaiah says 'For I will pour water out on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground. I will pour out my Spirit on your offspring, and my blessing on your descendants' (Isaiah 44:3). Jesus said to the woman at the well, 'Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst again.' (John 4:13). The Holy Spirit is the water God speaks of: water to quench thirst, water to clean, and water to give growth. Let us answer the invitation of our Lord, 'Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters.... Give ear and come to me; hear Me that your soul may live'. Let us obey the summons of our Lord and listen to Him, and give ear to His words, and drink, and wash, and have the water to growth our graces. And may we not, ever, stay away from hearing God speak so long, that we get so thirsty, so dirty and so arid that we don't even know it.

Your brother,

David Balchin

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Our Mission: 'Love God, Love Each Other and Extend that Love beyond our Church'

FAITH FILM FESTIVAL

For the first time ever, a film festival devoted to faith-based films will be happening in Australian and New Zealand Hoyts Cinemas from **April 5-29th** (covid-19 virus allowing). Since the Coronavirus pandemic is a developing situation, it is possible that this festival may be postponed - check your news feeds.

BIBLE QUESTION: Palm Sunday is the week before Easter. What does it mark?

When Jesus was put on the cross - it took a long time for him to die **OR** Jesus entering Jerusalem on a donkey **OR** Jesus going on trial



Spotlight on our Living Bible

Easter Sunday Prayer

Lord God, You loved this world so much, that you gave your one and only Son, that we might be called your children too. Lord, help us to live in the gladness and grace of Easter Sunday, every day. Let us have hearts of thankfulness for your sacrifice. Let us have eyes that look upon Your grace and rejoice in our salvation. Help us to walk in that mighty grace and tell your good news to the world. All for your glory do we pray, Lord, Amen.

Matthew 20:17-19

17 Now Jesus was going up to Jerusalem. On the way, he took the Twelve aside and said to them, 18 “We are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and the teachers of the law. They will condemn him to death 19 and will hand him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified. On the third day he will be raised to life!”

John 12:23-25

23 Jesus replied, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. 24 Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. 25 Anyone who loves their life will lose it, while anyone who hates their life in this world will keep it for eternal life.

Read more at: <https://www.biblestudytools.com/topical-verses/easter-bible-verses/>

This Christian Easter poem in free verse is a Christian Easter message that sums up the basics of who Jesus is and why we celebrate Easter.

Easter Love

On Easter we celebrate love,
love coming down from heaven,
love blanketing the earth
in a transforming embrace;
unique and infinite love,
giving more than we can imagine
for us, to cleanse our sin,
a perfect sacrifice, Lamb of God,
the walking, talking Word.
He is teacher, role model, friend,
this God in human form,
dying, then rising from the dead,
proving all who believe
will also rise
to have eternal life, with Him,
Lord of all.
Oh, Happy, Happy Easter!

By Joanna Fuchs

Featured Hymn Writer Shirley Erena Murray

Listen some of her hymns by clicking the links below...

[hymn here](#), or [another hymn here](#), or this [hymn here](#).

Download this copy of the bulletin on our [church website](#) and read the lyrics on the next page...

Shirley Murray- Rest in Peace: If you didn't already know this incredible Methodist New Zealander hymn writer died on the 25 January. You can read about her life here https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shirley_Murray. Read her [obituary here](#) and listen to some of her [hymns here](#). Her full funeral service is [available here to watch](#). It's a beautiful service.

Our Life has its Seasons

Our life has its seasons,
and God has the reasons why
spring follows winter, and new
leaves grow,
for there's a connection with our
resurrection
that flowers will bud after frost and
snow.

Refrain:

So there's never a time to stop
believing,
there's never a time for hope to die,
there's never a time to stop loving,
these three things go on.

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Carol Stream, IL 60188

1 Who is my mother, who is my
brother?

All those who gather round
Jesus Christ:
Spirit-blown people, born from
the Gospel
sit at the table, round Jesus
Christ.

2 Differently abled, differently
labeled
widen the circle round Jesus
Christ:
crutches and stigmas, cultures'
enigmas,
all come together round Jesus
Christ.

There's a time to be planting, a time
to be plucking,
a time to be laughing, a time to
weep,
a time to be building, a time to
be breaking,
a time to be waking, a time to sleep.
Refrain

There's a time to be hurting, a time
to be healing,
a time to be saving, a time to
spend,
a time to be grieving, a time to
be dancing,
a time for beginning, a time to end.
Refrain

3 Love will relate us - color or status
can't segregate us, round Jesus
Christ:
family failings, human derailings -
all are accepted, round Jesus
Christ.

4 Bound by one vision, met for one
mission
we claim each other, round Jesus
Christ:
here is my mother, here is my
brother,
kindred in Spirit, through Jesus
Christ.

Bible Quiz Question Answer: Jesus entering Jerusalem on a donkey.



Loaves & Fishes: February was a busy month with our group doing 22 parcels. We are working very close with Organisations to try and cover those families in need. Everybody has problems at certain times in their lives and we endeavour to make these times easier for families. I have had time away in February and March due to family commitments. I wish to thank our food bank group for the excellent job covering the needs required to keep the Foodbank running without a hitch.



Thank you to the volunteers at the Citizen Advice Bureau for their continued support. They are a very important part of the Foodbank.



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Service Schedule for April 2020

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The Preaching Plan:

- 5 April Rev Verna Healy (Palm Sunday)
5 April Wellsford Churches Combined Evening Service
7:00pm at Catholic Church, Matheson Road. (Service of
"Scriptural Stations of the Cross")
- 10 April Combined Churches Good Friday Service 9:45am at the Co-operating
Church
- 12 April Rev David Balchin (communion service)
- 19 April Ann Clegg (Women's Fellowship Special Project Morning Tea after
service)
- 26 April Rev David Balchin
- 3rd May Multi Media Service

Wellsford Duty Schedule for April- Duty Stewards

5th April	12th April	19th April	26th April	3rd May
Steven and Nelleke Duinkerke	W & R MacGillivray	Albert & Ria Olivier	Ann Clegg / J Daken	Steven and Nelleke Duinkerke

Morning Tea

5th April	12th April	19th April	26th April	3rd May
Steven and Nelleke Duinkerke	W & R MacGillivray	E Nolan/ K Lennon	Ann Clegg / J Daken	Steven and Nelleke Duinkerke

Parish Directory: For Ministry please contact a member of the Parish Council. **Church Centre Office: 253 Rodney Street, Wellsford 0900.**

Phone: 09 423-8076

Bulletin: Mr Mark Lorenzen

Minister: Rev David Balchin 423 7150

Ria Olivier: 423 9396

Treasurer: Mr Willis MacGillivray: 423-8273

Secretary: Ann Clegg: iresyn@yahoo.co.nz

For contributions, e-mail the editor Mark at marklorenzen73@gmail.com