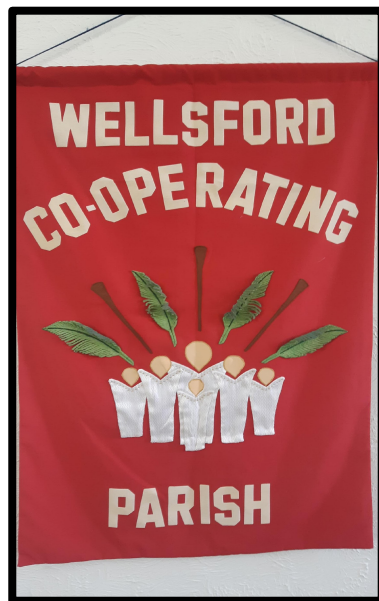


# ***Wellsford Co-operating Parish***

## **APRIL 2021**

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

<http://wellsfordmethodistpresbyterian.weebly.com>



**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 Ahead for 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.

**Women's Fellowship (Covid allowing):** Tuesday 6th April @ 10:00am Co-op meeting. 10:30 Inter Church Women's Fellowship at the Co-operating church, 253 Rodney Street, Wellsford.



**Service at the Heritage Rest Home:** 1:30pm Tuesday 6th April (Covid allowing) at the Heritage Rest Home, 1 Olympus Road Wellsford.



**Parish Council:** Tuesday 13th April @ 2:00pm at the Co-operating Church.



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



**Shared Lunch:** This month's shared lunch will be at the Balchin's house on the 4<sup>th</sup> April (Covid allowing).



## **GOOD FRIDAY INTER CHURCH SERVICE**

9:45am at the Wellsford Co-operating Church, 253 Rodney Street, Wellsford. There is also a 3:00pm Good Friday Service at the Catholic Church 6 Matheson Road Wellsford.

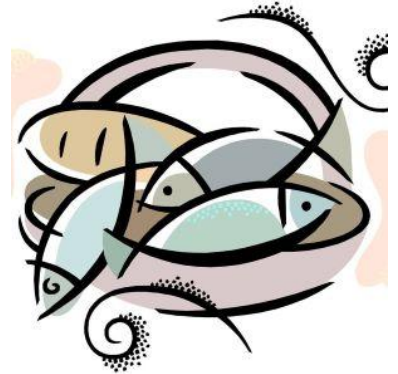
## **Our Mission:**

**'Love God, Love Each Other and Extend that Love beyond our Church'**

## Loaves and Fishes

The Wellsford Foodbank

The food we distribute is given to over 500 adults and children each week. This number can be overwhelming when food is very low on the shelves. A few families are needing weekly parcels for short periods. We have received donations of food this month from Food Rescue, Kiwi Harvest, Rapid Relief, Mahurangi Community Services. Thank you to all of you for your generous help.



This food will be delivered through Organisations. We are making more contact with homeless people. We have set up processes that will help.

Have a good month and keep donating to the people in the community that need our help.

Cheers Irene and our team.

## KYB Know Your Bible

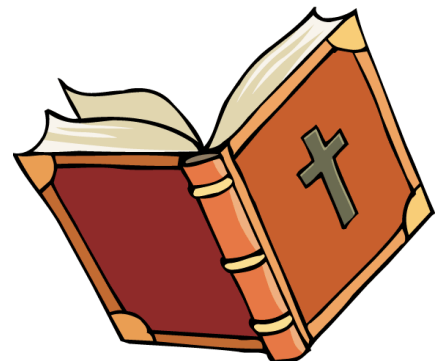
We are a small group of ladies who meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month (January we have a break)

We meet at a different location each time at 10am for morning tea and a chat. At 10:30am we sit down for a set study of the bible until 12 noon. We say a prayer for those in need and leave shortly after.

At present we are studying Acts 13:28. Message and Mission. This time together is very uplifting and I enjoy being with the lovely ladies who attend.

Thank you

Irene Rockell



## Our Mission:

**‘Love God, Love Each Other and Extend that Love beyond our Church’**

## PRAYER AT EASTER

*by Dave Broom*

Jesus Christ, Lord of the morning,  
rising with the sun of the new day.

In the garden still damp with  
early-morning dew  
we find an empty tomb -  
you are not here!

You stand beside us risen and glorified.  
You have destroyed death.  
You have broken the chains of oppression.  
You have gone before us  
into the darkest places  
and have made them holy.

Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today and forever,  
yours is the victory.



In this place, as earth  
begins to wake,  
we welcome you,  
Jesus Christ our guest.  
Be with us this day and  
for evermore.

Amen

### **PARISH MEETINGS FOR 2021**

16 May 2021

15 August 2021 (AGM)

21 November 2021



**Pastor's Message for April:** As we approach Easter it is good to 'survey the wondrous cross' again. Even though Isaiah was prophesying seven or eight hundred years before the event that shook the world, reconciled the universe to God and laid the foundation stone for a new heavens and a new earth, he saw with pinpoint accuracy the cross of Christ and what it meant. Isaiah 52:11 to Isaiah 53:12 is a 'thumbnail' of what actually happened seven or eight hundred years later. It is good to read it. It even better to memorize it, because in memorizing, you are meditating on it day and night. I will highlight some verses so you will see what I mean: 52:14 *His appearance was disfigured beyond that of any man, and his form marred beyond all human likeness.* If you have seen 'The Passion of the Christ' you will get an idea of the disfiguring which the Roman punishment of scourging caused to the victim. 52:15 *So he will sprinkle many nations.* His disfiguring and marring brought about your cleansing. 53:3 *He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and familiar with suffering.* He was despised back then, and most people still despise Him now. 53:5 *But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him and by his stripes we are healed.* What magnanimity! What a transfer! *His* scourging healed *us* from the soul sickness of sin. *His* piercing meant that *we* could be forgiven, and more. His crucifixion meant that God could view you as being as righteous as His Son. 53:8 *Who can speak of his descendants? He was cut off from the land of the living.* He was killed to save you. He did not have any children – to save us. But – but – 53:10 *Yet it was the Lord's will to crush him and cause him to suffer.* This whole transaction was planned by God. Behold God, our Saviour. The Father planned our salvation. The Son effected it. The Holy Spirit applies it. And regard the following verse: 53:10: *He will see his offspring and prolong his days.* Verse 8 has just said that Jesus did not have any children. And He didn't. But gloriously, verse 10 says that He will see His offspring! That is not a contradiction. He didn't have any physical children. But, because of His sacrifice, He *does* have spiritual children. I am one. You are too – if you believe in Him. And the last verse I will bring to your attention today is 53:12 *Therefore I will give him a portion with the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong.* What can this mean but the promised Holy Spirit. Joel said, 'In the last days I will pour out my Spirit on all people.' (Joel 2:28). On the strength of what our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, did on Calvary, God has poured out His Holy Spirit on His people. As Peter said in Acts 2:33 'Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear.' (Acts 2:33).

Brothers and sisters, let us praise and thank God for Isaiah 53 and what it prophesies. Let us dwell on Isaiah 53 in the coming weeks, and the gospels, and meditate on the healing you have because of His Stripes.

Your brother, David



## The Hour of Power Dedication

It's not what I do.  
I'm not what I have.  
I'm not what people say about me.  
I am the beloved of God.  
It's who I am.  
No one can take it from me.  
I don't have to worry.  
I don't have to hurry.  
I can trust my friend Jesus  
and share His love with the world.

[www.hourofpower.org](http://www.hourofpower.org)

## ***EASTER information... What happened in the garden of Gethsemane?***

*"Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done."* [Luke 22:42](#)

The garden of Gethsemane is a grove of olive trees that is still there today. Some of the trees are over 2,000 years old and would have been young trees at the time Jesus was there on the night he was arrested. Located in Jerusalem, the Temple Mount is just a short walk away across the Kidron Valley. As Jesus prayed in the garden, he could see the temple, and could likely hear the hustle and bustle of people gathering for the Passover.

It is here that he prayed the most agonizing prayer ever to be lifted up. After the Last Supper with his disciples, he took them out to pray in the garden where he predicted Peter's denial and prayed for God's will to be done in him.

### ***Why was Jesus crucified?***

The crucifixion of Jesus is one of the most horrifying, yet most startlingly beautiful things that has ever happened. Crucifixion was not unique to Jesus but was a common Roman practice. Criminals, outlaws, and others were regularly crucified in the Roman world. Perhaps the most striking thing about the method of his death was that it was so strikingly common. Crucifixion was not an unusual sight for the people of Israel under Roman occupation. What was unusual is that this man had committed no crime worthy of crucifixion.

In fact, he had committed no crime at all. The Roman governor, Pontius Pilate, was a soldier and a politician known to be cruel in his methods and by no means a softhearted man. Yet even he expressed regret for allowing the crucifixion of Christ to proceed.

Read more at... <https://www.crosswalk.com/special-coverage/easter/the-easter-story.html>

## Service Schedule for April 2021

### The Preaching Plan:

**2nd April:** Good Friday ecumenical service at the Co-operating Church taken by Rev David Balchin  
**4th April:** (Easter Sunday) Rev David Balchin  
**11th April:** Multimedia Service  
**18th April:** Ann Clegg  
**25th April:** Rev David Balchin

### Wellsford Duty Schedule for April- Duty Stewards

<u>4th April</u>	<u>11th April</u>	<u>18th April</u>	<u>25th April</u>	<u>Next week</u>
Steven and Nelleke Duinkerke	W & R MacGillivray	Albert & Ria Olivier	Ann Clegg / J Daken	Steven and Nelleke Duinkerke

### Morning Tea

<u>4th April</u>	<u>11th April</u>	<u>18th April</u>	<u>25th April</u>	<u>Next week</u>
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**

**Minister:** Rev David Balchin 423 7150

**Treasurer:** Mr Willis MacGillivray: 423-8273

**Secretary:** Ann Clegg: [iresyn@yahoo.co.nz](mailto:iresyn@yahoo.co.nz)

Ria Olivier: 423 9396

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