

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

## **FEBRUARY 2021**

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<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 UP IN FEBRUARY?

**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:** Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February  
@ 10:00am Co-op meeting. 10:30 Inter Church Women's Fellowship.



**Service at the Heritage Rest Home:** 1:30pm  
Tuesday 2 February at the Heritage Rest Home, 1 Olympus Road Wellsford.



**Parish Council:** Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February @ 2:00pm at the Co-operating Church.



**PARISH MEETING:** The first Parish Meeting of 2021 will be held after church on **21 February**.

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



**Shared Lunch:** 7 February to be held at the Daken's home. All are most welcome.



**Sad News-** Sudden death of JONATHON SIMONS, Warwick's brother, about 1st January 2021. Jonathon was a loved member of our congregation, during his growing up years and until such time as he left Wellsford to take up a teaching position. We as a congregation wish to express our Condolences and Sympathy to his Daughter and all his extended family.

## **FOOD BANK**

In the run up to the Christmas period the Food Bank has been exceptionally busy. All the Food Bank helpers have worked magnificently. We are extremely lucky to have such willing workers. We also appreciate all the organisations and the individuals who support us. We would not be able to help so many people without your generous support.

Irene will be having a few weeks off to take a well-deserved rest. Tobie Curtis and Lou Densham will be holding the fort in the meantime.

Thank you again for the wonderful work that you all do.

Ann Clegg )

## **LOAVES AND FISHES:**

2020 was an exceptional year. The challenges for the foodbank kept coming all year developing us into a larger unit. The we have established are working well.

The team are taking over jobs to spread the workload. We wish to thank Susan Tomas for all the work she has done with Loaves and Fishes over many years. Take a well-deserved rest and keep in touch.

I'm having an enforced break. Tobie Has taken over the running until I get back.

We assembled 109 Christmas Hampers to be given out by local organisations. Thank you to all the helpers on that day.

In December we sent out 70 food parcels. We wish to thank the people who donated to us both monetary and food.

It has been quieter in January so far. We are preparing to be busier when school starts. Stationery, uniforms and fees will leave some families short of food.

Please donate food to us in our bins at Clever Endeavours, Liz's Half cut barber, CAB, and Hospice.

Thank you to our team of workers you are very much appreciated. A special thanks to Tobie for learning and taking over the responsibility of the foodbank.

Thank you to Food Rescue and KiwiHarvest for their support.

Cheers, Irene



## PARISH MEETINGS FOR 2021

21 February 2021  
16 May 2021  
15 August 2021 (AGM)  
21 November 2021

### Pastor's Message for February:

Dearly beloved people, Chris and I wish you a Happy New Year. But 'wishing' is a flimsy verb. When we are Christians, we can do better than merely 'wishing'. Chris and I pray for you beloved brothers and sisters nightly. And I want to begin this new year by encouraging you to do the same. It is noteworthy how much of the bible is taken up with the subject of prayer. We have many examples of people praying in the Bibles. We have many exhortations to do so ourselves. We have only gone a few pages from the beginning of the bible when we read, *Then people began to call upon the name of the Lord* (Genesis 4:26). And the last word in the bible is *Amen*, forming the conclusion to the fervent prayer of John the Apostle that Jesus would come soon. All the major characters in the bible wrestle in prayer. We see Jacob literally wrestling with God, and he finishes up that unequal tussle with the words, 'I will not let you go, unless you bless me.' Daniel prayed three times a day, even though it meant he risked death by so doing. David is frequently upon the Lord with all his heart. Elijah prayed to the God who answered by fire, on Mount Carmel. Paul and Silas prayed when they were in stocks in prison, causing the whole prison to burst open and the earth to quake. And what God has made prominent in His word – prayer – we should make conspicuous in our lives.

To quote Charles Spurgeon, 'Prayer is the lisping of the believing infant, the shout of the fighting believer, the requiem of the dying saint, falling asleep in Jesus.' If we are really children of God, we will seek our Father's face and live in the Father's love.

I will share a few things to pray for: Pray that this year you will be holy, humble, zealous and patient. Pray that you have closer communion with Christ. Pray that you will, more often, enter the banqueting house of His love. Pray that you will be an example and a blessing to others. Pray that, this year, you might live more and more to the glory of your Master. Chris and I will try to practise what I am preaching, and pray these things for you, and for ourselves. I will leave you with a text that brings it all together: 'Continue in prayer' (Colossians 4:2).

Your brother, David.

## PRAYER

The Season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday 17 February. This prayer for Lent is by Bernard Thorogood.

You, Lord Jesus, knew great power,  
To heal, to transform,  
To proclaim the reign of God.  
So you met great temptations.  
The wrong way, glittering and possible, was open:  
You could rule if you chose,  
In majesty and wonder,  
More imperial than Caesar.  
But you said No,  
Simply, decisively, for ever, for us.

We pray for the Church, tempted, like its Head.  
When the church seeks political power,  
Jesus, stay with us.  
When the Church longs to become wealthy,  
Jesus, speak to us.  
When the Church strives to impress with splendour,  
Jesus, give us simplicity.  
When the Church wanders from the way of sacrifice,  
Jesus, hold us.  
When the Church listens to the call for cheap grace,  
Jesus, keep us always in your way.

Holy Spirit of God, enable us to respond to temptation  
With the strength of your Word within us,  
So that we may hold firm to our calling  
And take your better way in faithfulness.

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

## Service Schedule for February 2021

### The Preaching Plan:

7 <sup>th</sup> February:	Multimedia Service
14 <sup>th</sup> February:	Rev David Balchin
21 <sup>st</sup> February:	Ann Clegg (Parish Meeting)
28 <sup>th</sup> February:	Rev David Balchin

### Wellsford Duty Schedule for February- Duty Stewards

<u>7<sup>th</sup> Feb.</u>	<u>14<sup>th</sup> Feb.</u>	<u>21<sup>st</sup> Feb.</u>	<u>28<sup>th</sup> Feb</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>7<sup>th</sup> Feb.</u>	<u>14<sup>th</sup> Feb.</u>	<u>21<sup>st</sup> Feb.</u>	<u>28<sup>th</sup> Feb</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

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