

Wellsford
Co-operating
Parish

MARCH 2019

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

<http://wellsfordmethodistpresbyterian.weebly.com>

ALL SERVICES START AT 9.45AM



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 MARCH?

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:

Women's Fellowship meets **Tuesday 5th March** at **10:00am** followed by the inter church Women's Fellowship at **10:30am** at the church.



Shared Lunch: The shared lunch on the **3rd March** will be at Chris and David Balchin's home (the Church House) 15 State Highway One, Wellsford (it is on the left just outside the town boundary). You are cordially invited.



Service at the Heritage Rest Home:

This month's service will be held on **Tuesday 12th March at 1.30pm**. Heritage Rest Home, 1 Olympus Road, Wellsford.



Parish Council: The Parish Council will meet at the church centre on **Tuesday 12th March at 4pm**.



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



Loaves and Fishes: Your support of the Food Bank is appreciated.



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



BIBLE QUIZ Question: God is described as physically writing three times in the Bible. Upon what did He write the third time?

Our Mission:

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

Franciscan Prayer for Justice

May God bless you with discomfort at easy answers, half-truths, and superficial relationships,

So that you may live deep within your heart.

May God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression and exploitation of peoples,

So that you may work for justice, freedom and peace.

May God bless you with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation and war,

So that you may reach out your hand to comfort them and turn their pain to joy.

And may God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you can make a difference in this world,

So that you can do what others claim cannot be done.

AMEN

[Amazing Stories Behind Popular Hymns](http://www.tanbible.com/tol_sng/sng_isurrenderall.htm)

http://www.tanbible.com/tol_sng/sng_isurrenderall.htm

He Lives

“Why should I worship a dead Jew?”

This challenging question was posed by a sincere young Jewish student who had been attending evangelistic meetings conducted by the author and composer of this hymn, Alfred H. Ackley.

Mr. Ackley’s answer to this searching question, ultimately prompted the writing of this popular gospel hymn, *He Lives*.

The composer answered his inquirer: He lives! I tell you, He is not dead, but lives here and now! Jesus Christ is more alive today than ever before. I can prove it by my own experience, as well as the testimony of countless thousands.

Mr. Ackley’s forthright, emphatic answer, together with his subsequent successful effort to win the man for Christ, flowered forth into song and crystallized into a convincing sermon in hymn on *He Lives!*

So he sat down at the piano and voiced that conclusion in song. He says, the thought of His ever-living presence brought the music promptly and easily.

Online Bulletin Download: You can listen to this hymn and even sing along by clicking [this link](#), or this [version at this link](#). Just download the bulletin from our website and click the [blue](#) links – it’s that easy!

He Lives

*(1) I serve a risen Savior,
He's in the world today;
I know that he is living,
whatever men may say;
I see His hand of mercy,
I hear His voice of cheer,
And just the time I need Him
He's always near.*

*(2) He lives, He lives,
Christ Jesus lives today!
he walks with me and talks
with me
along life's narrow way.
He lives, He lives,
salvation to impart!
You ask me how I know He
lives?
He lives within my heart.*

*(3) In all the world around
me
I see His loving care,
And though my heart grows
weary
I never will despair;
I know that He is leading
through all the stormy blast
The day of His appearing
will come at last.*

*(4) Rejoice, rejoice, O
Christian,
lift up your voice and sing
Eternal hallelujahs
to Jesus Christ the King!
The Hope of all who seek
Him,
the Help of all who find,
None other is so loving,
so good and kind.*

BIBLE QUIZ Question answer: A wall (Daniel 5:5-12)



GOD KNOWS BEST – A Poem by Helen Steiner Rice

Our Father knows what's best for us,
So why should we complain
We always want the sunshine,
But He knows there must be rain

We love the sound of laughter
And the merriment of cheer,
But our hearts would lose their
tenderness
If we never shed a tear...

Our Father tests us often
With suffering and with sorrow,
He tests us, not to punish us,
But to help us meet tomorrow...

For growing trees are strengthened
When they withstand the storm,
And the sharp cut of a chisel
Gives the marble grace and form...

God never hurts us needlessly,
And He never wastes our pain
For every loss He send to us
Is followed by rich gain...

And when we count the blessings
That God has so freely sent,
We will find no cause for murmuring
And no time to lament...

For our Father loves His children,
And to Him all things are plain,
So He never sends us pleasure
When the soul's deep need is
pain...

So whenever we are troubled,
And when everything goes
wrong,
It is just God working in us
To make our spirit strong.

Helen Steiner Rice



Pastor's Blurb March 2019

Beloved brothers and sisters, does time, for you, seem to fly ever more rapidly, with every passing year? I've only just recovered from marveling at how swiftly last year charged by, when I notice that I have just headed this pastor's blurb with the title 'March, 2019'. March already! Have you done your Christmas shopping yet? No, I mustn't be facetious, but it really won't be long before we'll be seeing those Christmas trees up in the shop fronts in Wellsford's main street.

This being the case, it is imperative that we do not waste our time. Make the most of every opportunity for the days are evil' (Ephesians 5:16). John Piper's father pinned onto the wall in the Pipers' kitchen the couplet, 'Only one life, 'twill soon be past; only what's done for Christ will last'.

I am not able to offer an explanation for why time seems to be passing with an ever- increasing rapidity, but I do know that if we are living for Christ, and serving Him, it matters not how swiftly or slowly time seems to proceed, because we are doing things of eternal value, and 'laying up treasure in heaven', so that, when 'time itself will be no more' the treasure in heaven will abide. Therefore, let us make 2019 a year of storing up much treasure in heaven. To do this, let us be 'abiding in Christ'. 'If you remain in Me, and My words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you' (John 15:7). Remain in Christ by having His words remain in you. Commit to memorizing a verse every single week (or more if you have an appetite for it). Make yourself accountable to a brother or sister in Christ to do this, and encourage him or her to join you in this blessed habit. As His words abide in you,

you will be living your life *corum Dei* – in the very presence of the living God, and you will know, experientially, His infinitely uplifting, cleansing, empowering, inspiring, ineffably sweet presence. And the more you know Him this way, the more your appetite will grow to bite of increasingly larger chunks of the bread of life, and memorize and meditate on more and more bites of the Word of God. And as you do this, Jesus will grow increasingly sweeter, fairer, dearer and lovelier with every passing day. Then you will start asking Him to give you opportunities of serving Him, and He will give them to you. And you will be laying up treasure in heaven, and 'making the most of every opportunity, for the days are evil' - and time is passing so quickly.

May the Lord enable you to have His words remain in you in 2019.

Your brother, David

Service Schedule for March 2019

The Preaching Plan:

March 3rd: Multimedia Service
March 10th: Rev David Balchin (communion)
March 17th: Rev Verna Healy
March 24th: Rev David Balchin
March 31st: Ann Clegg
April 7th: Rev Warwick Hambleton

Pastoral Care Team

*Lorna Nolan,
 Nellika Duinkerke,
 Willis & Robyn MacGillivray*

Minister's Steward:

Ann

Wellsford Duty Schedule for March 2019

Duty Stewards

<u>3rd March</u>	<u>10th March</u>	<u>17th March</u>	<u>24th March</u>	<u>31st March</u>
S and N Duinkeke	W & R MacGillivray	E & L Nolan	Ann Clegg / J Daken	S and N Duinkeke

Morning Tea

<u>3rd March</u>	<u>10th March</u>	<u>17th March</u>	<u>24th March</u>	<u>31st March</u>
S and N Duinkeke	W & R MacGillivray	E & L Nolan / K Lennon	Ann Clegg / J Daken	S and N Duinkeke

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

Phone: 09 423-8076 Mrs Runa Halfpenny 423-7281

Mrs Lorna Nolan: 431-4965 Mr Mark Lorenzen marklorenzen73@gmail.com

Minister: Rev David Balchin 423 7150 **Treasurer:** Mr Willis

MacGillivray 423-8273 **Secretary:** Ann Clegg, iresyn@yahoo.co.nz

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