

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

## **NOVEMBER 2023**

*View this bulletin, 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

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*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.*

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

# ***What's Happening in November?***

**PASTORAL:** Please keep in your thoughts and prayers those who are sick and recovering currently. If you know of any person who is ill or would particularly appreciate a visit, please contact a member of the Pastoral Care team.

**PARISH COUNCIL:** The Parish Council Meeting for this month will be on the **12<sup>th</sup> November**.

**We are on FACEBOOK!** Please like the page for important updates at this [link](#), or go to Facebook and search for Wellsford - Methodist Presbyterian Co-Operating Church.

## **HERITAGE REST HOME SERVICE:**

The Heritage Rest Home service will be from 10:00am until Noon on the **first Friday** of each month.

**BIRTHDAYS:** If your birthday is in **November**, a very happy birthday to you!

**A Visitor from Afar!** Your bulletin creator and former church attendee will be in Auckland for a visit. If you wish to come and meet Mark and his mother, they will be at New Lynn McDonalds on the 7<sup>th</sup> November from 1pm. Might be a nice road trip!

**SHARED LUNCH** after Church on the **5<sup>th</sup> of November** will be at Steven & Nelleke's home 119 School Road Tomarata.

**PARISH MEETING:** the final meeting for the year will be on the 19<sup>th</sup> November. All are most welcome.

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## **PASTOR'S BLURB FOR NOVEMBER 2023**

If anybody thinks that if only the Church was doing its job properly, the whole world would be a utopia of peace and justice, they need to think again. Two famous texts in the bible, placed in juxtaposition, should convince anybody who takes the Bible seriously, to expect some kind of ongoing conflict which isn't going to go away until the Lord comes back. The two texts are: 'The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it.' (Psalm 24:1) and 'The whole world lies in the hands of the evil one' (1 John 5:19). At first, the whole world did not lie in the hands of the evil one, and the day will come when the whole world will no longer lie in the hands of the evil one. But the first letter of John is speaking to people right now (between the two comings of our Lord Jesus Christ). And if we look at the juxtaposition of those two verses ('The earth is the Lord's', and 'the world is in the hands of the evil one'), we just about recoil from the pages of the bible. The two verses are like a keg of gunpowder and a spark. How can anybody envisage peace on earth between the two comings of the Lord Jesus Christ, when these two verses are true? (and they are true, because both are in the Bible). Admittedly, the conflict that is inevitably implied by the juxtaposition of those verses (the earth is the Lord, and the whole world lies in the grasp of the evil one) – is spiritual: 'Our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms' (Ephesians 6:12) – but now and again the spiritual struggle spills over into the physical realm. Church history shows that there is a satanic force behind a lot of the conflict that the church has been subject to. But there is another source of conflict which is intimately related to the church's historical conflict. Romans 11 speaks of the ethnic descendants of Abraham: 'As far as the gospel is concerned, they are enemies for your sake ('your' meaning 'Christians'), but as far as election is concerned, they are loved on account of the patriarchs' (Romans 11:28). As I read Romans 11, the Lord is going to save a lot of the ethnic descendants of Abraham, after the 'full number of the Gentiles has come in' (Romans 11:25). I do not pretend to know the timescale of this great event, but that it is going to happen is certain, because it is in the Bible.

Continued over...

There are many ethnic descendants of Abraham in the nation state of Israel right now, and, to my extremely limited understanding, that is why Satan hates the nation-state of Israel. As I write this, it is the 19<sup>th</sup> of October, and by the time you read this, the conflict may well have escalated. It is to hoped that the super-powers do not feel themselves impelled to enter this fray. But as we speak of super-powers, we are reminded that, above all 'super-powers' there is the great Super-power Himself, the all-powerful Lord God of Hosts. Pray that His will would be done. Pray that during this whole terrible conflict, the Lord's will would be done. Pray that the ethnic descendants of Abraham would have the veil lifted from their eyes, that they might see Jesus as their Messiah. Pray that the people on both sides of this conflict, in their desperation, will find the Saviour. And let this conflict remind you that we never stop being in a conflict with the forces of darkness, and conduct yourselves like good soldiers of Jesus Christ. 'Blessed is the one who stays awake and remains clothed, so as not to go naked, and be shamefully exposed.' (Revelation 16:15).

Your brother, David

### **IN LOVING MEMORY**

**An old member of our Congregation has passed away.**

**She was Elizabeth McKenzie and was in her late 90s. Her late husband was Doctor Chris McKenzie who served the Wellsford area as the only doctor for many years, from the 1950s to the 1980s.**

**Elizabeth was a very prominent and active member of our Church, serving on a number of our committees as well as being very active in the local community.**

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## The Story behind the Hymns

### History of Hymns: I'll go in the strength of the Lord

Source: Chat GPT

"I'll Go in the Strength of the Lord" is a Christian hymn with a background in the 19th-century evangelical revival movements. The hymn is sometimes known as "I'll Go Where You Want Me to Go" and is based on a poem written by Mary Brown in 1891. The poem was titled "Hymn of the Responsive Heart" and was set to music by Carrie Rounsefell in 1895.

The hymn's lyrics convey a message of willingness and dedication to follow God's will and to be obedient to His calling. It expresses a readiness to go wherever and do whatever God requires, trusting in His strength and guidance. The hymn is often associated with missions and evangelism, as it reflects the idea of being sent to share the message of faith and salvation with others.

"I'll Go in the Strength of the Lord" has been a favorite hymn in many Christian denominations, particularly in the context of missionary work and service. It encourages believers to be open to God's leading and to step out in faith, relying on His strength to guide them in their Christian journey.

**Use our digital edition to listen to...Link is hyperlinked**

● [Sing along here](#)

Or this [Songs of Praise](#)

● **Monthly Hour of Power online service: Many Start, Few Finish**

Pastor Bobby's encouragement is that God has something bigger for you than whatever it is you're going through, with his message, "Many Start, Few Finish."

Link: <https://hourofpower.org/episode/many-start-few-finish/>

## PRAYER

As the days lengthen and the earth spends longer in the light of day, grant that I may spend longer in the light of your presence, O Lord, and may those seeds of your Word, which have been long buried within me, grow, like everything around us into love for you, and love for people; to become a visible declaration of your Lordship in my life. Grant, O God, that there may be a springtime for my life in Christ.

( Dick Williams)

### Spotlight on the Bible

#### Before the reading:

In the beginning was the word.

**And the Word was with God.**

**And the Word was God.**

**1 Timothy 2:1-2 (NIV):** "I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness."

**Jeremiah 29:7 (NIV):** "Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper."

**Proverbs 21:1 (NIV):** "The king's heart is in the hand of the Lord; he directs it like a watercourse wherever he pleases."

**Romans 13:1 (NIV):** "Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God."

#### After the reading:

For the Word of God in Scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us;

**Thanks be to God.**

*(‘Word of God’- page 21. A Wee Worship Book).*

## **Bible Joshua Quiz, brought to you by Chat GpT**

**The answers are printed on the back cover of this bulletin.**

1. What river did the Israelites cross to enter the Promised Land under Joshua's leadership?  
a) Tigris River b) Jordan River c) Nile River d) Euphrates River
  
2. What miracle did God perform to allow the Israelites to cross the Jordan River on dry land?  
a) Parting the waters like the Red Sea  
b) Creating a bridge of stones  
c) Sending a strong wind to dry the riverbed  
d) Using a boat to transport them
  
3. Who is the woman who helped the Israelite spies in Jericho and was spared when the city fell?  
a) Sarah  
b) Rahab  
c) Leah  
d) Miriam
  
4. How many tribes of Israel received an inheritance in the Promised Land as described in the book of Joshua?  
a) 12 tribes b) 10 tribes c) 7 tribes d) 2 tribes
  
5. What significant event occurred at the city of Ai during Joshua's conquest of Canaan?  
a) The city was destroyed by a natural disaster.  
b) The Israelites suffered a major defeat.  
c) The city's inhabitants surrendered peacefully.  
d) Joshua made a covenant with the king of Ai.

## The Preaching Plan for November 2023:

5<sup>th</sup> November: Multi Media, Rheychille Reguyal  
12<sup>th</sup> November: Rev David Balchin  
19<sup>th</sup> November: Rev Verna Healy  
26<sup>th</sup> November: Rev David Balchin

## Wellsford Duty Schedule for November Duty Stewards

5<sup>th</sup> Nov: Steven & Nelleke Duinkerke,  
12<sup>th</sup> Nov: Ann Clegg/ Maria Harrison  
19<sup>th</sup> Nov: Eryl Nolan                      26<sup>th</sup> Nov: Jocelyn Daken

## Wellsford Morning Tea Schedule

5<sup>th</sup> Nov: Steven & Nelleke Duinkerke,  
12<sup>th</sup> Nov: Ann Clegg/ Maria Harrison  
19<sup>th</sup> Nov: Eryl Nolan                      26<sup>th</sup> Nov: Jocelyn Daken

Parish Directory for Ministry, please contact a member of the Parish Council.

**Church Centre Office: 253 Rodney Street, Wellsford 0900.**

**Phone: 09 423-8076**

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**Minister:** Rev David Balchin- email: [davidjbalchin@gmail.com](mailto:davidjbalchin@gmail.com)

**Secretary:** Eulene Goddard- email: [eulene.goddard@yahoo.com](mailto:eulene.goddard@yahoo.com)

**Treasurer:** Willis MacGillivray

Parish Councillors: Rev David Balchin, Ann Clegg, Eulene Goddard, Gerald North, Rheychille Reguyal

Parish Bulletin/Website Admin: Mark Lorenzen

## **Answers to this month's Bible Book Quiz:**

1. b) Jordan River
2. a) Parting the waters like the Red Sea
3. b) Rahab
4. a) 12 tribes
5. b) The Israelites suffered a major defeat.