

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

## **OCTOBER 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 October?***

**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 **8<sup>th</sup> October**.

**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 **October**, a very happy birthday to you!



**SHARED LUNCH** after Church on the **1<sup>st</sup> October** will be at the Rachel & Monel's home 19 Tuaraki Drive Wellsford.



**REMAINING PARISH MEETINGS FOR 2023**  
19 November

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

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

Yesterday, on our farm walk, Chris and I came upon two turkeys fighting. Neither of us had ever seen two turkeys fighting before. They were so intent on the winning the fight that they were oblivious to our approach until the last second. And then, seeing us, they gobbled loudly, fled through the fence into the field, and continued with their brawl. Eventually one of them decided that his face had taken enough pecking and tearing, and, in a signal that was invisible to us obtuse humans, ceded the fight. We opined that, with spring just around the corner (it's the first day of spring today), it was just about mating season. I took it as a signal to look for other warring male birds, over the next few weeks. And it's not only birds, of course. All the adult males of every species which propagates themselves by having babies are butting, tearing, biting, and pecking themselves into submission to earn the right to mate with their females counterparts. But the violence in the animal kingdom is a lot worse than simply competing with rival males for the privilege of mating. Carnivores prey on smaller carnivores and herbivores, and thousands of times every day Tennyson's grim phrase, 'Nature red in tooth and claw'. is illustrated and enacted. And although we have the divine permission to 'kill and eat' (Acts 10:13), man was not originally a meat-eater. And such slaughter does not only go one way. Sometimes animals kill human beings. This also has divine warrant (Revelation 6:8). These turbulences in creation can be traced back to Adam's sin, as you know. Before Adam sinned, all creation lived in harmony, without any competition or predation. And one day there will be complete harmony again. Isaiah says, 'The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them.' (Isaiah 11:6). This will happen when 'creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God' (Romans 8:21). This is all thanks to the salvation that God has wrought in Christ: 'God was reconciling the world (Greek: cosmos) to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them (2 Corinthians 5:19). This spring let the budding new leaf, the magnolia blooms, the warmer days and the sparrows flying around with strands of straw in their little beaks remind you of the hope of new life in Christ. And also let these same sparrows, bristling with bellicosity as they fight other sparrows to win the approval of their admiring female counterparts, remind you that there won't always be conflict and strife, and that one day, maybe quite soon, the Lord will come back create a new heavens and new earth, the home of joy and righteousness, where we will look on our Saviour's face.

Your brother, David

**The Story behind the Hymns**  
**History of Hymns: 'Jerusalem'**  
**Source: Chat GPT**

The hymn "Jerusalem" is based on the poem "And did those feet in ancient time" written by the English poet William Blake. The poem was first published in 1804 as part of his larger work, "Milton a Poem," but it gained popularity when it was included in his collection "Milton and the English Revolution" in 1810.

The poem itself is a visionary and symbolic work that contemplates the idea of a divine presence in England's green and pleasant land. It begins with the lines:

"And did those feet in ancient time Walk upon England's mountains green:  
And was the holy Lamb of God, On England's pleasant pastures seen!"

These lines suggest the notion that Jesus Christ may have visited England in ancient times, a theme that was never meant to be taken as a literal historical account, but rather as a metaphorical exploration of spiritual and mystical ideas.

The reference to "Jerusalem" in the title of the hymn comes from the final stanza of the poem, which asks whether the "Jerusalem" (meaning a holy and spiritually significant place) can be built "In England's green and pleasant land." This is a symbolic reference to the idea of England becoming a place of spiritual renewal and transformation.

The poem's association with music and hymnody came about when Sir Hubert Parry set it to music in 1916, during the turmoil of World War I. Parry's musical setting of "Jerusalem" added a stirring and patriotic dimension to the poem, and it quickly became a popular patriotic hymn, often performed at public events and gatherings in England.

Today, "Jerusalem" is considered one of England's most iconic hymns and is frequently sung at national and patriotic occasions, including sporting events and the Last Night of the Proms. It continues to inspire and evoke a sense of national pride and identity in England.

**Use our digital edition to listen to...[Link is hyperlinked](#)**

•[Sing along with this hymn](#)

Or this <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wD9-djEuEjM>

●**Monthly Hour of Power online service:** [Link: Choose Your Hard; Choose Your Easy](#): Pastor Bobby encourages you to grow as much as possible; do as much as possible and be as much as possible. Get back on the narrow road and your life will never be the same. He shares four “why nots” that every person says as to why they don’t get on the narrow road that leads to life. Today’s message: “Choose Your Hard; Choose Your Easy.”

Scripture reading: Matthew 16:21-25

## **PRAYER**

Give me, O Lord, I pray thee,  
firm faith, unwavering hope,  
perfect charity.

Pour into my heart  
the spirit wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and spiritual strength,  
the spirit of knowledge and true godliness,  
and the spirit of thy holy fear.

Light eternal, shine in my heart:

Power eternal, deliver me from evil:

Wisdom eternal, scatter the darkness of my ignorance:

Might eternal, pity me.

Grant that I may ever seek thy face,  
with all my heart and soul and strength;  
and, in thy infinite mercy,  
bring me at last to thy holy presence,  
where I shall behold thy glory  
and possess thy promised joys.

(Alcuin, 735-804)

## Spotlight on the Bible

### Before the reading:

In the beginning was the word.

**And the Word was with God.**

**And the Word was God.**

### **Deuteronomy 32: The Song of Moses**

[12](#) The LORD alone led him; no foreign god was with him.

[13](#) He made him ride on the heights of the land and fed him with the fruit of the fields. He nourished him with honey from the rock, and with oil from the flinty crag,

[14](#) with curds and milk from herd and flock and with fattened lambs and goats, with choice rams of Bashan and the finest kernels of wheat. You drank the foaming blood of the grape.

[15](#) Jeshurun grew fat and kicked; filled with food, they became heavy and sleek. They abandoned the God who made them and rejected the Rock their Savior.

[16](#) They made him jealous with their foreign gods and angered him with their detestable idols.

[17](#) They sacrificed to false gods, which are not God— gods they had not known, gods that recently appeared, gods your ancestors did not fear.

Read more by [clicking here](#).

### 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 Deuteronomy Quiz, brought to you by Chat GpT**

1. What is the central theme of the book of Deuteronomy?  
A) The history of Israel                      B) The life of King David  
C) The importance of obedience to God's law  
D) The genealogy of Jesus
2. In the book of Deuteronomy, what is the promised land that God leads the Israelites toward?  
A) Egypt                      B) Canaan                      C) Babylon                      D) Rome
3. Which famous speech is found in the book of Deuteronomy, often referred to as the "Shema"?  
A) The Ten Commandments                      B) The Sermon on the Mount  
C) The Beatitudes                      D) The Great Commandment
4. According to the book of Deuteronomy, what is the "Song of Moses"?  
A) A hymn of praise                      B) A prophecy of the Messiah  
C) A song of lamentation and warning  
D) A historical record of battles
5. In the book of Deuteronomy, which river does Moses say the Israelites will cross to enter the Promised Land?  
A) The Jordan River                      B) The Nile River  
C) The Euphrates River  
D) The Tigris River

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

## The Preaching Plan for October 2023:

1<sup>st</sup> October: Multi Media, Rheychille Reguyal  
8<sup>th</sup> October: Rev David Balchin  
15<sup>th</sup> October: Ann Clegg  
22<sup>nd</sup> October: Rev David Balchin  
29<sup>th</sup> October: Will Balchin

### **Wellsford Duty Schedule for October Duty Stewards**

1<sup>st</sup> Oct: Steven & Nelleke Duinkerke,  
8<sup>th</sup> Oct: Ann Clegg/ Maria Harrison 15<sup>th</sup> Oct: Eryl Nolan  
22<sup>nd</sup> Oct: Jocelyn Daken 29<sup>th</sup> Oct: Steven & Nelleke Duinkerke

### **Wellsford Morning Tea Schedule**

1<sup>st</sup> Oct: Steven & Nelleke Duinkerke,  
8<sup>th</sup> Oct: Ann Clegg/ Maria Harrison 15<sup>th</sup> Oct: Eryl Nolan  
22<sup>nd</sup> Oct: Jocelyn Daken 29<sup>th</sup> Oct: Steven & 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**

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**Minister:** Rev David Balchin- email: [davidjbalchin@gmail.com](mailto:davidjbalchin@gmail.com)  
**Secretary:** Ann Clegg - email: [annclegg@proton.me](mailto:annclegg@proton.me)  
**Treasurer:** Willis MacGillivray

### Other Members of Parish Council:

**Eulene Goddard, Gerald North, Rheychille Reguyal**

**Parish Bulletin/Website Admin: Mark Lorenzen [marklorenzen73@gmail.com](mailto:marklorenzen73@gmail.com)**

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

1. C) The importance of obedience to God's law
2. B) Canaan
3. D) The Great Commandment
4. C) A song of lamentation and warning
5. A) The Jordan River