

Wellsford Co-operating Parish

FEBRUARY 2022

*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**

***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 Happening 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.

PASTORAL: Our thoughts are with David, who has had a heart-attack and was rushed by ambulance to Auckland hospital recently. They have put three stents in, and David is now recovering.

FUNERAL

On Wednesday 19 January, the funeral was held for Caroline Marshall who died after a long illness. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family and her husband Keith who was such a support during her illness.



PARISH MEETINGS FOR 2022

20 February 2022

15 May 2022

21 August (AGM) 2022

20 November 2022

Women's Fellowship: This will not be happening at present.



Service at the Heritage Rest Home: Under present lockdown levels this will not be happening.

Parish Council: **Tuesday 8th February @ 2:00pm.** (Note that this is one week earlier than usual). This will be at the church centre.



PARISH COUNCIL: It is with regret that we announce the resignation of Ria Olivier from Parish Council.

NEW PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Eulene Goddard email: eulene.goddard@yahoo.com

Irene Rockell: email: 27irock@gmail.com

TREASURER Willis MacGillivray

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



BIBLE STUDY: The Know Your Bible study has recommenced. It is currently being held outside in a member's garden. If you are interested, please contact Jocelyn Daken 423 7088

LOAVES AND FISHES FOOD BANK

Once again, the Loaves and Fishes Food Bank has been relatively busy. The parcels given out have been subdivided into:

Meat Parcel, Basic Parcel (which is VERY basic), Vege Parcel, Hygiene Parcel

The Food Bank workers do wonders co-ordinating these parcels, as, each week the volumes available differ.

Last year we sent out 96 Christmas Hampers on the 22 December 2021.

We have processed in December also another 47 food parcels and 57 vegetable bags. We would like to thank sincerely the work Wellsford Plus has done to raise awareness of families in need. We appreciate on all donations given to us, both Food and monetary. These have been passed on to families in need. Special thanks must go to Peter and Tricia Cox of Clever Endeavours for their continued support of the foodbank. Thank you also to Tania Hamilton for all her work during COVID-19 lockdown. What a great job you did.

January 2022 has been picking up slowly and we are prepared for any situation. We wish to mention CAB for the work they have done during Auckland's long lockdown. The workers continue to contact families through difficult circumstances of lockdown. With no face-to-face interviews they are contacting families in need. This was done well by the CAB workers. Thank you all. For all our volunteers giving their time to make sure the Wellsford Foodbank keeps running a big thank you.

Yours. Irene Rockell

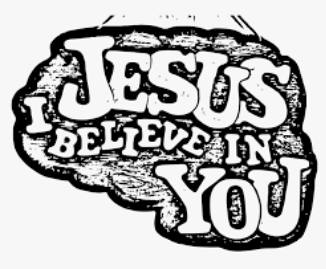


PASTOR'S BLURB FOR FEBRUARY

As we enter a new year, it doesn't hurt to be reminded of the old year. You will remember that as we entered 2021 there were not a few of us who said, 'Goodbye 2020. I hope that another year like you, will not ever come again' (or words to that effect). We began 2021 all filled with hope that the badness would be behind us, and only goodness was to come as the year 2021 unfolded. As for a while, such seemed to be the case. But then in August they discovered the 'delta variant' and we found ourselves back in lockdown and confined in Auckland till just about Christmas. Now, I don't want to be a prophet of doom, but I can't help but begin 2022 with the same warning that I began 2021 with: I certainly hope that life continues normally, without the least hint of another dangerous virus. I certainly hope that. But, as with 2021, we can't take anything for granted. That's why we need to remind ourselves of the basics. If you have trusted Jesus, you are a child of God. God is your heavenly Father. The Lord Jesus Christ is your big Brother, and your heavenly Bridegroom, and your Head, and your King. You are in a different kingdom now – the kingdom of heaven. You have been transferred from the kingdom of darkness and brought into the kingdom of the Son of God. By God's grace, we have swapped kingdoms now. And there is no guarantee that this world – this kingdom – is going to last forever. In fact, there is a guarantee that it won't: 'Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will never pass away', said Jesus (Matthew 24:35). By God's grace, we have been transferred into a kingdom that never be shaken: 'Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken...' (Hebrews 12:28). That is why we can take great comfort from the verse which says, 'Therefore we will not fear, though the earth gives way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea. There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells.' (Psalm 46, verses 2 and 4).

So, my three encouragements to my fellow-citizens of the heavenly kingdom that cannot be shaken are: (a) Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God.' (Colossians 3:1). You might as well explore your new kingdom. After all, we will be living here forever. (b) Don't be surprised if something happens this year which will shake society up again. Again, we hope with the utmost sincerity that nothing will happen – but don't be surprised if it does.

After all, God does say that He is going to 'shake not only the earth, but the heavens as well' (Hebrews 12:26). We don't know exactly when that will happen, but we do know for sure that it will happen. (c) Put your head down on the pillow which says that the same one who is holding the future is holding our hands.



A NEW YEAR'S PRAYER

Lord, you make all things new
You bring hope alive in our hearts
And cause our spirits to be born again

Thank you for this new year
For all the potential it holds.
Come and kindle in us a mighty flame
So that in our time, many will see the wonders of God
And live forever to praise your glorious name. Amen



BLESSINGS (Glynn Cardy)

May blessings shower upon you
in this year ahead,
and may you recognize them.

May you be less lonely and aching
as you experience the cup of kindness
offered by other lonely and aching people.

May you breathe more freely, less fearfully,
as the destructive behaviour of others
is swept away by a tide of goodwill.

May you laugh more often,
find puddles to splash in,
and sing every day some.

May you know the gentle God
who goes by the name of hospitality
and be buoyed by Her embrace.

May the trickle of love you know grow
to become a cascading stream of hope
irrigating the courage in your soul.

And may you stand in the waterfall
of these and other blessings and say:
'It's good to be alive!'

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

The Preaching Plan:

6 Feb	Multimedia
13 Feb	Reverend David Balchin
20 Feb	Reverend Verna Healy (Parish Meeting)
27 Feb	Reverend David Balchin

Wellsford Duty Schedule for February- Duty Stewards

<u>6 Feb</u>	<u>13 Feb</u>	<u>20 Feb</u>	<u>27 Feb</u>	
Steven and Nelleke Duinkerke	Ann Clegg	Eryl Nolan	Jocelyn Daken	

Wellsford Morning Tea Schedule – On Hold due to Covid uncertainty

<u>6 Feb</u>	<u>13 Feb</u>	<u>20 Feb</u>	<u>27 Feb</u>	

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

Secretary: Ann Clegg: iresyn@yahoo.co.nz

Treasurer: Willis MacGillivray

Other Members of Parish Council:

Eulene Goddard, 021 122 4268 and Irene Rockell, 423 7105

Parish Bulletin admin: Mark Lorenzen marklorenzen73@gmail.com