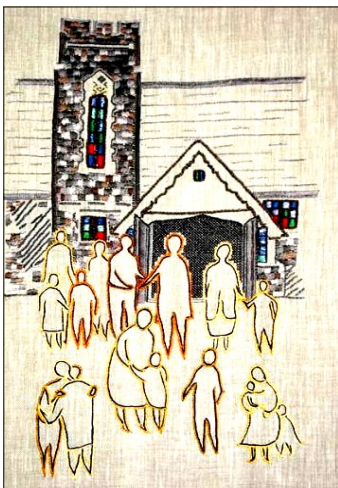


Cashmere Connection

Cashmere Presbyterian Church— The Stone Church on the Hill
Linking with its community since 1928

Issue number one hundred and nine—autumn 2023



Moderator's Trip to India

I am writing this in Delhi, early on my last morning in India. It has been a hectic and fascinating 2 weeks beginning with the privilege of being in the official party at the dawn service at Waitangi. Writing from this India, a country of many rich festivals and pilgrimages, I think every New Zealander should at some time in their life make the journey to Waitangi for the festivities on the 6th February. Being there provokes thoughts and conversations about who we are as a nation and the significance of the Treaty and the bi-cultural journey – this thinking and talking is important for New Zealanders. It was interesting to see the central role of the church on the day. The dawn service this year was led by the Salvation Army and involved a wide cross-section of leaders in our nation including the Prime Minister, Governor General, Ombudsman, Chief Justice, Chief of Defence and an array of other politicians. Around 2,000 people turned out for the service, not deterred by the gentle rain that blessed the occasion! Much has been said about the role of the churches in the treaty and the early European settlement of New Zealand. Bishop Te Kitohi Pikaahu spoke to us about this in the lead up to the ecumenical service, talking of a good history here despite the times the church got it wrong. It is certainly good to see that the church is still a significant player in Waitangi Day.

The day after Waitangi Day I was off to India with the PCANZ Global Mission Director, Phil King, to open a new classroom block at St Thomas School in Jagadhri named in honour of Doreen Riddell. Presbyterian missionaries were in India from 1892. Dr and Mrs Porteous were pioneers of the early work in Jagadhri. Dr Porteous lived in Cashmere in late retirement years and is remembered by some of you for the time he spent as a member at Cashmere Presbyterian. Doreen Riddell was in Jagadhri for 34 years and was the last of our missionaries to go home. She started St Thomas school in 1966 with 5 students. It is now a thriving school of 3,600 students and the huge new Riddell classroom block will allow it to grow even further. The school is led by the very impressive Dr Mrs Chandana Lall, a wonderful Christian woman who walks well the tight rope of being a Christian School with a wide array of religious affiliation amongst the student body. There is a deep thankfulness for the work of Doreen Riddell and the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand in Jagadhri – Phil and I were welcomed with open arms as representative of the PCANZ. The connections remain strong and deeply valued!



Hamish

Communion Service

We extend an invitation to all to our quarterly **Communion Service** on Sunday 6th March, and our **Easter Communion Service** on Sunday 9th April, both at 10am.



What is Lent?

Lent, in the Christian church, is a period of penitential preparation for Easter. In Western churches it begins on Ash Wednesday (which, this year, is on 22nd February), six and a half weeks before Easter. It is a 40-day period of reflection and of asking for forgiveness, and may include fasting (Sundays are excluded) in imitation of Jesus' fasting in the wilderness before he began his public ministry.

Lent ends with Holy Week, which leads to Easter Sunday—the most important day in the Christian calendar—which marks the resurrection of Jesus after his death on the cross, and is a celebration of his life.

Below you will find details of a couple of options for study/reflection for Lent.

Lent study series at Cashmere:

The Praying Life - Through Lent with Luke

Meeting in the Kowhai Lounge, from 7:30-9pm on the dates listed below (note that the first two dates are Thursdays, but the remainder are Tuesdays). You are welcome to attend even if you can't make it to every session. Please contact Anne Shave if you wish to purchase a study booklet (\$7).

Week 1 Thursday 23rd Feb: Prayer and authority (Luke 7:1-10) *Jesus heals a Centurion's servant*

Week 2 Thursday 2 March: Listening is also prayer (Luke 10:38-42) *The story of Mary and Martha*

Week 3 Tuesday 7th March: How to pray/What to pray for (Luke 11:1-4) *The Lord's Prayer*

Week 4 Tuesday 14th March: Praying passionately (Luke 11:5-13) *Ask, seek, knock*

[No meeting in the week of 20-24th March]

Week 5 Tuesday 28th March: Praying persistently (Luke 18:1-8) *The parable of the widow and the unjust judge*

Week 6 Tuesday 4 April: Praying in desolation Luke 22:39-46) *Jesus' prayer in Gethsemane*

"We hope that as Christians we mature and grow and become more and more like Christ. But the church in its wisdom assumes we will fail, even after our baptism. The church presumes that life is long and zeal fades, not just for some of us but for all. So it has included within its life a season in which all of us can recapture our love for God and his kingdom and cast off those things that so easily entangle us."

Quote from "Lent: The Season of Repentance and Renewal (The Fullness of Time)" by Esau McCaulley

Online Daily Resource for Lent:

Lives to Inspire—Looking at people who encourage us to live better, more fulfilled lives

We all know of people whose lives inspire us by their courage, generosity, imagination or brilliance. Christian churches either informally, or formally (like the Roman Catholic and Orthodox churches) present us with inspiring people that they call 'saints'. Over Lent this year this resource will tell you a little about the lives of over 40 people, some canonised saints, others renowned for their lives of love and public service. Saints are not perfect people, but they do have aspects of their lives that stand out and are worthy of emulation.

Each day of Lent has: some information about one of the "Lives to inspire"; a reading from Scripture; a picture to ponder; music to inspire (on the web and App); a short reflection

Go to www.onlineprayer.net/saints/ to access the daily resources.

Forthcoming Services

Sunday 19 February	10am	Morning Worship
	11.30am	Healing Service
Sunday 26 February	10am	Morning Worship
Sunday 5 March	10am	Communion Service
Sunday 12 March	10am	Family Service
Sunday 19 March	10am	Morning Worship
	11.30am	Healing Service
Sunday 26 March	10am	Morning Worship
Sunday 2 April	10am	Morning Worship
Sunday 9 April	10am	Easter Communion
Sunday 16 April	10am	Morning Worship
	11.30am	Healing Service
Sunday 23 April	10am	Morning Worship
Sunday 30 April	10am	Morning Worship
Sunday 7 May	10am	Morning Worship
Sunday 14 May	10am	Family Service

Healing Services

Healing Services, including Communion, are held each month, usually on the 3rd Sunday, at 11.30am. All are welcome to attend this service, to pray for your own needs, or those of others.

Services for Easter

Palm Sunday - 2nd April
Morning Worship at 10am

Maundy Thursday - 6th April
Service at 7pm at Cashmere Presbyterian

Good Friday - 7th April
Gather at Cashmere Presbyterian at 8am to
walk the Cross down to St Augustine's.
The service will commence at 10am

Easter Day—Sunday 9th April
Communion Service at 10am

Book Corner

The Happiest Man on Earth

David Coster has recently been reading “The Happiest Man on Earth” by Eddie Jaku. It is his Life Story covering the over 100 years that he has lived. Although born in Germany he now lives in Australia, where in 2013 he was awarded the Order of Australia Medal for services to the Jewish Community.

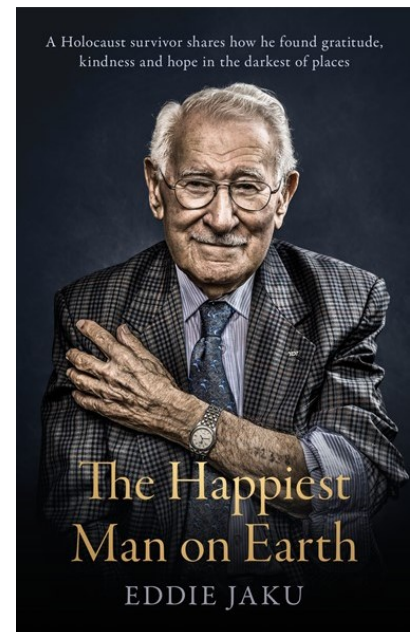
In the fly cover it says: “Eddie Jaku always considered himself a German first, and a Jew second. He was proud of his country. But all that changed in November 1938, when he was beaten, arrested and taken to a concentration camp.

Over the next seven years, Eddie faced unimaginable horrors every day, first in Buchenwald, then in Auschwitz, then on a Nazi death march. He lost family, friends, his country.

Because he survived, Eddie made a vow to smile every day. He pays tribute to those who were lost by telling his story, sharing his wisdom and living his best possible life. Despite everything he has endured, he now believes he is the ‘happiest man alive.’”

In spite of everything that he experienced and the loss of his family Eddie never gave up on choosing life and love. In the closing chapter he wrote, ‘Don’t blame others for your misfortunes. No one has ever said that life is easy, but it is easier if you love it. If you hate your life, it becomes impossible to live. This is why I try to be kind. Even though I have suffered, I want to prove to the Nazis that they were wrong. I want to show the people who hate that they are wrong.’ As Eddie said, ‘Life can be beautiful if you make it beautiful. It is up to you.’

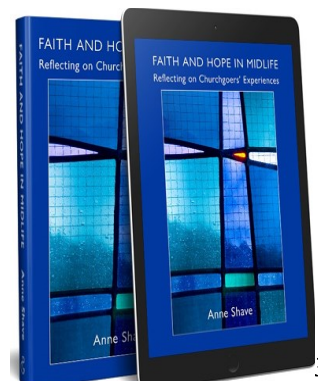
Here is a link Eddie Jaku's Tedx talk on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=scCvi3vY4jQ>



Faith and Hope in Midlife: Reflecting on Churchgoers' Experiences—by Anne Shave

Based on interviews with churchgoers from Presbyterian, Anglican and Catholic congregations, and conversations with clergy and spiritual directors, Anne Shave's book explores the experiences of Christians in midlife and considers ways that churches can support people in this life stage. It's an encouraging and accessible book for anyone who is interested in continuing to grow spiritually throughout life. Anne's book was published in November last year and is selling steadily.

If you would like to purchase a copy directly from the church office, they are available for \$30. E-books are also available for \$20 from: www.pgpl.co.nz





Above: 46 bags of pressies, ready to be delivered to lovely preschool children.

Thanks to the generous, loving support of our parishioners, we were able to provide activity packs for some children from less privileged backgrounds, for them to use over the long Christmas break.

A big thank you, also, to those who sourced, organised and packed the supplies—Janice, Kathleen, Joyce and Anne.



Lynley and Grahame were married here in November last year. They say both of them are delighted and amazed to have found love a second time.

They generously shared the top layer of their wedding cake with the congregation at our barbecue in December.

Pre-school music group



Volunteer helpers needed

Thursday mornings are lively and bustling here at the church, with our pre-school music group meeting every week during term time.

This is a popular and valuable outreach to our wider community, and the sessions are ably led by Janice Lee, with other volunteers assisting in various ways. *But* more volunteers are needed to go on the roster, please.

If you want to find out more, please speak to Janice or to Joyce Lockhart



Here are some events coming up later in the year for you to mark in your diaries! More details on each closer to the time.

Mid-year retreat/quiet day: Saturday 24th June, 9am – 4pm at Te Waiora House, Horarata

Mid-winter “Chasing the Blues Away”: July Friday film and social evenings for people of all ages. Fridays 7th July (School holidays), 14th July (School holidays), 21st July & 28th July

Plantarama: Saturday 16th October, 9am—12noon. Once again we will have a great selection of plants and garden related items for you to buy. Stop off on your way to or from voting!

Twilight Christmas Market: Friday 1st December, 6pm—9pm, featuring finely crafted Christmas decorations, gifts and food.

Office available to rent

Room available for rental as office space from beginning of April (earlier may be possible). \$175+GST per week.

Sunny, pleasant ground floor office, approx. 22m² overall, with a main outer area separated by glass doors from the inner room.

Includes: Power and cleaning; wi-fi may also be available, depending on expected usage. Phone connection is tenants' own responsibility. Toilets and kitchen shared with other users

Separate meeting room and larger meeting/conference/function space available for occasional hire at extra costs.

Would suit a small professional business, a charity, or not-for-profit organisation.

For more details contact Gail in the Church Office: (03) 332 7129, or email cashmere.church@xtra.co.nz



Thank you to everyone who joined in and contributed to the fundraising concert on 27 November 2022. It was a memorable afternoon with wonderful musicians and a great outcome. A special thanks goes to Tim Emerson and his students and the contributing artists who "rocked" the place with beautiful classical music. We raised more than \$960 which was then topped up to \$1000 and transferred to the school project in Zimbabwe.

People Events

Weddings:

We congratulate and extend best wishes to:

Jenn Wilson & Tristan Shepherd (3 December)

Lisha Anitele'a & Waitangi Tuisuga (5 January)


Esther Capill & Graham Skevington (6 January)

Brontë Black & Elliot Danzer (7 January)

Leah Smitheram & Greg Hicks (20 January)

Emma Hill & Edward O'Brien (18 February)

And special congratulations to Esther and Graham and Emma and Edward: both of these couples had to reschedule from their original dates due to Covid!



Chef Robert tells us "The date of this Danish receipt is open. The source in my reference has no date, but assume it to be around the 1930's to 1940's. To those who wish to attempt this interesting cake, I hope you enjoy the result."

Sur Fløde Kaffekage No. 2
(Sour Cream Coffee* Cake)

½ pound Butter
1 cup Flour
¾ cup Sugar
1 teaspoon Salt
3 tablespoons Sour Cream
Pinch of Soda
2 Eggs
1 teaspoon Baking Powder

Cream sugar and butter. Add eggs and cream and beat well. Sift dry ingredients and add. Mix well. Pour into greased 8 inch square pan and sprinkle the top with ½ cup crushed cornflakes which has been mixed with ½ cup brown sugar. Bake at 375°. Sweet cream may be used with this, in which case omit the soda.

**something to be enjoyed with coffee, rather than having coffee in it.*

Following Jesus necessarily means getting his words and ways into our everyday lives. It is not enough simply to recognize and approve his ways and get started in the right direction. Everything about Jesus is there to be embraced by our imaginations and assimilated into our habits—believed and lived. This takes place only as we pray while reading the story of Jesus, pray what we see Jesus doing, pray what we hear Jesus saying, pray the questions we have, pray the commands and promises and invitations that come to us in this story, pray the difficulties we encounter on the way. Jesus's praying was never something apart from his living. We cannot isolate his praying from his living. His whole life is the context for understanding and then participating in his praying. It is the same with us: our entire lives provide circumstances and stuff for our prayers.

(A Year with Jesus: Daily Readings and Meditations by Eugene H. Peterson)

ON THE ROAD TO EASTER WORD SEARCH



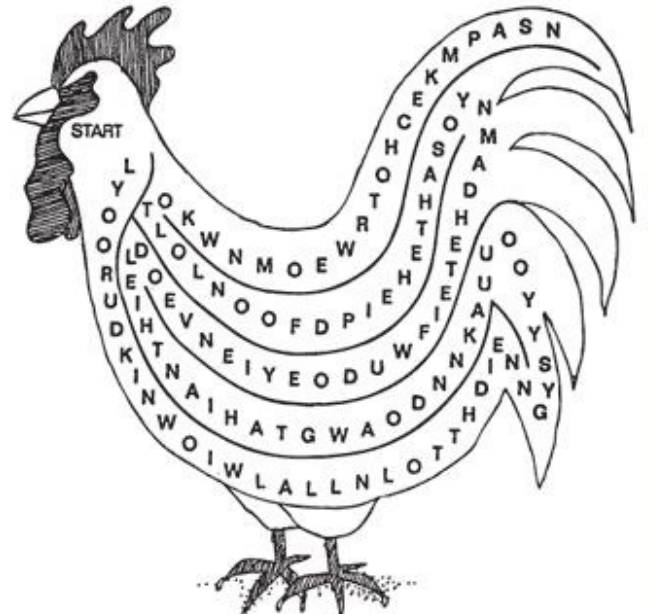
Ash	Holy Week	Palm Branch
Wednesday	Holy Thursday	Forty Days
Sacrifice	Good Friday	Jesus
Almsgiving	Holy Saturday	Passover
Prayer	Easter	Foot Washing
Fasting	Palm Sunday	Resurrection
Lent	Purple	Love



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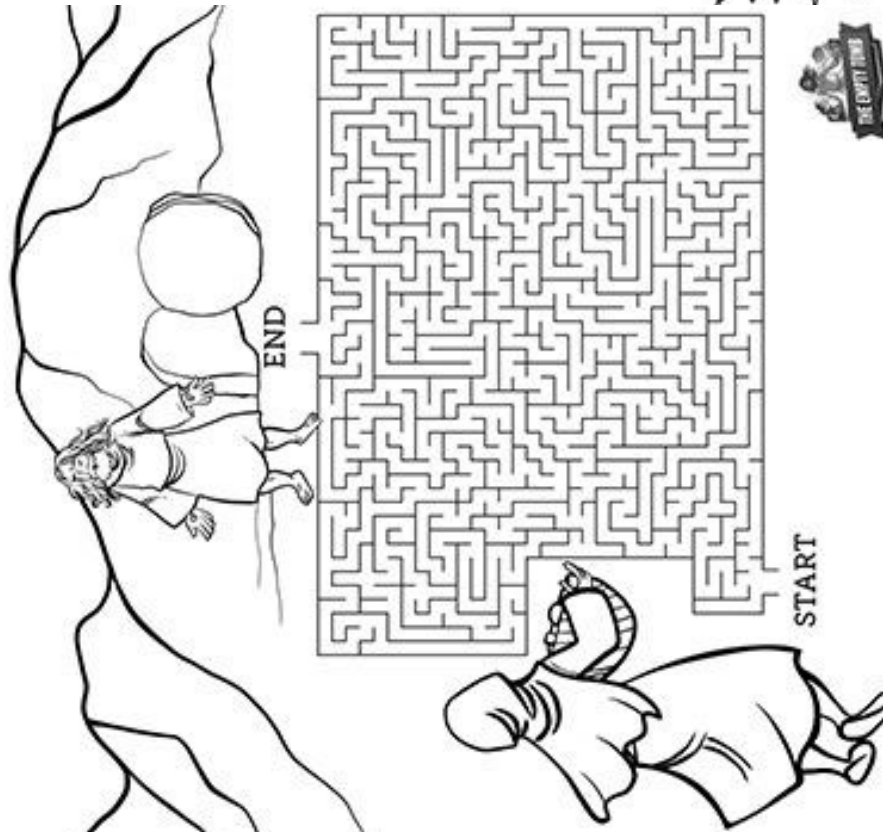
Peter's Denial

Write down every other letter starting with the "L" to find two things Peter said on the night Jesus was arrested.

[illegible]

THE EMPTY TOMB

Guide Mary to the Tomb



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Phone.....