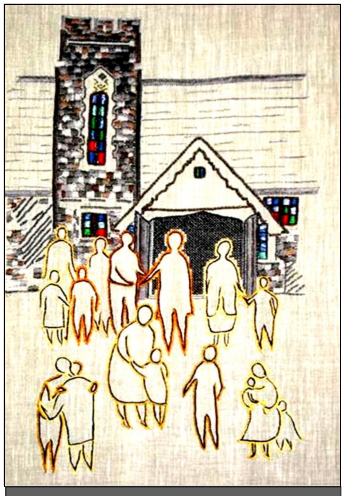


Cashmere Connection

Cashmere Presbyterian Church— The Stone Church on the Hill
Linking with its community since 1928
Issue number one hundred and two—Autumn 2021

From the Minister

The lead into Easter here at the Stone Church on the Hill has started well! Pancakes with blackberries and cream for our Shrove Tuesday Parish Council meeting followed a by a lovely reflective Ash Wednesday service well attended by Cashmere folk. Anne Shave is leading Lenten studies and we are planning to share Holy Week services with St Augustine's (details of that are at the bottom of this page).

In my preparations for Easter this year there have been 2 highlights so far. Firstly, confirmations and baptisms on the first Sunday of Lent, coinciding with the lectionary readings that highlighted the meaning of baptism. The fact that we had two baptisms by full emersion in a stream surrounded by bush and birdsong made this baptismal Sunday very special.

The other highlight for me is discovering the *Pray As You go* prayer aid on my phone. It leads you though a 20 minute time of music, bible reading and reflection. Most mornings I have been able to get out the door with earphones on and walk the block to the gentle tones of this Lenten prayer journey. It is really helping to focus on the lead into Easter this year. You can find this by using this link https://pray-as-you-go.org/

God bless

Hamish

Red Spot Appeal!

Raising Support for Anne Shave's work at Cashmere

Since October, Anne has been working at Cashmere on a 12 month project called Pathways—a programme designed to give us all an opportunity to reflect on where we are at in life and faith. It builds on Anne's recent PhD research, and we are hoping to take this project out to the wider church in due course. Anne also leads one service a month for us here at Cashmere.

Anne's work at Cashmere is going well. We received a funding grant of $30,000 from the Alpine Mission Fund to make it possible, but there is a deficit of $6,000 that needs to be funded by we Cashmere folk. We would like to give you an opportunity to contribute to a special Red Spot appeal during the month of March. There are envelopes available from church to enable you to do this or you might like to pay directly into the Cashmere bank account (020800-0181604-01, and please use "Red Spot" as the reference)

Thank you so much for all the ways you are supporting the work at Cashmere Presbyterian!

Communion Service

We extend an invitation to all to our quarterly **Communion Service** on Sunday 7 March, and our **Easter Communion Service** on Sunday 4 April, both at 10am.

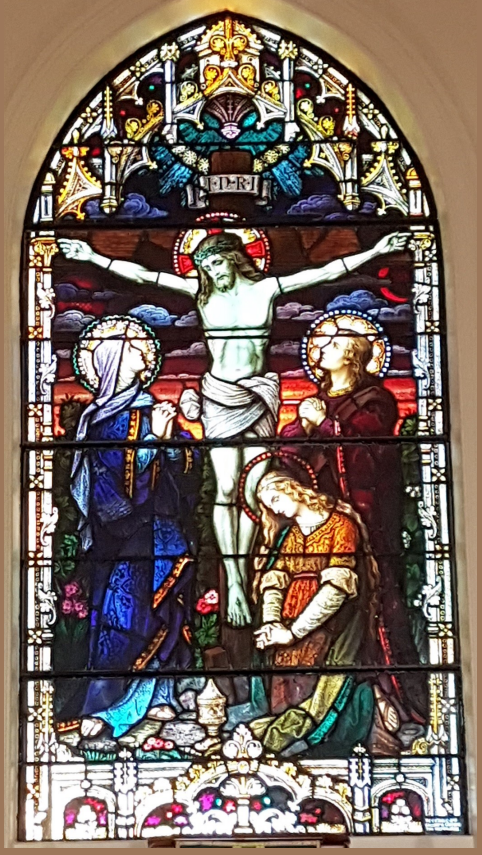
Palm Sunday - 28th March
10am: Morning Worship

Maundy Thursday - 1st April
5.30pm: Family Passover Meal Celebration
(please register with Gail at cashmere.church @xtra.co.nz)

7pm: Tenebrae Service

Good Friday - 19th April
Meet at Cashmere Presbyterian at 9am; process with the cross to St Augustines for Hot Cross buns followed by a Good Friday service

Easter Day—Sunday 4th April
10am: Communion Service



The Crucifixion of Jesus

For God so loved the cosmos that He gave his only son, so that whoever believes in him will not perish, but have eternal life.

Let us focus our thoughts on what is portrayed through this stained glass window in St Patrick's Church, Akaroa.

A small cluster of family and disciples followed Jesus bravely all the way the Cross.

What is our response to such depth of love that God has for us, as well as for our planet, and for the dynamic universe he has created?

Here is a poem we can use as an act of dedication as part of our commitment to follow Jesus

O dearest Lord, thy sacred head
with thorns was pierced for me;
O pour thy blessing on my head
that I may think for thee.

O dearest Lord, thy sacred hands
with nails were pierced for me;
O shed thy blessing on my hands
that they may work for thee.

O dearest Lord, thy sacred feet
with nails were pierced for me;
O pour thy blessing on my feet
that they may follow thee.

O dearest Lord, thy sacred heart
with spear was pierced for me;
O pour thy Spirit in my heart
that I may live for thee.

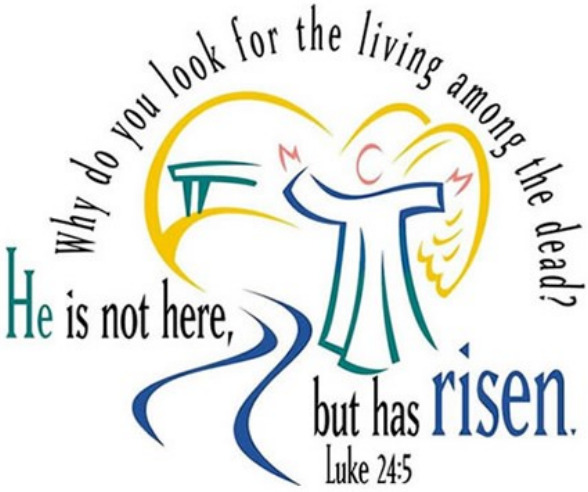
Pathways Programme

This programme explores life transitions, spiritual growth, and gifts and areas of service. The course involves an initial one-to-one conversation about these themes with either Hamish Galloway or Anne Shave, a day together with others in a group, and a follow-up conversation.

If you would like to participate in one of the upcoming Pathways programmes, contact the office, or Hamish or Anne.

Retreat morning Saturday 27th March

Perhaps you might think about coming along to a quiet morning of prayer and reflection on the Saturday prior to Easter? It will involve a time of guided prayer using Scripture, and lots of time for individual prayer and reflection. It will follow a similar pattern to the morning retreat we had last year. Speak to Anne Shave if you would like further information.



Forthcoming Services	
Date	**Service**
Sunday 7th March	10am Communion Service
Sunday 14th March	10am Family Service
Sunday 21st March	10am Morning Worship 11.30am Healing Service
Sunday 28th March	10am Morning Worship
Sunday 4th April	10am Easter Communion
Sunday 11th April	10am Family Service
Sunday 18th April	10am Morning Worship 11.30am Healing Service
Sunday 25th April	10am Morning Worship
Sunday 2nd May	10am Morning Worship

Healing Services

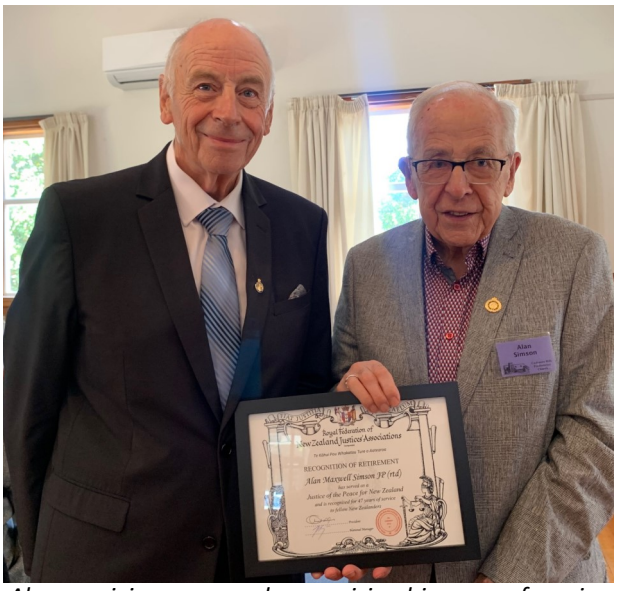
Healing Services are held each month, usually on the third Sunday, at 11.30am, and include communion. All are welcome to attend this service, to come and pray for your own needs, or those of others.

Congratulations!

Following the service on Sunday 31st January, we held a special morning tea to celebrate the 65th Wedding Anniversary of **Pauline and Graham McCormick**, and to acknowledge **Alan Simson's** 47 years serving as a Justice of the Peace.

Our congratulations to Pauline and Graham, and our thanks to Alan for his service to the community.

Pauline & Graham cutting the cake



Alan receiving an award recognising his years of service

Our goal should be to live life in radical amazement,
[to] get up in the morning and look at the world
in a way that takes nothing for granted.
Everything is phenomenal;
everything is incredible;
never treat life casually.
To be spiritual is to be amazed."

- Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel

Exploring the Nativity

At the Christmas Day service, Hamish invited the children to help him explore the Nativity Scene, looking at each of the figures and thinking about what each symbolised.

Some of the things pointed out were:

* Mary said "Yes!" to God.
* Joseph did not stick to the letter of the law, but showed grace and mercy.
* The shepherds were from the edge of society, excluded by many; they cared for their sheep, feeding them, and protecting them.
* Angels brought the good news.
* Wise men represented everyone from all over the world; they were academic, but also were spiritually aware and worshipped, and still were open to wonder.
* And lurking in the shadows was King Herod, who said he wanted to worship Jesus, but actually was jealous of him, and wanted to harm him.

People Events

Baptisms & Confirmations

On 21 February:

Vin, son of Marco & Ira, was Baptised into the Family of the Church;

Helen received Appropriation of Baptism as an Adult;

Millie, daughter of Warren & Andrea, Confirmed the promises that were undertaken for her at her Baptism.

Weddings

We congratulate & extend best wishes to:

Heather Edwards & Brodie de Gouw (5 December)
Seraphin Loo & Jeremy Gall (5 December)
Caitlin Shimmin & José Billington (12 December)
Mya Bendall– Brown & Jacob Napier (9 January)
Shannon Bailey & Samuel Rees (15 January)
Jordan Clarke & Aidan Prior (23 January)
Stella Haldane & Calum Slee (30 January)
Teresa Winward & Matthew Minish (6 February)
Rosie Masters & Brendon Jones (27 February)

Church Life

On Sunday 21st February we had a multiple celebration of the life of our parish.

During the service of Morning Worship, we had **Millie**'s confirmation, where she re-affirmed the promises that had been made on her behalf at her Baptism. Millie mentioned how important her grandparents had been in her faith journey. Also during the service, we welcomed several new people to our congregation.

Later on, a contingent travelled over to Te Pōhue in Port Levy, where there was to be a full-immersion Baptism—**Vin** was Baptised, and **Helen**'s ceremony was an Appropriation of Baptism as an Adult (she was Baptised as an infant many years ago.)

Many people then stayed on for a picnic lunch in the sunshine, enjoying some wonderful views over Port Levy to the sea.

Our thanks to Vin's family for hosting us at Te Pōhue.

Millie supported by her family at her confirmation

Above: Photos of Vin and Helen at the Baptism, & Vin's Baptismal Candle.

Left: It was a bit of a walk from the road to the stream, but everyone enjoyed the views, and the picnic afterwards.

Talking Windows

Cashmere Presbyterian Church has some fine stained-glass windows, two of which were installed in 1974. *Angels with the Emotions*, and *The Symbols of the Four Evangelists* were made in Dunedin by Roy Miller—who made some 330 windows for about 130 churches around New Zealand—and were designed by Beverley Shore Bennett of Wellington, who was recognised internationally for the quality of her work. Amongst her achievements were the Scott Memorial Window in Christ Church Cathedral, and the windows in the Waiapu Anglican Cathedral, Nelson.

The Symbols of the Four Evangelists was given in memory of Sister Agnes Dick McMillan, 1885-1972. She had been ordained a deaconess in 1915, one of 175 who belonged to the Order of Deaconesses from 1901-1975. (They received training almost identical to that of ministers, but they were never ordained to the Ministry of the Word and Sacrament.)

Sister Agnes was Sub-Matron in the Christchurch Children's Home and then, from 1915 to 1919, she was the deaconess at Tokomairiro Church in Milton. From 1920 until she retired in 1952, she was the Congregational Deaconess at Knox Church Christchurch.

Sister Agnes lived in her family home on Dyers Pass Road, just opposite Whisby Track, and attended Cashmere Presbyterian Church. Her service to the Church would have involved assisting the Minister, visiting members of the Parish, teaching the Bible Class, leading Bible Class camps, and taking Prayer Groups.

In the early fifties she drove a small Ford Prefect which she had repainted grey. Geoff Walls recalls her speeding up Dyers Pass Road, always in first gear. Most people were in awe of her. She always dressed in navy, her deaconess uniform, and was rarely seen without her navy hat but when she did take it off her hair was drawn back into a tight bun. She is remembered as rather severe, but probably was rather shy.

She was the sister of another long time member of the Cashmere Church Congregation, Helen Edith Parsonson, in whose memory was dedicated the "*Angels of the Emotions* window (also known as the "1 Corinthians 13 window", with its symbols of Faith, Hope and Love). Their Niece, Helen Shirlaw was also an active member of the congregation.

If anyone has any further memories or information about Sister Agnes it would be helpful if they could forward these to the Church office for keeping in the Archives. Thank you.

"'Spiritualism-lite', or 'spiritual bypassing' as some call it, is when we cherry-pick the nice, dreamy 'rainbows and unicorns' parts of a spiritual tradition and leave out the chunks that require sacrifice, service and a deep injection of moral courage—the hard stuff. It's taking the forgiveness without confession …"

"The diet version of the original spiritual texts and wisdoms dodges the hard parts that demand something of us, instead enabling a certain unsatisfying indulgent and cocooning smallness."

Sarah Wilson: 'This one and precious life'

Advance Notice:

"MY FAIR LADY" SING-A-LONG

Sunday 23rd May, from 3pm

An event for the whole community.

Keep an eye on our website and Facebook page for more details, but make a note in your diary now!

Missions: Equipping for Post-Colonial Life

Missionaries all around the world have played a huge role in preparing scores of countries for life after colonialism. They have developed educational establishments, developed written forms for the languages, established healthcare systems, set the countries on a path to economic independence, and modelled the way of Jesus. They have set up churches in diverse societies, to provide both vision, and also the spiritual nourishment to sustain it.

A New Zealand Presbyterian example is Vanuatu, where Ian Clarke built the Onesua High School, and Lynley supported him when he returned to build the Navota Farm School.

Lynley writes:

I think it was in 1970 that Rev. Paddy Jansen was deputising as Principal of the Bible Training Institute on the island of Tangoa in the New Hebrides. He saw that viable land use and cattle husbandry could be introduced to provide a sustainable income for the native inhabitants. He was given a vision of a Farm School, where young native men could come to learn these skills. My husband, Ian Clarke, had previously worked for 3 years (1956-58) for the Presbyterian Church of the New Hebrides and the P. J. Twomey Leprosy Trust. This was on the more southern Islands of Efate, Tanna and Lamenu. A call was given for a builder to construct the Navota Farm School on the south coast of Espiritu Santo. From 1972- 74, we went as a family with 3 children (aged 8, 9, and 10).

We lived in a bamboo house, I cooked on a double-burner kerosene stove, and washed the family's clothes in the river. The children were home-schooled with Correspondence School lessons. We had electricity for 4 hours in the evening and slept under mosquito netting. We did without so many of the things we count essential here in NZ. We lived a very simple life, enjoying tropical fruits and foods, yet we were completely happy. I was able to use my nursing skills to benefit the local community and Ian passed on his building expertise to young men who, during the project, came from neighbouring villages to provide the necessary labour.

Through God's amazing provision, just before and during this time, we know, for a certainty, that this was God's plan for us.

Helen Wells also spent time in Vanuatu, serving there twice. She went there with Voluntary Service Abroad in 1966, and then again ten years later, following cyclone Pam. She taught English in a Presbyterian Church School on East Malekula, and then in Tailua Ministry Training Centre.

Again under VSA, she spent time as a hospital pharmacist in Western Samoa.

Then, for twenty years she served in Thailand with the Overseas Mission Fund (OMF); for much of that time she was caring for missionaries taking space away from their demanding post. Finally, Helen retired home to Christchurch in 2013.

Helen Wells (far right) at the Christian Convention Centre at Manorom, in Central Thailand, in 2011

Thanks, once again, to our own Culinary Researcher, Chef Robert at The Curiosity Shop, for sharing his recipes with us.

These receipts date back to the period pre 900AD and come from the Norse region. The Angels Food would be served with soft fruits or could have been used either as a stand alone food or it may have been put on some form of grain meal.

ANGELS FOOD

Ingredients:

300 Fresh Ricotta Cheese
1 – 2 Tbsp Honey or Sugar
1 – 2 Tbsp Rose Water

Method: Fluff the Ricotta with a fork. Then whisk in the Honey (or Sugar) and flavour to Taste.

CREAM SCONES

The easiest and most reliable approach to mixing the butter into the dry ingredients is to use a food processor fitted with a steel blade. Resist the urge to eat the scones hot out of the oven. Letting them cool for at least 10 minutes firms them up and improves their texture.

Ingredients:

2 cups unbleached all-purpose flour (I use Stone-ground Flour from Ashburton)
1 tablespoon baking powder
3 tablespoons sugar
1/2 teaspoon salt
5 tablespoons chilled unsalted butter, cut into 1/4-inch cubes
1/2 cup currants
1 cup heavy cream

Method:

1. Adjust oven rack to middle position and heat oven to 220 degrees C.
2. Place flour, baking powder, sugar, and salt in large bowl or work bowl of food processor fitted with steel blade. Whisk together or pulse six times.
3. If making by hand, use two knives, a pastry blender, or your fingertips and quickly cut in butter until mixture resembles coarse breadcrumbs, with a few slightly larger butter lumps. Stir in currants. If using food processor, remove cover and distribute butter evenly over dry ingredients. Cover and pulse 12 times, each pulse lasting 1 second. Add currants and pulse one more time. Transfer dough to large bowl.
4. Stir in heavy cream with rubber spatula or fork until dough begins to form, about 30 seconds.
5. Transfer dough and all dry, floury bits to countertop and knead dough by hand just until it comes together into a rough, slightly sticky ball, 5 to 10 seconds. Cut scones into 8 wedges (or shape into squares or circles). Place wedges on ungreased baking sheet. (Baking sheet can be wrapped in plastic and refrigerated for up to 2 hours.)
6. Bake until scone tops are light brown, 12 to 15 minutes. Cool on wire rack for at least 10 minutes. Serve warm or at room temperature.

Preety Amin

In 2007, members of the Cashmere congregation sent money to India to assist Reverend Ashish and Hezel Amin to have artificial insemination. David Troughton had met them at Christian Medical College, Ludhiana, Punjab, where they were both doing a Christian Clinical Counselling course, which New Zealand had funded.

Prayer was answered, the treatment was successful, and Preety was born on 8th December 2008!

Now Cashmere is assisting her in her education, making a contribution from funds raised through the Trade Aid stall. The remainder of her fees are being donated .

Ashish is the minister of the Church of North India Ellisbridge Church, Ahmedabad, Gujurat, India.

He gained a Masters degree for a thesis he did on the emotional aspects of infertility and artificial insemination.

The Back Page

for the young & young at heart

The First Easter

friends tomb stone soldiers angel

When Jesus died his were sad. They put him in a

A large was place in front of the . stood nearby

to see that no one rolled the away.

For 3 days Jesus' body lay in the . Then in the morning

of the third day, an came and rolled the away. When the

saw the , they were afraid.

That day Jesus' came to the . They saw that the

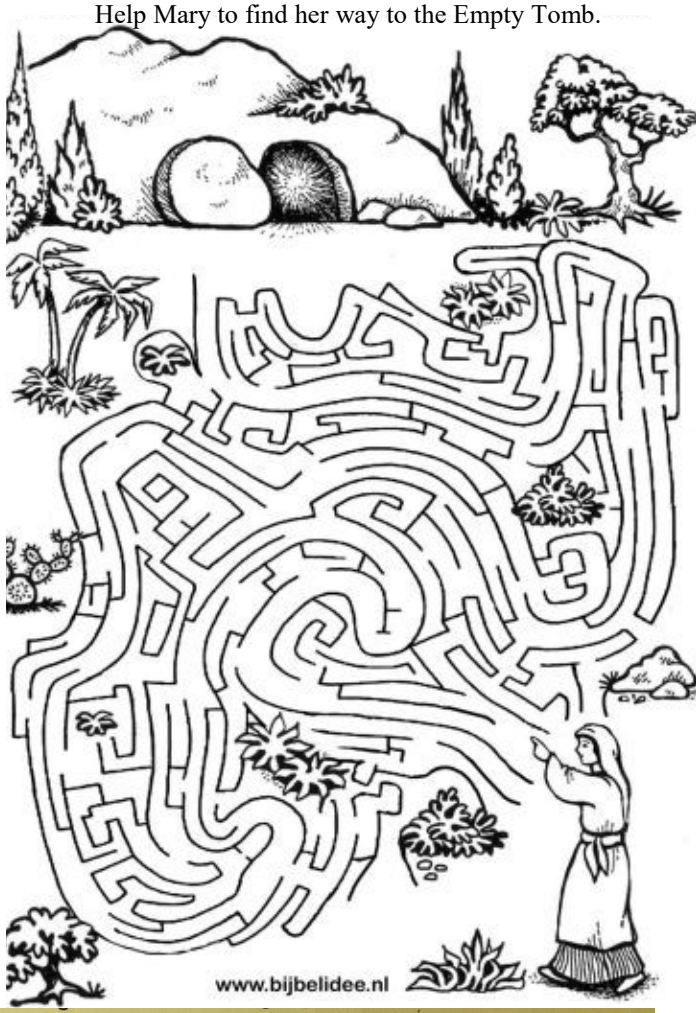
had been rolled away. There was an in the . The

said, "He is not here: for he is risen."

Jesus died so that we can all live again after we die. We have

Easter to remind everyone of the day Jesus arose from the dead.

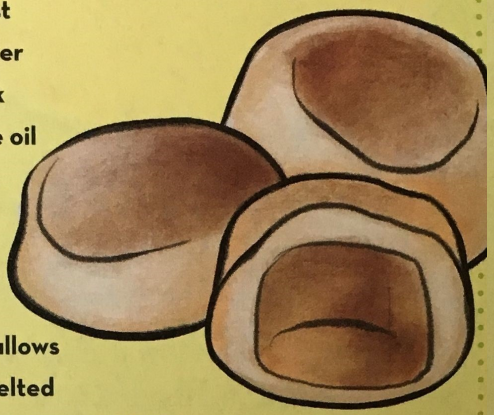
Help Mary to find her way to the Empty Tomb.



Easter Rolls

Be sure to get an adult's help.

1 tablespoon yeast
1/4 cup warm water
3/4 cup warm milk
1/4 cup vegetable oil
1/4 cup sugar
1 teaspoon salt
1 egg, beaten
3 1/2 cups flour
28 large marshmallows
1/2 cup butter, melted
2 tablespoons cinnamon and 1/2 cup sugar, mixed



1. Put the yeast in the warm water and set it aside. In a large bowl, mix the milk, oil, sugar, and salt. Add the egg and the yeast mixture to the large bowl and stir. Stir in half the flour. Keep adding flour and stirring until dough forms. Knead lightly.
2. Roll the dough out 1/2 inch (1 cm) thick and cut into 28 squares. Dip marshmallows into butter, then cinnamon sugar. Put a marshmallow on each square.
3. Stretch the dough around the marshmallow and pinch the edges well to seal. Dip the top of the dough in butter, then cinnamon sugar. Place pinched-side down on a greased or foil-lined pan.
4. Cover with plastic wrap and let rise at least 2 hours. If you're going to make rolls on Friday and bake on Sunday, put them in the freezer Friday night so they don't over-rise. Put them back in the fridge Saturday night.
5. Take the rolls out of the fridge 1 hour before baking. Let the rolls rise double in size before baking. Bake at 350°F (180°C) for 15-20 minutes or until light brown. Eat while warm.

Tip: You can also use premade dough and skip steps 1 and 4.

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Your Visitor is:

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Phone……..