

Cashmere Connection

Cashmere Presbyterian Church—linking with its community

Issue Number Eighty eight—Winter 2017

News from the Clerks

Coordinator for Families and Youth Ministry

Cashmere Parish Council supported employing a Coordinator for the Family and Youth Ministry to further assist our Minister, Silvia, with her efforts at Cashmere. The idea was enthusiastically supported in Council, with the one stipulation that funding of the \$20,000 needed to cover a one year fixed term was gained! Thanks to grants from Presbyterian Church Trusts, and a generous donation from our Foot Clinic, the challenge to the congregation—which they rose to admirably—was to raise \$7,500 and now the target has been achieved. A wonderful response: Green light!! Council are delighted to have support for this very important work for the future of our ministry at Cashmere.

So it is onward and forward! ***Applications are now called for, for a Coordinator for Family and Youth Ministry***; one year fixed term, 15 Hours per week. Hopefully after a later review this will be extended.

What qualities will we be looking for in an applicant?

- a living faith in Jesus Christ
- ability in leading worship with youth and a heart for intergenerational faith development
- to be good with people, warm, a good listener, a sense of humour
- to be a team player, willing to bring ideas and gifts and work alongside others
- respect the values of the Cashmere Presbyterian Church
- a positive, prayerful, creative and encouraging approach
- competency in administrative and computer skills to ensure effective communication and planning
- to be a safe person for kids to get close to (willing to commit to the PCANZ Code of Ethics)
- a clear Police check

The position will include the following contribution

Work collaboratively with our minister Silvia in developing and leading our programmes with particular focus on youth and families in the areas of:

Strategic Development:

- ⇒ assist Cashmere Parish to grow in our capacity and ministry with youth and families.
- ⇒ Lead our Church in a self-review process to identify strengths and needs as the basis for future years' focus.

Pastoral Relationships:

- ⇒ foster relationships with families with Cashmere Presbyterian Church affiliation and respond to their needs.
- ⇒ This will include social events and communication links.

Community Connections:

- ⇒ identify projects and build on relationships with our local community.
- ⇒ This may include networking with community groups and building on the current use of Cashmere facilities and talents.

Church Experience:

- ⇒ work with Silvia to further develop intergenerational worship plans that advance youth involvement.

A full position description is available from the Church Office, with applications closing 29th May.

We look forward to an early appointment and exciting times ahead!

Anne Shave and Bruce Leadbetter
(Joint Parish Clerks)



Communion Service: We extend an invitation to all to join us for the quarterly Communion Service on Sunday 11th June (combined with Family Service).

Silvia on her travels



Our Minister, Silvia Purdie, is currently on study leave, and is traveling with her son Ben. She wrote this on 27 April:

Hi folks, greetings from Rome! Ben and I have had a wonderful week in Italy, after brief adventures in Hong Kong and Bavaria. We are

now in Rome, staying in an astonishing enormous historic guest house run by the catholic church, mostly for priests from around the world, but they seem okay about taking in random Presbyterians from New Zealand! We're right in the old city, with the Vatican just over the bridge and the Pantheon the other side, and museums and basilicas on ever second corner. This morning we climbed up the St Peters dome; half way up

you look down into the church and all the people seem tiny below, and at the very top you look out over the city 360 degrees. Incredible. Most of the week we have been with my family friend and namesake, Silvia, in Rapallo on the Mediterranean coast, which was most beautiful. It was a special time with her and her husband, who were very kind and generous hosts.

I have been putting lots of photos and reflections on my website: www.conversations.net.nz, with various pages in the 'Trip' section. I hope you enjoy sharing in my journey. I'll keep adding in material as we go.

Two more days and we're off to Israel. Unfortunately I picked up a sore throat on our first flight which turned into a cough, so please pray for good health and energy for me and Ben, especially for the time in Israel.

Lots of love and best wishes to you all, *Silvia*

Elders' Night and Decision-Making

The open Elders' Meeting held on 2nd May was a lively and sparky activity, which we enjoyed very much. Claire Ayres (Life, Business, and Intentional Leadership Coach) and her husband Barry, the Alpine Presbytery Executive Officer, led us in considering how our personality pre-dispositions influence our decisions. One vehicle for doing this is the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator. Of the four types, according to this system, (Extraversion/Introversion, Sensing/Intuition, Thinking/Feeling, Judging/Perceiving), we considered Thinking/Feeling in groups. Despite the limitations and issues with this vehicle, it was a very worthwhile exercise for us to share in.

Right: Clare and Rev Barry Ayers



Mission Birthday Gifts

An outreach of Presbyterian Women Aotearoa NZ

The Mission Birthday gifts are one of the taonga of our past. Over 100 years ago the Rev H J Fletcher, working in the Presbyterian Church's Maori Mission, made the suggestion that if every Presbyterian gave one shilling a year all the financial needs of the Maori Mission would be met. Mrs Venables and her friends picked up the idea and it was launched in 1906, a year after the Presbyterian Women's Missionary Union (PWMU) became a national organisation.

This scheme is still operating today and is a major source of funds for our mission work. Last year \$15,840 was raised and grants were made to Mainly Music in Lebanon, Palm Project in Vanuatu, and the Pacific Conference of Churches (PCC) through Christian World Service. All of these have been reported in Bushfire (the Newsletter of Presbyterian Women Aotearoa NZ) and in the Annual Report.

If you would like to participate in the Mission Birthday Gift, please speak with Judith Harrington.

People Events

Weddings:

We congratulate and extend our best wishes to:

Robin Parr and Sam Burnell (4 March)

Nicole Dirkze and Ben Fogden (11 March)

Rhonda Ayles and David Robertson (25 March)

Junko Hirose and Kosuke Hirose (29 March)

Kelly Smit and Michael Nel (9 April)

Natasha Boon and Matthew Vannoort (15 April)

Christine Gee and Dion Manson (13 May)

Baptisms:

We welcome into the family of the church:

Lachlan Peter Bustin, son of Jamie & Heather Bustin
(18 April)

Deaths:

We extend our sympathies to the families of:

Alan Roden (14 April)

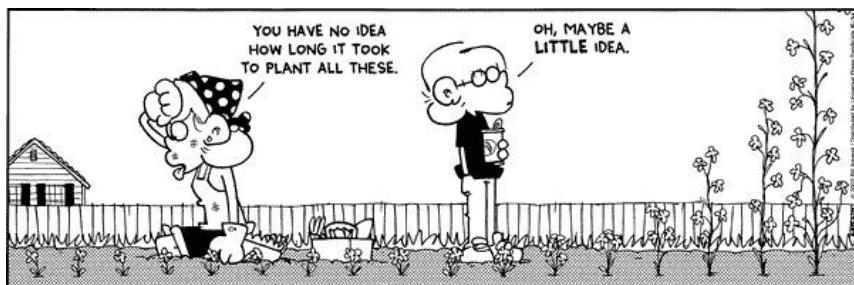
Joyce Tong (10 May)

Mildred Silvester (13 May)

PLANTARAMA

On Saturday 4th November we will be holding a Grand Plant Sale. Can you help? We will need plenty of plants and seedlings, so we are asking people who are able to, to start potting up cuttings now, so that they will be ready for sale come November.

Contact Tric Nelson for more details, and keep an eye out for more information about the sale itself nearer to the time!



Cashmere Conference 2017

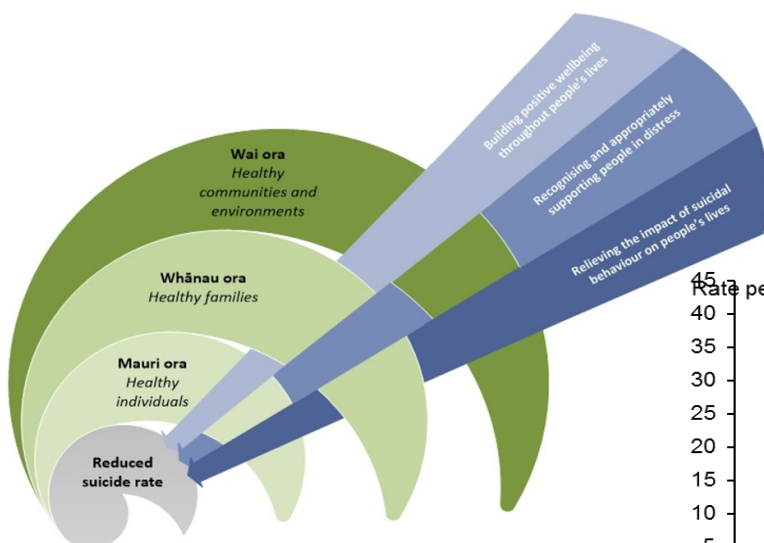
Our Cashmere Conference this year—to be held over the weekend of 22nd to 24th September—is about youth caring for each other, and the issues of youth suicide.

We look forward to the participation of several workers in this field, including Paul Humphreys, of Scripture Union New Zealand, who has prepared a programme for engaging with this question. More details will become available shortly.

The Department of Health has put out a draft strategy on reducing suicide, and this can be viewed at: www.health.govt.nz/publication/strategy-prevent-suicide-new-zealand-draft-public-consultation

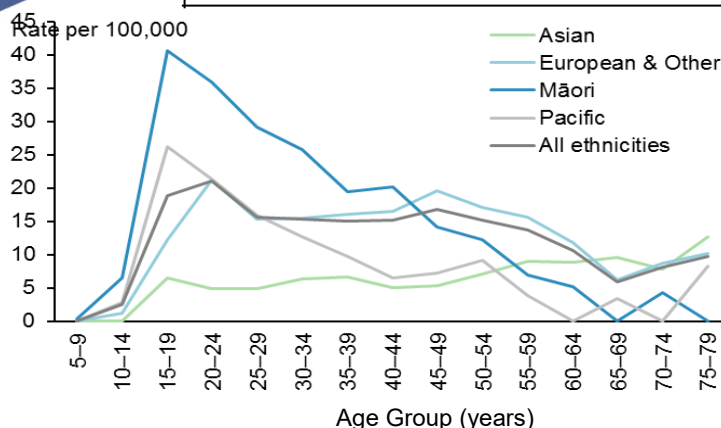
Consultation on this document is open until 11 pm, Monday 12 June.

Ka kitea te pae tawhiti. Kia mau ki te ora
See the broad horizon. Hold on to life



Above: Draft framework to prevent suicide: an overview.

Right: Suicide rates by ethnicity and five-year age group (from 5–79 years of age), 2009–2013



Older Adults Network

Our church is a hub in the community, with a wide range of activities centred here. As well, every six weeks we are represented at a meeting of the Older Adults Network of the Cashmere-Spreydon Community Board. There are representatives of many community groups involved with Older Adults, who share what they are doing, as well as representatives of various parts of the City Council Departments, who also contribute. Usually some practical aspect of the council's work is highlighted, and we keep them up to date with our plans and events. A weekly newsletter is produced which keeps everyone informed about upcoming events.

How do we fill in the gaps?

The Bible tells us that Jesus cared deeply about the social causes around him.

Instead of saying all lives matter,
Jesus said, "Samaritan lives matter."
Instead of saying all lives matter,
Jesus said, "Children's lives matter."
Instead of saying all lives matter,
Jesus said, "Gentile lives matter."
Instead of saying all lives matter,
Jesus said, "Jewish lives matter."
Instead of saying all lives matter,
Jesus said, "Women's lives matter."
Instead of saying all lives matter,
Jesus said, "Lepers' lives matter."

Even though Jesus loves everyone, even to the point of dying for their sins, he went out of his way intentionally to help specific groups of people—the alienated, mistreated, and those facing injustice.

Stephen Mattson, Sojourners.

And in New Zealand, how do we fill in the gaps?

Instead of saying all lives matter,
I say, ".....lives matter."
Instead of saying all lives matter,
I say, ".....lives matter."

“What does Aspiehelp actually do up there?”

Aspiehelp have had their offices located at Cashmere Presbyterian Centre for some years, and recently relocated to two of the upstairs rooms in Church House. Leith McMurray has been telling us a bit more about them.

What is Aspiehelp?

We are an organisation which supports and advocates for people on the Autism Spectrum (also called Asperger Syndrome), who may not be as confident as they would like to be, and who need advice on getting along in what is called “normal” society.

But Aspie people look just like me.

Well of course – we all mostly look pretty average, and are definitely human!

What makes them different?

The key is in our brain structure (neurology). Our brains are differently wired from those who are not on the Autism Spectrum, which means we think in clearly different ways, and have different reactions to the general population. We may have overwhelming sensitivities, and our social skills are often “a bit rough” by societal standards. The important thing to remember is that these things are not a matter of choice, so cannot be overcome by a bit more determination and imagination. It can take a lot of determination simply to get through each day when they are frequently being misunderstood, undermined and put down for being different, or undervalued because their ideas are different. This is very tiring!

So what is the cure?

No cure is possible – or even wanted! Most Aspies actually like the way they are and enjoy the company of others like them, who can be vastly entertaining. However, there is a constant need for Aspies to find advocates and resources to smooth the path for them in order that they can have a reasonable - even spectacular - life. They can be amazingly creative and inventive and it is safe to say that our civilisation has advanced thanks to Aspies; many of those responsible for dreaming up techniques and machines which have served to power progress over the centuries have been Aspies. How do we know this? Because scientists studying the human genome have said that the genes for autism are among the most ancient to be found in there.

So – what do you actually do?

Aspiehelp throws in some community work and a lot of Social Work, including advocacy, counselling, information about Aspie-friendly resources, advice on schooling and employment, and a lot of reassurance and encouragement. Our clients are usually either already diagnosed or are wondering whether they should be thinking about it. The adults have endured a lifetime of “not fitting in” and not understanding why. Parents bring their children who are being bullied at school or not being accommodated for and need advice/suggestions about what they can do. Some marriages are on the rocks because one or both spouses is Aspie and finding life increasingly difficult.

We have a specialist library which clients can borrow from, and run two social groups: a fortnightly one during the day for women, and an evening one in Riccarton twice a month. We are pretty busy and have had to extend our hours another day a week from when we began.

Are there other Aspiehelp groups?

We are the only organisation of its kind in the entire South Island and know of none quite the same in the North Island. Our profile is quite well-known now, and we are embarking on an all-Aspie “round-up” to be held at the University of Canterbury in November—the first one of its kind in NZ! Planning is well underway. Fees will be held down for Aspies and their families, but others (professionals etc) will be expected to pay “usual” prices. Further details to follow, and we hope to hold a “taster” event at the Church centre in mid-winter.

Sunday Worship Programme May to August

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Service</i>
28 May	10am	Morning Worship (Rev Glenn Livingstone)
4 June	10am	Morning Worship (Rev Silvia Purdie)
11 June	10am	Family Service, with Communion (Rev Silvia Purdie)
18 June	10am	Morning Worship (Rev Dugald Wilson)
	11.30am	Healing Service
25 June	10am	Morning Worship (Rev Silvia Purdie)
2 July	10am	Morning Worship (Rev Silvia Purdie)
9 July	10am	Family Service (Rev Silvia Purdie)
16 July	10am	Morning Worship (Rev Silvia Purdie)
	11.30am	Healing Service
23 July	10am	Morning Worship (Guest Preacher)
30 July	10am	Morning Worship (Rev Silvia Purdie)
6 August	10am	Morning Worship (Rev Silvia Purdie)
13 August	10am	Family Service, combined with St Martin's
20 August	10am	Morning Worship (Rev Silvia Purdie)
	11.30am	Healing Service
27 August	10am	Morning Worship

Healing Service with Communion

Held at 11.30am on the 3rd Sunday of every month. All welcome.

Musical Moments



We are very fortunate at Cashmere Presbyterian to have strong talents leading the musical components of our worship. Principal pianist, Tim Emerson, also teaches many musicians, and he has had several pupils contributing in recent services. Pictured above is Jessie Anderson on viola, with Tim on piano.

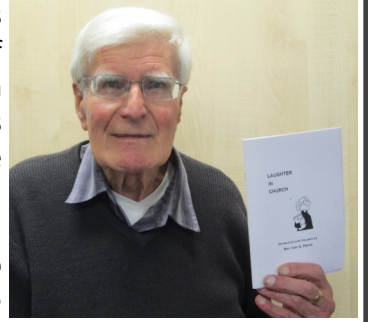
Kennedys Bush escapes fire



For several years different members of the Christian ecology group, A Rocha, have cooperated each month with City Rangers in replacing bait in traps down the trails in Kennedys Bush. They were very relieved to discover that the area had escaped damage in the Port Hills fires. Sadly, the area planted by Rotary was not so fortunate.

Laughter in Church

Rev Ivan Pierce has compiled a booklet of stories that have been included in his sermons over the years. These amusing tales enhanced his preaching, and, hopefully, helped to make the related Bible passages more meaningful.



The booklets cost \$10 each, with proceeds going to the fund for the Family & Youth Ministry coordinator. If you would like to purchase a copy please contact the church office, or speak directly to Ivan.

And just to tickle your fancy, here is an example:

The Abbot showed a visitor over the Abbey, which was both a Monastery for monks, as well as a Friary for brothers.

Shown into the kitchen the visitor asked the Abbot, "What are they preparing for dinner tonight?"

"Fish and chips," was the reply.

Looking at one man, he said, "And what does he do?"

"He's the fish Friar."

"And that one?"

"He's the chip Monk!"

CREST and the Fire

During the recent fires, CREST had a trial run, which was very informative. That experience is added to the portfolio of what we should be doing, and how to go about it. Rik Tindall of the Residents' Association sends out a call-up, and has access to our buildings.

Our initiative has stimulated some other groups to do the same. In addition to us and the Residents' Association, it involves Rotary and Cashmere Primary School, and we have made contact with the local shops—who may provide food in a serious event. We are also looking towards obtaining a power generator and water tanks, to be located at the church.

On the Burning Edge



The Port Hills fires were an unprecedented event in the history of fires in New Zealand. The Governors Bay Volunteer Fire Brigade were involved in fighting this fire from the first day, dedicating many hours to protecting homes, lives, and native bush. As a fund-raiser for the brigade, they have produced a limited edition book telling the story from the perspective of the Governors Bay community.

On The Burning Edge will be available from the end of May at a cost of \$30 each. Copies can be ordered from <https://goo.gl/forms/8SVLRKhKeaJ72VRz1> and can be collected from Governors Bay, or posted (postage additional), or speak to Gail in the Church Office.

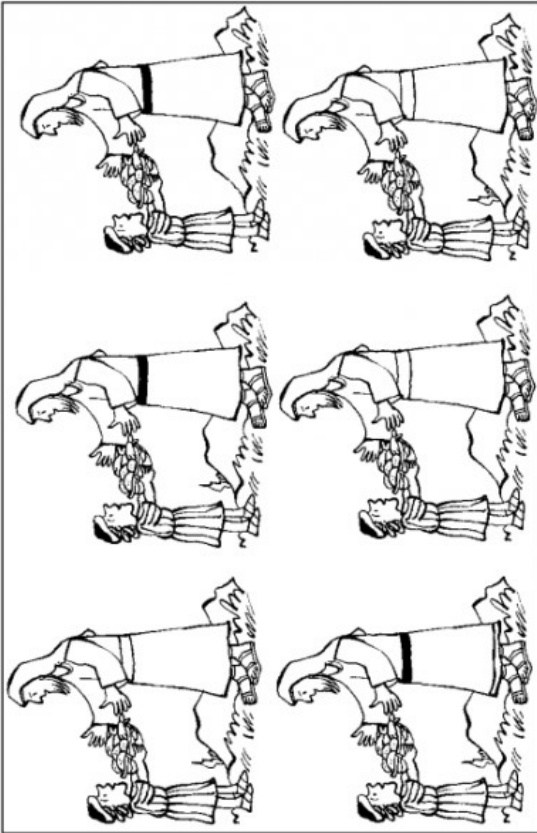
The Back Page

for the young and young at heart

Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand

Matthew 14:13-21

Jesus fed over five thousand people with five loaves of bread and two fish. Some words from this story are hidden in the basket. Try to find all the words listed below.

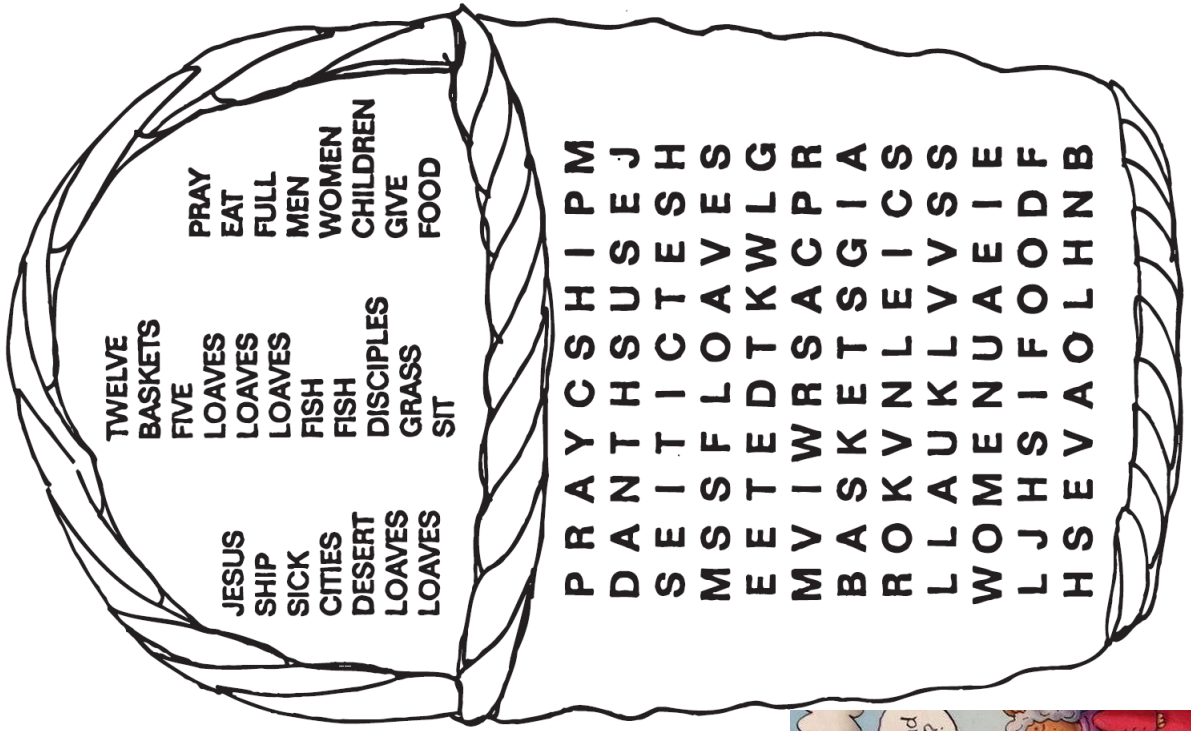
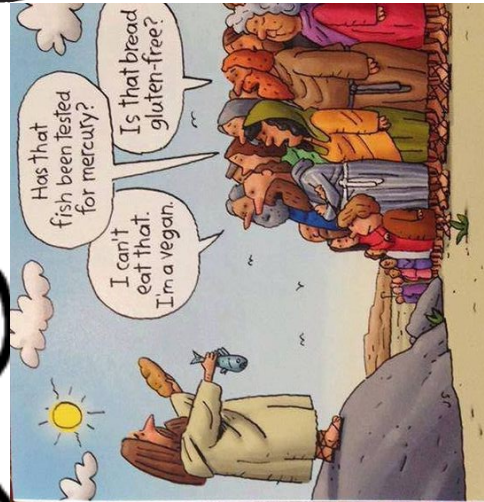


Which two pictures are exactly the same?



Multitude Maze

Help the hungry multitude walk through the maze to where Jesus is waiting with loaves and fish.



P R A Y C S H I P M
D A N T H S U S E S H J
S E I T I C A V E L G
M E E T F L O T K W L P R
M B A K V N L S G I C S
R L A U E N L V E I S S E
W J H S I F O O D N B
L S E V A O L H N B

Minister:
Rev Silvia Purdie BA BTheol
Phone 027 242 1113

Parish Office:
Office Administrator: Gail Weaver
2 MacMillan Ave, Cashmere
Phone: 332-7129; fax: 332-7130
email: office@cashmerechurch.org.nz

website: www.cashmerechurch.org.nz

Your Visitor is:

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Phone.....