

*Feel free to pass this Newsletter on to others who may be interested in what is going on. A printable version of this Newsletter will be available on our website soon after this has been emailed - go to <http://www.cashmerechurch.org.nz/news.html>*

### New Youth Group

We are super excited to be beginning our new youth programme. We started with a social night on Friday 11th May, with 6 young people enjoying a great night of pizza, games and spa at the Campbell's home.

The group decided on the name **Hilltop Youth** and brainstormed what we wanted to do for the term. It was wonderful to have two junior leaders from Cashmere High join us to support our youth.

Looking forward, we have three more nights for this term and would love to see any other year 6-10 youth join us to meet new people, have some fun and learn more about Christianity and Jesus.

*Hilltop Youth relaxing in the spa, after a busy evening of pizza and games*

### Kowhai Kids - Cashmere Presbyterian Church's Children's Programme



Kowhai Kids

Preschool - Year 8      Sundays @ 10am



**Friday 6:30-8pm**  
**25th May**  
**8th June**  
**29th June**  
**Years 6-10**

## Hilltop Youth

Cashmere Presbyterian Youth  
 Contact Paige: 0278204087  
[www.cashmerechurch.org.nz](http://www.cashmerechurch.org.nz)



Paige and the team have been working hard to shape up our new children's programme on Sundays. The teaching programme is based on the Jesus Storybook Bible, which all families receive at baptism. *(If you don't have one at home, just ask and we'll give you one.)* Sessions will also include music, games and craft. The children join in with worship for the first 15 minutes, then go down to the Kowhai Lounge.

After the session the children will stay in the Kowhai Lounge for their morning tea, and are picked up from there.

Enrolment: We have set up a new online registration process so that we have the information we need about the kids. If you haven't already done so, please click on the link and fill it in:

[https://cashmerechurch.infoodle.com/form\\_process?g=b9b3448d-ea80-444c-8c30-a9ccea26b15d](https://cashmerechurch.infoodle.com/form_process?g=b9b3448d-ea80-444c-8c30-a9ccea26b15d)

*This information will be kept confidential to the Cashmere Presbyterian Church.*

## **From the Minister: Sick of being sick?**

It's no fun being unwell. I have recently had the flu and it's taking a while to shake the fatigue. I normally have good health, and as you have probably noticed by now, I enjoy being busy and getting things done. While tucked up in bed I've been reading about personality types. The writer, Richard Rohr, has some challenges for my personality, with its need to achieve all the time. My personality type, he writes, "must learn to stand still now and then and stop the eternal hunt for new successes and projects." He notes that being sick is especially difficult: "One of the life tasks is to grasp sickness as a signal, a chance for transformation." (*The Enneagram, A Christian Perspective*). I am trying to listen, and be patient. God's not done with me yet!

How do you face being ill?

One of the difficult things about being sick is that it is hard to think straight or to concentrate for long, even on a good book. And it can be hard to pray. It's easier to feel grumpy or sorry for yourself. But God is with us even in that. Psalms are great in this, like numbers 38, 42, 57, 88. For me, it helps to remind myself that God is my Good Shepherd, holding and leading me even when I don't feel it. It's OK to be grumpy with God and complain to him about the hard things in life. God's compassion and care is far bigger than our troubles. Often the answer to prayer sounds a lot like "Keep Calm and Carry On". Or, in Biblical language, Psalm 42:8, "The Lord will send his faithful love by day ... and by night". "Trust in the Lord" (Psalm 27:14).

*Silvia Purdie*

Here is a simple version of Psalm 130:

### **Out of the depths**

**I cry out to you, O God**

I'm in too deep, I'm out of my depth  
Save me!

**I wait for you, O God**

The night is long, too long  
and I wait for the light of dawn.

**I hope in you, O God**

for your love breaks through -  
great power to save,  
**great power to save!**

## **Winter Lunch - 10th June**

On **Sunday 10th June** you are invited to join us for a Soup & Rolls lunch in the Rata Lounge. Cost is \$5 per person. Please RSVP to the Church Office (332 7129) or Cecile Pierce (352 4755).



## **Girls Morning Tea**

Join us on **Wednesday 30th May**, 10am, for morning tea at the cafe at Nazareth House. All Welcome. Phone Helen on 326 7136 or 022 0759661

## Exploring the Experiences of Churchgoers in Midlife

Anne Shave, a parishioner at Cashmere Presbyterian Church, was recently awarded her doctorate in Theology at the University of Otago. Anne's research focused on the experiences of New Zealand churchgoers aged between 40 and 60.

It would be fair to say that within many churches in New Zealand the spiritual and pastoral needs of people in midlife are less frequently the focus of attention than those of people at other stages of life. However, the complexity of this life stage means that it has the potential to be a time of discovery and spiritual growth. Anne's research included interviews with 20 Anglican, Presbyterian and Catholic churchgoers, 10 members of the clergy, and 10 spiritual directors. Anne asked participants to reflect on the opportunities and challenges of midlife and the place of faith and church involvement in responding to these.

Psychologist Margie Lachman suggests that the "central issues" of midlife centre around "generativity, caring and concern for others in the work and family spheres." However, at the same time as dealing with these responsibilities, people in midlife are also addressing "their own needs for meaningful work (paid or unpaid), health, and well-being. The need to balance multiple roles and manage the conflicts that arise is a reality that is characteristic of middle age, regardless of one's specific lifestyle or circumstances."<sup>[1]</sup> At midlife certain developmental tasks, which "often go beyond conscious awareness,"<sup>[2]</sup> may also assume importance. The developmental tasks of midlife, although understood and described in a variety of ways by different authors, include learning to cope with significant and often cumulative losses, adjusting to a changing perspective of time and one's own mortality, integration of sometimes surprising and often conflicting aspects of self, values clarification, and dealing with aspects of the past while looking towards the future. As Lynne Baab points out, in *Embracing Midlife: Congregations as Support Systems*, people who are involved in faith communities are likely to look to their faith for answers when these issues arise. Midlife churchgoers who spoke to Anne described aspects of their church involvement that they valued and from which they derived support – including elements of worship services, fellowship with other Christians and participation in a range of small groups, ministries and programmes within and beyond their parishes. This table summarises many of the interviewees' comments.



### What do 40-60 year old churchgoers value about church?

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ Sense of community and communion (with the wider church throughout the world and throughout history)</li><li>❖ Shared values and beliefs</li><li>❖ Participation in sacraments, especially communion</li><li>❖ Worship (music – range of styles) and teaching</li><li>❖ Sense of relationship with trusted clergy</li><li>❖ Care of children and families and intergenerational connections</li><li>❖ Small groups – men and women both appreciated – but some found hard to attend on a regular basis</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>❖ Some people appreciate being able to contribute – but more selective about ministries in midlife than earlier in life – some withdrawing from roles</li><li>❖ Quiet, prayerful space – churches being open, contemplative services, silence, retreats</li><li>❖ Various programmes offered within parishes, such as marriage courses, DVD series, social opportunities, theological education</li><li>❖ Spiritual direction and/or counselling</li><li>❖ Practical and spiritual support at times of crisis</li></ul> |
|--|---|

Interviewees also described a range of ways in which churches might offer further support to people in midlife. Their suggestions, and further findings from Anne's research, might be reported on in a future issue of *The Cashmere Connection*.

<sup>[1]</sup> Margie E. Lachman, "Development in Midlife." *Annual Review of Psychology*, Vol. 55 (February 2004): 305-306

<sup>[2]</sup> Raymond Studzinski, *Spiritual Direction and Midlife Development*, Loyola University Press (Chicago, 1985), 40

## Poem for Remembrance Day "The inquisitive mind of a child"

Why are they selling poppies, Mummy?  
selling poppies in town today.  
The poppies, child, are flowers of love,  
for the men who marched away.

But why have they chosen a poppy, Mummy?  
Why not a beautiful rose?  
Because my child, men fought and died  
in the fields where the poppies grow.

But why are the poppies so red, Mummy?  
Why are the poppies so red?  
Red is the colour of blood, my child,  
the blood that our soldiers shed.

The heart of the poppy is black, Mummy.  
Why does it have to be black?  
Black, my child, is the symbol of grief  
for the men who never came back.

But why, Mummy, are you crying so?  
Your tears are giving you pain.  
My tears are my fears for you my child,  
for the world is forgetting again.

Author unknown

## Sunday Worship

All at 10am unless otherwise noted

- 27th May** Morning Worship  
*visiting Preacher:*  
*Glen Livingstone*
- 3rd June** Communion Service
- 10th June** Family Service
- 17th June** Morning Worship: *Hospital  
Chaplaincy Focus*  
11.30am Healing Service
- 24th June** Morning Worship
- 1st July** Morning Worship
- 8th July** Family Service
- 15th July** Morning Worship  
11.30am Healing Service
- 22nd July** Morning Worship
- 29th July** 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.

---

## A Versatile Space

The Cashmere Presbyterian Church Centre stands proudly on the hill, and is certainly a landmark – and great for giving people directions (“the stone church on the hill – by the bus stop!”)

Being well built all those years ago, and with the improvements made in 2009, it is a strong, safe building, welcoming and with lots of versatility.

You are probably aware of some of the groups that use the rooms here – Christchurch Parents Centre run ante-natal and parent-craft classes several times a week, Karate classes twice a week, Pre-School Music weekly, Cashmere Garden Club monthly, and Tango dances regularly, to name a few. But did you know that the facilities can be hired by other community groups and individuals as well?

The Rata Lounge is the largest room, which is best suited to large meetings and celebrations. It has a modern kitchen attached to it, plenty of chairs and tables, sound system, and carpeted areas around the lovely wooden floor, which is great for dancing.

Two different set ups of the Rata Lounge



The smaller Kowhai Lounge (right) is fully carpeted, with a small kitchen next to it, and is great for more intimate gatherings and small group meetings.



We are also open to enquiries for some concerts in the church itself, which has great acoustics, a grand piano and, of course, the organ.

If you would like to know more about the facilities, phone the office on 332 7129 and speak to Gail, or email her [atcashmere.church@xtra.co.nz](mailto:atcashmere.church@xtra.co.nz)

## Profile: Gail Weaver

Gail has been running our church office since 2002, joining Cashmere Presbyterian when her youngest son was just a baby. She finds it a bit alarming to realise that he is now an adult – and towers over her!

Whilst she has a strong grasp of all sorts of office procedures, she can sometimes be heard muttering crossly when “the computer is answering back!” Nevertheless, the weekly service sheets, quarterly newsletters, and annual reports all appear on time; the website is kept up-to-date, and all enquiries are answered in an efficient and friendly manner.



Emigrating from England 23 years ago, Gail and her husband soon adjusted to the more laid-back lifestyle of New Zealand, and embraced the concept of building their own home – not something that is common to do in the UK, even now. Settling into their local community, Gail became involved in her local parish (Anglican, we’re afraid, but, as she puts it “Someone has to keep these Presbyterians in order!”), and Stuart joined the local Volunteer Fire Brigade – he was very involved in fighting the Port Hills Fires last year, and is now Deputy Chief there.

Gail also does office support work for the Alpine Presbytery, but she does have some spare time during which she does lots of clothes sewing for herself, and enjoys day trips out with Stuart in their Morgan sports car.

She runs the office cheerfully, and always seems to have the answers to any queries – or can find them quickly. We have told her quite firmly that, if she ever wants to leave, she needs to give 5 years notice!

**PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN OF  
AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND**

**We are at the Well**



**Dr Deborah Bowers**  
Inspirational speaker,  
Theologian,  
Spiritual life coach

Thursday 21 June 2018

7pm - 9pm

Rata Lounge, Cashmere

Presbyterian Church

2 Macmillan Avenue, Christchurch

No cost

Dessert and Coffee

**ALL WELCOME**

**People Events**

**Baptisms**

We welcome into the family of the Church:

**Edward Douglas Moir & Madeleine Grace Moir**  
son and daughter of Matthew & Charlotte Moir  
(4 March)

**Everley Florence Armstrong**  
daughter of Travers & Katrina Armstrong (8 April)

**Maisie Colleen Bustin**  
daughter of Jamie & Heather Bustin (6 May)

**Weddings**

We congratulate and extend our best wishes to:

**Georgia Broom & Jeffrey Robinson** (16 February)  
**Isabel Pauta de Luca & James Bowen** (24  
February)

**Grace Johns & Christian Fischer** (10 March)  
**Victoria Toner & Benjamin Threadwell** (24 March)

**Su-Jung Kwon & Jiho Seong** (7 April)

**Rachel Badger & Grant Pienaar** (20 April)

**Narishka Popich & Brent Stone** (21 April)

**Eira Stark & James Anderson** (5 May)

**Deaths**

We extend our sympathies to the families of:

**Jock McPhail** (23 February)

**Dot McDonald** (2 March)

**Jean Simson** (8 March)

**Gladys Dearness** (26 March)

**Jim Berry** (31 March)

What's happening? What's on? What's being thought about?

The answers to these questions and more can be found on our website: [cashmerechurch.org.nz](http://cashmerechurch.org.nz).

Here you will find links to our calendar, details of our services and facilities, and you can also download and read recent Sermons, and weekly Bulletins.