



*Growing in Christian faith, love and action we responsibly  
and joyfully care for God's earth and all people.*

## Derek's Drift

<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>
Release Harvest Risk Transition Grief Unknowing Vibrant Ending	Darkness Alone Resting Death Waiting Regeneration Weeping
<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>
Others Productivity Grateful Gift Community Laughter Green Coming back Re-turning	New Life Opportunity Grace Potential New beginning Opening Light

Read the lists in the columns. Thinking of St Andrew's as a whole, which column feels like us?

Turn to page 2 and read on.



Each column can represent a season, where A is Autumn, B is Winter, C is Summer and D is Spring.

It could be said that St Andrew's is in one of those seasons and, just as in reality each season leads to the next, we can expect St Andrew's to be moving through the seasons in turn. For some particular examples, we can be out of season but, in general, we will find one column tends to reflect us quite accurately.

This is a model which the retiring Moderator, Andrew Norton, used at the Hanmer retreat recently and which I think is useful as a reflective tool to help us place ourselves. However, as a simple model, it can let us down if we think that the progression is automatic.

When I walk from home to here, I walk through my garden where Denise has planned and prepared; soil is cleared, new plants are made ready, old ones removed, colours are selected, and, for me, the grass is cut. Further down Redwood Street is a house where, although it is lived in, nothing is done in the garden. It is shoulder-high with plants run riot, there is no colour other than green, the soil is untended and the path to the door is simply trodden down.

Just as we need to do specific jobs in the garden for it to be sustainable, we need to apply the same process to our Parish. By careful planning and nurture, we can have a garden that is productive in every season. Jesus used different metaphors for the Apostles, after all they were fishing for people rather than digging their gardens, but the message was the same: reap as you have sown.

True story. I worked with a single Parish in which there were three centres of worship. In one, someone said, "I don't want to be excited by church." Another said, "We can't do that because ...". Someone else commented, "We tried that but ...".

In another centre, someone said, "We'd like to but we won't be allowed to do that." Another comment was, "I don't see how we can do that," and, "We're too old to be ..."



At the third centre, I was told, “What do we need if we’re going to ... ,” and, “When we’ve done this, then we can ... ,” and, “Our home group has arranged ...”

Which season do you think each of the three is in?

Which would you like to represent us?

Don’t just think about it, talk about it!



Derek

### *Rest Home Services*

You are invited to any of these services. It’s good to have people to help with hymn books, share the singing and so on. And the residents really enjoy having others come. Takes about 30 minutes. Mark these dates now.

	<i>Preacher</i>	<i>Home</i>	<i>Time</i>
Wed 9 Nov	John Buchanan	Redwood	10.30am
Friday 2 Dec	Marion Rowe	Aberleigh	11.00am
Wed 7 Dec	David Clode	Maxwell	11.00am

## **PASTORAL CARE VISITS**

Derek has reported that recently some people have missed out on important visits due to poor communication. If you are aware that someone is ill, or needs a visit because of a personal need, please contact the office or the person’s elder so an appropriate visit can be arranged.

## **SOMETHING TO CONSIDER**

Have you ever thought of leaving a bequest for St Andrew’s? It is a wonderful way to know you have helped your Church to continue and expand within the community. A bequest is an instruction in your Will to give a donation to somewhere you have been involved in during your lifetime.

**Lectionary** The following readings are set down for the next few weeks in a lectionary used by the Presbyterian and Methodist Churches in New Zealand. In St Andrew's we normally follow the lectionary except when other readings are required for special circumstances. You may wish to follow the readings even if you are unable to attend services.

<b>Date</b>	<b>1st Reading</b>	<b>Psalm</b>	<b>2nd Reading</b>	<b>Gospel</b>
November 1 All Saints	Daniel 7 1-3, 15-18	Psalm 149	Ephesians 1: 11-23	Luke 6: 20-31
November 6 Pentecost	Haggai 1: 15b-2:9	Psalm 145: 1-5, 17-21	2 Thes . 2: 1-5, `3-17	Luke 20: 27-38
November 13 Pentecost	Isaiah 65: 17-25	Isaiah 12	2 Thes 3: 6-13	Luke 21: 5-19
November 20 Reign of Christ	Jeremiah 23: 1-6	Luke 1: 68-79	Col 1: 11-20	Luke 23: 33-43
November 27 Advent 1	Isaiah 2: 1-5	Psalm 122	Romans 13: 11-14	Matthew 24: 36-44
December 4 Advent 2	Isaiah 11: 1-10	Psalm 72: 1-7, 18-19	Romans 15: 4-13	Matthew 3: 1-12
December 11 Advent 3	Isaiah 35: 1-10	Psalm 146: 5-10	James 5: 7-10	Matthew 11: 2-11
December 18 Advent 4	Isaiah 7: 10-16	Psalm 80: 1-7, 17-19	Romans 1: 1-7	Matthew 1: 18-25
December 24 Christmas Eve	Isaiah 9" 2-7	Psalm 96	Titus 2: 11-14	Luke 2: 1-14, (15-20)
December 25 Christmas Dawn	Isaiah 62: 6-12	Psalm 97	Titus 3: 4-7	Luke 2" (1-7), 8-20
December 25 Christmas Day	Isaiah 52: 7-10	Psalm 98	Hebrews 1: 1-4, (5-12)	John 1 : 1-14

“Oh how great peace and quietness would he possess who should cut off all vain anxiety and place all his confidence in God.”

Thomas A Kempis

## **GARDEN TOUR 2016**

What a success the Garden Tour was! This was very much due to the generosity of the owners who made their gardens available to us, Many people assisted in potting up plants and making produce for the stalls. Very much appreciated were the opportunities to break for refreshments and cake or the Devonshire teas, produce from the gardens and of course the book stall. Also, a number of people assisted behind the scenes in the planning, setting things up and manning the stalls.

A new innovation this year was a calendar depicting a photograph from each garden covering the twelve months. Our thanks to all who were involved in making it such a success. We raised \$5634.00.

We have been offered several gardens for next year's Garden Tour. If you would like yours to be included, have a neighbour with an interesting garden or are aware of one near you, please let Kim in the office know.

We still have some calendars available should you be interested in purchasing one as gift or to send overseas. These are available at a cost of \$10 from Theo's stall on Sundays or at the church office on weekday mornings.



## *At Last Month's Parish Council*

- Four members from St Andrew's attended the Alpine Presbytery Retreat at Hanmer in October. They heard how Presbytery is supporting what is going on in parishes.

They were disappointed there was not representation from the West Coast or from Wairau Parish.

It was encouraging to see people from a younger age group attending,

- Approval was given for a \$300 payment to Interchurch Hospital Chaplaincy.
- Adjustments are being made to pastoral districts.
- Noeline Rasmussen and Ron Moore are relinquishing their visiting duties.
- A new stove is required for the kitchen and two gas hobs are not working.
- Workshops can be made available for technical help with cell phones and i-pads if required. Occasionally these are also available in the community.
- Derek is willing to take workshops to encourage people to participate in prayers and readings in church services.
- Mission Planning for the parish needs to be done before an approach can be made to another minister. See page 8.
- A box is to be placed in the foyer where people can place ideas of their Hopes, Dreams and Wishes for the parish.
- A "Wish List" for the website has been suggested.

*Next Parish Council 15 November 2016 at 7.30 pm*

St Andrew was the theme for the evening and there were many fish to catch. We started off with a fishing contest. A big thanks to Springlands Kindy who lent us their boat for the night. A lot of fun was had fishing from it. We then went on an 'I Spy' hunt through the church and hall looking for pictures and items that represented



St Andrew's and our place of worship. Check out the notice board and see how many you can spot.

The crafts included making walnut sailing boats, painting fish pictures and constructing beautiful floating paper fish. Derek took the service for us, sharing the story of Andrew and how he brought many people from different backgrounds to Jesus. To demonstrate this he showed us whitebait, a flounder and a mackerel, who all live in different parts of the sea. It was a very fishy related evening!

Please join us this month for Cruisey Church on November the 19th at 5pm



# YOU, WE, THEM and US are going on a mission

No, not to Africa although you can if you wish to. This is our own mission. How often do we at St. Andrews ask the following questions:

- ◆ Who are we?
- ◆ Where are we placed?
- ◆ Who is God inviting us to be in this place?
- ◆ What do we sense God is inviting us to do?

We have spent much time addressing what we are in relation to our buildings and also to a certain extent what a minister should or shouldn't do but what about us?

This is not strategic planning although ultimately it can be linked. Why does St Andrews exist? why was it built? Does the building make us a church? And ultimately, if Jesus visited us tomorrow what would he want to see us doing and being?

The Alpine Presbytery has developed a team and template to take congregations through this process. There are no pre- determined answers as every parish is different and must decide the answers for themselves . Mission planning is also not a quick fix with the process taking anywhere from a few months to a year. It is a process whereby we create space to listen to God and ask him to lead us to a plan. Developing a plan is also extremely helpful to any prospective ministers as it gives them an opportunity to see what direction our parish would like to go and whether they have the passion to join us on that journey.



For those of you interested in the future direction of the parish we invite you to join us on this journey. The intention is to develop a team with guidance from presbytery mission coaches. Future pathways will be announced in the weekly bulletins, the Chronicle and from the pulpit. Please ring Marion Rowe for further questions or to register an interest if you do not regularly attend church and may miss announcements.

There will also be a dreams, hopes and wishes box in the foyer next to the parish reviews if you wish to make suggestions for the future of the parish.

**Marion can be contacted at church, on 5782272 or [eondta@xtra.co.nz](mailto:eondta@xtra.co.nz)**



<p><b>Keeping U Moving</b></p> <p>Walking Circuit 50+</p> <p>All weather — hot or cold in St Christopher’s Church Hall</p> <p>11.30am — 12.30 pm</p> <p>Every 2nd &amp; 4th Thursday</p> <p>Donation</p>	<p><b>Talk/Tech/Teach</b></p> <p>Thursdays 9.30am</p> <p>St Christopher’s</p> <p>Adult colouring/I Pad/ Tablet/ mobile phone training</p> <p>BYO Device</p> <p>Morning Tea — \$2 donation</p>
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## **TALENTS ON SHOW**

Have you all taken time to view the glass cabinet in the church foyer? These are but a small sample of donated items our parishioners have made. We ask that firstly you take the time to admire them and secondly please consider these as you plan gifts for Christmas or any other time. By purchasing these you are both valuing the time of those who make them and supporting our ongoing fundraising for our church AND of course helping you to select something original to give as a gift. Spread the word.

## **THEO'S STALL**

For those of you who come along to church on a regular basis you will see the amazing things that turn up on Theo's stall. For those of you who do not attend but have the parish interests at heart we ask you to consider donating items to sell. The usual treats are fresh vegetables, baking, plants, eggs and homemade jams and pickles. If you wish to contribute to the jams and pickles then any foods including sugar to assist in their making would be most appreciated. If you need help in getting these to the church then please ring the office and Kim will pass on the request.

## **SPRING CLEANING, DOWN-SIZING OR DE-CLUTTERING**

Please think of us. We do try to have a garage sale once a year but there are also other items that we can use from time to time. I would personally quite like to set up a lounge corner whereby a friendly nook could encourage people to sit and have chat, perhaps a mother to feed her baby or potentially a study group to meet regularly. If you have a lounge suite in good condition and no longer need it, I would love to hear from you.

Please contact Marion Rowe 5782272 or [eondta@xtra.co.nz](mailto:eondta@xtra.co.nz)

## **DO YOU LIKE HISTORY?**

We have an amazing book put together by two of our parishioners that tells of the history of our church. Have you read it ? Why not consider treating yourself to it or even buying it to give to a friend. Perhaps some of you keep in touch with friends who no longer live here or are able to attend church but have shared part of their lives with us, what a wonderful gift this would make and so easy to post. There is a display copy by the office but fresh, non-faded copies are available.

## NATIVITY

They were set for the home, but the horse went lame,  
and the rain came pelting out of the sky.

Joe saw the hut and he went to look,  
and he said, "She's old, but she'll keep you dry."

So her boy was born in a roadman's shack,  
by the light of a lamp that would hardly burn.

She wrapped him up in her hubby's coat,  
and laid him down on a bed of fern.

Then they came riding out of the night,  
and this is the thing that she'll always swear,  
as they took off their hats and came into the light,  
they knew they were going to find her there.

She sat at the edge of the fernstalk bed,  
and she watched but she didn't understand,  
while they put those bundles by the baby's head,  
that river nugget into his hand.



Then she watched as they went through the  
open door,  
weary as men who have ridden too far.  
And the rain eased off and the low cloud broke,  
and through the gap shone a single star.

*Peter Cape  
Nowhere Far From The Sea*

## *St Andrew's: Calendar & Contacts*

### **Special this Month**

Thursday, 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Joy Ministries 5pm
Saturday, 5 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas & Craft Fair 9am-4pm
Sunday, 6 <sup>th</sup>	Worship with Marion Rowe 10am Garden Fete Hospitality Christmas & Craft Fair 9am-4pm
Tuesday, 8 <sup>th</sup>	Property Committee 7.30pm
Friday 11th	Friday Feast at Wesley 5pm
Sunday, 13 <sup>th</sup>	Worship with Marion Rowe 10am
Tuesday, 15 <sup>th</sup>	Parish Council 7.30pm
Wednesday, 16 <sup>th</sup>	Lunch Time Concert 12.15-1pm
Thursday, 17 <sup>th</sup>	Afternoon Tea Service 2.30pm
Saturday, 19 <sup>th</sup>	Cruisey Church 5pm
Sunday, 20 <sup>th</sup>	Combined Service at Wesley 10am
Sunday, 27 <sup>th</sup>	Worship with Derek Harding 10am

### **DECEMBER**

Sunday, 4 <sup>th</sup>	Worship with John Buchanan
Tuesday, 6 <sup>th</sup>	Finance committee 7pm
Thursday, 8 <sup>th</sup>	Joy Ministries 5pm
Friday 9th	Friday Feast at St Andrew's 5pm

### **Regular Services**

Sundays	Mornings 10am
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### **Regular Events**

Wednesdays	Young Mothers Group
Thursdays	Craft and Chat Group, 10.00 am

### **Contacts**

<b>Interim Moderator</b>	Rev Derek Harding	577-8816
<b>Parish Clerk</b>	Raewyn Buchanan	578-4576
<b>Envelope Secretary</b>	Gail Dodson	570-5542
<b>Parish Office</b>	5 Henry Street	578-7119
	Monday to Friday,	9 am -- noon
	Email:	st.andrews.church@xtra.co.nz
	Website:	www.standrewsblenheim.org.nz



*An invitation is extended to Women of St Andrew's to a  
Friends & Neighbours Day on Tuesday 15 November at 10am at  
the Salvation Army Lounge*