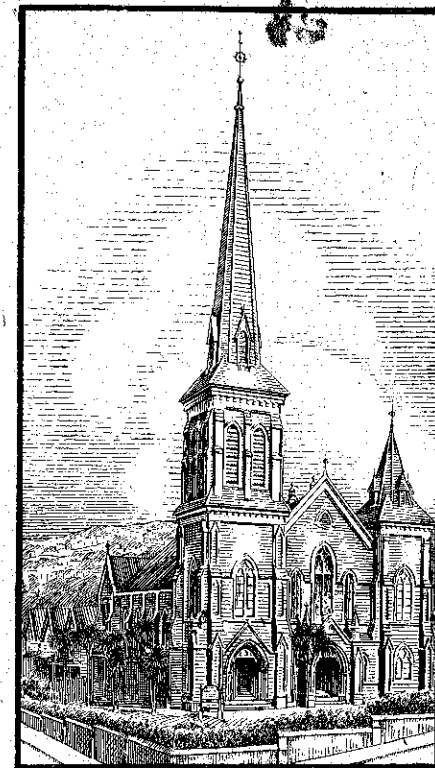


ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

WELLINGTON, N.Z.




SEVENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT

November 1st, 1929 to October 31st, 1930.

N.Z. BOOK DEPOT
WELLINGTON

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N.Z. BOOK DEPOT, WELLINGTON

HISTORICAL NOTES.

Presbyterian Services inaugurated	1839
Wellington Surveyed	1840
Congregation (now St. John's) formed, services held in Athenaeum..	6th Nov., 1853
Rev. John Moir inducted	6th Nov., 1853
Sunday School opened	1853
First Session and Deacons' Court constituted	5th Jan., 1854
First Communion Service	4th June, 1854
First Church opened (accommodate 200), "Willis Street Presbyterian Church"	31st Aug., 1856
First Church enlarged	1866
Rev. John Moir retired on superannuation	4th July, 1867
Number of Members on Communion Roll: 67	1868
Rev. James Paterson inducted	26th Nov., 1868
Church further enlarged and re-opened for public worship	7th May, 1871
Foundation Stone of Second Church laid by Marquis of Normanby, Governor of New Zealand	20th June, 1875
Second Church, fronting Willis Street, opened (accommodation 600)	12th Dec. 1875
Mission started at Newtown, now St. James', under Mr. Robert Hopkirk	1879
Manse erected, Woolcombe Street	1880
New Church Praise introduced	1884
New Church destroyed by fire	9th May, 1884
Sunday School building, Dixon Street, opened	1885
Foundation Stone present Church laid by Sir James Prendergast, Chief Justice of New Zealand	14th May, 1885
Present Church opened (accommodate 900)	6th Dec., 1885
Organ installed in Church	1886
The Bible Class Movement, now so generally established in connection with the various denominations throughout New Zealand, had its origin in the Class formed by Mr. Geo. A. Troup in connection with St. John's	1888
Branch Sunday School opened Mt. Cook	1888
Young Men's Bible Class Room opened	1896
Rev. Jas. Paterson retired on superannuation	1903
Rev. James Gibb, D.D., inducted	12th Aug., 1903
Services instituted at Brooklyn by Mr. John Reith	1904
Individual Communion cups first used	1904
St. John's Memorial Hostel opened	1919
Memorial Window to soldiers who fell in the Great War 1914-18, unveiled	1920
Memorial Window in memory of Hon. J. G. W. Aitken unveiled	1922
Rev. James Gibb retired on superannuation	1926
Rev. J. R. Blanchard, B.A., inducted	17th March, 1927
Present Manse erected McKenzie Terrace	1928

OFFICE-BEARERS.

Minister:

Rev. J. R. BLANCHARD, B.A.
Residence: McKenzie Terrace. Telephone: 42-635.

Missionary:

Rev. GEORGE H. McNEUR, Canton.

Session Clerk:

Mr. M. D. MENELAUS, 43 Ellice Avenue. Telephone: 22-745.

Clerk of Management Committee:

Mr. D. S. WILSON, 41 Grove Road, Kelburn. Telephone: 26-285.

Treasurer:

Mr. R. FLEMING, 25 Bidwill Street. Telephone: 22-222.

Envelopes:

Secretary:
Mr. J. M. WILSON,
58 Glen Road, Kelburn.
Telephone: 26-707.

Treasurer:
Mr. H. GLOVER,
Main Road, Karori.
Telephone: 21-788.

Convener of Church Extension Committee:

Mr. R. J. CRAWFORD, 18 Harbour View Road, Northland.

"Our Missionary" Fund:

Mr. L. J. WATKIN, Treasurer, 10 Glasgow Street, Kelburn.

Convener Seat-Letting Committee:

Mr. Wm. HOPKIRK, 35 Munro Street, Seatoun.
Telephone: 40-269.

Organist and Choirmaster:

Mr. Ch. W. KERRY, 34 Tirangi Road, Kilbirnie.

Church Officer:

Mr. H. I. APLIN, Willis Street. Telephone: 28-334.

ELDERS.

District No.		Inducted
20	Hopkirk, W., 34 Munro Street, Seatoun	1888
4, 24	Menelaus, M. D., 43 Ellice Avenue	1895
—	Troup, G. A. F.R.I.B.A., 60 Raroa Road, Kelburn	1895
23	Gill, T. H., M.A., LL.B., Grass Street	1903
12	Mainland, H., 92 Fairlie Terrace, Kelburn	1903
7	Johnston, A., 33 Central Terrace, Kelburn	1911
5	Slater, J., Donald Street, Karori	1911
19	Howitt, A., 100 The Parade, Lyall Bay	1913
14	Ramsay W. A., 44 Duncan Terrace, Kilbirnie	1913
—	Smith, A. P., Pearce Street, Seatoun	1913
18	Bary, C., 28 Waitoa Road, Hataitai	1919
9	Corkill, T. E., 200 Dewsbury Terrace, Oriental Bay	1919
18, 22	Martin, A., Messines Road, Karori	1919
13	Cullen, W., 43 Miro Street, Miramar	1920
—	Austin, W. S., 23 North Terrace, Kelburn	1921
6	Fraser, Malcolm, 29 Rawhiti Terrace, Kelburn	1921
—	Cresswell, T. R., M.A., 64 Raroa Road, Kelburn	1921
16	Glover, H., Main Road, Karori	1921
8	Kraft, J. H., 135 Kelburn Parade, Kelburn	1921
11	South, H. C., 107 Austin Street	1921
—	Webber, S. W., B.Com., Knox College	1923
21	Torrance, R., Oriental Bay	1926
1	Ironside, A., 17 May Street	1927
—	Wallace, A. H., 5 Boundary Road, Kelburn	1927
3	Ferguson, W. J., 3 Zohrab Street, Hataitai	1928
—	Spratt, F. C., 109 Upland Road, Kelburn	1928
17	Johnston, A. D., 69 Riddiford Street	1929
14	Macdonald, N., Vivian Street	1929
10, 15	Patterson, W. A., Fairlie Terrace	1929

MANAGERS AND COMMITTEES—1930

Armour, W. A., M.A.	Wellington College
Bilby, M.	62 Oriental Parade
Bowden, C. M.	Telford Terrace
Crawford, R. J.	18 Harbour View Road, Northland
Dalglish, D. J.	306 Willis Street
Down, J.	Mount Crawford
Fleming, R.	25 Bidwell Street.
Hunter, A. W.	64 Waipapa Road, Hataitai
Hunter, J.	13 Bidwell Street
Hurley, W. E.	19 Kensington Street
Johnston, R.	179 Cuba Street.
Milroy, W.	Royal Terrace
Moore, R. D.	C/o. Bank of New Zealand
McLeod, D.	168 Vivian Street.
Orr, J. A.	C/o. Education Department
Seber, F.	1 Sidney Street
Watkin, L. J.	10 Glasgow Street, Kelburn
Wilson, A. M.	12 Talavera Terrace, Kelburn
Wilson, J. M.	58 Glen Road, Kelburn
Wilson, D. S.	41 Grove Road, Kelburn

Property Committee:

Messrs. Ferguson, Howitt, Hurley, J. Hunter, A. Johnson, Kraft, Macdonald, Menelaus, Mainland and Glover (Convener).

Seat-Letting Committee:

Messrs. Gill, A. W. Hunter, Wallace, Watkin, McLeod, J. M. Wilson and Hopkirk (Convener.)

Finance Committee:

Messrs. Bowden, Fraser, Fleming, Glover, Menelaus, R. Johnston, A. D. Johnston, Orr, Smith, Spratt, Troup and Hopkirk (Convener).

Church Extension Committee:

Messrs. Down, Howitt, Slater, Martin, Milroy, Patterson, Seber, Ferguson and Crawford (Convener).

Envelope Contributions Committee:

Messrs. Glover, A. W. Hunter, Torrance, J. M. Wilson.

Choir Committee:

Messrs. Austin, Bilby, Crawford, Watkin, A. M. Wilson, Dalglish, Howitt, South, Torrance, Wallace and Ironside (Convener).

The Hon. Secretary to Management Committee, ex officio member of all Committees.

St. John's Memorial Hostel.

General Management Committee:

Representing Church Managers: Rev. J. R. Blanchard, B.A., Messrs. G. A. Troup, A. Martin, M. D. Menelaus, D. S. Wilson, Ad. Howitt, A. P. Smith, and M. Fraser.

Representing St. John's Y.M.B.C.: Messrs. W. J. Ferguson, D. J. Dalglish, J. A. Orr and Ian Gibson.

Representing Ladies' Auxiliary: Mrs. E. B. Wilson and Miss W. Millar.

CHURCH CALENDAR.

- Sacraments:** Holy Communion is observed on Second Sunday of March, June, September, and December.
- Sunday:** Public Worship, 11.0 a.m., and 7.0 p.m.
Sunday School, Dixon St. Hall, 2.30 p.m.
Bible Classes—Young Women, Class Room, Dixon St. Hall, 2.45 p.m.
Young Men, Class Room, Willis St., 2.45 p.m.
Junior Young Men, Managers' Room, 2.45 p.m.
Junior Young Women, Social Parlour, 2.45 p.m.
- Tuesday:** Women's Association, in Basement Parlour, 2.30 p.m., and first and third Monday at 7.30 p.m.
Women's Missionary Union, fourth Tuesday, Basement Parlour, 2.30 p.m.
- Wednesday:** Mid-week Service, each week, Willis Street. Class Room, 7.30 p.m.
Session, first Wednesday in the month, 8.30 p.m.
Managers, second Wednesday in month, 8.15 p.m.
Choir Practice, each week, 8.30 p.m.
Mothers' Meeting, every second Wednesday, Dixon St. Hall, 2.45 p.m.
Sunday School Clubs, Dixon St. Hall, 7 p.m.
- Saturday:** Social Club, every week, Willis St. Class Room.
- Gymnastic Classes** meet in Gymnasium during winter months.

COLLECTIONS, SEAT-LETTING, ETC.

The Ordinary Sunday Collections, by plate and weekly envelope, together with Seat Rents, etc., provide the funds for defraying the congregational expenses, the chief of which are the Minister's stipend, the retiring allowance to the late Minister, salaries of the Church officials, etc.

Special Collections: (1) As appointed by the General Assembly are made from time to time, including Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund, Assessments for Assembly Expenses, Maori Missions, etc. (2) As appointed by the Office-bearers for Sunday School, relief of poor (once a quarter) and such other objects as it may be deemed necessary to help.

The Church Extension Fund, which is wholly devoted to help in planting new charges and assisting weak ones throughout the bounds of the Church, is taken up by the envelope system. The envelopes are placed in the pews once a quarter. Many of the pioneers in remote districts would be without religious ordinances for themselves and their children but for the Home Mission Funds of the Church.

Foreign Missions: The regular contributions of the congregation to Missions are collected quarterly by the Women's Missionary Association.

A member of the Seat-Letting Committee is in attendance at the close of the prayer meeting on Wednesday evenings to let sittings to new applicants. Many find this a convenient method of contributing to our funds. Those desirous of having sittings allocated, or any requiring further information should apply to the Pew Rent Treasurer, Mr. Wm. Hopkirk.

PASTORAL LETTER.



To the Members and Adherents of the Congregation:—

My Dear Friends,—

The following report, which I warmly commend to you, is a record which we are glad to be able to present. It bears witness to the presence of a spiritual life which is growing among us. Through another year we have sought to do what we could and God has supplied that guidance and strength without which we can achieve nothing for Him. We therefore rejoice as those who cry "not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto Thy name give glory."

During the year death has taken heavy toll of our membership. We miss the presence of those who have thus been removed; but, in terms of that hope we have in Christ, we regard them as having been translated from the Church Visible to the Church Invisible. They are beyond the range of our sight, but through the "communion of saints" still within our fellowship. It is for us who remain to walk all the more uprightly and work all the more faithfully during the days in which we continue here, seeing that the unseen spectators of our labours have been so multiplied.

We live in days when the call to worship, though sounded, is largely neglected. We must be all the more careful, therefore, lest we drift with that tide, thereby losing the glow of our own spiritual life and depreciating the witness of the Church in the eyes of the world. That heart does not keep the fire and warmth within which neglects the regular experience of corporate worship. And that Church cannot hope to have the power to persuade, convince and win the careless, whose own members are themselves careless of the privileges, benefits and responsibilities of its corporate worship.

The following report would not have been possible but for the devoted service of a large number who count it a privilege to have something given them to do for Christ and His Church. To each and all of them I desire to express my appreciation of their devoted loyalty to the cause of Christ

in St. John's and to extend to them the apostolic encouragement "therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

Your sincere Minister and Friend,

KIRK SESSION.

In presenting the report for another year the Session desire to express their deep gratitude to God for the many tokens of His Divine Grace and blessing experienced during the past twelve months.

We realise that not only the ability but also the will to serve our Gracious Father through our Church fellowship, comes through the impulses of His Spirit; and so with much thankfulness we acknowledge the ready service of so many of our members, and the success which has attended their varied efforts. For this we thank God and take fresh courage.

THE MINISTER.

The work of the ministry, particularly in these days of stress and change, is a life of continual effort. To meet the needs of the present age a man of outstanding merit and mental equipment is essential, and while strong in upholding the cause of righteousness and the spiritual principles he represents yet must also be discreet and wise in discerning the sentiments and changes so rapidly taking place in the religious sphere, and in a kindly spirit advise and lead accordingly.

Now we are proud to say that our Minister, the Rev. J. R. Blanchard is such a man and we wish to express our grateful thanks to him for his manifold and successful labours in the interests of St. John's and her growing membership.