

We love because **He** first loved us.
If anyone says "I love **G**od" but hates
his brother, he is a liar.

1 John 4:19-20





St John's **On the Inside Looking Out**
in the City
Presbyterian Church **154th Annual Report 2006/07**

Foreword

154th Annual Report 2006/07

St John's in the City ! It's a significant name for a large down-town church in the Capital. It is also important for the congregation to see themselves as St John's *for* the City. The essence of being a Christian and being the church is to live *for* God and *for* others. There are many signs in these reports that St John's leaders and people are trying to put that into practice. Through its worship, music, signage, and the Boys' and Girls' Institute, St John's is seen to be outward-looking. After all, our Lord's command to the first disciples was to look beyond their Jewish faith to the whole world – a radical religious and political call in those days. As John Wesley said the world is my parish, so the city is St John's parish.

The congregation itself is a sign of the life of the city. It has a wide age-spread and, unlike most mainline churches, a big youth involvement. It has a wide range of theological opinion within it, from right to left, and consequently wisely pursues a central but lively worship and witness. And it is blessed with people from seven different races and nations.

A ministerial vacancy can be a difficult time with a sense of loss, when sometimes latent 'causes' make bids for attention. It can also be a time for discovery of leadership abilities among its people and time for reflection on where the parish should be directing its energies. Much of this is reflected positively in the Annual Reports contained here.

As your Interim Moderator, I am finding the role demanding, but also stimulating. I am constantly struck by the skilled leadership evident in meetings of Session and Council. In this, St John's is fortunate it can attract such quality leadership among its people. It is also fortunate in the ability of its full-time staff. In Muriel Ewan you have a Session Clerk of outstanding ability and amazing dedication.

In a diverse congregation with many able and articulate people in it how important it is to keep in mind that it is *God's* church before it is *our* church. If we together keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, on whom faith depends from first to last, we shall come through this year in good heart and spirit, looking forward to a new Senior Minister and a congregation in good fellowship.

Yours in Christ,

Denzil J. Brown



Session Report

The 2006/07 year at St John's in the City has been both eventful and challenging.

Session acknowledged the strength of leadership from our Senior Minister, the Rev. Dr Graham Redding, and our Assistant Minister, the Rev. Helen Martin. The congregation and the many visitors have always been appreciative of the worship services and the relevancy of the message for the changing world in which we live. We have been very fortunate to have had such a caring and inspirational ministry team.

At a Session meeting early in the year, Helen Martin introduced the topic of Pastoral Care. The discussion provided the elders with the opportunity to look seriously at this area of ministry and to be more aware of pastoral issues when visiting. Unfortunately, later in the year, Pastoral Worker Allie Crombie took leave of absence from Session. Her dedication, professionalism and extensive work in this area were acknowledged with much gratitude. Margaret Gilkison took over the position and Session acknowledges the professional, caring manner which Margaret brings to this task. The Pastoral Care Committee, ably led by Ann Simpson and Cynthia Krogh, continues to be an important link with the congregation.

During the year, Session met with the Christian Education Committee to hear a presentation from Jill Kayser from PCANZ about the "Kids Friendly Project". The decision was made to work together with the congregation to become a "Kids Friendly Church". This has now been formalised and the programme is working well.

Geoff Annals is the new Convenor of the CEC and new members have also been added. Session acknowledged the work of Elaine Pearse for her years on the committee and also as Convenor. Thank you to all on the committee, to the St John's teachers and leaders who give much time and effort to ministry of our young people and to those who lead adult groups. Session was pleased to endorse the continued leadership of the youth groups by Ryhan Prasad, ably assisted by other members of the BGI and also Margaret Galt and Mark Edgcombe. We were pleased to learn that Ryhan had been accepted as a national candidate for the ministry and we wish him every blessing and support as he works toward this calling.

In December, Ann Simpson resigned from Session and her contribution as an elder was warmly acknowledged. Judi Ferguson was welcomed back after leave of absence.

Music is an important component of any service of worship. St John's is fortunate to have professional and highly skilled musicians to lead us each Sunday. Thank you to Eleanor Carter, Music Director and Organist, Dayle Anderson, Pianist, Guy Jansen Choir Director, the members of the choir and the music group.

In October 2006, St John's was confronted with some very significant circumstances. A highlight was the unanimous confirmation of Graham Redding's nomination as Moderator Designate at the General Assembly in Auckland. For the St John's members who were present it was a privilege and a very proud moment to stand alongside Graham, Jenni and family in support of that decision. Graham will be inducted as Moderator at the 2008 General Assembly. The following week, the congregation learned that Graham had been appointed the Director of the Centre for Christian Leadership, subsequently renamed Knox Centre for Ministry and Leadership, in Dunedin.

Graham's 6-year ministry brought St John's to a new understanding of the mission of Jesus Christ and its outreach into the community. We thank God for his ministry and leadership in this parish. Jenni's support of Graham's work, her assistance in the Sunday School and Youth work and other areas is specially acknowledged. As a family, they have all contributed and we have been richly blessed through the talents and skills of each of them. They move on with the prayers and support of us all.

In the same month, Helen Martin accepted a call to Trinity Church, Temuka. She began her ministry there in April 2007. Helen brought many skills to her ministry here, particularly in pastoral care and in the wider area of Christian Education. She was very perceptive to the needs of others. For her, the time was right to move on to her own parish and again we have been richly blessed through her ministry. She also moves on with our prayers and support.

St John's is most grateful to have Rev. Denzil Brown as Interim Moderator during the vacancy. Denzil gives many hours each week to this task and also conducts services.

On behalf of Session, thank you to all who have co-ordinated services, offered assistance, and willingly taken leadership roles during the vacancy, thus maintaining the quality of worship at this time. The Ministry Settlement Board, comprising 2 Presbytery members, and 6 St John's members is convened by Rev. Chris Nichol. All are working diligently through the process of finding a new Senior Minister for this Parish.

Thank you to Ailsa Salt and all who provide floral arrangements for the church each week, the greeters, those who serve the morning teas and those who oversee the smooth running of the services each Sunday. To Jinny Irvine and the Social Committee who so willingly co-ordinate the congregational lunches throughout the year, a big thank you.

On behalf of the Session, I thank all convenors and members of committees and groups who have contributed in any way to the life and work of St John's in the City. I also thank all the elders for their loyalty and support. Finally, my grateful appreciation to the staff for their dedication to their work and willing assistance at all times.

M Ewan
Session Clerk



The Reddings' farewell. Christmas 2006



Rev Helen Martin's Farewell



Rob and Dayle, hard at work



This years fair was a great success

Council

This last year has been a year of change at St John's. The loss of members of our pastoral team has been a blow, but the congregation of St John's has rallied. The vacancy has been a time of additional opportunities for members of the congregation. The lay leaders of St John's have stepped up and taken on much additional responsibility, and the committees and volunteer workers have kept us on track and working well.

The congregation has also risen to the financial challenge through an increase in congregational giving. It would be premature to say that the St John's financial position is now solid, but we are making progress. Savings on salaries and the sale of some investments make the finances this year appear very positive, and indeed this is a year when we can make up for some of the deficits of the past, although substantial challenges remain. I am optimistic that the Finance Committee is up to these challenges, and expect to see a steady trend toward a positive financial picture.

By the time this report is published, I expect the BGI and Session to have made decisions regarding the way forward for the Youth Café project. This Youth Café project has been a long and challenging one for St John's. It is important to remember that we are a church family and that all members of the family must be treasured and respected. It is my hope that we can dwell on the positive aspects of the journey.

When Graham approached me to consider serving as the Chair of the St John's Council I was honoured and somewhat taken aback. We were relatively new to Wellington, and even newer to St John's, and although I had worked in church governance in the past, they were mostly small churches with small budgets. The complexity of some of the issues facing St John's made the job look quite challenging. After some thought and prayer, I accepted the role. As my work life has become more hectic I haven't been able to devote as much time to it as I would have liked. I have managed the role through grace and great deal of support.

The chairs of the committees at St John's are a creative, committed, and selfless group. I have also been blessed with a gifted and considerate administrator in Jan. When my "day job" got busy I could always count on Jan to give the gentle reminders necessary to keep things on course.

I am now nearing the end of my 3-year commitment to Council. I look forward to handing that responsibility over to another set of hands in the near future, and I'm anxious to find involvement in other areas of the work of St John's.

Ted Cizadlo
Chair, St John's Council



Choir

First of all I must say how privileged I felt in September last year being appointed director of the choir and becoming a member of the music team. I recognised the very significant heritage of choral singing at St John's and the long-term loyalty of many choristers in the group. Since I took up the position, the choir and congregation have accepted me into their midst and I appreciate the support received.

I see a church choir as a servant organisation. Its main function is to serve cheerfully in divine worship, to help lead congregational singing, contribute to the proclamation of the Word and in other ways enhance the themes of worship services. Choices of anthems have been made primarily with the Lectionary readings in mind, but often, in the absence of a suitable piece thematically, anthems of praise or prayer to God are chosen. We have sung new anthems whose words are from Scripture, such as *Like as the Hart* (Herbert Howells); *Psalm 150* (John Harper); *O Saviour of the world* (Sir John Goss), while at other times we have chosen to introduce others whose beautiful poetry is biblically based, for example, *Let all the World in Every Corner Sing*, words by George Herbert, music by ET Chapman. The words of choral pieces are printed in the Order of Service so that congregational members can see the written Word and meditate upon it.

Our choral offerings to gathered worship have also included Introits, Benedictions, Prayer Responses such as *Let Thy Merciful Ears* (Weelkes) and *Communion Reflections*, eg, *Elgar's Ave verum corpus*. Popular-style Meditations have included: *Trust in the Lord* (Krogstad), *There is a longing in our hearts* (Anne Quigley arr. Andrew Maries), and a song of confession: *Lord have Mercy* (Merkel) with soloist.

Palm/Passion Sunday, Good Friday and Easter Day saw the choir present *O Sacred Head Now Wounded* (JS Bach), and "Surely" and "Hallelujah Chorus" from *Messiah* (Handel). Rutter's choral song, *The Lord Bless You and Keep You* was well used at the farewell functions for Graham Redding and Helen Martin. The choir was very sorry to see Graham and Helen leave St John's.

We have appeared several times at combined services in St Mary of the Angels, and look forward to welcoming their choir to St John's again. The Khandallah Presbyterian Church Choir invited us to join them for a morning service, and they came to sing with us at St John's on Pentecost Sunday. The connection between Khandallah and St John's was made through the Royal School of Church Music, of which both choirs are members. Some members of our choir sang at the funeral of Douglas Smith, a senior member of the James Smith family and a long time member of the church.

Monthly rehearsals are 7.15 to 9.45 pm on twelve Thursdays during the year, in addition to pre-service and after-service rehearsals on Sunday mornings. Eleanor and I

are grateful for the choir undertaking these commitments. We now use the Chapel and the rest of the church for sectional practices, and in February purchased a keyboard for the purpose of these practices.

We have also been pleased to welcome visitors to sing with us on occasion. Several people have joined the choir, and I am keen to gradually build up the numbers (especially from newcomers to Wellington) so that we can sing more new and substantial music. Another reason for building up numbers is that the membership is very mobile with several choristers either overseas or out of town on many Sundays!

At this time, however, I want to thank a few people, particularly, for their crucially important work with the choir throughout the past year: Organist Eleanor; Pianist Dayle; Visiting Organist Nigel Williams; our resident excellent soloist of long standing, Linda, upon whom we rely so much; our accompanying instrumentalists; and Muriel, Session Clerk, who is most supportive of the choir. Finally, with the choir I look forward during the coming year to serving our great Triune God in congregational and choral song, making "a joyful (and musical) noise to the Lord". A thousand tongues will not be enough.

Guy Jansen

Choir Director



Music

The main components of St John's musical life are the choir, the music group and, of course, the beautiful Lewis pipe organ. The choir is thriving under new leadership from Dr Guy Jansen who joined us in September 2006. The music group is a varied group of instrumentalists and singers who regularly help us to lead Sunday morning worship, under Dayle Anderson's capable lead.

Our pipe organ is a constant source of angst for the organist every Sunday morning, as it is in need of major repairs. At this stage, it is looking hopeful that these will be done in the next few years, funding willing! We do have an organ fund that is gradually increasing due to generosity and concerts, but has a long way to go!

The Advent concert in November was a great success, with members of St John's providing the whole evening's entertainment. Poetry and music, all with an Advent/Christmas theme, were beautifully presented.

St John's is often used as a concert venue by organisations including schools, youth choirs, and – recently – The Bach Choir. We also have our own popular series of concerts on Friday evenings towards the end of each year. This year, we hope to have our new grand piano featured in this series.

The youth band, led by Jesse Boyce, make good use of equipment bought by BGI and an electronic keyboard purchased earlier this year with funds from the Joan Andrew bequest.

With all this talent in our community, I look forward to another year of committed, worshipful music-making.

Eleanor Carter
MMus(RCM), DipRCM (PG), ARCM, ATCL
Director of Music

Embroidery Group

Formed in 1989, this is a friendly group, never more than eight people, sharing a common interest.

Projects completed for St John's include Communion table and Chapel cloths, Pulpit falls, stoles, bookmarks and napkins for home Communion use.

Donations to other organisations have been Communion table cloths for the Chapels of Aroha Care and Te Omanga Hospice and a Pulpit fall for Martinborough First Church.

The group is currently working on a Pulpit Fall to be used for weddings at St John's.

Heather Smith
Convenor

Flower Group

The flower team has provided some beautiful arrangements during the year and I am very appreciative of the time and expertise that they have given to the weekly services and the special occasions. Flowers are an important part of our services and celebrations, weddings and funerals and it takes time and talent to produce such lovely arrangements which members of the congregation frequently remark on.

Winifred Bain stood down as Flower Convenor during the year and thanks were expressed for all her outstanding work during a service by Dr Graham Redding. Winifred's inspired arrangements have enhanced many special occasions in St John's; one in particular being the 150th celebrations. She continues to provide support as a member of the flower team.

The team is always pleased to hear of members of the congregation with floral arranging skills who would like to contribute to the beautifying of services and other occasions through floral displays. The convenor would be pleased to speak with you.

Ailsa Salt
Convenor



The Friday Evening Concerts

Outreach

St John's in the City has continued to touch and assist many in the wider Wellington area through its Outreach assistance both directly and indirectly. Our ministers and members of the congregation often assist directly on a personal basis but inevitably finance is often also needed.

Following a Review led by Dr Graham Redding in 2002, a series of partnerships which use our financial resources have gradually evolved and these continued to enjoy funding priority in 2006-7.

Until a new senior Minister is appointed, it is likely that the same pattern of grants will continue in effect. The guidelines have been carefully thought through and were formally approved in 2003 by a Congregational meeting. Next year they will have been in effect for 5 years, and at that time a wider Review with the new Ministerial team may be appropriate.

In 2006-7 Outreach continued its financial contributions to the lectureship in Christian Theology at Victoria University. This sponsorship has resulted in a range of favourable comments, but will require further detailed examination if it is to be renewed. The senior lecturer appointed, Dr Chris Marshall, was promoted through the University during the year and is now an Associate Professor. Formal decision-making on possible renewal of St John's substantial three year commitment is to be undertaken later this year by the Church as a whole. Both the overall results achieved and other options for use of funding by St John's are likely to be weighed by the wider St John's congregation.

In addition, the Downtown Community Ministry, the Boys' and Girls' Institute, Mt Cook School (swimming instruction), the Niue Presbyterian Church Group at Porirua, Catholic Social Services (for counselling), and Wellington Women's Health Collective (for counselling) have received grants.

During the year Allie Crombie left us to travel overseas, and Chris Parkman has been invited to join the Committee. Other members are Dayle Anderson, Rob Munro, Muriel Ewan and the Ministers (ex officio).

Rob Munro
Convenor

Stewardship for Mission

When the Treasurer advised that \$55,000 was the fundraising target for the 2006/07 financial year, the SFM Committee's response was a predictable "Yeah Right"! That target wasn't achieved but \$27,000 (50%) was raised from a variety of sources. These included personal pledges to support the St John's lectureship at Victoria University, Fashion in the Abbey, a musical event and a fair, a night at the movies and a quiz night. The events, in particular, had a multiple benefit combining opportunities for church members to work together for a common goal of raising money for our mission activities while having fun on the way! A fantastic result from everyone, organisers, supporters and contributors alike.

The other part of the SFM Committee's goal is to encourage the congregation to see giving for mission as an important part of their personal relationship with God. Throughout the year, the Committee promoted this objective through the distribution of information leaflets and announcements. The result has been fantastic. The congregation's giving of \$148,000 (budget \$ 151,000) is 32% higher than 2 years ago and 89% higher than 5 years ago!

Another initiative of the SFM committee is the St John's Calendar 2007. This is a handy quick reference about what happens at St John's and when and whom to contact about absolutely everything, and how!

We are a dynamic and generous community of faith at St John's and give thanks for all who have made committed giving a priority and who give generously of time and talent in personally supporting the mission activities of the parish.

Rob Ewan (Convenor), Marg Gilkison, Paul Ramsay, Rob Anderson, Ted Cizadlo.



Rod, Ted and Paul have fun at the movies

Mission

Our major effort went into supporting the APW project. This year it was two projects, "Fronting up to Stroke" in New Zealand, and "Backing East Timor". A fundraising lunch after church was held with a speaker talking about the situation in East Timor.

We take an interest in those who have gone from St John's to various positions which help and support others. For example Leon and Jane Fulcher who will travel to Papua New Guinea in September where Leon will take up the position of Professor of Social Work at the University.

Leprosy Mission

We continue to support two projects which benefit people affected by leprosy in Chittagong, Bangladesh. In Chittagong alone there are more than 1000 people who live with permanent physical disability due to leprosy.

In the October and April collections we raised \$400.80.

After about 12 years organising the collection at St John's I have decided to hand over the job and am very grateful to Judi Ferguson for taking over from me. Thank you all for your support.

Elizabeth McKenzie



Marg Gilkison, our Pastoral Care Worker - "In the Field"

Pastoral Care Committee

The Pastoral Care Committee has continued in 2007 to integrate the Congregation so that all are made to feel welcome and part of St John's.

This has been by the following principles established in 2005:

- Sharing the burden
- Healing the wound
- Celebrating the joy by walking the road together
- By the fostering of relationships in the love of God and of worship.

This is being actively done by providing Sunday Lunches, with financial assistance from St John's, in February, April, July and August. A morning tea will be provided for all the Congregation in November 2007. The feedback from members invited has been positive and the Committee is grateful to our Pastoral Care Worker, Margaret Gilkison, who has maintained good networks.

Emergency Response Planning

The Pastoral Care Committee has held a meeting with Reverend Keenan who gave an insight into how other Churches are meeting the Emergency Response Planning challenge. The Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand was asked for its policy and St John's held a forum, asking invited members to contribute to debate on our responsibilities as a city church. A Wellington City Council staff member, Lynn Edmondson, gave informative facts re emergencies, and Anne Simpson talked about previous Emergency Response scenarios and putting them into the context of today. As a result, the Committee has put a recommendation to Council for consideration.

Pastoral Care Committee

Members are: Margaret Gilkison (Pastoral Care Worker), Cynthia Krogh (Convenor), Lynn Pollock and Anne Simpson. I am grateful for their contribution and the hard work of fellow members. It was with sad heart that we farewelled Reverend Helen Martin in April. Helen was an inspiration to the Committee and we wish her well in her new parish. Allie Crombie, our Pastoral Care Worker in 2006 left for new ventures in Samoa and we miss her, but know she will be well-utilised in Samoa.

Our objectives will be set in October 2007 and we will continue to foster a caring and responsive fellowship to all at St John's.

Cynthia Krogh
Convenor, Pastoral Care Committee

Pastoral Care Worker

It is a pleasure to give my first annual report as the Pastoral Care Worker for St John's in the City.

I was initiated quickly into the role in February this year after the speedy departure of Allie Crombie to Samoa. Allie was a wonderful and tireless Pastoral Care Worker and so it was with some nervousness that I was to follow in her footsteps.

However, I was reminded of the passage from 2 Corinthians 1-4, "We can comfort those in trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God". Indeed I have been truly blessed by God through my own personal experiences, so took heart from these words and began my new role with His grace.

As the Pastoral Care Worker I am called upon in times of need. I feel, however, that pastoral care involves us all. We all need to care for others, and one another, and be an example of God's everlasting love and compassion. Indeed, there are many in the congregation who do just this, and I am thankful for their support and dedication to others in times of need.

I would encourage you all to listen to others and be tuned into their needs and let me know if assistance or support is required. Of course not all people want help or want to share their concerns and it is most important that this is respected.

I am very much enjoying my role. It is a privilege helping others, giving encouragement, being an advocate, sharing the ups and downs of daily living or growing older, the laughter, the tears and most important, just being there to listen. It is a two way process. In return, I am constantly inspired by others - their courage, strength, wisdom and steadfast faith.

My tasks are varied. I accompany people to medical appointments, visit the sick in hospital, visit those in rest homes or their own homes, keep an eye on the elderly and frail, run errands or just be at the other end of the phone. I do a lot of work on the phone building up trust so people will feel confident to ask for help should they ever need it. This is not an easy task for many, especially if they have always been self sufficient.

St John's is in good heart and I feel one of its strengths is in its pastoral care. We should remember that there is no better exercise for strengthening the heart, than reaching down and lifting another up.

1 John 4: 7&11 "Let us love one another, for love comes from God ...since God so loved us, we ought to love one another."

Marg Gilkison

Wellington's Boys' & Girls' Institute

Tena koutou, Taloha ni, Talofa lava, Malo e lelei, Fakaalofa lahi atu, Ni sa bula vinaka, Kia orana koutou katoatoa, Ia Orana, Kia ora tatou katoa

I am pleased to report that BGI's 124yr old mission of developing young people physically, mentally, spiritually and socially has continued to be supported by St Johns in the City over the last five years. It is a truly remarkable relationship founded on hope, trust, abiding friendship, faith and charity.

BGI continues its youth work by building relationships, with partner organisations, to develop and deliver a range of projects and initiatives that serve young people, their families and communities. These are all aimed at aiding young people in the successful transition from childhood to mature adult life.

The underlying approach of many youth and community projects these days is a bit less about "providing services for youth" and more about being "in service with youth". This reflects BGI's scriptural understanding of service. Jesus worked with the disciples, many of whom were young people, and was called Emmanuel "God with us".

BGI aims therefore to support youth and their families by working alongside them to serve our communities.

The Board of BGI is thankful for the strengths, passion, and vision of its staff and celebrates its positive and ongoing relationship with St Johns in the City.

"Love one another" John 15:12

Fuimaono Tuiasau, Chairman & Ross Davis, Director

Our Core Initiatives and Staff

Challenge for Change (co-ordinated by Jacinta Krefft) is conducted in partnership with Wellington City Council (WCC), CYFS, Ministry of Justice, Schools, St John's and Police. It matches 9-13yr olds with a positive role-model 'mentor' to help guide them (and their families) through periods of difficulty with depression, abuse, repeat offending, low esteems or limited social skills.

Footsteps (managed by David Clegg) in partnership with WCC, COGS, St John's Hutt Valley DHB, CYFS, schools and Wesley community action designs tailor-made programmes for adolescents who find themselves on the periphery of society: new migrants, mental health consumers, severe offenders, and those struggling with suicide.

Positively Parenting Programmes (facilitated by Anna Davis and Sue Riddle) in partnership with WCC and Capital coast DHB and St John's are a vital partner to the Challenge for Change programme. We recognise the significance of the child's home environment and endeavour to provide parents with new skills.

Confidance (tutored by Ani Prasad and Jesse Boyce) in partnership with WCC, and St John's runs dance classes (combining funk, kapa haka, hip hop and jazz) from the Conference Centre gym. The programme for 7-17yr olds is most popular with boys.

Training & Development (facilitated by Rod Baxter) in partnership with ALAC, WCC, schools and MYD is the branch of BGI that offers workshops with young people and youth workers across the country.

Joint Youth Ministry Committee (co-ordinated by Alice Potts) is a new contract with the Wellington Presbytery in 2007, uniting youth groups and leaders across the region. This year's successful Easter Camp attracted 90+ teens and we also lead the annual Going Somewhere leadership course and film fest.

St John's Youth Group is also run by BGI and is in a separate report.

Spinks Youth Café (managed by Ryhan Prasad) in partnership with St John's, Tenth's Trust, WCC, the young people of Wellington Youth Project (WYP), WCC youth council, and WETA. This is part of a significant youth participatory action research youth project led by the WYP crew in partnership with the WCC, St John's, and the BGI.



Christian Education Committee

Christian education activities are an essential part of church life. Learning unlocks the potential God gives each one of us and enhances our ability to live life to the full and give to one another. St. John's is blessed with many dedicated and skilled leaders of learning activities designed to meet the spectrum of congregational and local community interests.

The Christian Education Committee supports these leaders. It assists with co-ordination of planning, review of programmes and as a general 'think tank'. I pay tribute to the work of all those who commit many hours each week to the preparation and delivery of St. John's Christian education programmes. God cares for us and nurtures St. John's as a learning community through your loving service.

Geoff Annals
Convenor

St John's Youth

Intentional Ministry

St John's Youth is an intentional community. It is a community that is fun and bubbly, yet also serves as a safe community for young people to express themselves in a positive way. And what an awesome, fun, bubbly and safe community it is...

Friday nights are social and fun. We have scavenger hunts, play Blingo, throw ice cream on each other and drink a lot of coke. But there is a deep undercurrent of care, love and belonging that is obvious within our young people. Our youth are active and concerned for each other, know how to laugh, and know how to make everyone feel that they belong. Every week there is a comment, an action or an attitude that makes you smile....laugh....think.... There are always so many highlights.

- Hearing our young people have intelligent theological discussions, while still knowing that laughing and eating pizza together is just is important.
- Seeing our band confidently singing, dancing and performing on stage at FUSE – and watching them kick butt and having a blast
- The Enthusiasm that St Johns Youth ooze every Friday night and Sunday morning is a blessing to be part of.
- The community that they have created, and the outreach that they are capable of is an honour to witness.
- Parachute 07.
- 25,000 other people...but we still managed to find a perfect camp spot, have tons of fun and listen to groovy sounds and hanging out with Brooke Fraser. (well, Matt Potts had that pleasure anyway..)



Crossing the Stile: taking Urban Young people on Rural adventures and vice versa



We have about 20 young people coming along each Sunday morning. Stick your head in and you can hear prayer, debates, readings and discussions...you can see the young people confess to how God has shown himself to them during the past week...and you will see a genuine interest that these guys and girls have for learning and growing and making their faith active. This community is a blessing to be a part of, in which I feel both honoured and thankful.

Check out what we've offered over the past year for St Johns Youth Ministry..

Look In

Encourage young people to grow in a Christ-centered faith in God.

- *Sunday Programmes*
Building young people in the knowledge of God and His living word
- *Junior yr6-8/ Senior yr9-10/ Senior yr11-13*
These three groups run at St Johns during term time between 10 -11am on Sunday mornings. We meet in the youth group rooms in Spinks Cottage .We look at issues that face us today, and how to make faith relevant in our everyday lives.
- *Youth services:* Discovering God together
Once a term we pull together a youth service covering a wide range of topics. We are often lucky to have a speaker in, and are also very privileged to be led in worship by our worship band who have grown immensely in their ability to lead worship and sound amazing. This worship team is headed up by Jesse Boyce. These services are always inspiring, fun and good value all round.



Look Around

Encourage young people to grow in Christ-centered communities

- Friday night social groups: Making a place for people to belong
- Junior group and senior group meet on a Friday night during term time.
- Joint Youth Ministry Committee: Doing youth ministry with others
- This committee aims to offer training, support and the facilitation of large events to grow Presbyterian and Methodist youth ministries regionally. St Johns Youth are part of this committee and help with running various events like the Film Festival and Easter Camp.
- The youth group also helped and participated in Church Garage Sale and the St Johns Quiz Night.





Look Out

Encourage young people to grow Christ-centered mission hearts to serve

- This last year has had a really strong community theme both in the Friday night, Sunday morning programmes. We have made an effort in inviting new people along, we have hit Cuba street stepping outside our comfort zone and sharing faith, We also held a World Vision 40hr famine event that focused on the essential needs of life, and how so many people don't have the basics. We were able to raise money to go towards this cause, and also raised awareness.
- We have also continued to sponsor Dennis our world vision child.



St Johns Youth Group Numbers

We have 50 members in our youth group with an average of 35 different young people attending our programmes each week.

The major difference in our youth ministry this year has been the increased sense of community, the bond that the young people share with each other and the desire they have to outreach to our community. We have on average 20 young people attending the senior programme on Sundays and 10 in the juniors.

Leadership Team

We have a strong group of leaders who give so much time, energy and dedication to making Youth Ministry at St John's so awesome. We have a talented bunch of leaders who's stunning faces are above;

Raz, Jesse, Alice, Nga, Steph, Anna, AJ, Mark, Margaret

Thank you!

Everyone at St Johns for your support in helping the youth ministry strive to be what is important – to reach out to young people and share the gospel in a relevant way.

Thank you for everyone who has given their time, support, prayers, donations and encouragement to our leaders and young people.

Thank you to the Christian Education Committee for your unwavering positive support and enthusiasm which gives us energy to stay on top of our game.

And thankyou to the staff at BGI who provide us with awesome resources that allow us to put our heart and soul into this ministry, and or the time and support that is given so we are able to do the best for our young people. We are so blessed to have you as our whanau.

Arohanui ki a koutou

Ryhan Prasad



St J's Kids

"As you arrive at church this Sunday, stop outside for a moment, close your eyes and think about how it looks and feels. Does the outside of your church suggest that this is a place that is loved and cared for? Does the inside foyer and sanctuary reflect welcome, friendship and celebration of all ages?..."

...If you were a newcomer adult or child possibly coming to church for the first time, maybe with some trepidation, how will you be welcomed? What will you see, hear, feel as you enter our place?..."

...Step into your kids' shoes and take a walk through your church..."

Jill Kayser, "Hands On" Newsletter Nov '06

Imagine if St John's not only has a reputation for intellectual rigour and debate, active in social justice and public issues, but also values children.

Well, St J's Kids' 'Big News' is that in June St John's became 'branded' as a Kids Friendly church. Kids Friendly is a PCANZ initiative with a vision for the Presbyterian Church to become renowned for the way it serves and embraces children and families.

Kids Friendly has been developed as a brand identifying a network of active churches which intentionally welcome, celebrate and nurture children. There are currently 17 branded churches and about 56 working towards becoming Kids Friendly.

So what does being 'Kids Friendly' mean?

A Kids Friendly church is a place where:

- Children are welcomed, celebrated and nurtured.
- Children belong and participate in the life and worship of the faith community.
- Children can explore, learn and experience the love of Christ.
- Children are valued for the immense love and life they bring to the whole church family.
- Children create opportunity for people of all ages to learn from, respect and appreciate one another.

St John's has a set of goals we are working towards to improve our Kids Friendly status.

St J's Kids theme for 2007

Caring for the taonga God has given us - our earth. We can make a difference by joining with other people to help care for it, in particular other children in NZ and around the world.

Curriculum: 'Seasons of the Spirit' which follows the Lectionary continues to be used. Its main aim is to lay the biblical story and example of Jesus Christ alongside the concerns and life choices we must face each day.

Leadership Team

We have a good team of leaders, just enough to provide Leaders and Assistants at each age level.

In April, Amy Pratt, Sarah Marshall, Echo Zhu, Alychia Chan, Sean O'Connor and Catharine Xiaoming from the 20s/30s home group provided a much-needed boost to the team. They are a fantastic asset with lots of energy and relate well to the children.

We have the following age-specific groups with support from people who assist on a casual basis:

Nifty Norths (Preschl - 5yrs)

- Leaders: Heather Walker & Melanie Bosman
- Assistants: Beth Beard & Nina Liando

Super Souths (Yrs 1 & 2)

- Leaders: Janie Pack & Bronwyn Wood
- Assistant: Ingrid McEnaney

Electric Easts (Yrs 3 & 4)

- Leaders: Iris Webster, Shirley Carran & Catherine Galuszka

Wild Wests (Yrs 5 & 6)

- Leaders: Nicki Read, Ross Davis & Amy Pratt
- Assistants: Sean O'Connor

Leadership Training

In June we co-hosted a workshop 'Faith@home' facilitated by Jill Kayser, Kids Friendly Coach. Its aim was to encourage Parents, Grandparents and Leaders to share their faith with their children, resourcing them to do this more effectively.

In July, St J's Kids' Leaders had a training evening facilitated by Fiona Purchase, a Training Coach. We looked at our own life narrative and how we bring it into our teaching/story telling. People were able to reflect on how they lead identifying entry points for children to the gospel.

Holiday programmes on Sundays:

Continue during the school holiday break and long weekends. Different people from the congregation care for the children from a prepared box of activities and videos. The children have enjoyed connecting with others in the congregation and having a less structured programme.

Numbers

There are approx. 36 families (about 60 children) with an average of 27 children attending each Sunday.

The children and their families have enjoyed a number of events that have given them a chance to invite friends, build relationships between families and with their Leaders.

In February, St J's Kids joined the 'Waitangi Family fun Day' at Waitangi Park followed by a BBQ and water fight in the St John's courtyard.

In June, 'Wheels Afternoon' at the Kilbirnie Rec' Centre was attended by approx. 45 children plus 15 parents.

In August, 'Starlight Storytime'. This has proven to be so popular, two sessions were run with approx. 70 children & 30 parents attending. Advertising posters were placed locally and at Te Aro School but the main people attending were children & families connected to St J's Kids.

St J's Kids in Worship and the life of the Congregation

The children have enjoyed being part of special church events such as the Advent Carol Service in which they led two carols. A few weeks later they presented the story "Jesus's Christmas Party" by Nicholas Allen as their Christmas Pageant, with Elihu Prasad as Baby Jesus. Then there was the St John's Fair in March.

Monthly Communion morning tea in the Conference Centre has been working well, particularly as the Congregation endeavour to learn some of the children's names.

Recently, children have taken a significant role in weekly worship by leading a children's Bible in at the beginning & leading the children out with it when they go to St J's Kids.

In June, St J's Kids had a baking afternoon in which they made morning tea for the Congregation after All Age Worship. The children showed great pride as they shared their baking with the Congregation, learning more about what it is to give generously as Jesus did.

'Starlight Storytime' provided an opportunity for the children to see a number of adults in the Congregation in a different light, e.g. the Convenor of the Property Committee acting as an unsympathetic train driver in one of the stories, and to see other adults giving of their time during the night with greeting, story telling, acting, preparing and serving supper.

This involvement has contributed to the children's sense of belonging to the wider church family.

Thanks

Special thanks go to the wonderful people who make up our St J's Kids leadership team. Your enthusiasm and care for the children of St John's is to be applauded!

A big thank you to all the people from the congregation who have been involved with St J's Kids in areas such as leading the holiday programmes and assisting with social events. Your willingness to make time to come alongside the children of St John's has been very encouraging.

"Inclusion is not about hospitality to children, entertaining or accommodating children, it is about bringing children into the experience of the Kingdom of God." Thank you.

Tribute to Helen Martin during her farewell lunch

Helen you are great at being a Minister and this is why...

You are easy to understand and you put big ideas into simple words...

You don't talk too much like other adults do

You talk and children listen

You tell us nice stories and sometimes we sing a song when we have children's time in church

You let us help change the bookmarks and cloths for the table in church.

You wear a purple scarf around your neck which we see each Sunday

You have told us about prayer bubbles

You are caring, kind, warm, and friendly...

You understand what people need

You let Sarah splash in the communion font when she was being baptised

You let Claire lead the Bible into church one morning

You baptised me. I liked your soft toys you had. We always remember it – especially 'cos Josiah nearly flooded the church!

Your Teddy Bear visited us with good books to read when we were sick

You said a special prayer for Josiah and Oliver's Dad when he went to Israel and they lit a candle

You understand us...

You don't laugh at our ideas, our thoughts, or our fears

We have got to know you quickly

You make people laugh

We hope the children in Temuka will love you as much as we do.

We will miss your smile

Love from us all at St J's Kids



Asian cooking Sushi - Juniors



Company church parade girls sinning the jumping song



Company Girls doing Hip Hop dancing at the break up



Visit of Dog and Owner, Hannah is combing her coat - Juniors



City Boys herding sheep. That's something you don't see often.



All age worship



Outdoor swimming in April. That's something you don't see often.



Music and Movement - Parachute games

The Girls' Brigade - 8th Wellington Company

"And let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the Pioneer and Perfector of our faith" (Hebrews 12 v 1-2).

This is the Pioneer section bible verse and the past year has seen our Pioneers developing their skills in the company. We promoted three seniors to this section at the end-of-year breakup.

Jo Nyberg who led this group received her 10 years Officer's service brooch in November 2006. The Pioneers' badge work over the past year has covered painting a picture of Manners Mall as they saw it, Hip Hop dancing, and learning how to understand the elderly and the care they need.

Lyn Pollock came and spoke to them about the different aspects to consider when taking photographs. The girls have made books of their photos which Lyn will comment on. One aspect of learning communication skills had the girls being blindfolded and asked to follow one girl's instructions to make pikelets. The task was successfully accomplished.

The Pioneers take fall-in games and devotions every week. The girls in devotions bring up the topics they want to pray for, and one of the girls will lead the prayers.

The Seniors under Pauline Little have done Walking Through the Bible, Hip Hop dancing, learning about Girls' Brigade in Africa, and making glove puppets to perform a play on the Ten Commandments. We started our 2007 year

by making the most of the long daylight with a picnic tea at Oriental Bay, Laser Force and a Hat party. At the end of each term the last night is a Company Fun Night which the Pioneers organise.

There is a strong commitment amongst the leaders and two have completed over 40 years of service as Officers whilst three others have done over 10 years of service. All the Officers have now passed Police Clearance.

We appreciate Fiona Bayliss who comes in each week to lead the Girls in singing old and modern Christian songs. We sang one of our songs at the Bible Sunday Service in September 2006, its title being "Our God is not Dead".

We farewelled our Chaplain, Helen Martin, at the end of Term and wished her well in her new parish. I acknowledge the support of all my leaders over the past year. We have been out to the *Fisherman's Table* for a meal and to a Xmas party at Mrs Little's place. We have also had afternoon tea at Corinna Davis' place at Porirua.

The movement is still relevant and challenges girls today.

Our meeting times are on Tuesdays in the St John's Centre gymnasium.

Juniors 6 – 7 p.m.

Seniors & Pioneers 6.15 – 8.15 p.m.

Katherine Sutherland
8th Wellington Company Team Leader.

The Girls' Brigade - Juniors Report

In July, 2006, we had a happy group of girls working on their crafts, making big papier maché Asian Animals, a Chinese rickshaw and an Oriental Garden. The overall theme was "My Friend in Asia".

For care of pets we visited Mrs Little's house to see her two cats and fish. We were unable to visit the vet as staff members were sick but they sent information. The girls replied with a card. A friendly female dog and her kind owner visited us.

We had a Company Church Parade where the Juniors joined in singing the Jumping Song.

All had completed their badge work in time for the Breakup on 14 November, where the Juniors joined in the singing and their version of the HipHop dancing.

We began 2007 with a fun night in the Hall, a visit to Central Park for a picnic and tea and a swim at Oriental Bay.

We were to have a trip on the East-West Ferry but the sailing was cancelled, so we spent our time in the Wharf area, eating our lunch, playing at Frank Kitts Park, visiting the City and Sea Museum and listening to the service for "Paddy the Wanderer", the wharf dog.

We learned about Easter and made scented soap and a card for Mothers' Day.

The girls have also made elephant masks and plaster of Paris fish for turning into magnets.

This year our theme is "My Friend in Africa". We are collecting money for fresh water in Africa and African Girls' Brigade. We have done three weeks of African cooking, making Koesisters (a kind of fried bread) with syrup, maize muffins and a fish casserole.

We would like more girls, aged 5 to 8 years to join us.

I thank Mrs Little for her help with the Juniors. We will continue to teach the motto, to seek, serve and follow Christ.

A Marshall
Junior Leader

The Boys' Brigade - 2nd Wellington Company

The 2006/07 year has been a great one for the 2nd Wellington Boys' Brigade Company. It is great to see St John's continuing to develop boys into strong Christian men. The only low point in the year was the passing of our founder, Duncan Fowler. However, I imagine he would be proud to see a Company he started in 1949 outlasting his lifetime.

At the 47th presentation of awards in November a number of boys completed large parts of the new RISC Award Scheme. These boys are able to use their BB work as credit towards the Young New Zealanders' Challenge Award (formerly The Duke of Edinburgh Award).

Other special awards were:

Sportsman's Award:

Daniel Arnold

Alford Dornan Drill Shield :

Bryan Penlington

Miss Millier Cup for Excellence of Character:

Michael Saywell

Squad Trophy:

Squad 2

MVP for Company Section:

Kyshion Tauafiafi

MVP for Team Section: Chris Penlington

There was also a special Queen's Badge presentation. This culmination of 6 years' hard work honoured a very deserving young man, Matthew Bayliss.

The last half of 2006 for Company Section included learning to play the drum, and the senior boys (15-17 years old) produced a short film. Activities in 2007 included electronics, wildlife and cooking, as well as construction of a football table for Company and catapults for Team Section.

During the year we hosted combined evenings with other Companies from around Wellington. The Lower Hutt Team Section joined us for a dodge ball evening, complete with cardboard castles and shields. The football and pingpong evening with Tawa Company Section was also a great success. We look forward to strengthening our relationships with other companies in Wellington in the coming year.

Across the entire Company there has been a huge emphasis on team-building and leadership training. The National Leadership Development Course (NLDC), held in July at Nelson Lakes, had 2 attendees from 2nd Wellington, - Matthew Bayliss participating in Stage I and Nathan Smith as a leader on Stage II. It is good to see that we have such great leaders that we are in demand at national level.

Three Officers also attended the Christian Leadership Course in September. This was a fantastic way to upskill and develop as individuals and as a team.

There has also been fantastic development in boys locally via an in-depth course of instruction into what it means to follow Christ's example of servant leadership.

As a memorial to Mr Fowler, we have renamed our leadership scholarship, - "The Duncan Fowler Scholarship for Young Leaders", the first recipients attending NLDC in July, 2007.

In April we commandeered the BGI "Crossing the Stile" trip as a camp. We invited boys from Tawa and also had one attendee from outside BB altogether. It was a great trip to the East Coast, visiting both Tolaga and Tokomaru Bays. It was very amusing for us to see boys from the city trying to herd sheep and hunt turkeys barehanded. (Needless to say, they came back barehanded). All the boys had a great time and are enthusiastic to go back next year.

The past year has been a fantastic year. We are looking forward to the challenges and opportunities in the coming year. I would like to extend a very special thank you to all the leaders, parents and elders, as well as to Dr Redding as an exiting Chaplain and Helen Martin in his absence. You have all been a fantastic support to advancing Christ's Kingdom among boys at the 2nd Wellington Boys' Brigade Company.

Yours in His service – ma Ihowa maanaki e koe

David Jackson

Captain, on behalf of the team:

Sandy Lawson, John Hunt, Ross Davis (Elders)

Nathan Smith (LIC Team Section)

Nathan Bayliss (Warrant Officer)

Simon Anastasiadis, Peter Jackson, Stephen Jackson (Staff Sergeants)

Monday Night House Group

This year, for the first time, we had a proposal of marriage at our Christmas party. It was not, we hasten to add, from within the house group, but rather from another couple who happened to be eating at the Kai in the City restaurant. It was the last surprise of a rather special evening of Maori singing and New Zealand food.

The more “normal” highlight was a series of studies that we did under the guidance of one of our members, Catherine Gong, who needed to analyse a group developing a faith-based sustainability programme as part of her Masters at Victoria. We met over four nights, had challenging and wide-reaching discussions about Christian beliefs and the environment, and ended up developing a programme that we felt was of sufficient interest that we presented it to Session, who have referred it on to Council for their consideration.

For the rest of the time, we have done more traditional studies, including one especially prepared by the Moderator before the General Assembly, a study of Elijah, punctuated by occasional variation caused by a member reading an interesting book, being involved in an interesting topic (such as the recent study on the ethics of antenatal genetic testing) or going on an interesting trip.

We always welcome new members, and anyone who would like to find out more should contact David and Margaret Galt on 934-4422.

Margaret Galt

Tuesday Night House Group

The Tuesday Night House Group continues to meet fortnightly at various homes throughout Wellington city.

We normally begin each year with a barbecue where we decide our first study for the year. At the end of each study series we then discuss and agree what we would like to look at next (this has either been a book of the Bible or a particular theme).

Our studies over the past twelve months have included “Jesus Compassionate Healer”, “Serious Answers to Hard Questions”, (an excellent dvd series which addressed a wide range of issues such as the existence of evil and the relationship between science and religion), “Beating Busyness” and “Jesus Provocative Teacher”, as well as reflections on the General Assembly and the meaning of community.

“Beating Busyness” was also the theme of an evening service the group led during April, with each member of the group contributing to the service.

We close each evening with a time of prayer and fellowship.

You are always welcome at any time, and a special invitation is extended to everyone in the congregation as we begin each new study. As a result, it has been great to welcome a number of new people to the group throughout the year.

Anyone is welcome to attend a single evening (just to see what it is like) or a specific study series – you don’t have to commit for life ! The most important thing is that the group encourages and supports you in your spiritual journey.

It is not all hard work, though. There is fun, friendship and fellowship spread throughout the year with shared meals and the occasional movie night complete with ice creams and popcorn !

This year sees us celebrating our twentieth anniversary. We give thanks for everyone who has been a part of the group over this time. Each person’s contribution is valued and unique, and has helped shape who we are today. We also give thanks to God for his guidance and blessings.

If you are interested in joining us, please contact Paul or Louise Ramsay on 386 2755 (home) or 494 3716 (work) or by email at paul@clear.net.nz

Paul Ramsay

Women's Association

It is with great pleasure that I present this Annual report on the activities of St John's Women's Association.

My thanks go to all who have helped in my absences, especially Muriel Ewan, who provides not only good guidance and wisdom, but also deputises so willingly whenever asked. The Committee members also deserve special thanks for the work they put in behind the scenes, allowing us to enjoy our fellowship together.

As in the past, our gatherings consist of a short business session, followed by a guest speaker and then a shared lunch.

Guest Speakers

We continue to be stimulated and challenged by the guest speakers as well as being transported to other lands. Quite a trend in the past year.

Claire Dawe, one of the St Giles women who have joined our group, took us to the Baltic States, including Russia.

Margaret Macey had us all camping out in the Sahara Desert, plus a side trip to Morocco.

Mary Gibbs travelled up the Danube River from the Black Sea in Romania to Budapest in Hungary.

Roger and Kathy Lloyd kindly hosted us at their home in Churton Park, where Roger talked about their trip to China.

Dr Jonathon Boston gave us an inspiring talk about the possible effects of climate change and what we may do as individuals to help minimise the effects.

Sheila Natusch provided a potted history of how she became involved in drawing, writing and recording Natural History within New Zealand.

A barbecue held in the courtyard of the Conference Centre began our 2007 year.

The regular Church Services at Easter and Christmas were both led by the Rev. Helen Martin. After each of these services we farewelled one of our ministers. Initially, Rev. Dr Graham Redding and Jenni Redding (who had been our auditor for the last four years), and then Helen. We miss their cheerful presence at our lunches but wish them all well in their new positions.

Association of Presbyterian Women

a) Wellington Regional Meetings

St John's continues to have at least 3 - 4 people attending these meetings, - this year at the Christmas service held at PIC Newtown Church, and on 31 March at St Oswald's, Johnsonville. It is always interesting to hear what other parishes in the area are doing.

b) Special General Meeting of APW

This was held on 17 May in Seatoun, the main purpose being to elect a new Policy and Administrative Committee.

Natalie Watkins and Mary North both resigned. The new convenor is Heather Tate from Palmerston North, the deputy convenor position is still to be filled. Other office bearers to be elected unopposed are Jill Little, secretary, from Fielding and Diane Croft, treasurer, from Katikati.

c) Regional Representatives

Carolyn Goudswaard and Mary Gibbs continue to be the Parish Liaison representatives.

We are also the Regional representatives to the National Council of Women, Wellington Branch.

d) Mission Special Project

There are two groups that will benefit from the money raised this year: The Stroke Foundation of New Zealand and, in Timor Leste, through the offices of the Christian World Service, aid will enable a group of Dominican Filipina Sisters to help youth obtain skills to get paid employment. As usual, we held a fundraising lunch on 27 May after church. Our guest speaker was Liz Hicks, recently returned from Timor Leste where she has been working with Volunteer Service Abroad in a Health Clinic.

Other Activities

St John's Council

Mary Gibbs as the Women's Association Convenor attends these monthly meetings. Minutes of our meetings are circulated and any specific concerns are discussed.

Missions

- see separate attached report for the Birthday Mission

Stamps

A lot of hard work goes into getting the stamps ready for sale. Although in monetary return our contributions may seem small, when added to all other parish stamp donations a significant amount of money raised nationally is certainly helping to maintain missionary activity globally.

Sales Table

The contributions from our monthly bring-and-buy sales table are used for assisting the Turakina Maori Girls' College pupils by way of a bursary.

St John's Fair

We participate by organising and running the Cake and Preserves stall. Of course many of our members were involved in other activities at the fair as well. We raised over \$500, a very good effort.

Obituaries

Sally Robertson - a long standing member of the group whose humour and determination are greatly missed.

Annual meetings are always a good opportunity to reflect on past activities, as well as looking to the future. Several aspects of our group are causing me concern. They are not new concerns but are, in my opinion, becoming more critical.

They are:

1. the aging of the group, with the inevitable death or moving away from St John's as more nursing care is required;
2. the lack of new people joining the group from within the congregation, - be they newly retired men or women, or young mothers;
3. the dwindling numbers supporting our APW Mission for special Projects fundraising lunches.
4. Many of the office bearers have been faithfully doing the required work and would really like to step down, but no-one is able or prepared to take on their tasks.

I therefore believe that we need to discuss the future of the St John's Women's Association. Why are we not getting more people to attend? Is it our name, time of day, format of the meetings or what? Should we be concerned or just let it take a natural progression and see what happens in the future?

My thanks once again to all who help make our meetings a very pleasant time of fellowship together. I believe we continue to meet the aims of the APW (our parent body):

"To unite all in prayer, study, fellowship and service to enable them to make a Christian witness in home, church or community.

To support at home and abroad the work of parent churches.

To encourage an informed interest in worldwide mission and evangelism."

God bless you all,

Mary Gibbs
President

Social Committee

The past twelve months have seen two large functions, plus the four usual after-communion lunches.

The farewell function for the Redding family stretched the Social Committee. Getting assistance from the Youth Group people to hand around the food made light work of a very busy two hours. Getting food out to a large number of people when there is only standing room in the hall calls for good balancing skills by those carrying the platters !

We hardly had time to catch our breath before it was time to farewell Helen Martin. By then the Committee and helpers had "farewells" down to a fine art. A very big thank you

The Birthday Mission

The Birthday Mission is organised by the Association of Presbyterian Women throughout New Zealand.

Together with the Sale of Stamps it has raised \$36,000 and nineteen organisations have benefited both in New Zealand and overseas.

For those who support the Mission Birthday Gift, we would like to thank you and assure you that your gifts are very much appreciated. As individuals we may feel that our contributions are small, but gathered together and allocated to so many organisations, they have a considerable impact.

Over recent years a few of our members have passed on so we would very much like to welcome some new members.

This mission which begins at our front door and spreads throughout New Zealand is extremely important.

If you would like to contribute to this worthwhile mission please contact:

Tricia Hastings 973 1309

Mavis Johnston 385 6403

to everyone who assisted at these functions. Hopefully, it will be some time before we have to do another Minister farewell.

Feedback suggests that these functions went very well and were appreciated by all. My position has only been made possible by the dedicated support of my Committee and other loyal helpers who have always been there when required. So, to my team of helpers, thank you for your support over the last twelve months.

Jinny Irvine
Convenor

Property Committee

Year after year for almost two decades, I have begun this report: "Another busy year..... etc.", so this year I will do something different.

With so much valuable and extensive property owned by St John's, of course it will be a busy year! Maintenance alone requires constant arranging and monitoring, by our own dedicated and talented staff of administrators and caretakers, by contractors, IQPs et al. Sometimes, direct monitoring by our Committee is called for or, when appropriate, by co-opting others. For the last several years we have been blessed with the willing services of our talented administrator Jan Stiebert in the office and John Hunt as roving ambassador/general factotum. John has been my admired, valued and loved mentor for the last 20 years.

We, the Committee, meet once a month to discuss and decide upon any action required to remedy any of the myriad problems which can arise when dealing with the day-to-day running and forward planning of the 'business' of St John's property.

We then report monthly to the church Council. We are required under the Terms of Reference of our Committee to maintain all property owned by St John's. Up until recently this has comprised all of the Willis Street, Dixon Street and MacDonald Crescent site and buildings, and two manses. The Lord in His infinite wisdom saw that the straw was about to break the camel's back and, lo, we have manses no more, - for a time. (An unfortunate corollary has been the loss of two beloved Ministers).

Part of our brief has been to ensure a maximum return from our property, good rental contracts and sound residential properties. The last few years have been ones of some anxiety on the fiscal front and the admonition from

the financial monitors was 'market rental from all available property, including car parks'. All of these directives we have taken to heart and a check of St John's accounts from the last few years will substantiate the fact that this instruction was taken seriously, acted upon, and that returns from our property have been maximised. The sale of our well-maintained manses brought a healthy return on investment.

Our car parks are fully let, with a waiting list, but also with the proviso that they are to be made available to parishioners on Sundays, - winners all round.

We are truly blessed to own such valuable, useful and well-designed property but it doesn't look after itself.

I have always been grateful that the Rev. Maurice Brown asked me to become a member of the then Board of Managers and, specifically, the Property Committee, away back in 1989. I love my church family and all that St John's has given me since I first came here in 1987. I have been sustained, uplifted and enriched beyond measure for 20 years and gladly do my humble best, ably assisted by a succession of dear, willing, hugely-talented Committee members who make my job possible. Together we work to keep your property safe, valuable, and well-maintained.

Long may it all continue.

John Irvine, Convenor

Jan Stiebert
Peter Ballinger
Lesley Shaw
John Hunt

Communications Committee

First, thanks to Gail Higgs-West and Ross McKay for serving on the Committee this year. Thanks to Lesley and Malcolm Shaw for continuing to keep the phone list and name tags up to date, to Rob Anderson for trying a new look Messenger, to David and William Galt for continuing to keep the web site relevant, and to BGI and David Jackson for providing some good designs.

Please could we have more feedback on our work –particularly if you have found the new look Messenger an improvement. We plan to do a survey on this but have not managed to start that yet.

Our role is helping to promote the events of other committees, such as the Stewardship for Mission, Sunday School and Youth Group, as well as events such as public lectures, concerts, the fashion show, and aged seminars. We are also responsible for church signs. These have not changed as regularly this year as we would like. It is sometimes hard to come up with good and acceptable ideas, and a number of designs had to be shelved after further consideration. Please let us know if you come up with anything you think would be appropriate for a church poster. Our aim is to show a church that is not afraid to laugh at itself, also to challenge any cultural apathy or negative stereotypes towards the church.

We have installed a slightly larger corner sign which is lit up, welcoming, contemporary and includes some Maori words.

On new signage by the carpark we have renamed the Conference Centre the “St John’s Centre” and included references to Youth and Sunday School spaces. This acknowledges both its history as the Sunday School hall and the multiple church and community uses it currently has. We have also begun to use the church’s mission statement on signage.

After some considerable debate at St John’s Council, we are trialling our idea of “XI. THOU SHALT NOT PARK” on the church carpark roller door. A number of people have been amused by the sign and I have observed them photographing it and having a bit of a laugh –. It is a good conversation starter and may prove a useful strategy in counteracting any impressions that exist of churches being moralistic and stern.

Part of our brief is to facilitate our Senior Minister’s response to issues of the day in the local and national media. We have not been successful in this but the new theological centre being established in Otago may help make it easier for ministers to add something new to public debate.

Finally, a reminder that the aim of our flame imagery is to help St John’s communicate the message that –here is an orthodox, yet modern church, where the people have been ignited by the love of God in Christ Jesus and where Te Wairua Tapu is welcoming and also dangerously contagious.

In the end we, ‘the congregation’ are our best means of communication. Go forth St Johns and communicate! Ask people to join us in worship, that they might experience life in all its fullness as it is found here.

ma Ihowa tatou e manaaki (God Blesses us),

Ross Davis
Convenor



St John's Website

www.stjohnsinthecity.org.nz

The St John's web site continues to grow in popularity. During 2006/7, our web site had 23,700 unique visitors measured on a monthly basis, up 19% for the year. The number of visits for the year was not up so much – just 1.4% to 35,897. 74,352 pages were accessed and 5.745 gigabytes of material were downloaded.

A large number of people are accessing the site from New Zealand domains but many are accessing it from .net domains and .com domains, with many also from Australia.

The most popular material continues to be our free Sunday School resources – plays and material written for St John's use, but which are enjoyed all over the world, to which people are directed by a major site for youth resources in the United States. Genealogists remain interested in our data on marriages at St John's in the nineteenth century. For some reason, there has been high continuing interest in "Paul and Silas in Prison" – one of our Sunday School plays and perhaps more understandably, strong interest in our explanations of baptism and christening.

People do use the site to find out about St John's – including people interested in coming to St John's or coming to Wellington. We really want to make sure we present a good, accurate picture of life at our church to help people decide whether they want to join us. There is interest in our facilities, contact details, youth programmes, staff, and much more. Our weekly bulletin details are very popular, and are usually updated on a Friday so that you can find out what is happening before you get to Church or even while you are away overseas. The annual reports from 2002 onwards are all there, as are the Messengers, with much quality material. Updates from Session and Council for the latest month available are easily found.

There is interest in new sermons – one by Helen Martin on the subject of sin is a popular item, but we have more recent material such as a sermon by Jonathan Boston on the cost of discipleship too.

Interest has kept up during the vacancy. As of June, there is still growth in visitors compared with last year.

Members of the congregation can continue to contribute to this outreach too. If you are producing publicity material, key information, original resources for your youth or adult study group, your annual or term programme of activities or anything of interest – send it on for publication on the web. You only have to email it to the church office for forwarding or send directly to david.galt@paradise.co.nz. Even if you are not an author, you can help by including your material in the Bulletin, from where it will be picked up, or by telling others about the web site where they can look up details about St John's.

David Galt

Register for the Year Ending 30 June 2007

Number of Baptisms:	12
Number of Marriages:	4
Members joined during year:	10

The deaths are recorded of the following members:

John Eaglesham Hetrick

Very Rev. Dr David Steedman

Frank Nauta

Lillian Mavis Robertson

Douglas Alexander Smith

Investment Advisory Committee Report

The Capital Trust – created from the proceeds of the plot ratio sale in 1987 – continues to provide St Johns with good investment returns to support the maintenance of our historic site, the operations of our church, care of our wider parish and outreach.

The current challenging investment environment with an inverted yield curve has continued from last year. This arises when short term interest rates are higher than long term rates, a situation that makes it more difficult to maintain consistent returns year-on-year. The key difference over last year, however, was a much lower level of inflation at 2% - significantly lower than predicted and almost half of that in 2006. This resulted in a much needed increase in net cash available to St Johns after inflation protecting the capital value of the fund.

The Committee aims to maximise income from investments while minimising risk. To this end, the Investment Advisory Committee has made several changes to the investments within the portfolio. These changes involved:

- Sale of the small number of directly held shares in Telecom and Vector and replacement with a diversified and more substantial investment in the NZSX 50 Portfolio Index Fund. This reduces the risk of capital losses from direct shareholdings while increasing the overall proportion of the fund held in equities which, over the longer term, are expected to provide higher returns.
- Taking advantage of the high yields from current market opportunities through investment in several short term Registered Certificates of Deposit purchased at a discount, i.e. less than face value.

The high standard of the Trust's fixed interest investment portfolio has insulated it from the recent problems experienced in some areas of the financial markets

In addition to the capital trust, the committee invests cash reserves and legacy funds until required and has invested the proceeds from the sale of the manse until such time as a new minister is selected.

Bob McCay
Convenor

Financial Committee Report

This year started with expectations of a financial outcome very similar to 2006 with another deficit budget, very limited cash reserves and continuing need for very tight management of expenditure. We were also very conscious that our limited cash reserves restricted our ability to change the Capital Trust investment strategy to gain higher returns over the longer term because of the increased risk of significant income fluctuations from year-to-year.

On a positive note, however, we hoped and budgeted for further increases in giving from the congregation and we also planned to continue the successful fundraising events of the previous two years.

None of us expected to see...

- Both of our ministers leave
- The sale of both manse
- Inflation being half of that in the previous year
- Investment market conditions enabling the Investment Advisory Committee to capitalise on a number of A rated investments with higher rates than budgeted.

All of these things had a major effect on the financial results for the year. Staff costs were lower, as were manse costs such as rates and insurance. Reduced inflation added more than \$200,000 to the Capital Trust income available after inflation. Gross returns from the Capital Trust increased.

In addition, committee convenors maintained strong control over costs, congregational giving has increased and we have enjoyed our fundraising with a very successful church fair and a number of superb concerts.

All of this has resulted in a significant surplus, which can be seen from the plain English financial summary on the following page.

The key effect of this is to enable much needed recovery of the cash reserves eroded by the deficits of the last five years. This is particularly important as we need to ensure we have sufficient cash, for example, to refurbish the conference centre next year as this continues to get enormous use, and to repaint the church in the next two or three years.

As we have seen with this year, it is difficult to predict financial outcomes, but with similar economic conditions we are predicting a positive outcome in 2007/08.

Ross Chesney
Convenor, Finance Committee

St John's in the City

Plan English Summary of Financial Performance

for the Year Ended 30 June 2007

	\$000's	\$000's	
St John's received income from the following areas:			
Weekly congregational giving by direct credits, envelope system and weekly collection	146	135	← Congregational giving increased
Other donations and fundraising	34	43	
Rents received from leasing space in Troup House and conference facilities, plus interest earned on our bank account	191	174	← Troup House fully rented at commercial rates High casual use of Conference Centre
Net interest income from cash reserves, legacies and the Capital Trust (created from sale of St John's plot ratio in the late 1980's), less an adjustment for inflation to protect the cash received for future years, and less administration costs	782	419	← Capital trust income increased by 15% Inflation reduced from 4% to 2%
Total Income available for St John's General Operations	1,153	771	
St John's incurred expenditure in the following areas:			
Church Activities			
Salaries paid to the Ministers and support staff	249	271	
Contribution to Christian education	52	56	
Other costs	83	66	
	384	393	
Property costs			
Expenditure on maintaining the Church, manses, conference facilities & Troup House including rates, insurances, repairs and maintenance	143	129	
Depreciation to provide funds for future replacement	63	73	
	206	202	
Wider Work			
Contribution to the operations of the Presbyterian Church in New Zealand	130	102	
St Johns financial support for the Victoria University Lectureship	70	70	
St Johns financial support for the Boys and Girls Institute (BGI)	30	30	
Other activities	24	15	
	254	217	
Net surplus / (deficit) available for use by St John's	309	(41)	← Surplus enables recovery of deficits of over the last five years
Other resources were used as follows:			
Gain from sale of manses that must be retained to purchase new manses when required (less costs of selling manses)	463	0	
Funds used from legacies and amounts received in advance	19	162	
Net surplus transferred to reserves	791	121	

AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Congregation of St John's in the City (the 'Church')

We have audited the financial statements on pages 1 to 8. The financial statements provide information about the past financial performance of the Church and its financial position as at 30 June 2007. This information is stated in accordance with the accounting policies set out on pages 4 and 5.

Councils' Responsibilities

The Council are responsible for the preparation of financial statements which fairly reflect the financial position of the Church as at 30 June 2007 and the results of its operations for the year ended on that date.

Auditors' Responsibilities

It is our responsibility to express an independent opinion on the financial statements presented by the Council and report our opinion to you.

Basis of Opinion

An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes assessing:

- the significant estimates and judgements made by the Council in the preparation of the financial statements, and
- whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Church's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We conducted our audit in accordance with New Zealand Auditing Standards issued by the New Zealand Institute of Chartered Accountants. We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatements, whether caused by fraud or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Other than in our capacity as auditor we have no relationship with, or interests in the Church.

Qualified Audit Opinion

We have obtained all the information and explanations we have required.

As stated in the Statement of Accounting policies on page 4 of the financial statements, the Church has not provided for depreciation on the Church and Spinks Cottage, both of which are heritage assets. This is a departure from Financial Reporting Standard No. 3 - *Accounting for Property, Plant and Equipment*, which requires that depreciation is charged on assets, including heritage assets against the Net Surplus so as to allocate the cost of the Church and Spinks Cottage over their economic lives.

We estimate that had the Church adopted this policy, depreciation for the year ended 30 June 2007 would have increased by a further \$26,680. The effect on the financial statements would have been to decrease the Net Surplus for the year by \$26,680 and decrease the Unallocated Reserves by the same amount. The carrying value of the fixed asset category, Buildings and Improvements would have decreased by \$160,080 which represents the amount of accumulated depreciation as at balance date for the remaining Church and Spinks Cottage assets.

In our opinion:

- proper accounting records have been kept by the Church as far as appears from our examination on those records; and
- except for the effect of the departure from applicable Financial Reporting Standard No. 3 as outlined above the financial statements on pages 1 to 8:
 - comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand; and
 - fairly reflect the financial position of the Church as at 30 June 2007 and the results of its operations for the year ended on that date.

Our audit was completed on 11 September 2007 and our qualified opinion is expressed as at that date.

BDO Spicers
BDO Spicers Wellington
Chartered Accountants

ST JOHN'S IN THE CITY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE for the year ended 30 June 2007

	Note	\$	2007 \$	2006 \$
INCOME				
Congregational Giving		146,422		135,059
Donations, Fundraising and Miscellaneous Receipts		31,411		43,693
Legacies Received		3,000		-
Rentals		191,394		173,988
Interest		42,922		42,959
Total Church Operating Income			415,149	395,699
Capital Trust Interest and Dividends		1,004,902		855,409
Capital Gain(Loss) on Sale of Shares		(3,426)		9,358
Total Income from the Capital Trust			1,001,476	864,767
Gain on Sale of Manses			503,732	-
TOTAL INCOME			1,920,357	1,260,466
EXPENDITURE				
Church Activities				
Staff Costs		248,871		271,403
Christian Education		52,091		55,712
Worship & Music		1,693		4,963
Congregational Activities		896		518
Communications		26,791		14,536
Session Costs		2,461		2,195
General Expenses		32,786		32,889
Audit Fees		6,619		6,070
Accounting Fees		4,300		3,900
Legal Fees		7,662		1,040
PCANZ Capital Trust Administration Fees		20,802		22,559
Total Church Activities			404,972	415,825
Property Costs				
Church Running Costs & Repairs		99,202		90,924
Church Improvements & New Equipment		2,707		7,114
Manses Rates, Insurance & Repairs		20,502		6,837
Legal Fees and Commissions on Sale of Manses		40,854		-
Troup House Running Costs & Repairs		21,491		24,616
Depreciation		62,003		72,541
Total Property Costs			246,759	202,032
Wider Work				
Presbyterian Church National Services, Parish & MMF Levies		130,907		102,339
Outreach Appeals Committee		13,919		6,000
Donations		5,177		5,441
Contribution to the BGI		30,000		30,000
Boys Brigade		2,560		1,912
Girls Brigade		1,582		1,847
VUW Lectureship		70,000		70,000
Total Wider Work Expenses			254,145	217,539
TOTAL EXPENDITURE			905,876	835,396
NET SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR			1,014,481	425,070
Less: Transfers to Inflation Protect the Capital Trust	4		(242,138)	(465,650)
Less: Transfers to Legacies	4		-	(42,053)
Plus: Transfers from VUW Lectureship Fund	4		-	9,275
NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) TRANSFERRED TO / (FROM)			772,343	(73,357)
UNALLOCATED RESERVES			19,207	194,176
Plus: Transfer from Legacies				
TOTAL MOVEMENT IN UNALLOCATED RESERVES			791,550	120,819

The accompanying notes form part of and should be read in conjunction with the financial statements

ST JOHN'S IN THE CITY

STATEMENT OF MOVEMENTS IN EQUITY for the year ended 30 June 2007

	Note	2007 \$	2006 \$
Net Surplus for the Year		1,014,481	425,070
Share Investment Revaluation	4	61,518	(129,283)
Total Recognised Revenues and Expenses for the Year		1,075,999	295,787
Total Equity at beginning of year		21,018,545	20,722,758
TOTAL EQUITY AT END OF YEAR		22,094,544	21,018,545

The accompanying notes form part of and should be read in conjunction with the financial statements.

ST JOHN'S IN THE CITY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION as at 30 June 2007

	Note	\$	2007 \$	2006 \$
Current Assets				
Cash at Bank		45,290		29,052
Cash at PCANZ		639,354		594,260
Accounts Receivable		5,324		27,058
Interest Receivable		104,658		-
Capital Trust and Other Investments	2	3,539,519		5,102,564
Prepayments		-		3,462
Total Current Assets			4,334,143	5,756,997
Non Current Assets				
Capital Trust Investments	2	10,681,109		7,217,754
Fixed Assets	3	7,123,598		8,091,949
Total Non Current Assets			17,804,707	15,309,703
Total Assets			22,138,850	21,066,700
less Current Liabilities				
Accounts Payable		44,306		48,155
Total Current Liabilities			44,306	48,155
NET ASSETS			22,094,544	21,018,545
CAPITAL AND RESERVES	4		22,094,544	21,018,545


Treasurer


Council Chairperson

11 September 2007

The accompanying notes form part of and should be read in conjunction with the financial statements.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2007**Note 1 - Statement of Accounting Policies**General Accounting Policies**Reporting Entity**

The financial statements presented here are for the reporting entity St John's in the City (St John's Presbyterian Church), Wellington.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

Differential Reporting

An entity is exempt from certain requirements of financial reporting standards if it satisfies the criteria laid down in the Differential Reporting Framework issued by the New Zealand Institute of Chartered Accountants. Such an entity is called a qualifying entity.

St John's in the City is a qualifying entity by virtue of the fact that it has no public accountability and is not large as defined in the framework. The Church has taken advantage of all available exemptions.

Measurement Base

The measurement base adopted is historic cost unless otherwise stated.

Specific Accounting Policies**Accounts Receivable**

Accounts receivable are stated at expected realisable value.

Capital Trust Investments

The discount or premium on the purchase of investment stocks is amortised, on a straight line basis, over the term of the investment so that, at maturity, the book value of the investment equals its face value. The net effect of these adjustments is seen as the Stock Value Adjustment in the Statement of Financial Performance (See Note 3).

Investments in shares have been valued at current market value at Balance Date. Any increase or decrease on revaluation is recognised directly in equity through the Share Investment Revaluation Reserve.

Unrealised gains in the value of share investments of \$51,501 are included in the assets (2006 - \$66,616).

Fixed Assets

At 30 June 2001, previously uncapitalised Church Land and Buildings (including manse) were included in the Financial Statements based on their Registered Valuations prepared by Telfer Young as at 30 June 2001.

The Registered Valuations of these specialised properties have been accounted for according to Historical Cost principles on the basis of these valuations, in accordance with FRS-3: Accounting for Property, Plant and Equipment. These Assets, with the exception of the Church, Spinks Cottage and the Manses will be depreciated.

All other Fixed Assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation.

Depreciation

With the exception of the Church, Spinks Cottage and the Manses, depreciation is charged on a straight line basis so as to write off the cost of the fixed assets over their expected economic lives. The estimated economic lives are as follows:

Musical Equipment	15 years
Office Equipment	3-5 years
Furniture and Fittings	5 years
Church Equipment	5 years
Commercial Buildings	50 years
Building Improvements	3-10 years
Manse Equipment	5 years
Website	3 years

ST JOHN'S IN THE CITY

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2007 (continued)

Legacies

Legacies and Bequests are included within the Reserves of the Church. New Legacies, and income and expenditure specifically relating to legacies are recorded in the Statement of Financial Performance. The net surplus or deficit for the legacies in the period is transferred from unallocated reserves to the legacies.

Edward Carter Funds

Income from the Edward Carter Special Assistance Fund is allocated to special projects. Any unspent income is carried forward to the next year and is available to meet future special projects.

Goods and Services Tax

The financial statements have been prepared on a GST exclusive basis except for Accounts Receivable and Accounts Payable which are disclosed GST inclusive in the Statement of Financial Position.

Taxation

St John's in the City is exempt from Income Tax and Resident Withholding Tax by virtue of its status as a charitable organisation under Section CB 4(1)(c) and Section CB 4(1)(e) of the Income Tax Act 1994.

Changes in Accounting Policies

There have been no changes in accounting policy. All policies have been applied on bases consistent with those used in previous years.

ST JOHN'S IN THE CITY

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2007 (continued)

Note 2 - Investments

	Maturity Date	Maturity Value \$	2007 \$	2006 \$
On Call				
Amalgamated Investment Fund (including proceeds from the sale of the manse)			1,588,298	3,105,120
Stocks				
Kiwi Coop Dairy Senior Bond	November 2006	1,000,000	-	1,001,029
Vector Bonds	April 2007	1,000,000	-	996,415
National Bank Bonds	September 2007	500,000	500,000	500,000
Dunedin City Treasury Bonds	October 2007	1,000,000	1,000,843	1,004,283
Telecom Corporate Bonds	April 2008	450,000	450,380	450,908
NRMA Corporate Bond	August 2008	1,000,000	1,000,275	1,000,495
Powerco Corporate Bond	March 2011	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
Fonterra Corporate Bonds	April 2011	500,000	496,580	495,540
Powerco Corporate Bond	September 2012	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
Telecom Corporate Bond	March 2013	500,000	500,000	500,000
Westpac RCD	November 2006	1,000,000	-	970,070
Westpac RCD	March 2008	1,000,000	962,153	-
ASB Bank RCD	April 2008	2,000,000	1,884,615	-
Westpac RCD	April 2008	1,000,000	942,066	-
BNZ Term Deposit	May 2010	1,500,000	1,500,000	-
Rabobank Bond	May 2012	750,000	750,000	-
Shares and Notes	No of Shares	Cost		
Telecom	60,000	214,200	-	242,400
Vector Limited (formerly Natural Gas Corp)	22,155	15,642	-	54,058
NZSX 50 Portfolio Index Fund	343,152	599,932	655,420	-
			14,220,628	12,320,318

Note 3 - Fixed Assets

	2007 Cost \$	2007 Current Year Depreciation \$	2007 Accumulated Depreciation \$	2007 Net Book Value \$	2006 Net Book Value \$
Furniture & Fittings	45,230	2,888	38,532	6,698	8,958
Musical Equipment	41,237	2,667	32,622	8,615	9,417
Hall Equipment	47,488	6,120	39,040	8,448	11,909
Church Equipment	2,797	280	2,388	409	689
Office Equipment	140,701	3,801	131,648	9,053	4,305
Manse Equipment	-	-	-	-	12,450
Building & Improvements	4,900,682	46,247	260,307	4,640,375	5,244,220
Land	2,450,000	-	-	2,450,000	2,800,000
	7,628,135	62,003	504,536	7,123,598	8,091,949

Note 4 - Capital and Reserves

	Balance 2006 \$	Net Movements for the year \$	Balance 2007 \$
Capital Trust	12,106,912	242,138	12,349,050
Legacies	566,662	(19,207)	547,455
Unallocated Reserves	581,427	791,550	1,372,977
Planned Maintenance Reserve	382,620	-	382,620
Property Brought to Account	7,370,845	-	7,370,845
Share Investment Revaluation Reserve	(10,018)	61,518	51,500
Staff Training Reserve	20,097	-	20,097
Total Capital and Reserves	21,018,545	1,075,999	22,094,544

ST JOHN'S IN THE CITY

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2007 (continued)

Note 4 - Capital and Reserves (continued)

The movement in the capital trust of \$242,136 represents the amount of Capital Trust income required to be reinvested to preserve the real value of the Capital Trust against inflation in accordance with the Trust Deed. Inflation, based on the Consumer Price Index for the year ended 30 June 2007, was 2.0% (2006 - 4.0%).

The movement in the Share Investment Revaluation Reserve of \$61,518 represents the unrealised capital gain from the investment in units in the NZSX 50 Portfolio Index Fund.

Legacies are represented by the following bequests:

	Balance 2006 \$	Net Movements for the year \$	Balance 2007 \$
Tied Legacies for Sunday School prizes/funds	2,808	212	3,021
A W Reed Memorial (Kolburn) for Ministers books	1,416	107	1,523
Endowment Fund	21,788	1,646	23,434
E Carter Trust	149,710	11,309	161,019
A Gordon Estate	6,536	494	7,030
M Matthews Estate	20,268	(20,268)	-
D Chappell Estate	6,536	494	7,030
M McKenzie Estate	32,890	(32,890)	-
J McWhannel Estate	5,447	(5,447)	-
Joan Andrews Estate - Specific or Special Item for St John's	119,202	6,908	126,110
Joan Andrews Estate - Andrews Family Memorial Trust	119,202	9,005	128,207
Noel Woods Estate	79,770	6,026	85,796
Alford Dorman Estate	1,089	82	1,172
J E Holrick Estate	-	3,113	3,113
	<u>566,662</u>	<u>(19,207)</u>	<u>547,455</u>

Note 5 - Movement in Planned Maintenance Reserve

	2007 \$	2006 \$
Balance of Planned Maintenance Reserve	382,620	382,620
	<u>382,620</u>	<u>382,620</u>

Note 6 - Statement of Resources

The Church is the beneficial owner of a number of properties that are legally held by PCANZ. The reinstatement value for insurance purposes of the Church, Hall, Spinks Cottage, Troup House and the Manses based on valuations prepared by Telfer Young are as follows:

Property	2007 \$	2006 \$
Church, Hall & Spinks Cottage (reinstatement value for insurance as at 5 July 2007)	9,323,800	9,157,300
Troup House (reinstatement value for insurance as at 5 July 2007)	3,241,600	3,183,700
Manse - 29 Ponsonby Rd, Karori (reinstatement value for insurance as at 28 September 2005)	-	432,600
Manse - 21 Lower Watt St, Wadestown (reinstatement value for insurance as at 28 September 2005)	-	452,900

Note 7 - Related Party Disclosure

St John's in the City's premises, rental property and two manses are registered under the name of the Presbyterian Church Property Trustees, although St John's in the City is the guardian.

St John's in the City has Capital Trust Funds and bank deposits that are managed by, and registered under the name of Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa, New Zealand (PCANZ), although St John's in the City is the beneficial owner. All investment income generated by the investments is collected and accounted for by PCANZ to St John's in the City, less an administration levy.

ST JOHN'S IN THE CITY

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 30 June 2007 (continued)

Note 8 - Commitments

St John's in the City has entered into a three year commitment with Victoria University to fund a Christian Theology lectureship. This began in November 2004. The commitments amount to:

- Current	\$52,500
- Non current	\$87,500

At balance date, there were no capital commitments outstanding (2006 - \$Nil).

Note 9 - Contingent Liabilities

The St John's congregation has approved \$82,000 for the establishment of a café in Spinks Cottage. The project has been agreed in principle with the Boys and Girls Institute Incorporated and the Wellington City Council. At balance date the plans for the conversion are subject to approval and resource and building consents being obtained (Contingent Liabilities for 2006 - \$82,000).

MINISTERS

Rev Dr Graham Redding B Com, B Theol, PhD	21 Lower Watt St, Wadestown	2001
Rev Helen Martin B.A., Dipl. Rel. Educ., Post-Grad. Dipl. Theol.	29 Ponsonby Road, Karori	2003

ELDERS EMERITI

		INDUCTED
Lloyd Mr Roger	3 Winsley Tce, Churton Park	1979
Little Mrs Betty	40 Cheshire Street, Wilton	1968
McCay Mr Robert	Flat 7/300 Oriental Parade	1980
Owen John Mrs Norah	35 Philip Street, Johnsonville	1970
Sir John White	23 Selwyn Terrace, Thorndon	
Lady White	23 Selwyn Terrace, Thorndon	
Darroch Mr Alan	50 Sefton Street, Wadestown	1975
Gould Mr Russell	129 Barnard Street, Wadestown	1993
McKenzie Mr Bruce	Unit 33/389 Adelaide Rd, Berhamphore	1993
McKenzie Mrs Elizabeth	Unit 33/389 Adelaide Rd, Berhamphore	1993
Robertson Mrs Betty	407/2 Karori Rd, Karori	1992

KIRK SESSION

Hunt Mr John	24 Krull Street, Vogeltown	1968
Ferrier Dr Robin	57 Wadestown Road, Wadestown	1974
Stewart Mr Charles	42 Braithwaite Street, Karori	1979
Anderson Mr Rob	137 The Ridgeway, Mornington	1980
Ferguson Ms Judi	114 John Sims Drive, Johnsonville	1987
Galt Mr David	11 Lower Street, Karori	1981
Galt Mrs Margaret	11 Lower Street, Karori	1987
Goudswaard Mrs Carolyn	20A Epuni Street, Aro Valley	1987
Lawson Mr Sandy	200 Pembroke Road, Northland	1987
Ewan Mrs Muriel	12/25 Tacy Street, Kilbirnie	1990
Ewan Mr Rob	12/25 Tacy Street, Kilbirnie	1990
Pearse Ms Elaine	85 Beauchamp Street, Karori	1990
Van Milligan Miss Linda	7 Colchester Crescent, Newlands	1990
Labrum Mr Glen	114 John Sims Drive, Johnsonville	1992
Pollock Miss Lynn	49 Aro Street, City	1993
Allen Mr John	76 Weld Street, Wadestown	2001
Irvine Mr John	39 Frederick Street, Wainuiomata	2001
Ramsay Mr Paul	27 Arawa Road, Hataitai	2001
Shaw Mr Malcolm	177 Glenmore Street, Kelburn	2001
Tuiasau Mr Fuimaono	7 Becker Way, Karori	2001
Webster Mr Lawrence	5 Ngahue Crescent, Elsdon, Porirua	2001
Crombie Mrs Allie		2003
Davis Mr Ross	32 Talavera Terrace, Kelburn	2003
Poutoa Mr Mila	9 Murphy St, Thorndon	2003
Wood Mr David	129 Parkvale Road, Karori	2003
Gibbs Mrs Mary	61 Sutherland Road, Melrose	2004
Read Mrs Nicki	200A Mitchell Street, Brooklyn	2004
Read Mr Richard	200A Mitchell Street, Brooklyn	2004
Shaw Mrs Lesley	177 Glenmore St, Kelburn	2004
Cizadlo Mr Ted	53 Ponsonby Rd, Karori	2004
Annals Mr Geoff	142 Rakau Rd, Hataitai	2006
Chesney Mr Ross	1 Rossiter Rd, Tawa	2006
Gilkison Mrs Margaret	5 Henderson Street, Karori	2006
Prasad Ms Ani	21B Sunshine Ave, Karori	2006
Prasad Mr Ryhan	21B Sunshine Ave, Karori	2006
Salt Ms Ailsa	221B Karori Rd, Karori	2006

COUNCIL 2006-07

T.Cizadlo, Chair; Rev Dr G Redding, Rev H Martin, M Ewan, J Irvine, J Marshall, R Chesney,
R. Davis, J Irvine, M Gibbs, R. Munro, E Pearse, R Ewan, A Simpson/C Krogh

HISTORICAL RECORD

MINISTERS OF ST JOHN'S

Rev John Moir	1853 – 1867
Very Rev James Paterson (Moderator 1902)	1868 – 1903
Very Rev James Gibb D.D. (Moderator 1901)	1903 – 1926
Very Rev Dr JR Blanchard B.A.	1927 – 1939
Rev P Gladstone Hughes B.A.	1940 – 1947
Rev William P Temple M.A., B.D.	1948 – 1957
Rev FH Liffiton B.A. (Assistant)	1954 – 1955
Rev Kingsley Fairbairn M.B.E., B.A.	1957 – 1968
Rev DTD (Jock) Kinloch	1968 – 1975
Very Rev Dr D Steedman M.A., B.D., Ph.D.(Moderator 1982)	1976 – 1985
Rev Dr J Veitch B.A., M.Th, Ph.D. (Hon Assistant)	1978 – 1985
Rev Maurice Brown B.A.	1986 – 2000
Rev Brett Johnstone B.A., B.D. (Assistant)	1989 – 1991
Rev Dr Ed Wulfekuehler B.A., B.D.-M.Dib., D.Min. (Assistant)	1991 – 1993
Rev Jane Griffith B.A., B.D. (Hon Associate)	1993 – 1994
Rev Neil Johnston M.A., B.D. Associate	1994 – 2002
Rev Dr Graham Redding B.Com., B.Theol., PhD	2001 – 2006
Rev Helen Martin B.A., Dipl. Rel. Educ., Post-Grad. Dipl.Theol. (Assistant)	2003 – 2007

PARISH COUNSELLOR

Rev Jane Griffith, B.A., B.D.	1991- 1996
Mrs Joan Baber M.A. Hons.	1993 – 2004

ST JOHN'S OWN MISSIONARIES

Very Rev George McNeur, Chinese Mission Field (Moderator 1926)	1913 – 1940
Sister Margaret Bear, India	1958 – 1979

DEACONESSES

Miss Lillian Lang	1905 – 1907	
Miss Mabel Cartwright	1905 – 1911	
Miss Norah Dick	1912 – 1915	
Miss Nessie Morgan	1945 – 1948	1951 – 1959

JUBILEES

Diamond Jubilee of Church	November	1913
Womens Association Golden Jubilee	August	1937
Young Men's Bible Class Golden Jubilee		1938
Young Women's Bible Class Golden Jubilee	November	1953
Centennial Jubilee of the Church	November	1953
75 Anniversary of present Church Building	December	1960
Young Men's Bible Class 75 Jubilee	July	1964
125th Anniversary of Church	November	1978
Centenary of present Church Building	8 December	1985
100th Anniversary of Girls Brigade (National)		1993
50th Anniversary, 2nd Wellington Boys Brigade Coy		1999
Opening of New Halls, Troup House and Mackay Chapel	3 April	1994
150th Anniversary of St John's in the City	November	2003

Interest Groups at St John's

: -new members always welcome - :

Women's Association

Meets 4th Tuesday of the month at 11 a.m. in St John's Conference Centre

The Embroiderers' Group

Meets 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month.
Contact Heather Smith on 385 1675

Monday Home Group (evenings)

Meets at David and Margaret Galt's home.
Contact 934 4422

Tuesday Home Group (evenings)

Meets fortnightly at various homes throughout Wellington city. Contact Paul and Louise Ramsay on 386 27 55, or paul@clear.net.nz

Tertiaries, 20s and 30s Sunday Study Group

Meets at 11.15 a.m. in the church office.
Contact Ashley Milkop on 488 8781 (Home).

English as a Second Language Bible Study

Meets every 2nd Monday, evenings, at 7.30 p.m. in the church office lounge. Contact Rev. Cherry Thompson on 383 6109

Wine & Theology Discussion Group

Meets Monthly on a Friday at 7.30 p.m.
Contact Beth Beard on 389 1599

Topical Discussions

Information on topical discussions may be found in the weekly Bulletin, or on our website www.stjohnsinthecity.org.nz

Choir

Meets Sundays 09.20 – 09.50 a.m. and 11.15 a.m. – 12.00 noon. Monthly evening practices are held on Thursdays.
Contact Dr Guy Jansen at gijansen2003@yahoo.com.au

Contemporary Music Group

Guitars, drums, double bass, violin, flute, singers,
and could involve you, too !
Contact Dayle Anderson on 934 5786
or dayle.anderson@vuw.ac.nz

Girls' Brigade

Meets on Tuesdays during term-time at 6 p.m. For girls aged from 5 yrs upwards. Contact Katherine Sutherland on 471 0202, after 5 p.m.

Boys' Brigade

Intermediate and High School Mondays 6 p.m. until 8.30 p.m. Primary School Thursdays 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. For all boys aged 6 – 16 yrs.
Contact David on 237 9677 or 2wgtm@bb.org.nz

St J's Kids

Friendly Sunday School and crèche from ages 0 to 12 years,
Sundays from 10 a.m. until 11.15 a.m.. Special events once per term.
Contact Anna Davis on 934 2167.

Pre-School Music and Movement

Meets weekly, on Thursdays from 10 a.m. until 11 a.m. in the gymnasium of the Conference Centre. Contact Anna Davis on 934 2167

St John's Youth

Junior Group ages 11 – 13 yrs
Sundays at 10 a.m. and Fridays 6.30 – 8.30 p.m.

Senior Group ages 13 – 18 yrs
Sundays 10 a.m. and Fridays 6.30 – 8.30 p.m.

For more details on any Youth activities, contact Ryhan Prasad on 385 9549

