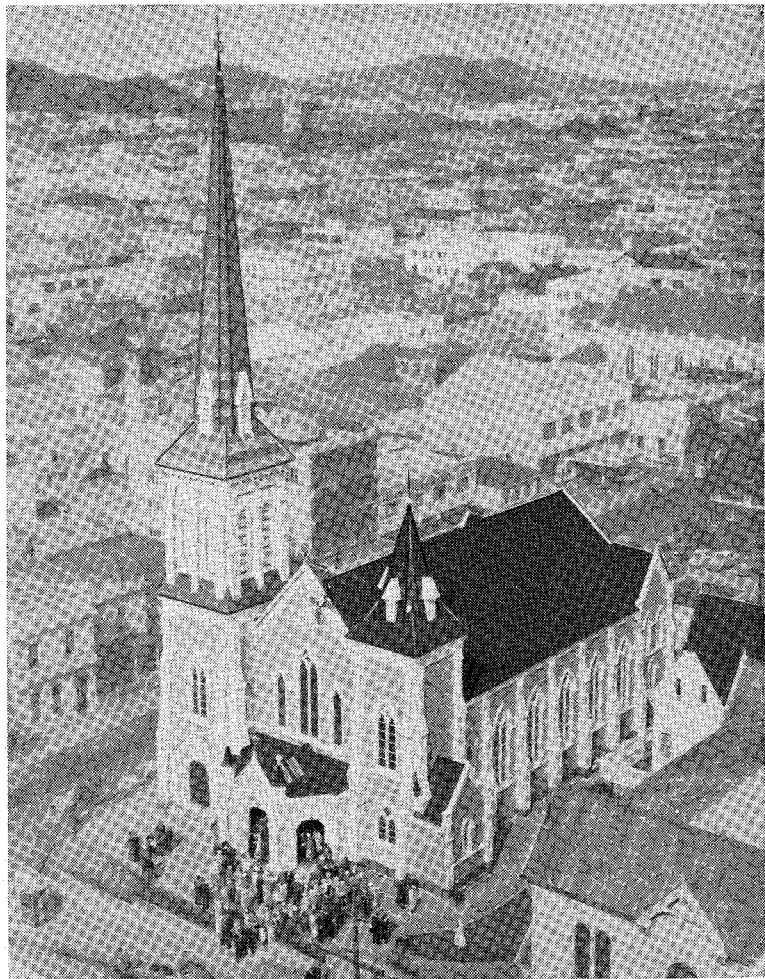


# Presbyterian Church of New Zealand

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

WILLIS STREET, WELLINGTON



**"Serene she stands amid the city streets"**

# WELCOME TO ST. JOHN'S

WE are glad to have you with us and hope you will feel at home as you share in the Service of Worship and Praise.

You may be interested to learn a few facts about the Church itself.

**The first Service**, conducted on November 6th, 1853, by the Rev. John Moir, was held in the Athenaeum on Lambton Quay, where regular services were continued for the next three years.

The present site was obtained in 1855 and **the first Church erected in 1856**. To meet the needs of the growing congregation, additions were made from time to time but proved inadequate. So in 1875 the buildings were pulled down and a larger Church and Sunday School Hall erected. In 1884 these buildings were **completely destroyed by fire** and most of the records lost.

Immediate plans were inaugurated for the purchase of an adjoining property to make room for the erection of a still larger Church and Hall. Built of N.Z. Kauri, with seating for 800, this Church was **opened on December 6th, 1885**. This is our **present Church**.

## MINISTERS

Rev. John Moir	1853-1867
Rev. James Paterson	1868-1903
Rev. James Gibb, D.D.	1903-1926
Rev. J. R. Blanchard, B.A.	1927-1939
Rev. P. Gladstone Hughes, B.A.	1940-1947
Rev. Wm. P. Temple, M.A., B.D.	1948-1957
Rev. J. Kingsley Fairbairn, M.B.E., B.A.	1957-

## SOME FEATURES OF SPECIAL INTEREST

**The Stained Glass Windows** at the South end of the Church were given in 1920 by the Hon. J. G. W. Aitken in memory of the men of St. John's Bible Class who gave their lives in the 1914-18 War.

**The Stained Glass Window** at the North end of the Gallery was dedicated in 1923 to the memory of Mr. J. G. W. Aitken, one of the great men of St. John's.

**The Third Memorial Window** (in relief) facing the Vestibule was dedicated in 1954, "To the Glory of God, and in loving remembrance of the devoted women who, through 100 years, worshipped and served in this Church".

**The Organ** was built in 1886 by the firm of Lewis & Co., London, funds being obtained through the efforts of James Smith and by the congregation. A legacy for the renovation of the organ was given in 1948 by Alex. P. Smith in honour of his father.

**The Communion Table** of Scottish oak, designed by W. Gray Young and made by Alex. Martin, Senior Elder, was dedicated in 1935 to the memory of M. D. Menelaus, Elder 1895, Session Clerk 1902-1931.

**The Pulpit Bible** was given in 1950 by Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Kersley on the occasion of their Golden Wedding Anniversary.

**The Pulpit Chairs** are memorials to James Smith, William Allan, Alexander Hopkirk, and M. D. Menelaus; **the Oak Lectern and Bible** to William Hopkirk, **the Brass Lectern** to Hywel Hughes, and **the Brass Vases** to Mrs. Alex. Martin. **The Outer Vestibule** is a memorial to George and Sophia Glover.

**The Pulpit Fall** and the **Oak Table in the Vestibule** were given by the Senior Young Men's and Young Women' Bible Classes respectively to mark the occasion of their Golden Jubilees.

Attention is also drawn to the **Baptismal Font**, of unique design, which stands at the eastern end of the Communion Table.

**The Bible Class Movement** in N.Z., established in 1888, owes its origin to Sir George Troup, a former elder of this Church, whose name is perpetuated in "**Troup House**", the residential flat attached to the Y.M.B.C. Rooms.

If you have not yet linked up with any other Church, would you care to join us? There are activities to suit all ages from the very young to the older folk, and interests attractive to all.

**J. Kingsley Fairbairn, Minister.**

2 Kelburn Parade. Phone 46-492.

**John A. Orr, Session Clerk.**

23 Delhi Crescent, Khandallah. Phone 37-117.



**1960**

The 75th year since the dedication of this  
**present Church Building.**

