

# St John's 163rd Annual Report



2016-2017



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# Foreword

You may have heard how many of the old Cathedrals in Europe were built over hundreds of years. Those who first started the construction were long gone by the time the cathedral was complete. In addition to laying the physical foundations, those first workers would plant groves of oak trees. They planted for the following generations, who would use the wood to construct the roof. It is a three-dimensional and relational metaphor of how a community contributes to a common purpose over many generations. Not a bad metaphor for a Church community.

Although too often 'Church' is assumed to be a *building* – as a noun. Perhaps we would prefer people imagined Church to be a *building* – as a verb.

Another metaphor for a Church that is better (and indigenous) is the waka (canoe). Tōtara trees had many uses by ancient Māori, and one important use was for the construction of waka. In his book *Tōtara: A Natural and Cultural History* (2017) ethnobotanist Philip Simpson comments how tōtara trees were prized by Māori :

***Their durability, their usefulness,  
their role in waka, their appearance  
– the red bark with redness being a  
sacred colour, the bark resembling  
the fabulous moko of a chief,  
the chiefliness of the tree growing  
in the forest.***

Māori would identify trees that could potentially grow large enough to produce a waka while still young and remove the bark from one side. Doing so would cause the tree to stop growing, but the edges would continue to grow, with the tree curving around to heal over the scar. It would take two or three centuries for the tree to form into an 'upright waka', which would then be very carefully cut down and the dead wood removed to make the tree fit for purpose.



Like the groves of oak trees in Europe cultivated for Cathedrals, groves of tōtara were revered for the construction of waka. Māori even named these tōtara groves and they were passed down genealogical lines.

The metaphor of building a cathedral may be more obvious, but doesn't the metaphor of a waka, especially when constructed by ancient tōtara using this specialised and careful growing technique, offer a far more interesting picture of the Church? Might it suggest we are a people on the move as well as the possibility that we can be buffeted by stormy conditions?

At times we may cry out for rescue:

***'Save me, O God!***

***The water is up to my neck...***

***I am out in deep water,  
and the waves are about to  
drown me.'* (Psalm 69)**



# Foreword

But we know that our Captain rides in the vessel with us.

This Annual Report contains descriptions of the many adventures we have as St John's in the City. Some describe us close to shore in familiar waters, and others far out at sea. Some describe a large crew, and others a lean crew working very hard. Some describe a waka with hurting and frightened on board, and others with courageous explorers seeking new horizons.

Wherever you feel you are in this adventure, we remember that we are in it together, and that we have already been rescued.



Yours in Christ  
**Allister and Stuart**  
The (ordained) Ministers

## Register for the Year Ending 30 June 2017

Number of Baptisms:	6
Number of Confirmations:	2
Number of Marriages:	4
Members joined during the year:	1
Number of Deaths	7

The deaths are recorded of the following members:

Bob (Robert) McCay

Elizabeth (Betty) Littler

Daphne Stanley

Marget Brown

Mary Fleming

Bob (Robert) Burch

Fa'atele Taufale

6



2



4



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# Session Report

The elders of St John's have taken more time in Session meetings to listen, pray, and discern God's direction for St John's. This was due to three things.

- » The large reflection we have done as a congregation starting with the big survey of Children, Youth and Family from last year, a Church Life Survey this year (thanks to Margaret Galt for making that happen), and the Parish Review conducted by a team arranged by Presbytery.
- » A response to Stuart taking leave for a while. This required Session taking on some of Stuart's initiatives; in particular the Dixon St Flats Café (a particular thanks to Janie Pack for her time and care with that) and making the Alpha course happen.
- » Concluding the approach of every second meeting being split into three focus groups of *Growing Faith*, *Encouraging Participation*, and *Building Community*, which came to a natural end.

The two major items of response to the surveys and review have been (and are ongoing):

- » encourage and support Allister and Stuart in changing aspects of style and content in our worship services
- » review our Mission Statement which we now consider too long and possibly not reflective of where St John's is at now.

We enjoyed a day retreat for Session members and the wider ministry team in late February. A valuable time of refreshing body, soul, and mind at the Home of Compassion in Island Bay.

The Session had three Elders leave us this year. Elaine Pearse has now fully resigned after a period of stepping back while continuing pastoral care. Marg Gilkison has also decided that it was time to finish. Marg was (and continues to be) a champion of pastoral care for which we are very thankful. Sadly, Mila Poutoa passed away in August 2016; Mila had not been active on Session for the last few years but had not formally resigned.

Ailsa Salt was made Elder Emeritus for her many years of significant contribution to Session, committees and other parts of our church life. Thank you Ailsa!

Attendance of Sunday worship was 198 per week in June 2017, compared with 192 per week in June 2016.

Richard Read was accepted by Session as Session Clerk for a three-year term at the November 2016 Session meeting.

Thanks again to everyone that has given their passion, time, and energy to lead, teach, care, host, and otherwise be the life of our church. A big thanks in particular to the CEC (Christian Education Committee) and Outreach Committee for the great work they do with significant programmes. Another big thanks to Council who do a great job of overseeing our operations. A special thanks to Gail West for stepping up to lead the team providing beautiful floral arrangements.

Thank you to our office team and caretakers, Karin, Fennie, Libby, Sarah, Mark, Martin, and Albertine who make our place welcoming and host the many others that make use of our buildings.

Thanks especially to our ministry team of Allister, Stuart, Monika, Ino, Dave, and Richard. You are faithful and caring in your leading and teaching of us. I thank our Lord Jesus for the gifts and passion you all bring to our church.

**Richard Read**  
Session Clerk

# Council Report

The Council of St John's in the City is responsible for making sure the financial and property operations and other administrative matters of St John's proceed smoothly. Council meets on the third Wednesday of the month in the St John's Centre. The meetings usually last around 90 minutes and are open to observers. Because its work involves overseeing the work of the committees, many of the issues considered by Council over the year will be reported on in more detail in the reports of those committees, particularly finance and property.

In 2016/17, Council has continued to oversee the seismic strengthening of the church building, reviewed the Free and Subsidised Use policy and been involved in an overall review of church policies.

Planning for the seismic strengthening of the church has continued over the course of the year. The passage of time since the need for strengthening was first discovered in 2012 has meant some evolution of the work that is required. The Kaikoura earthquake in November 2016 once again brought the focus back to the need for this work to be undertaken and also increased the demand for engineering expertise in the city (making it more difficult for St John's to complete our work). The ease with which the church building coped with the Kaikoura earthquake was further reassurance that the building provides a relatively safe location for the congregation.

The Council looked closely at the current situation regarding subsidised (and free) use of the St John's Centre by charities and community groups, rationalising the current subsidy system and introducing a standard 25 percent subsidy for qualifying groups. This was necessitated by the church's financial situation but also reflected a desire to standardise the range of approaches which had evolved over time.

Mary Gibbs and Ailsa Salt undertook a review of the various church policies, covering everything from finances to children's work and the flower policy. This was a major piece of work and will require ongoing attention to ensure that activities are appropriately managed.

The Council continues to monitor the church's financial situation. Years of relatively small but persistent deficits are now starting to run down the reserves despite careful expenditure. Some difficult decisions around the church's operations will be required if this situation cannot be remedied.

## Council membership

Council is made up of the conveners of the standing committees of St John's, the Ministers and the Chair. The Property and Administration Manager is the ex officio secretary but has no vote.

During 2016/17, Council membership remained unchanged with the notable exceptions of Ailsa Salt's stepping aside as Convener of the Outreach Committee. We will miss not only Ailsa's contribution in the Outreach area but also her significant other contributions to the operations of Council over many years.

The Council in 2017 therefore currently comprises the following:

Anton Ojala	Chair
Rev Allister Lane	Minister
Rev Stuart Simpson	Minister
Rob Anderson (represented by the Ministers)	Christian Education Committee
Elizabeth Gibbs	Communications Committee
Ross Chesney	Finance Committee
Vacant	Outreach Committee
David Wood	Property Committee
David Ensor	Social Committee
Richard Read	Session Clerk
David Galt	Staffing Committee



Mary Gibbs

St John's  
Fellowship Group

Karin Duncan

Ex-officio Secretary  
(Property and  
Admin Manager)

I have decided that after seven years I will not be continuing in the role of Chair of Council. At the time of writing a successor has not been identified, but if someone is identified before the Annual General Meeting on 15 October 2017, the meeting

will be asked to agree to the appointment of that person as the next Chair. I have enjoyed my time as Council Chair and have continued to be encouraged and inspired by the expertise and commitment of the members of Council who have been so willing to use their skills and talents to the glory of God and the effective operation of St John's.

**Anton Ojala**  
Chair of Council

## Worship

Worship is a formative practice that shapes us and gives us the opportunity together to express what it is to be children of God. When we worship together we have the opportunity to drop our need to be busy, self-made individuals and come before God recognising our needfulness and dependency on God's grace.

Our regular patterns of worship keep us connected to the activity of the Holy Spirit stirring us to put the Gospel into action. We hear God's word read and preached; we take into our very selves the bread and the cup. We place ourselves before God and we focus our attention to better know the risen Christ in our midst.

This year Tara Woodard-Lehman has served us in preaching and leading worship while Stuart Simpson was on sick leave, and she has continued to make a rich contribution to our worship with her ministry gifts. Other preachers included Wayne Matheson, Neil Dodgson, Carlton Johnstone, Robert Anderson, and John Allen.

Worship explored relevant topics such as hospitality, the 'what and why' of prayer, interpretation of scripture, justice and action, silence and solitude in a world of noise, Jesus the refugee, practising pilgrimage, contemplating the Wounded Healer, finding the way of love and mercy, songs of resistance, and teaching people to fish.



We hosted the annual Founders Service for the Presbyterian Church Schools; a significant occasion, given we were celebrating the Centenary of Scots College – 100 years since it was founded by members of St John's. The Right Rev Andrew Norton – Moderator of the Presbyterian General Assembly – preached for this service, and we were the first church to use a special song 'Pioneers of Hope' written by Malcolm Gordon for all the Presbyterian Church Schools'

# Worship

successive Centenaries. In addition to hosting Christmas and Easter services for Scots College and Scots College Houses visiting us for worship on various Sundays, we had two busloads of Year 10 Scots students visit on two occasions during their school hours as part of a Religious Education tour of worship spaces. These were very significant opportunities to share the meaning of how we worship God, and enable them to ask questions they have. I was impressed with their insight and curiosity.

We have continued the practice of combining for worship during Advent and Pentecost with our neighbour churches St Mary of the Angels and St Peter's.



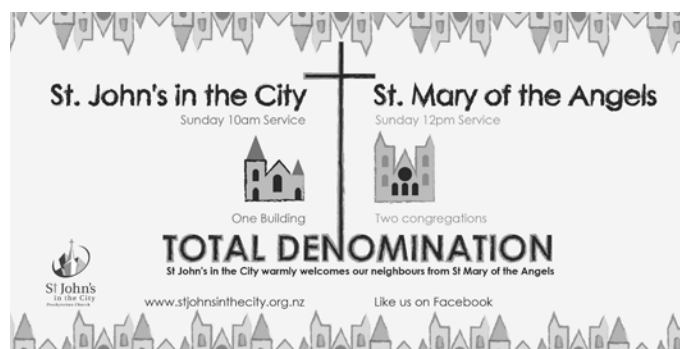
We have enjoyed All Age worship, the Christmas Eve Family Service, Fellowship Group services, and Picnic Church in Otari-Wilton's Bush.

We have also welcomed visitors from the Salvation Army Cadet Training Corp, and youth visiting from St Andrew's Waipukurau.

We have celebrated Confirmation and Baptism and followed our pattern of sharing in the meal of Communion each month.

My thanks to all those who support our gathered worship by leading prayer, reading scripture, singing, playing music, greeting, serving in the foyer, taking up the Offering, carrying the Bibles, leading Children's Talks, operating the sound

system, ringing the bell, and all the other things that happen as part of our worship.

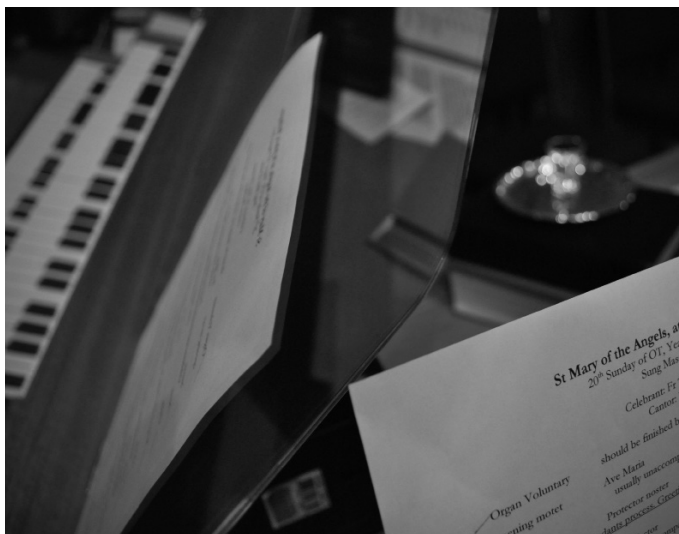


9 April 2017 was the final Sunday that St Mary of the Angels congregation worshipped at St John's, gathered at St John's midday every Sunday since August 2013. In that time they had their own building strengthened, and were able to move back there to worship from Easter 2017. We can give thanks for the relationship we foster together, the way we have been able to offer hospitality, and their completed building project. Although we have doctrinal and liturgical differences, we recognise and praise God for the unity in Christ we share, and that they are our neighbours.

Finally, a question: do you know that we have a sign at St John's that declares **'tradition is valued and creativity is encouraged'**? (Do you know where that sign is? You might try and seek it out). How well does this describe us? How well do we live this out?

Let us continue to meet together and encourage one another as we focus our attention on God.

**Rev Allister Lane**



We are very blessed with musical talent and dedication and the willingness to give up so much time in service of church music.

The choir and music group remain our largest music groups, with the range of instruments now covering strings, brass, keyboard, and percussion along with acoustic and electric guitars. Rehearsals happen every Sunday morning before and after services and the choir has a Thursday evening rehearsal once a month. This year we have had some very useful rehearsals after church with both groups together.

Our other organists who are willing to play and always fit into our way of doing things easily, for which we are very grateful include Bruce Cash, Judy and Evan Dumbleton, Nigel Williams, Dianne Halliday, and David Trott.

## **Music group**

Dayle Anderson manages this team with help of other team leaders; Lala Simpson, Tony Fuell, Jeremy Koay, Katherine Ojala, Ginny Abernethy, and Geoff Troughton.

### **Members:**

Jonathan Boston, Vicki Payne, Aina, Harena and Manda Simpson, Benjamin Hugo and Alice Carter, Neil Dodgson, Rebekah Gibbs, Anton, Maddie and April Ojala, Dion Biederman, Harry, Jacob and Aria Troughton, Henry McKenzie-Bridle, Daniel Read,

Phil Garrity, Rose Rosmiwatty, Ika Silalahi, Verarisa Ujung, Martina Simanjuntak, and Evelyn Barber.

The choir leads the singing ably for the morning service and for other services that we share with St Mary of the Angels and St Peter's on Willis. The evening combined Pentecost service, held at St Peter's, was a musical highlight for us, with three choirs singing a variety of repertoire covering many different kinds of church music, including some Taize chants accompanied by organ, flute, and cello. We look forward to our Advent service at the newly earthquake-strengthened St Mary of the Angels. It is lovely to have our own choir room back on a Sunday morning, but we do miss the sound of St Mary of the Angels choir warming up for their service.

## **Choir**

### **Conductor:**

Eric Sidoti

### **Sopranos:**

Linda Van Milligan  
Pat Isherwood  
Jeannette Westermeyer  
Vicki Payne  
Tae Soon Lee  
Joyce Gibson

### **Altos:**

Dayle Anderson  
Winifred Bain  
Kathy Sutherland

### **Tenor:**

Evan Dumbleton

### **Basses:**

David Galt  
Tony Fuell  
Jeremy Koay

### **Eleanor Carter**

Music Director



The Outreach Committee works to ensure that St John's actively participates in outreach activities in our community and beyond and that it does so in accordance with the Church's agreed terms of reference. This year the committee has comprised of Ailsa Salt, Allister Lane, Brett Reid, Dayle Anderson, Enrino Pasullean, Philip Garrity, and Stuart Simpson. We have operated throughout the second half of the year without a Convenor, so David Galt and Ross Chesney have joined us as 'ex-officio' members to bring their depth of experience. Opportunities for the year were many and the following are some of the highlights.

## ***Indonesian Cross-cultural Encounter***

At the beginning of the year the vision and planning for a cross-cultural encounter from the Indonesian members of our congregation to the church communities on Samosir Island, North Sumatra, Indonesia was proposed. The group made plans to meet with leaders of the Huria Kristen Batak Protestant Church in Tarutung bringing greetings from St John's and PCANZ before flying to the island to be hosted by the local Christian communities. There they planned to visit historical and spiritual sites and make donations of generators and water pumps to the local churches.

Throughout the year the momentum and enthusiasm built for the trip with more members of the church joining the trip and the congregation getting behind the food stall fundraisers to the sum of \$3,900. Bookings were organised, preparation workshops were held, and presentations about the trip made to the congregation. Without a doubt these preparations were a highlight of the church's outreach programme for the year and as the year was coming to a close Allister and I, from the committee, were preparing ourselves to depart on the journey, with the rest of the dedicated team, starting on 12 July 2017. The cross-cultural encounter is based on the recognition of Christ's Body across the world and we look forward to continuing the story of this adventure in the coming year!

## ***Dixon Street Flats Café***

On 1 September 2016 a café, that has included many volunteers from St John's, began in the community room at the Dixon Street flats. The aim of the café is to provide a safe place for the tenants in the flats to meet, play games, and talk. It is also a way for the potential issue of isolation in such a large block of flats to be addressed in an effective way with minimal cost. The café runs every Thursday from 11am to 2pm. The café held a special Christmas celebration in December.

Throughout the year the running of the cafe has, at various times, involved dialogue with Wellington City Council, Housing NZ, BGI, DCM, and the residents themselves – so it is a ministry truly engaging the community. Many thanks to the selfless efforts from all the volunteers in making this new initiative a success in all its joys and challenges.

## ***Out of the Gate Programme***

There are approximately 70 women a year being released from Arohata Women's Prison who enter the Out of the Gate programme run by Family Works of Presbyterian Support Central (PSC).

The programme lasts for a year for each individual and focuses on improving each woman's life and parenting skills. Family Works engages with the whole family unit which results in improved outcomes for individuals and families. Since it started in 2013, to date, 82% of the parolees have not reoffended.

In 2016/17, following previous support for printed journals for this programme, St John's increased funding to the Out of the Gate programme. This was targeted towards practical initiatives that are not funded by the Department of Corrections such as doctor's visits, safe accommodation on release, transport to attend the programme, and clothing and household vouchers to help them with starting out upon release. A total of \$17,280 was donated to the programme from the Carter Fund (a legacy which is tagged specifically for this type of work). In March 2017 we had a report back in person from PSC. They described how they were very grateful

for the donation and how it was making a difference in the lives of the women who had benefited from it so far.

## ***Public Interest Forums***

Throughout the year have been a number of public forums on some diverse topics. These have included:

- » The Human in Question
- » The Church in Question
- » Despair, Activism, and the Practice of Hope
- » Coming to Our Senses – The Spirituality of Wine
- » The Keeping Faith in Politics Series
- » The Reformation Anniversary Commemoration Series

There was good attendance and the lively discussions and question sessions have been appreciated. The extent and depth of the forums has reflected our relationships with both the Knox Centre for Ministry and Leadership and the Otago University Centre for Theology and Public Issues, with significant energy invested by Derek Woodard-Lehman representing our theological partnership with Otago University.

In August 2017 we will be hosting our Visiting Scholar Programme in conjunction with Victoria University and have made preparations for this during the year. Bronwyn Wood has now replaced Rob Anderson on the organising committee for the Visiting Scholar Programme.

## ***Refugee Resettlement***

Following on from our work towards resettling a refugee family in the first half of 2016 two more lots of household goods were supplied to Catholic Social Services in August and November. Funding to pay for the purchases came from Knox Presbyterian Waitara, Hope Presbyterian Hornby, and from St John's surplus funds raised during April 2016. We have now contributed all our generous donations but will continue to consider supporting further the resettlement of refugee families through the channels we have established with CSS.

## ***Christians Against Poverty***

St John's supports the Christians Against Poverty (CAP) programme based at The Street Church in the city. St John's donation has helped a pilot of Life Skills, a CAP initiative to help families to do life better on a low income, to be trialled. In addition to our donations, St John's also wishes to continue to support this work in the future through the activities of The Street Church with more of an emphasis on how members of St John's might be able to get involved in a personal way.

## ***Grants to Community Programmes and Projects***

From committed and discretionary spending the committee was able to allocate grants this year to a wide range of interests and organisations. These included:

- » BGI (\$30,000 towards operational costs)
- » Downtown Community Ministry (\$10,000)
- » Presbyterian Support Central (\$5,108)
- » Churches Education Commission (\$4,000)
- » Wellington Women's Health Collective (\$2,000)
- » Wellington Rape Crisis (\$2,000)
- » Sexual Abuse Prevention Network (\$2,000)
- » Inter-church Hospital Chaplaincy (\$1,000)

## ***Church Missioners***

Our church missioners were back on a short furlough during October and November and spent two weeks with us in Wellington as well as visiting Auckland, Whanganui, Nelson, and Christchurch. We have renewed our commitment to support them through until 2020 in prayer, financially, and through communication.

# Outreach

## Global Mission

With funding available for distribution to encourage the growth of the worldwide church we have supported:

- » An income generating project in Myanmar (\$2,000)
- » The payment of fees for Leinamu Manrogoana who is in her final year of study for a Bachelor of Divinity at Pacific Theological College in Fiji (\$2,000)
- » Accommodation scholarships for students attending St Paul's School hostel in Palampur, North India (\$1,500)

## Thank You

Finally, thank you to all who have generously supported, seen or unseen, with time or money the outreach work of the St John's this year. Without your commitment to Christ's call to serve none of this would have been possible.

**Philip Garrity**

# Visiting Scholar Programme

We hosted David Gushee as the Visiting Scholar in 2015, and in 2016 we hosted two 'smaller' Visiting Scholar events. And both were held in a pub!

Paul Oslington (Alphacrucis College, Australia) and Derrick Lemons (University of Georgia, USA) joined local panellists in July 2016 to consider **THE HUMAN IN QUESTION**.

Doug Gay (University of Glasgow) and Steve Taylor (Knox Centre for Ministry and Leadership, Dunedin) joined local panellists in September 2016 to consider **THE CHURCH IN QUESTION**.

The Visiting Scholar Programme (VSP) continues to try new formats and venues to keep promoting sound Christian theological inquiry and reflection in fresh ways. We will report on the 2017 VSP visit by Gillian Clarke in the next Annual Report.

We have asked Bronwyn Wood from St John's to be on the four-member VSP planning group and she makes a valuable and insightful contribution, bringing together the Church and University communities.



The St John's in the City Visiting Scholar programme, in association with Religious Studies, Victoria University of Wellington, warmly invites you to:

## THE HUMAN IN QUESTION: A CONVERSATION

28<sup>th</sup> July 2016, 7.30-9.00pm at JJ Murphy (upstairs), 119 Cuba Mall

Ideas about humanity are often taken for granted. Many commonly-held conceptions have been shaped by a Christian emphasis on human distinctiveness - in terms of humanity's relationship to the natural world, as well as to divinity. Yet today, new questions are being asked, and diverse viewpoints abound. This conversation will explore various contemporary perspectives on what it means to be human. Bringing economics, anthropology and geography into conversation with theology, we aim to stimulate fresh thinking about the precarious yet vital idea of humanity in the contemporary world.

### Conversation partners:

- Professor Paul Oslington: Dean of Business and Professor of Economics, Alphacrucis College, Australia
- Dr Derrick Lemons: Department of Religion, University of Georgia, USA
- Dr Eleanor Sanderson: Canon Theologian, Anglican Diocese of Wellington; Research Associate in Religious Studies, Victoria University of Wellington
- Dr Derek Woodard-Lehman: Lecturer in Theology and Public Issues, University of Otago (Wellington)

Contacts: geoff.troughton@vuw.ac.nz; a.lane@stjohnsinthecity.org.nz



# Visiting Scholar Programme

As well as those who serve the work of the St John's Outreach Committee, I am thankful to Geoff Troughton and the Religious Studies Programme at Victoria University for their vital input to the success of the annual Visiting Scholar Programme.

**Rev Allister Lane**



The St John's in the City Visiting Scholar programme, in association with Religious Studies, Victoria University of Wellington, warmly invites you to:

## THE CHURCH IN QUESTION: A CONVERSATION

7th September 2016, 7.30-9.00pm at JJ Murphy (upstairs), 119 Cuba Mall

Much critiqued and frequently written-off, the church is both an embattled and surprisingly durable entity. In New Zealand the church has seen significant membership drop-off leading to questions about its continuing viability. But at the same time vitality and innovation abound. The dizzying, ever-expanding variety of formations and styles now in existence prompt further questions about the church as a sociological and theological category. Join us for a broad-ranging conversation on the state of the church today and its future directions.

### Conversation partners:

- **Dr Doug Gay:** Lecturer in Theology and Religious Studies, University of Glasgow
- **Dr Matthew Scott:** Pastor, Lifepoint Church; Adjunct Lecturer in Religious Studies, Victoria University
- **Dr Susan Jones:** Minister, St Andrew's on the Terrace
- **Dr Steve Taylor:** Principal, Knox Centre for Ministry and Leadership, Dunedin

Contacts: geoff.troughton@vuw.ac.nz; a.lane@stjohnsinthecity.org.nz

## Otago Lectureship

The time period of this Annual Report almost exactly corresponds to the first year of the St John's partnership with the University of Otago for the Wellington-based position as part of the Centre for Theology and Public Issues (CTPI).

Following the very successful nine-year partnership with Victoria University and the Lectureship in Christian Theology held by Chris Marshall, we reviewed our goals for any future partnership. We identified these important features and principles.

- » Offer authentic expression of our Christian identity and witness.
- » Make a recognisable difference in Wellington and beyond.
- » Equip and encourage church communities and leaders in a meaningful way.
- » Provide leadership for a venture that would be unlikely to happen without St John's involvement and resourcing.
- » Take the Gospel message into new areas, with credibility and authenticity.


The University of Otago has a substantial Theology and Religious Studies programme and they were very interested to discuss the idea of having a lecturer based in Wellington. It was agreed the role would be a full-time academic position that includes teaching, research, and public theological engagement. St John's would contribute \$30,000 per year (which includes donation from members of the congregation), plus provide an office and administrative support.


Allister Lane represented St John's on an appointment panel and following a rigorous University process, Dr Derek Woodard-Lehman began in July 2016. Derek, his wife Tara, and sons Josiah and Eli worship at St John's and as a family they are active in many ways.

In addition to his teaching and research Derek has organised many high-quality public events.

- » The **Inaugural Public Lecture by Dr Derek Woodard-Lehman:** *'The Threat of Religious Violence to a Democracy'* on 14 September, at the Beehive Theatre, Parliament Buildings. This event was hosted by David Clark, MP and Presbyterian Minister.
- » **Rev Dr Rebecca Dudley** was the first guest lecturer to present on behalf of our partnership with The University of Otago's Centre for Theology and Public Issues with a lecture on *'Activism, Despair and the Practice of Hope'*, on 7 November 2016.

**Public Lecture**  
Centre for Theology and Public Issues  
WELLINGTON





**Activism, Despair, and the Practice of Hope**  
Rev Dr Rebecca Dudley

How can we engage and respond to global realities—economic poverty, social inequality, geopolitical insecurity, environmental vulnerability—that are painful and intractable? How can we care deeply about the world and not get burned out? How can we be both active and hopeful in a world where despair is a reasonable response?

MONDAY 07 NOVEMBER  
7:00 pm Refreshments  
7:30 pm Lecture

St John's in the City Church  
Corner of Willis and Dixon  
Wellington CBD

# Otago Lectureship

- » Following the US Presidential election there was a panel discussion in January 2017 considering 'What Happened? What's Next? Global Politics in the Time of Trump'.

## What Happened? What's Next? – Global Politics in the Time of Trump –

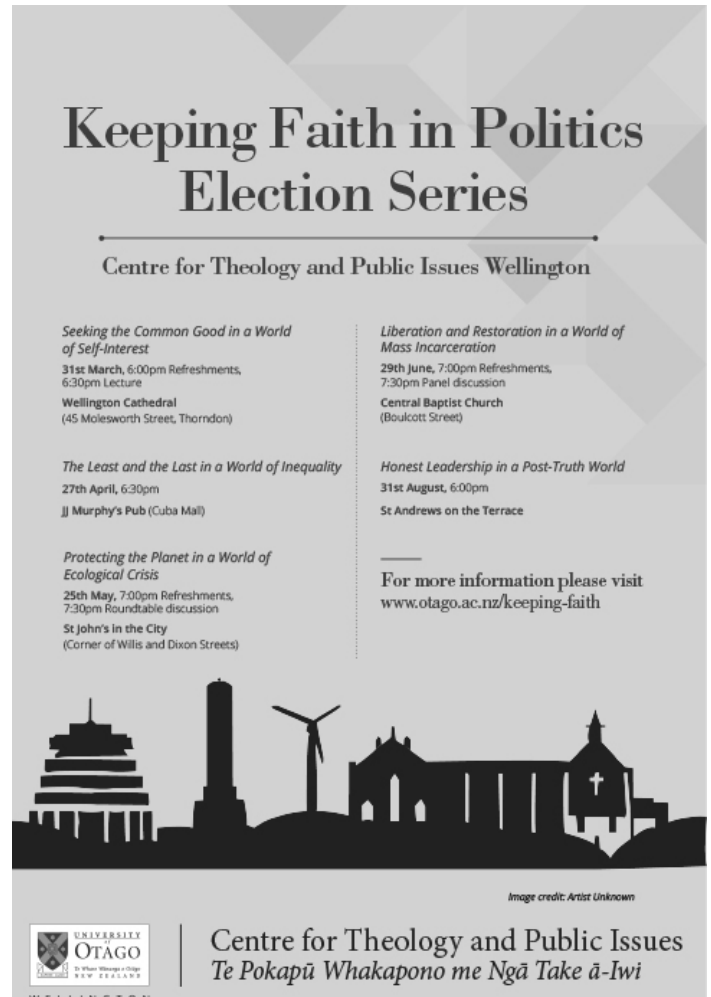


### Panelists

John Allen (former head of Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade),  
Colin James (columnist Otago Daily Times), and  
Anna Powles (Centre for Defence and Security Studies – Massey University)

To commemorate 2017 as the 500th Anniversary of the Protestant Reformation, St John's, in partnership with Otago University and collaboration with Victoria University and the Goethe Institute, hosted two free public lectures by overseas scholars.

- » **Amy Burnett** (University of Nebraska) – 5 April 2017 '*Toleration and Dissent: The Reformation and the Crisis of Authority*'
- » **Wolfgang Huber** (Lutheran Bishop, Germany) – 11 May 2017 '*The Spirit of the Reformation and the Future of the Market Economy*'



A major focus in 2017 has been the six-part monthly series titled *Keeping Faith in Politics*. This was designed to address political issues during this election year engaging the perspective of Christian faith, including seeking common good, inequality, environmental responsibility, crime and punishment, and immigration. A major success of this series has been the involvement of many local experts on the issues and different church communities as venues for each event.

It is very pleasing to hear that the University of Otago is so impressed with Derek's contribution in his Wellington CTPI role they are actively seeking to secure funding to make it a permanent position before the end of the three-year term. We pray that this will be realised, so that this partnership which has been demonstrated as effective and meaningful will be sustained.

**Rev Allister Lane**

# *The Wellington Boys' and Girls' Institute*

This year has been an exciting time at BGI, as we continue to support young people across the Wellington region through our established programmes, and the development of several new programmes and partnerships this year. We are now settled into the redeveloped Troup House, and are enjoying the fantastic facility that this provides for our youth and community activities. The building is well used by BGI and other community organisations, and it has been exciting to see the constant buzz of activity from young people and others using the space. Our 40-foot carved poutokomanawa Arohanui ki nga Rangatahi, or A great love for all young people stands at the heart of the building, and reminds us of our long history of supporting young people in Wellington City, and begins new journey. In 2016 Blueprint the BGI Board identified Continued development of our relationships including with Mana Whenua as a goal. We have been working with mana whenua to strengthen our partnership and increase our skills and knowledge to support our work with rangatahi Māori.

We welcomed Whare Timu to the Board this year. Whare, an architectural graduate, gave us the idea and project managed the poutokomanawa project with Ross Davis. The Board is blessed with a group of people with a wide range of perspectives, a tradition Whare will enhance.

Duncan Reid, Board Chair, took a leave of absence to travel overseas, and as Deputy Chair, I have been acting Chair since November 2016. It has been a privilege to work with the BGI team this year to provide support and opportunities to young people across the Wellington region. Some highlights from this year are outlined below.

## ***Journeys Programme***

Journeys is a new programme that started this year in Taita, led by youth worker Eddy Davis-Rae in partnership with the Ministry of Youth Development and the Walter Nash Stadium. Journeys provides mentoring and youth development opportunities for young people in Taita, including leadership skills, makeup artistry, Māori performance and sports. Several local



businesses are supporting the programme, offering skills training and mentoring to young people. Journeys has been very successful, with over 250 young people attending so far, and 500 expected to have participated in the first 12 months.

## ***Community Kitchen***

A highlight of 2017 has been the constant hum of activity from our Community Kitchen, which is used by many groups from BGI and other community organisations through the week. This has included cooking lessons for young people and whānau, young parents learning to cook on a budget, young people with disabilities making lunches for business people through the Paper Bag Lunch social enterprise scheme, and catering for training events and hui hosted by BGI.

## ***Creative Arts***

BGI has supported some incredible art projects by talented young artists in 2017, including a major mural on the side of Troup House, a mural on the fence of the Terrace flats, and young people curating art exhibitions in our Kallio Kunstthale art gallery at Troup House.





# *The Wellington Boys' and Girls' Institute*

## *St John's Partnership*

We continue to highly value our partnership with St John's in the City, and the opportunity this provides to support young people and contribute to the wider community. Epic and Thrive youth groups continue to offer social and spiritual support to many young people in Wellington City. BGI continues to support the St John's Dixon Street Café initiative with food we collect from local businesses. Some of the residents who live alone at the flats continue to drop into BGI most days and we've seen how the café has benefited them since it started.

Thank you for your ongoing support of BGI. We appreciate the long-standing relationship our two organisations have with one another, and hope this continues well into the future.



Arohanui

***Tanya Duncan***  
BGI Board Chair

## *Pastoral Care*

One of St John's many distinctive features is its community-mindedness. The spirit of that has been defined as caring in the St John's Mission Statement. I perceive it as a great pleasure and privilege to be part of this community and to be allowed to experience how this vision is lived and put into action in everyday church life.

Wherever time is spent together, pastoral care is happening at St John's.

Great emphasis is put on ensuring that many opportunities for gatherings over informal morning teas and lunches are in place to which everybody is invited to, newcomers and visitors alike. And here it is where people of all generations meet and interact. In this regard, the yearly Soupa Lunches are a special occasion. Here, people from the congregation are invited according to the beginning letter of their surname, to get together over lunch after church. Margaret Gilkison and her team organise these lunches

with great commitment and flair and all are made feel welcome. Here, people of all ages have the opportunity to catch up and get to know each other better, to listen to each other and spend some quality time. This inclusiveness and openness is an important element of our church.

The two Sunday services, as well as the variety of groups people can join during the week, are carried by people who provide strong friendships and pastoral care to each other and who by doing that also give and receive strength. This exchange of energy is part of pastoral care.

Groups like the choirs, Preschool Music and Movement, the Youth Groups, the St J's Kids ministry, the Indonesian Group, the Men's Breakfast, the ESOL Bible Study, Wine and Theology, and the sports groups all make up and connect into the greater identity of St John's, as they contribute to and benefit from the whole of what St John's aims to stand for.

## *Pastoral Care*

Pastoral care happens in gestures, prayer, practical help, and in visits as well as in deep conversations.

Ongoing and effective pastoral care is also given through our ministers, elders, dedicated hosts and greeters on Sunday mornings, The Prayer Chain, and in the Ministry Team.

In regards to Pastoral Care, the Fellowship Group and the house groups are also special places where pastoral care happens and people look out for each other.

The Pastoral Care Freezer is organised by our committed team of Marie Cross and Joyce Gibson. This food is a great source of help and consolation in many cases.

Pastoral care of a special kind happens through the regular gatherings of volunteers and residents in the Dixon Street Cafe. In numerous interchanges care and friendship are given, and the time spent together contributes to the stability of the Dixon Street residents' community.

As the Pastoral Care Coordinator, I benefit from each piece of information where a pastoral need is known. I want to thank the whole St John's community for your friendship and care for each other and beyond. Let us continue to walk on our path of reaching out towards each other and growing in our understanding of each other. And may God bless us all and be with us every step of the way.

***Monika Demuth-Barber***

## *Christian Education Committee*

Who among us hasn't at some stage during the past year smiled or chuckled at the antics of the children in church: the unscripted comment during the Minister's children's talk, the 'charge' down the aisle following the singing of the Blessing, watching the latest creation for the Regional Film Festival, the unfettered enthusiasm of participants in an All Age Worship Service or Christmas Pageant. There is however, so much more to our Youth Programmes. I hope that you take the time to read the reports of the various youth programmes that abound in the church.

The plethora of activities that take place in these programmes occur in the context of creative and prayerful planning and selfless leadership. The Christian Education Committee has oversight of the youth programmes within the church. What continually astounds the committee is the willingness of so many dedicated people to serve in this pivotal ministry. On your behalf I would like to express all our grateful thanks to our youth leaders.

The young people in the church are not just the responsibility of their families and their leaders. They are all our responsibility. As members of the congregation we can exercise this responsibility in many ways. We can accept invitations to attend their post church morning teas, chat with the children, thank the leaders for their on-going work, include them all in our prayers.

This year we farewelled Dave and Jenny Adams from Thrive. Their leadership among the youth has been immensely valued. We wish them well as they begin a new chapter in their lives. David's replacement will be Laura Putt.

The Christian Education Committee has been mindful of the increasingly complex pressure that our teenagers are placed under: pressure from school, peer pressure, pressure from social media. In a youth culture where church is not necessarily deemed to be 'cool', for a young person to stand firm and proclaim their Christian

# Christian Education Committee

affiliation and beliefs can also be challenging. Our teenagers particularly deserve our support and prayer as they grapple with the mounting challenges they face as they prepare to assume the mantles of responsibility and leadership that await them in a changing world.

I would like to acknowledge Simon Chiaroni, Beth Beard, Geoff Troughton, Fiona Purchas, and the ministers who form the Christian

Education Committee. Their wise counsel, perceptive understanding of youth issues and a commitment to ensuring that the young people and their leaders who form such a critical part of our worshipping community are supported and valued is much appreciated.

**Robert Anderson**

On behalf of the Christian Education Committee

## St John's Youth groups

This past year has been quite a big one for EPIC and Thrive group. St John's Youth groups are made up of some of the best young people around, period. We are a varied and diverse group that work together as a team. Although not all of our youth come from a faith perspective, we all acknowledge that we are on a journey of discovery and exploration of Christianity; something that underpins everything we do.

It has been a fairly whirlwind year, the return of Dave and Jenny Adams in term 2, 2016 and their departure in term 3, 2017.

One of the biggest changes for our youth groups this year was our change in year allocations between the groups. From 2017, EPIC now encompasses years 7–9 and Thrive years 10 – first year uni. Both groups will shift that again next year by going from years 7–10 and 11–2nd year uni respectively. This change came straight from the youth and families survey.

We hope that this change will help the transition when a youthie leaves EPIC and moves up to Thrive. Dave and I both believe that this change has helped both EPIC and Thrive become stronger as a group and we are looking forward to how things will evolve in the future.

The year has had its ups and downs but we would like to share with some of the highlights that have left lasting memories this year.





# *St John's Youth groups*

## ***Alpha Film Series***

The Alpha film series has helped us as a youth ministry to engage in the deep questions of faith. We have seen a huge transformation in our young people over the course of this film series. I'm proud to say our young people have openly, and without judgement of each other, shared and owned their beliefs through discussion, they have prayed for each other, and made inroads into relationships with other age groups at St Johns.

## ***Summer Retreat***

After a crazy 2016 for many of us, we decided to do our annual Summer Excursion a little differently. We cut the price down to \$40pp, headed to Castlepoint, and focused on slowing down, taking time for personal devotionals, enjoying the local natural activities, sharing our stories, and cooking our own meals. It was a very refreshing time for us mentally, physically, spiritually, and socially. The highlight was a group devotional as we watched the sun rise from Castle Rock.

## ***Activate Camp***

In the past, the majority of youth presbytery events have been aimed at high school students. Last year PYM held their first ever camp aimed at intermediate ministries. Activate Camp was a great way to start term 4 in 2016. We took a large group of year 7 & 8s along and we had a great weekend of fun, friends, and faith. For many, this was their first time meeting other junior youth groups from around central presbytery.



## ***Easter Camp***

Easter Camp is one of the celebrated events on our annual calendar. We love it, and get so much out of it! Youth come away inspired in their faith and that is awesome!

This year marked the first year EPIC has ever been to Easter Camp. Taking up a group of six year 9's, this was a great event which helped us all grow more in our faith and showed the youth what a wider presbytery event is like. Even though we were the 'newbies' of Easter Camp, you couldn't tell as everyone got stuck in with the activities, faith talks, and everything else camp has to offer. Seeing how well the year 9s interacted with the senior youth from Thrive and other youth groups makes us confident that the youth group changes are paying off.

## ***Combined Beach Bonfire with EPIC and Merge***

It's a tradition to finish the year off with a beach bonfire at Princess Bay. This year we held a combined event with EPIC and Merge youth from Khandallah, Ngaio & Wadestown. A beautiful night!



## ***Film Fest***

Film Fest is another major event for both EPIC and Thrive. The year both groups achieved some amazing results. Film Fest 2016 was a year for the record books, as EPIC became the first ever intermediate youth group to win the event with their film 'Loving AJ'. They also walked away with best editor (Richard Hpa), best special effects, and best supporting actor (Max Fyfe).

# *St John's Youth groups*

Thrive's film, *Negative Love*, achieved best cinematography and third place in the festival. This being the first year without any direct input from any leaders, it was a great result.

## *Move to Evening Service*

We often focus on the transition between EPIC and Thrive but over the years, the transition beyond Thrive has often been overlooked. With this in mind, this year we have committed to building a stronger relationship with the evening service. As such, in term 1 we alternated between evening and morning service attendance and in term 2 committed to the evening service for the Alpha course. We have seen greater participation and engagement in church from our young people and even a numerical growth in attendees.

## *Home Group*

Home group is very important to the life of Thrive and for wrestling the big questions of faith. Home group generally has three formats. Each format contains dinner, board games, and rides home. At home group we:

- » brainstorm and seek answers together for big questions surrounding faith
- » train our youth for future youth leadership
- » head offsite for fun (particularly the events that interests a segment of the group).

## *Mural*

Each year EPIC decides to do a term-long project on Sunday mornings. Last year they did a Trade Me action and this year they decided to paint a mural. Over several weeks they looked at who they are as EPIC and some key values they stood by. The result was a mural painted in Spinks which shows off several key aspects of who we want to be as EPIC members.



## *Hosting Shield Challenge*

Having relaunched the shield in 2013, we're now in our fourth year of competition. Thrive has won it the first two times against Knox Waitara, lost to Ignite youth in Waipukurau, and then failed to reclaim it this year again. We had a blast hosting Ignite down here at St John's. We showed them some of our local favourite games and had some awesome interyouth hangouts. Finally, the shield is also being competed for independently of St John's as Ignite will look for a new competitor to face next year.

## *Flamingo Flocking*

As a fundraiser for Summer Retreat, this year Thrive challenged members of St John's to a simple wager. If we could sneak a flamingo lawn ornament onto their front lawn without them seeing, (or under water-fight conditions) then that family would agree to sponsor us for the camp. This was awesome! So many age groups across the church engaged with us in the challenge and we managed to raise \$1,200.

# Children and Families Ministry

The Children's and Families' Ministry at St John's in the City is a place where primary-aged school children and their families can learn and grow in the life of the church. Together we explore what it means to follow God by interacting with the stories and messages from the Bible.

St J's Kids is the regular Sunday morning activity of our Children and Families Ministry and is a place where friendships are formed and our life as a multicultural and diverse community is celebrated. It is a place where children are welcomed and affirmed in who they are, where they can ask questions about life and faith and learn to find answers together with others from our faith community. Children and families meet in joyful celebration of life and service to others.

Enrino Pasullean and I coordinate this St J's Kids programme, and as a team we draw on the support of the St John's community on many levels. During Term 2, 2017, Vicky Wood kindly supported our team when I reduced my hours for a limited period of time, for which we are very grateful.

The backbone of the St J's Kids community is the strong and cooperative team of St J's Kids volunteer leaders and assistants who bring with them a multitude of strengths, life experiences and knowledge from a range of different backgrounds.

Together with them, we plan and construct the year's programme and activities, through which we strive to offer to the children a ministry which helps to build their faith in our loving and forgiving God. We believe that this reassurance and knowledge will nourish children's spiritual wellbeing and self-confidence. We believe and hope that on Sundays we all, children and their families, the Sunday leaders and assistants can go into our week refreshed as we attempt to live in God's way and advocate for a God who invites us to a life of service and community.

We are immensely grateful to the team of leaders and assistants for their advice, feedback, wonderful ideas, and the time they give. Without you, St J's Kids would not be possible. This team is always open to new people and a number of new keen people have come on board during the last year. This year Cindy Sun, Kirsten Mason, Kristina Simanungkalit, Maria Biedermann, and Kristen



Carden became part of our team. We also had to say good bye to Linda Shaw and Janet Davis as permanent team members as they follow their other commitments in our faith community. We thank you for all you have done for St J's kids.

All of our leaders and assistants are productive contributors, and we permanently grow in our knowledge of each other and our friendships.

We also feel strongly carried by the St John's Ministry Team. Here, we can get formative feedback on a regular basis, ask for guidance and suggestions in an open-minded and supported environment, and receive strength through prayer and collaboration.

We have a small number of new assistants who enjoy the Sunday mornings. We are, however, also actively looking for more volunteer leaders and assistants.

Together and as friends, we continue the journey of offering children the opportunity to learn about God and living in God's way. We try to guide them in their journey of discovering the God of the Bible and the freedom and joy our faith and life in God's way can offer. At the heart of our ministry and mission is the attempt to teach the stories and messages of the Bible to the children in a meaningful way that connects to the children's real life and family contexts. We wish to stimulate fascination and spiritual connection with the Bible stories and the Christian messages. We encourage the children to actively seek to broaden their knowledge and experience of faith by asking questions and encounter the characters within the stories, to learn from them and find answers



to life questions together. As a community that learns from Jesus, the values of shared love, open-mindedness, inclusion and empathy carry specific importance.

## ***St J's Kids leaders and assistants***

### ***Preschool (Sunbeams):***

Vicky Wood, Kirsten Mason, Antonia Milkop, Naomi Lane, Kristina Simanungkalit, Christine Price, Libby Allwood

### ***Years 1-2 (Sparklers):***

Janie Pack, Adrienne Troughton, Farina Kusmana, Mayhaka Mendis, Diane Shaw

### ***Years 3-4 (Lazer Lights):***

Iris Webster, Bronwyn Wood, Chris Purchas, Fiona Coughlan, Maria Biedermann

### ***Years 5 and 6 (Lightning Bolts):***

Jason Fyfe, Nicki Read, Kristen Carden, Ino Pasullean, Cindy Sun, Olivia Tuatoko

### ***Sunday Morning Holiday Programme Leaders:***

Lesley Shaw, Vicky and Dave Wood, Jinny Irvine, Naomi Lane, Ino Pasullean, Kirsten Mason

## ***Highlights***

### ***Term 3, 2016 (July-September)***

#### **» Wheels Day (14 August):**

We had a great time and a fantastic turnout at our Wheels Day in the Kilbirnie Recreation Centre. St J's Kids, their parents and a great number of friends skated, scooted, soccered, hockeyed, jumped and slid their hearts out, when we had the whole place again exclusively for us!

#### **» Pantry Raid (17 September):**

Five carloads of people went out to collect goods from all over the city, which were donated to DCM. The kids also had a great time building a tower with the items for the church service the next day.



#### **» Worship @5 (18 September):**

We worshipped God and reflected on the over-arching 2016 year theme of St J's Kids: 'Loving God with all our hearts, soul, mind and strength' (Mark 12:30). The focus was on our discussion on how we can serve God, our ideas were expressed through scratch art.

#### **» Kids Friendly Recertification St J's Kids:**

After working on the Kids Friendly review Document, we were issued with the renewed certificate. This event was worth celebrating.

#### **» Hosting Morning Tea (21 August):**

The Preschool Group served morning tea to the whole St John's community. This was a successful event and offered opportunity for interaction across the age-groups.

### ***Term 4, 2016 (October-December)***

#### **» Labour Weekend Spring Games and Prayers (23 October):**

We made use of the opportunity to get together in an informal way during a holiday programme, wrote our own prayers and played fun games.

#### **» Church Camp (21-23 October):**

For the families who participated in the church camp, this was a highlight of the year. The children were a lively and integral part of the camp and they contributed to the concert, the work, worship, and fun.



» **Strawberries and Ice cream Festival (Graduation for St J's Kids who finish school year 6, 4 December):**

In style again we celebrated those children who moved up to Epic at the end of 2016, with ice cream, strawberries, and the gifting of Bibles.

» **Christmas Play, Hosting Morning Tea (4 December):**

About 40 children participated in the play which told the whole story of Christmas, with a focus on making time in our lives so we have space to connect deeply with the Christian message and reflect on the meaning of Jesus in our lives.

the theme Matthew 5: 16 'Let your light shine'. Many St J's Kids families were amongst those from the St John's Community who shared and reflected on Jesus' presence in the middle of our lives and how we can show our love for others and the world.

» **Palm Sunday (9 April):**

The St J's Kids' procession into church included the wooden cross decorated with palm leaves. This was a meaningful symbol of the day's events which extended to the Good Friday Service, because by then the leaves were withered. On Easter Sunday, they were replaced with the white cloth which strengthened the effect of Jesus' resurrection from the cross.

*Term 1, 2017 (February-April)*

» **Launch Day 2017 (12 February):**

In style, St J's kids celebrated the theme of the year 'Living in the Light' (John 8:12). On this Communion Sunday, we started with a silent walk into the darkened centre, after which we welcomed with joy the appearance of light and connected this with a meditation on how Jesus is like a light in our lives. With great energy we kicked off our 2017 programme with a bouncy castle and sausage sizzle.

» **Commissioning of Leaders and Assistants (19 February):**

We celebrated the Commissioning of our 2017 leaders and assistants during the 10am service.

» **Pancake Breakfast on Shrove Tuesday (Tuesday 28 February):**

With yummy pancakes cooked by the Men's Breakfast Group, a great number of families were amongst the community who met for pancakes and learnt about the tradition of Shrove Tuesday, which Allister shared with us.

» **Hosting Morning Tea (26 March):**

The Lightning Bolts (St J's Kids oldest group) prepared morning tea for the whole St John's community. This was a great gathering of people from all generations.

» **Picnic Church (5 March):**

Combining this All-Age Church service with an outing to Wilton Bush was a very successful event. In connection with the overarching theme of St J's Kids 2017, the focus of the service was

*Term 2, 2017 (April-July)*

» **Mothers' Day (14 May)**

Vicky Wood and others helped the children to make tissue flowers to hand out to all the women in the church. They loved it and put them onto their dresses and celebrated the day as Women's Day.

» **Bring a Friend Day (28 May)**

Friends were invited to our St J's Kids Programme. We spoke about why it is important to have good friends and in what way Jesus can be our friend. Some friendship games rounded off the morning.

» **Starlight Storytime and Glow-worm Find (16 June):**

This event tied in very well with our St J's Kids theme 'Walking in the Light'. St J's families and friends met in the Wilton Bush Community Centre, where we had picnic takeaways and



stories, followed by a Night Walk with our self-made lanterns. This light procession was a very cosy and special experience for us all. To conclude the eventful gathering, David and Vera Burton and their team picked us up and took us on a glow-worm tour. What a great time we had.

### ***Children in Church***

Our church welcomes children into the church. Each one of our St J's Kids is special, and together they make an enormous, meaningful, and joyful contribution to our St John's Community.

Each Sunday children receive a Children's order of service and use this to participate as they can. Volunteers take turns carrying the Bible in and

at times take part in the reading of the worship. All children sing the Blessing Song to the Congregation and vice versa.

Most families take part in the Communion. It is during the All Age Worship once a term that the children are helped to actively share their insight and experiences with others of all ages, and vice versa. Their constructive contributions are pertinent to the overall St John's experience.

### ***Numbers of St J's Kids***

The average attendance of St J's Kids on Sundays during June 2016 - July 2017 was 34 children.

***Enrino Pasullean and  
Monika Demuth-Barber***

## ***Preschool Music and Movement group***

Each week during the school terms the preschool Music and Movement group meets in the St John's Centre.

The music sessions are led by Antonia Milkop, Anna Davis, Ingrid Alve and Naomi Lane and group members take turns to provide morning tea.

On average 30 people (children and their caregivers) come each week. However at

Christmas, 48 people attended! Of the attendees four families are regulars on Sunday.

The highlights over the last year were sharing the real meaning of Easter and Christmas and David Greer (a father from the group) bringing along his guitar for some acoustic music sessions.

***Naomi Lane***

## ***Creche***

Creche continues to provide for children and their parents and caregivers in our church. For a time this year we were blessed with the assistance of Chelsea Biedermann who was helping out with caregiving for the 'service' category of her Duke of Edinburgh award. It was great to have her. At present we do not have a lot of babies in the congregation so sometimes the workers can go back into the service.

***Lesley Shaw***

# St John's Groups

## **English as a Second Language**

### **Bible Study Group**

The English as a Second Language Bible Study Group (ESL) is going very well. While I've been away Enrino has been leading the Bible Study and so I want to thank him for all the work he had done. Over the year, we have an average of 8–10 people attending. The group meets every second Thursday from 6:15-7:30 pm in the St John's Office.

We have had a number of studies covering an array of topics, including:

- » reflecting on different types of prayer, such as The Prayer of Jabez (1 Chronicles 4:10), The Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13), Jonah's Prayer of Salvation (Jonah 2:2-9), David's Prayer for Deliverance (Psalm 3) and Hannah's Prayer of Praise (1 Samuel 2:1-10).
- » words of encouragement from the bible, including Psalm 27:1, Matthew 19:26, 2 Corinthians 4:16 and 2 Timothy 1:7
- » hearing from Daphne and David about their amazing cross-cultural trip to Indonesia
- » using each study to practise speaking English – this has included adding some English (vocabulary) learning into the meetings, to help the group understand the meaning of particular words.

Infused with these studies, storytelling, and reflections has been wonderful food, warm fellowship, and a willingness to learn from Scripture and from each other.

Being part of this group constantly reminds me that no matter where we come from, no matter our cultural heritage when we follow Christ we are brothers and sisters. The ESL group is a wonderful part of St John's and I feel blessed to be involved in it.

If you know of anyone who speaks English as a second language and would like to meet with some others in the same situation, please let them know about the ESL group or contact Stuart or Enrino.

Yours in Christ

**Stuart Simpson and Enrino Pasullean**

## **St John's Men's Breakfast 2017**

We have had a great year with an average attendance of 10-15 men every fortnight. I want to say a big thanks to Ted Cizadlo, who has been leading the Men's Breakfast since I've been away. Although I am back at work, Ted continues to organise both the roster and discussion topics, which is very much appreciated. Throughout the year we have had times of prayer, study, and fellowship all under-girded with great food. Below are some examples of what we have been up to.

- » We've been looking at Frances Gench's book *'Encountering God in tyrannical texts'*, concentrating on 5 STRATEGIES FOR ENGAGEMENT WITH TYRANNICAL TEXTS.
- » We've reflected on selections from John Stott's book, *'Issues Facing Christians Today - Poverty, Wealth and Simplicity'*.
- » We talked about prayer, using an article about prayer by Karen Armstrong called *'Prayer helps us chip away our egotism'*. Karen is a former Catholic sister, scholar, and author of many books on God and comparative religions.

If you are a man wanting to join a great group, looking to grow in your faith, seeking to be encouraged and supported, and love eating, then come along to the Men's Breakfast. We meet every other Thursday, 7:30-8:30 am in the St John's Centre. To find out more, contact the church office in the first instance.

**Stuart Simpson**

## **St John's Stitchers' Group**

The Stitchers' Group continues to be popular with a core group of women from St John's. It is open to anyone from the community, but at present we only have one non-St J's person. It is lovely seeing the results of people's work, such as framed embroidery, tapestry, and knitted garments.

The average attendance is about eight women and sometimes the conversations get rather noisy! A great time is had by all.

**Lesley Shaw**

# St John's Groups

## ***Wine and Theology***

The Wine and Theology group meets monthly on the first Friday of each month in the church lounge, and is ably led by Rev Allister Lane, with the assistance of Derek Woodard-Lehman. Attendance has fallen a little this year and averages 10 to 15 members, mainly from the St John's congregation.

For the first 30 minutes, two wines are blind-tasted with members giving their opinions. For the next 60-70 minutes we have a discussion based on a film clip or on notes circulated in advance.

The intention is to find a theological perspective to a current moral, ethical, or political issue. Church members are welcome to join our discussions.

***Malcolm Shaw***

## ***Flower team***

For a number of years the flower team has been under the gifted guidance of Ailsa Salt. With Ailsa's recent retirement we are bereft of her beautiful arrangements and amazing commitment to making sure all is in good order. Ailsa's Christmas tree decoration was a sight to behold and gave pleasure and joy to everyone. Her high standards deserve our total thanks and appreciation.

In taking over the administration task of putting together a new floral team I sought guidelines from Session for the provision and presentation of flowers as part of worship and received the following information.

- » A portion of the church expenses is budgeted to contribute towards providing and presenting flowers for worship services with the understanding that individuals will likely need to contribute as with other creative expressions.
  - » Flowers for wedding and funerals are expected to be provided by those arranging the occasion; there is no obligation on St John's congregation for these occasions.
- These points are very helpful and the new flower team is well underway. The team's current focus has been on using 'home-grown' materials whenever possible rather than greenhouse-grown products. That goal is being met with creativity and effectiveness as they search for interesting pulpit decor options.
- I am very grateful to our seven flower arrangers and three helpers for their gift of time and service, (currently). We still require more volunteers, even if it is only once a year.

***Gail Higgs-West***

## ***Prayer Chain***

How comforting it is to know others are praying for them during a crisis.

It's good to be part of a praying community, united by God's amazing grace and in the bonds of prayer. Prayer helps us build up a mutual love within our Christian community. It helps us understand what it means to say 'see how these Christians love one another'.

Folk wishing to be held in prayer can contact either of our Ministers, the church office, or me. Those prayers will be added to the prayer list and distributed to our Prayer Chain on a monthly basis. If urgent prayer is required, a confidential message will be sent to all those on the Prayer Chain. We pray the Holy Spirit's guidance and in all things and God will be glorified in every situation.



# St John's Groups

I would like to say a very sincere thank you to all our members. Currently our Prayer Chain consists of 68 members; only a small increase from the 62 we had last year. We still need more people who believe in the power of prayer and are willing to spend time in prayer for others. Anyone wishing to become a member of the Prayer Chain or who would like to request prayer can contact me on 04 3889746 or email me at [decision@clear.net.nz](mailto:decision@clear.net.nz)

***Confidentiality is respected at all times.***

***Gail Higgs-West***

## St John's Fellowship Group

I believe our group is in good heart and we continue to support and encourage each other. It would be great to have more people coming on a regular basis but those who do come obviously enjoy our varied monthly programme. So what did we do over this past year?

August	Rev Stuart Simpson gave a talk on his family's trip to Madagascar. Not quite like the films!
September	Chris Hartley, Spiritual Advisor at the Mary Potter Hospice, spoke about her very diverse and challenging work. We also had a special guest, Sister Mary Scanlon, from Little Company of Mary, who was instrumental in setting up the hospice originally.
October	'My most memorable mystery' – fascinating stories and insights from our members.
November	The Advent Service, conducted by Rev Stuart Simpson, set the scene for Christmas and reminded us that it is not all commercial or business-related.

January	This is when we endeavour to plan our programme for the coming year. Doesn't always work out as planned. This year's devotional theme is 'water'.
February	Joyce Gibson was chief cook and bottlewasher on a 4-wheel drive overland trip to Molesworth Station – made more exciting by being post-Kaikoura earthquake. She even gave us a taste of the food she cooked.
March	Irene Swadling gave us insights into the story behind her novel 'Cross Creek Return' about the Rimutaka railway line.
April	Our Easter Service was conducted by Rev Allister Lane.
May	Eleanor Benseman outlined some of the problems facing caregivers who are looking after children who have been born with Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder. The PWANZ Special Project appeal was supporting this newly-formed group who provide support, education and advocacy on this congenital disorder.
June	We had an Art Deco theme, complete with high tea.

In September 2016, St John's was the venue chosen by PWANZ for their AGM. Our group helped wherever possible. The outcome of the AGM is that now we have individual membership of PWANZ, a newly-elected committee, and new Terms of Reference to reflect the changes.

This necessitated the updating of the Terms of Reference for St John's Council (which was approved in February 2017). We also now use St John's charity number for all our donations

# *St John's Groups*

and our books will be audited as part of the wider St John' audit. I continue to serve on the St John's Council in my capacity as St John's Fellowship Group President/Chair.

We continue to support the aims of PWANZ and the goals of St John's with our fellowship, study, witness and mission work.

Thank you everyone for all your support during the year and especially to those who serve in specific areas, which ensures that our group continues to function well.

***Mary Gibbs***  
President

## *Birthday Mission*

We have raised \$800 this year. We have 36 members.

For the year ending June 2016, PWANZ received a total of \$18,000 which was distributed to the following:

- » Mainly Music in Lebanon (\$3,000)
- » Palm Project in Vanuatu (\$5,000)
- » Pacific Conference of Churches through Christian World Service (\$5,000)

Mission gifts from 2014-2015 paid out in June 2016 were:

- » PCANZ Global Mission Rice Bowl Appeal in Myanmar (\$2,500)
- » Waitaki Tongan Community Note Project(\$2,500)

\$10,000 is being held aside for Syrian Refugee resettlement in Dunedin and Wellington.

We appreciate these donations which contribute to the wider Mission of PWANZ.

***Katherine Sutherland***  
Birthday Mission Convenor

# *Presbyterian Women Aotearoa New Zealand (PWANZ)*

The PWANZ Executive ensures that particular emphasis is placed upon the roles of women to promote their voice and leadership within the church and the wider community. At the General Assembly in Dunedin in November 2016, our four recommendations were passed

- » That General Assembly support and actively encourage the PWANZ national and international projects and outreach within congregations and Presbyteries.
- » That a Special Collection be taken on the Sunday nearest to International Women's Day each March to support the ongoing advocacy role of PWANZ locally, regionally, and internationally, as well as at the United Nations.
- » That General Assembly re-affirm the principle that membership of church courts, committees and other formal groups reflect the gender balance within the Church.
- » That the Council of the Assembly be asked to review all current policies, regulations and decisions through a gender equality lens to ensure that the needs, aspirations and welfare of women and girls are taken into account, and to ensure the voices of women are encouraged and heard in all the courts of the church and other decision-making bodies.

Our members voted to add Tausala Iosefa to our Executive in the new Human Rights Convenor position. Tausala is a qualified lawyer and an active member of St David's Church and the Tuvalu and Tokelau Community groups in Palmerston North. We also appointed Rae Simpson as Northern Ambassador and Faaolataga Leasi as Central Ambassador. We are focused on reflecting the membership diversity of Presbyterian Women within our Executive and officers of our organisation.

Through ecumenical co-operation, an annual mission project is supported by Presbyterian Women and Methodist Women's Fellowship (MWF) groups. We contributed to both an

international appeal for Nicaragua and the Alcohol Fetal Spectrum Disorder support group in New Zealand. Over the past year, our members have donated more than \$38,000.

PWANZ are members of NZ National Council of Women and full members of the Ministry of Women International Caucus and Ecumenical Women at the United Nations. Our UN Convenor led a delegation this March to New York, including Queen Margaret College Year 13 student, Mira Karunanidhi.

Our commitment is to uphold the aim of Presbyterian Women – serving God locally and globally in love. At the table of Jesus Christ, women have a place where our voice is valued. Our 'back to the future' vision is that our daughters and granddaughters are the tohunga and totara at the top tables in the Church. Presbyterian women will continue to have a voice in the church.

***Sandra Waldrom***

PWANZ Administrator

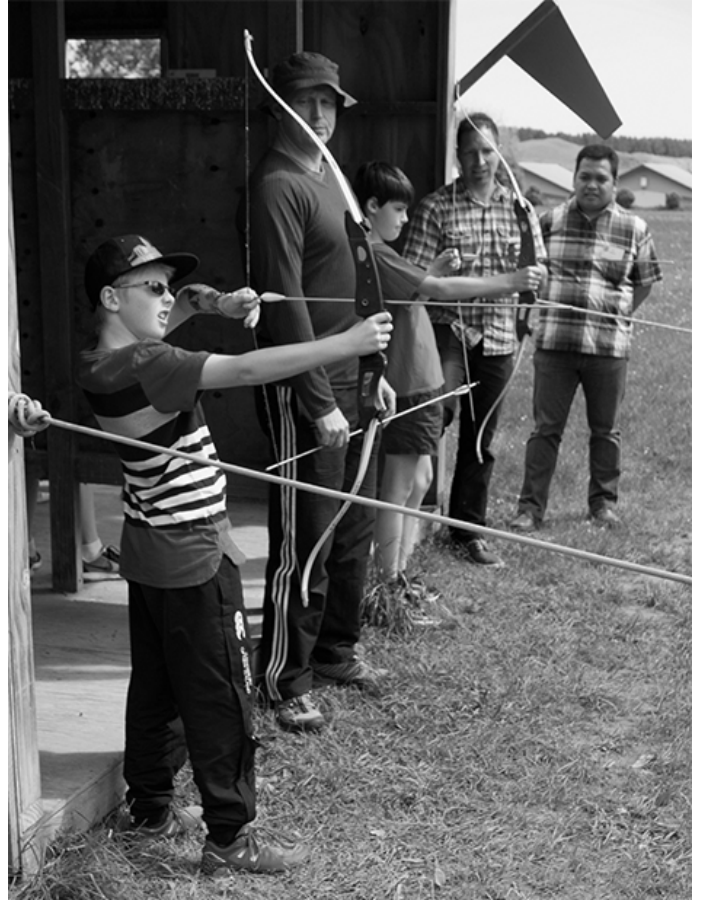
# Church Camp



'Blitzing the Busy' Church camp was held from 28–30 October 2016, and proved to be a great weekend where the busy was certainly blitzed. Set in the beautiful grounds of Forest Lakes just north of Otaki, it was a time of fun, refreshment, building connections, and just hanging out together as a faith community.

Fifty-eight groups registered, totalling 83 adults and 67 children, ranging from babies and toddlers to the wonderful, inspirational Gordon, who was in his nineties – proving that Church camp is celebration of true community – not just a family event.

We were inspired by the messages each morning given by our speaker, Ivan Martinez, to find our true passions, therefore putting the busy in context. Ivan argued the busy doesn't feel so overwhelming where are doing what we are called to be doing! He also encouraged us to actively invite God into the boring and mundane parts of our lives that can seem a burden. When we do this, the 'annoying dishes' can be transformed into a time set apart with a new purpose.



Camp was once again structured round a series of intentional activities aimed at helping build community, along with relaxing time and just enjoying each other's company. As in 2014, the main part of Saturday was taken up with optional activity rotations where people could choose three activities from a range of active and non-active workshops, including archery, kayaking, and Zumba alongside cupcake making, painting, and African music. There was something for everyone, of all ages and abilities.



Once again, a weekend highlight was the 'St John's Got Talent' night on Saturday evening where we got to see the amazing creative gifts some of our members have. Well done to Oliver Mason, who at just five years old took out first place with his rendition of the 'Oompa Loompa' song! This was followed by a bonfire and marsh mellow cooking.



# Church Camp

Camp was organised by a dedicated group of volunteers, and it would not be the wonderful event it is, without their hours of help and dedication. A special thanks to camp secretary Antonia Milkop, treasurer Ashley Milkop, activities rotation organiser Vicky Wood, Nicki Read and Monika Demuth-Barber, who oversaw the kids programme, and all our wonderful rotation leaders.

To everyone who came – thanks – and we'll see you again in 2018!

**Fiona Purchas**



# Alpha Course

From 30 April to 25 June 2017, about 60 people, including the two youth groups (Thrive and EPIC) attended an Alpha course at St John's. To help engage the youth, we used the Youth Alpha course material. EPIC ran their course on a Friday evening, while Thrive and the 'older' groups joined together on Sunday evenings.

We started each night with a shared meal, followed by watching three short videos based on the theme for the night interspersed with a small group discussion of a question posed at the end of each video. The topics explored what it means to be a Christian, but were not aimed specifically at 'new' Christians – everyone who attended got something out of it.

We also spent one whole Sunday at the Home of Compassion on an Alpha retreat. This helped us to really come together as fellow Christians and seekers of truth and helped us get to know each other even better in a relaxed atmosphere.



A huge amount of work went into making sure the course ran smoothly and successfully. Each small group had one or two leaders who helped facilitate the discussion and made sure everyone had a say. The volunteers who prepared the dinners and cleaned up afterwards were organised to make sure nobody went hungry or thirsty. The MCs for the night ensured we finished on time each week. The retreat day was planned right down to having the weather be beautiful and sunny so we could go outside during our breaks! Thanks to all those involved in making sure the course went smoothly.

# Property Committee

Our very capable Property & Administration manager, Karin Duncan, has been with us for over a year now making a difference to our facilities in ways too numerous to count.

One that will have been obvious is the greatly improved lighting in the main hall and foyer of the St John's Centre. The existing lights were well over 20 years old and the technology has moved on quite a bit since their installation. Now we have LED lights which respond instantly to their switch and can cope with being turned off and on in short succession. Many will have also noticed the strengthening work on the garden retaining wall in front of Spinks. Call it a practice run for the church!

Now that the Troup House re-fit project is basically complete, we are making some good progress with our plans to seismically strengthen the church building. An initial meeting has occurred with Heritage NZ and WCC's heritage advisor, with a first draft of the detailed strengthening drawings tabled. Both Heritage and WCC are very supportive of the project. We also have promising indications from a suitable contractor, and so are having the plans progressed towards Resource and Building Consent applications.

A congregational meeting will be called in due course, when plans are completed and a cost schedule has been prepared – perhaps a month or so away.

Thank you to our highly capable and enthusiastic staff (Karin, Mark, and Albertin) and committee (John Irvine, Lesley Shaw, Ian Garrett, and David Ensor), and to our 'new' member Evan Dumbleton, who has been attending to our organ for many years now.

**David Wood**

Convenor



# Communications Committee

We are a small group who produce signs, the quarterly Messenger newsletter, this annual report, and oversee the St John's website and Facebook page.

Our signs are intended to advertise specific St John's events, or to provoke thoughts and opinions in both our congregation and the general public. Some of our more recent signs are examples of this.



The Messenger is where we let you know of some of the happenings at St John's (both past and upcoming events), usually based around a loose theme. Over the past year, we done newsletters themed around the Church camp (celebration and participation), the Alpha course, Participation in worship, and Justice and Action. We're always pleased to accept contributions, so if you have something you'd like to include in a newsletter, please let anyone from the Committee know.

Our website and Facebook page are updated regularly by the office staff and the ministers, for which I am very grateful. Notices from the current Bulletin are posted and Facebook is used to keep people up-to-date on events and services at St John's. We also add the sermons to the website.

Current committee members are:

- » Dave Adams
- » Elizabeth Gibbs
- » Richard Hpa
- » Rev Allister Lane
- » Rev Stuart Simpson
- » Jo Anne Tay

We're always looking for sign ideas and new members – so please contact any of us if you can help.

**Elizabeth Gibbs**

Convenor

## Social Committee

The Social Committee of St John's in the City is responsible for making sure catering operations as directed by Council proceed smoothly. Our primary commitment is to provide a Congregational Communion lunch every quarter to encourage fellowship and an opportunity to meet and greet.

We also catered for the *Spirituality of Wine* lecture in February this year led by Dr Gisela Kreglinger from St Andrews University in Scotland – a great opportunity to reach out to the wider community, enjoying the fruit of the vine and its spiritual history, as well as sharing a meal together

As a team, we were very grateful to see Grace Jarvie make a full recovery from her major heart surgery and who is now back as a fully functioning member of the team. I am very thankful to the team of regulars who assisted me with organising and preparing a variety of functions throughout the year.

The Social Committee currently comprises the following:

- » David Ensor
- » Grace Jarvie
- » Judy Ferguson
- » Daphne Chua
- » Sandra Waldrom – *ex officio*
- » Robyn Giles – *ex officio*
- » Jo Anne Tay – *ex officio*

As a committee of four, we are constantly on the look-out for new recruits, but in the meantime are managing to cope with a core of regular ring-ins. If any St John's member wishes to volunteer for some worthwhile community service, we would be very grateful for your help.

**David Ensor**

Convenor

## Investment Advisory Committee

### ***St John's Capital Trust Fund – Report for Year ending 31 June 2017***

The proceeds from the sale of the airspace over our Church property in 1987 constitute the St John's Capital Trust Fund. This inflation-indexed fund makes a major contribution to St John's income and it is not an exaggeration to state that it supports the outreach activities of our congregation.

The Fund is now substantially invested in a diverse portfolio of secure fixed interest investments through the Presbyterian Investment Fund (PIF). The only exception is one inflation indexed bond. Over the last few years the earning rate on our fixed interest securities has reduced from over seven percent to three percent. If inflation is at two percent, it reduces the income available for the Church to about one percent. This reduction in earning rate is having a very significant effect on our ability to fund St John's operating budget at levels it has been able to do in the past.

Our reserves position has enabled us to permit a relatively small investment in more volatile diversified index tracking New Zealand and Australian share funds and in the past year these have made worthwhile capital gains which may not be repeated. It is likely that we may have to eat into these reserves to meet operating expenses. This is unsustainable in the long term.

It will be necessary for the generous members of St Johns to review and increase their financial contributions to our Church if we are to be able to operate as we have in the past. The next few years will be demanding, with substantial expenditure likely to be required to earthquake strengthen the Church and also to undertake essential maintenance on the Church's buildings. It is essential that we increase our giving.

**A R Marshall**



# Finance Committee Report

2017 was St John's second year as a registered charity and we now have a much better understanding about how to meet our statutory reporting obligations. I hope you will find the information more useful and easier to digest than last year.

As you will see from the numbers in the Statement of Financial Performance, managing our operating expenditure within our income constraints continues to be a challenge. Over 2016/17, declining income from Capital Trust Fund investments has put real pressure on our ability to sustain our current level of activity. And while congregational giving has now increased by \$70,000 a year compared with 2013, it doesn't compensate for the decline in interest rates over the same period which has caused Trust Fund income to drop by a massive \$335,000 a year.

With a deficit at nearly \$330,000 following a deficit of \$390,000 in 2015/16 and the projection of flat income over the next two years, we will need to make some fundamental changes to reduce expenditure and look for new ways to bolster our income. This will mean reviewing all items of expenditure and asking how we can reduce, eliminate, or find an alternative way of funding it.

Ensuring we can financially sustain our priority activities is important to our well-being as a worshipping community. A lot happens at St Johns in addition to Sunday worship. There is very strong emphasis on, and support for, children and families. Youth are supported through our EPIC and Thrive youth groups and our partnership with BGI. Pastoral care is coordinated by the Ministry team working with many volunteers. Significant community and mission support is provided through our Outreach committee and, again, many volunteers. If you turn through a few more pages, you will see in Note 10 to the Financial Statements that nearly 14,000 hours were provided to St John's by these volunteers. And having read this far, you will have a good idea of many of the activities they have been involved with.

The St John's Centre attracted unprecedented use from community organisations and local businesses. Casual hire of the hall and other rooms reached a record high of \$109,000. Of course, this comes at a cost, requiring more time managing bookings and in setting up, cleaning, and maintenance. Our office and custodial staff have done a tremendous job providing the additional support required and in making the St John's Centre cost neutral. Now we need to work out how we can make more activities cost neutral. Financial sustainability is critical for our long-term future as a thriving church community. Indeed, we really ought to do better than break even if we want to invest in the future as previous generations have done.

So coming back to the challenge – to the congregation, we will be asking you to review your giving on a regular basis. To the committees that deliver St John's priorities, we will be asking for creativity and innovation to do more for less cost. The challenge for everyone is to come forward with ideas to increase income or do things in new or different ways. From little ideas, big things can happen.

**Ross Chesney**

Treasurer

# Plain English Financial Summary

2017  
\$000's

2016  
\$000's

## ***St John's received income from the following areas:***

Weekly congregational giving by direct credits, envelope system and weekly collection	213	208
Other donations and fundraising	8	22
Other income	6	8
Legacies received	-	1
Interest on legacy balances and reserves	26	31
Rents received from leasing space in Troup House and the conference facilities	276	193
Net interest income from St John's funds and the cash received from the air space sold above St John's in 1987 (the 'Capital Trust')	504	585
Unrealised loss on Capital Trust units	88	(125)
<b>Total Income available for General Use at St John's</b>	<b>1,121</b>	<b>923</b>

Higher rents from increased use of St John's Centre and BGI back in Troup House

Reflects declining interest rates

Financial reporting standards require investment values below cost to be recorded as a loss

## ***St John's incurred expenditure in the following areas:***

### **Church Activities**

Salaries paid to the Ministers and support staff	386	355
Salaries and resource costs for Christian education	158	152
Worship and congregational activities	20	18
Other costs	67	51
	<b>631</b>	<b>576</b>

### **Property Costs**

Expenditure on maintaining the Church, manse, conference facilities & Troup House including power, insurances, and repairs	293	346
Depreciation to recognise previous capital expenditure	111	93
	<b>404</b>	<b>439</b>

Lower costs reflect no major maintenance compared with Troup House painting etc. in 2015/16

2016  
\$000's

2015  
\$000's

### **Wider Work**

Contribution to the operations of the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand (per Assembly Assessment calculation)

81 98

Other outreach including community groups, DCM, Presbyterian Support Central and overseas mission

62 69

Knox Waitara Church Centre contribution (final instalment in 2016)

60 60

St Johns financial support for BGI

30 30

Otago University Lectureship

14 0

Visiting Scholar

6 (1)

Other donations including CWS Christmas appeal

3 4

**256 260**

**Total expenditure to deliver programmes and outreach**

**1,261 1,265**

Last instalment of our five-year commitment to Knox Waitara

**Net (deficit) from Church activities before transferring legacies and planned property maintenance to reserve**

**(140) (341)**

### **Other resources were used as follows:**

Transfer to inflation protect the Capital Trust

(223) (59)

Transfer legacy funds from/(to) reserves

34 (50)

**Net surplus/(deficit) after transfers**

**(329) (450)**

# Independent auditor's report

## To the Congregation of St John's in the City Presbyterian Church

### Qualified Opinion

We have audited the accompanying performance report of St John's in the City Presbyterian Church on pages 3 to 18, which comprises the entity information, the statement of service performance, the statement of financial performance and statement of cash flows for the year ended 30 June 2017, the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2017, and the statement of accounting policies and notes to the performance report.

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion section of our report:

- a) the reported outcomes and outputs, and quantification of the outputs to the extent practicable, in the statement of service performance are suitable

- b) the accompanying performance report presents fairly, in all material respects:

- the entity information for the year then ended
- the service performance for the year then ended, and
- the financial position of St John's in the City Presbyterian Church as at 30 June 2017, and its financial performance, and cash flows for the year then ended

in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Simple Format Reporting – Accrual (Not-For-Profit) issued by the New Zealand Accounting Standards Council.

### Basis for Qualified Opinion

St John's in the City Presbyterian Church has not provided for depreciation on the heritage assets and a building. This is a departure from Public Benefit Entity Simple Format Reporting – Accrual (Not-For-Profit) which requires that depreciation be charged on property, plant and equipment including heritage assets at the end of each accounting period. As a result the net surplus in the statement of financial performance is overstated by \$30,450 for the year ended 30 June 2017, and accumulated depreciation is understated by \$456,750 and assets and equity are overstated by \$456,750 in the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2017.

We conducted our audit of the statement of financial performance, statement of financial position, statement of cash flows, statement of accounting policies and notes to the performance report in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand) (ISAs (NZ)), and the audit of the entity information and statement of service performance in accordance with the International Standard on Assurance Engagements (New Zealand) ISAE (NZ) 3000 (Revised). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 'Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the performance report' section of our report.

We are independent of St John's in the City Presbyterian Church in accordance with Professional and Ethical Standard 1 (Revised) 'Code of ethics for assurance practitioners' issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Council, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other than our capacity as auditor we have no relationship with, or interests in, St John's in the City Presbyterian Church.

### Other Matter

For the performance report of the prior period the audit report was modified in the respect that St John's in the City Presbyterian Church had not provided for depreciation of \$30,450 on the heritage assets and a building. As a result the net surplus in the statement of financial performance was overstated by \$30,450 for the year ended 30 June 2016, and accumulated depreciation was understated by \$426,300 and assets and equity were overstated by \$426,300 in the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2016. our audit report was issued on 5 October 2016.

### The responsibility of the Council for the performance report

The Council are responsible for:

- a) Identifying outcomes and outputs, and quantifying the outputs to the extent practicable, that are relevant, reliable, comparable and understandable, to report in the statement of service performance
- b) the preparation and fair presentation of the performance report on behalf of St John's in the City Presbyterian Church which comprises:
  - the entity information
  - the statement of service performance; and
  - the statement of financial performance, statement of financial position, statement of cash flows, statement of accounting policies and notes to the performance report in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Simple Format Reporting – Accrual (Not-For-Profit) issued by the New Zealand Accounting Standards Council, and



- c) for such internal control as the Council determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the performance report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the performance report, the Council are responsible on behalf of St John's in the City Presbyterian Church for assessing St John's in the City Presbyterian Church's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Council either intend to liquidate St John's in the City Presbyterian Church or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the performance report**

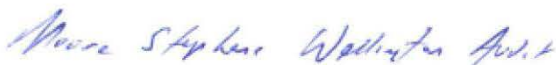
Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the performance report is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (NZ) and ISAE (NZ) 3000 (Revised) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the decisions of users taken on the basis of the performance report.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (NZ) and ISAE (NZ) 3000 (Revised), we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the performance report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of St John's in the City Presbyterian Church internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the use of the going concern basis of accounting by the St John's in the City Presbyterian Church and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on St John's in the City Presbyterian Church ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the performance report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause St John's in the City Presbyterian Church to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the performance report, including the disclosures, and whether the performance report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Perform procedures to obtain evidence about and evaluate whether the reported outcomes and outputs, and quantification of the outputs to the extent practicable, are relevant, reliable, comparable and understandable.

We communicate with the Council regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

This report is made solely to the Members of St John's in the City Presbyterian Church. Our audit has been undertaken so that we might state to the members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the members, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



**Moore Stephens Wellington Audit** | Qualified Auditors, Wellington, New Zealand  
17 September 2017

# Entity Information

St John's in the City  
for the year ended 30 June 2017

MOORE  
STEPHENS

'Who are we?', 'Why do we exist?'

## Legal Name

St John's in the City Presbyterian Church

## Other Name

St John's in the City

## Type of Entity and Legal Basis

St John's in the City is a Church established under the Presbyterian Church Property Trustees Act 1885. The rules of the church are detailed in the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand Book of Order.

## Registration Number

CC52189

## Purpose and Mission

St John's in the City believes it is called by God to work with others in making Jesus Christ known through –

- Teaching and nurturing people in Christian faith
- Loving service responding to human need
- Proclaiming the gospel
- Seeking to transform society
- Caring for God's creation

## Structure

St John's in the City is one of 273 churches affiliated to the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand (PCANZ). It is guided by the provisions of the PCANZ Book of Order, however each church is autonomous and governance is the responsibility of a church Session and/or Council, which is elected by members.

## Main Sources of Cash and Resources

St John's main sources of cash and resources are received from:

- Donations and offerings
- Investment income
- Income from rental of church buildings and car parks.

## Main Methods Used to Raise Funds

St John's fundraising comprises:

- Donations and offerings from the congregation
- Fundraising activities organised for specific purposes and mission such as supporting Syrian refugees establishing in New Zealand and local community welfare and growth organisations such as Downtown Community Ministry (DCM) and Presbyterian Support Central, and the Boys & Girls Institute (BGI).

## Entity Information (continued)

MOORE  
STEPHENS

### Reliance on Volunteers and Donated Goods or Services

St John's relies on volunteer's time and expertise to fulfil its mission activities (children and youth work and community support); governance (the Church Session, Council and subcommittees are volunteer committees), administration (Session Clerk, Council Chair and Treasurer) as well as many pastoral care and assistance roles.

### Additional Information

Refer to the website for further information about St John's and its activities - [www.stjohnsinthecity.org.nz](http://www.stjohnsinthecity.org.nz)

### Physical Address

Corner Willis and Dixon Street  
Te Aro  
Wellington 6011  
New Zealand

### Postal Address

PO Box 27148  
Wellington 6141  
New Zealand

### Phone/Fax Number

Phone: 04 385 1546      Fax: 04 385 0040

### Email

[enquiries@stjohnsinthecity.org.nz](mailto:enquiries@stjohnsinthecity.org.nz)

### Website

[www.stjohnsinthecity.org.nz](http://www.stjohnsinthecity.org.nz)

# Statement of Service Performance

MOORE  
STEPHENS

St John's in the City  
for the year ended 30 June 2017

'What did we do?', 'When did we do it?'

## Description of St John's Outcomes

The mission of St John's in the City is to provide pastoral guidance and community support to its members and others in the central Wellington community. To achieve this objective, the church offers two worship services each week. All members of the public are welcome to attend.

In addition St John's offers the gift of pastoral care and provides activities catering to a wide range of community interests, provides a children, youth and families ministry including weekly youth activities for 13 to 18 year olds, children's activities for up to 12 year olds and a weekly Music and Movement event aimed at preschool children.

St John's in the City partners and supports a wide range of community organisations delivering social services, youth development and support services, and refugee establishment.

## Description and Quantification of the St John's Outputs

*Note: Outputs are the services that St John's delivered during the year.*

Numbers at Balance Date	2017	2016
Number of members on the roll	304	237
Number of associate members on the roll	27	46
Children in St J's Kids	86	97
Youth in Thrive and Epic	75	69
Ministry Staff (Ordained)	2	2
Administrative/Mission Employees (Not Ordained)	11	11
Activities in the year to balance date		
Number of Baptisms	6	1
Number of Weddings	4	4
Number of Funerals	12	5



# Approval of Financial Report

St John's in the City  
for the year ended 30 June 2017

St John's Council are pleased to present the approved financial report including the historical financial statements of St John's in the City Presbyterian Church for year ended 30 June 2017.

APPROVED



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Anton Ojala  
*Council Chair*

Date .....17/09/17.....



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Ross Chesney  
*Treasurer*

Date .....17/09/17.....

# Statement of Financial Performance

St John's in the City  
for the year ended 30 June 2017

MOORE STEPHENS
-------------------

'How was it funded?' and 'What did it cost?'

	Notes	2017	2016
<b>Revenue</b>			
Donations, fundraising and other similar revenue from the congregation	1	220,536	229,839
Fees, subscriptions and other revenue	1	5,801	6,396
Revenue from providing goods or services	1	276,221	192,928
Interest, dividends and other investment revenue	1	529,539	616,003
Unrealised gain/(loss) on investments		87,910	(124,890)
Other revenue	1	517	3,161
<b>Total Revenue</b>		<b>1,120,524</b>	<b>923,437</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Volunteer and employee related costs	2	386,288	355,244
Costs related to providing goods or service	2	327,534	372,153
Grants and donations made	2	225,640	256,112
Other expenses	2	321,244	280,987
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>1,260,706</b>	<b>1,264,497</b>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year</b>		<b>(140,182)</b>	<b>(341,061)</b>
<b>Transfer to other reserves</b>			
Transfers to Other Reserves		(188,758)	(48,312)
<b>Total Transfer to other reserves</b>		<b>(188,758)</b>	<b>(48,312)</b>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) to Accumulated Funds</b>		<b>(328,940)</b>	<b>(389,372)</b>

These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the Notes to the Performance Report.

# Statement of Financial Position

St John's in the City  
as at 30 June 2017

MOORE STEPHENS
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'What the entity owns?' and 'What the entity owes?'

	Notes	2017	2016
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Bank accounts and cash	3	44,786	36,791
Debtors and prepayments	3	39,507	25,662
Other current assets	3	12,632,134	12,951,931
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>12,716,427</b>	<b>13,014,384</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	5	7,908,036	7,979,016
Investments	3	3,389,729	3,243,362
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<b>11,297,765</b>	<b>11,222,378</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>24,014,191</b>	<b>24,236,762</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Creditors and accrued expenses	4	60,753	150,219
Employee costs payable	4	36,662	29,585
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>97,415</b>	<b>179,804</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>97,415</b>	<b>179,804</b>
<b>Total Assets less Total Liabilities (Net Assets)</b>		<b>23,916,776</b>	<b>24,056,958</b>
<b>Accumulated Funds</b>			
<b>Accumulated Surpluses or (Deficits)</b>			
Current year earnings		750,849	1,079,788
<b>Total Accumulated Surpluses or (Deficits)</b>		<b>750,849</b>	<b>1,079,788</b>
<b>Reserves</b>			
Reserves		23,165,928	22,977,170
<b>Total Reserves</b>		<b>23,165,928</b>	<b>22,977,170</b>
<b>Total Accumulated Funds</b>		<b>23,916,776</b>	<b>24,056,958</b>

These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the Notes to the Performance Report.

# Statement of Cash Flows

St John's in the City  
for the year ended 30 June 2017

MOORE  
STEPHENS

## 'How the entity has received and used cash'

	2017	2016
<b>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>		
<b>Cash was received from:</b>		
Donations, fundraising and other similar receipts from the congregation	220,722	229,529
Fees, subscriptions and other receipts	6,051	6,146
Receipts from providing goods or services	274,480	217,995
Interest, dividends and other investment receipts	515,823	610,588
Cash receipts from other operating activities	656	161
<b>Total Cash was received from:</b>	<b>1,017,732</b>	<b>1,064,419</b>
GST (Net)	1	7,247
<b>Cash was applied to:</b>		
Payments to suppliers and employees	(1,004,538)	(824,874)
Donations or grants paid	(226,060)	(256,899)
<b>Total Cash was applied to:</b>	<b>(1,230,597)</b>	<b>(1,081,773)</b>
<b>Total Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>	<b>(212,865)</b>	<b>(10,108)</b>
<b>Cash Flows from Investing and Financing Activities</b>		
<b>Cash was received from:</b>		
Capital contributed from owners or members	-	3,851
<b>Total Cash was received from:</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,851</b>
<b>Cash was applied to:</b>		
Payments to acquire property, plant and equipment	(40,480)	(364,703)
Payments to purchase investments	(58,458)	(46,555)
<b>Total Cash was applied to:</b>	<b>(98,938)</b>	<b>(411,258)</b>
<b>Total Cash Flows from Investing and Financing Activities</b>	<b>(98,938)</b>	<b>(407,407)</b>
<b>Net Increase/ (Decrease) in Cash</b>	<b>(311,803)</b>	<b>(417,514)</b>
<b>Cash Balances</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	12,988,722	13,406,237
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	12,676,920	12,988,722
<b>Net change in cash for period</b>	<b>(311,803)</b>	<b>(417,514)</b>

These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the Notes to the Performance Report



# Statement of Accounting Policies

St John's in the City  
for the year ended 30 June 2017

MOORE  
STEPHENS

## 'How did we do our accounting?'

### Basis of Preparation

St John's in the City has elected to apply Tier 3 PBE SFR-A (NFP) Public Benefit Entity Simple Format Reporting - Accrual (Not-For-Profit) on the basis that it does not have public accountability and has total annual expenses of equal to or less than \$2,000,000. All transactions in the Performance Report are reported using the accrual basis of accounting. The Performance Report is prepared under the assumption that the entity will continue to operate in the foreseeable future.

### Measurement Base

The measurement base adopted is historical cost with the exception of some investments which are carried at lower of cost or market value.

### Goods and Services Tax (GST)

St John's in the City is registered for GST. All amounts are recorded exclusive of GST, except for Debtors and Creditors which are stated inclusive of GST.

### Income Tax

St John's in the City is a registered charity and is wholly exempt from New Zealand income tax having fully complied with all statutory conditions for these exemptions.

### Bank Accounts and Cash

Bank accounts and cash in the Statement of Cash Flows comprise all bank balances and on call cash funds held in the Capital Trust Fund.

### Debtors

Trade debtors and other receivables are measured at their cost less any impairment losses.

An allowance for impairment is established where there is objective evidence St John's will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivable.

### Investments

With the adoption of the Public Benefit Entity (PBE) reporting standards, impairment losses to "available for sale investments" are to be recognised as an expense in the statement of financial performance. For each investment, an assessment is made at each reporting date as to whether there is an indication that previously recognised impairment losses may no longer exist or may have decreased. At balance date these investments are measured at the lowest of the price paid or fair value.

Bond investments are classified as "Held to Maturity" and recognised at cost. Impairment losses are recognised as an expense in the statement of financial performance. The discount or premium on the purchase of investment bonds 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. Interest income is recognised in the statement of financial performance using the effective interest rate method.

Dividend income is recognised in the statement of financial performance when the right to receive income is established. For public traded securities this is the ex-dividend date.

## Statement of Accounting Policies (continued)

### Property, Plant and Equipment

With the exceptions of the Church, Spinks Cottage and the Manse, all property, plant and equipment is measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and impaired losses. Costs include expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the asset.

At 30 June 2001, previously uncapitalised Church Land and Buildings were included in the Financial Statements based on their Registered Valuations prepared by Telfer Young as at 30 June 2001. As a result the Property Brought to Account Reserve was created.

### Creditors

Trade creditors and other payables are stated at cost.

### Employee Entitlements

Employee benefits, previously earned from past service, that St John's expects to be settled within 12 months of reporting date are measured based on accrued entitlements at current rates of pay.

These include salaries and wages accrued up to the reporting date and annual leave earned, but not yet taken at the reporting date.

### Depreciation

Depreciation is charged on a straight line basis over the useful life of the asset, except for the Church, Spinks Cottage and the Manse. The Church, Spinks Cottage and the Manse are not depreciated. Depreciation is charged at rates calculated to allocate the cost or valuation of the asset less any estimated residual value over its remaining useful life:

Asset Class	Useful Life
Musical instruments	15 years
Furniture and fittings	5 years
Office equipment	3-5 years
Church equipment	5 years
Commercial buildings	50 years
Building Improvements	3-10 years
Website	3 years

Depreciation methods, useful lives and residual values are reviewed at each reporting date and are adjusted if there is a change in the expected pattern of consumption of the future economic benefits or service potential embodied in the asset.

### Revenue

Revenue is recognised to the extent that it is probable that the economic benefit will flow to the entity and revenue can be reliably measured. Revenue is measured at the fair value of consideration received. The following specific recognition criteria must be met before revenue is recognised:

#### *Donations*

Donation income is recognised as revenue when received and all associated obligations have been met.

#### *Legacies*

Bequests received for specific future investment purposes or to meet specific future costs are recognised as income in the reported surplus or deficit and then transferred from Accumulated Funds to a "restricted" Legacies Reserve to be used in accordance with the terms of the bequest.

# Statement of Accounting Policies (continued)

## *Interest income*

Interest income is recognised as it accrues, using the effective interest method. The effective interest rate method applies when a financial asset, for example an investment bond, is purchased at a discount or premium and that discount or premium has to be amortised over the term of that asset (see Investments policy).

## *Rental Income*

Rental income arising from rental premises is accounted for on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

## **Tier 2 PBE Accounting Standards Applied**

St John's in the City has not adopted any Tier 2 Accounting Standards in the preparation of these accounts.

## **Changes to Previous Year Comparatives**

A number of items have been re-coded in the current year in the statement of financial performance to better reflect the nature of the revenue or expenditure. This in turn has affected the presentation of figures in the cash flow statement. These changes are presentational only, and relate to how items have been grouped. In line with this change in presentation, the prior period figures have been re-coded to be consistent with this change.

## **Changes in Accounting Policies**

There have been no changes in accounting policies during the financial year.

# Notes to the Performance Report

St John's in the City  
for the year ended 30 June 2017

MOORE  
STEPHENS

	2017	2016
<b>1. Analysis of Revenue</b>		
<b>Donations, fundraising and other similar revenue from the congregation</b>		
Plate	30,784	27,249
Envelopes and automatic payments	182,029	180,278
Other Donations	7,724	22,311
<b>Total Donations, fundraising and other similar revenue from the congregation</b>	<b>220,536</b>	<b>229,839</b>
<b>Fees, subscriptions and other revenue</b>		
Legacies Received	-	1,103
Other Income	5,801	5,293
<b>Total Fees, subscriptions and other revenue</b>	<b>5,801</b>	<b>6,396</b>
<b>Revenue from providing goods or services</b>		
Property Rental	166,211	102,017
Conference and Room Hire Facility	109,218	86,962
Other Income	792	3,950
<b>Total Revenue from providing goods or services</b>	<b>276,221</b>	<b>192,928</b>
<b>Interest, dividends and other investment revenue</b>		
Interest on Legacies	25,671	30,702
Interest	398,537	480,794
Dividends	87,833	103,138
Transpower Bonds CPI adjustment	17,497	1,370
<b>Total Interest, dividends and other investment revenue</b>	<b>529,539</b>	<b>616,003</b>
<b>Other revenue</b>		
Gain/(Loss) on disposal of Assets	(139)	3,000
Other income	656	161
<b>Total Other revenue</b>	<b>517</b>	<b>3,161</b>
<b>Total Analysis of Revenue</b>	<b>1,032,614</b>	<b>1,048,327</b>

	2017	2016
<b>2. Analysis of Expenses</b>		
<b>Volunteer and employee related costs</b>		
Employment Expenses	386,288	355,244
<b>Total Volunteer and employee related costs</b>	<b>386,288</b>	<b>355,244</b>
<b>Costs related to providing goods or services</b>		
Property Expenses	75,268	97,117
Church Running Costs	217,544	242,980
General Administration	34,722	32,056
<b>Total Costs related to providing goods or services</b>	<b>327,534</b>	<b>372,153</b>



# Notes to the Performance Report (continued)

**MOORE  
STEPHENS**

	2017	2016
<b>Grants and donations made</b>		
<b>Outreach Distributions</b>		
Assembly Assessment	102,891	80,574
Contribution to BGI	30,000	30,000
Contribution to parish and overseas mission including contributions to DCM and PSC from legacy funds	58,896	62,843
Otago lectureship and visiting scholar	24,560	20,067
Knox Waitara building donation	-	60,000
Other costs and donations including refugee support	9,293	2,628
<b>Total Outreach Distributions</b>	<b>225,640</b>	<b>256,112</b>
<b>Total Grants and donations made</b>	<b>225,640</b>	<b>256,112</b>
<b>Other expenses</b>		
Accounting Fees	18,085	9,830
Audit fees	14,205	7,015
Legal Fees	-	1,760
Depreciation	110,595	92,821
Christian Education	157,973	152,062
Worship and Congregational Activities	20,385	17,500
<b>Total Other expenses</b>	<b>321,244</b>	<b>280,987</b>
<b>Total Analysis of Expenses</b>	<b>1,260,706</b>	<b>1,264,497</b>

	2017	2016
<b>3. Analysis of Assets</b>		
<b>Bank accounts and cash</b>		
Bank Accounts and Petty Cash	44,786	36,791
<b>Total Bank accounts and cash</b>	<b>44,786</b>	<b>36,791</b>
<b>Debtors and prepayments</b>		
Accounts Receivable	10,356	8,996
Prepayments	8,002	7,971
GST Receivable/(Payable)	(382)	3,281
Interest Receivable	21,531	5,415
<b>Total Debtors and prepayments</b>	<b>39,507</b>	<b>25,662</b>
<b>Other current assets</b>		
Cash held in investment portfolio	11,518,376	11,842,436
Short term deposits	1,113,758	1,109,495
<b>Total Other current assets</b>	<b>12,632,134</b>	<b>12,951,931</b>
<b>Investments</b>		
Transpower Finance Inflation Linked Bond	995,417	995,417
ASX 200 Fund	1,515,375	1,409,968
Nikko AM Wholesale SRI Equity Fund	878,938	837,977
<b>Total Investments</b>	<b>3,389,729</b>	<b>3,243,362</b>
<b>Total Analysis of Assets</b>	<b>16,106,156</b>	<b>16,257,746</b>

# Notes to the Performance Report (continued)

MOORE  
STEPHENS

2017 2016

## 4. Analysis of Liabilities

<b>Creditors and accrued expenses</b>		
Trade and other payables	26,597	53,066
Accrued Expenses	34,156	97,153
<b>Total Creditors and accrued expenses</b>	<b>60,753</b>	<b>150,219</b>
<b>Employee costs payable</b>		
Holiday Pay Accrual	36,662	29,585
<b>Total Employee costs payable</b>	<b>36,662</b>	<b>29,585</b>
<b>Total Analysis of Liabilities</b>	<b>97,415</b>	<b>179,804</b>

## 5. Property, Plant and Equipment

2017

Asset Class	Opening Carrying Amount	Purchases	Sales / Disposals	Current Year Depreciation & Impairment	Closing Carrying Amount	Current Valuation*
Land	2,950,000	-	-	-	2,950,000	-
Building & Improvements	2,323,100	-	-	91,982	2,231,118	4,085,300
Musical Equipment	19,107	-	-	3,075	16,032	-
Furniture & Fittings	8,102	960	139	5,844	3,079	-
Office Equipment	1,727	16,214	-	2,966	14,975	-
Hall Equipment	8,980	22,580	-	6,728	24,832	-
Heritage Assets	2,668,000	-	-	-	2,668,000	8,957,900
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,979,016</b>	<b>39,754</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>110,595</b>	<b>7,908,035</b>	

\* Current valuations of Buildings and Improvements and Heritage Assets are based on the insurance value dated 10 June 2016.

2016

Asset Class	Opening Carrying Amount	Purchases	Sales / Disposals	Current Year Depreciation & Impairment	Closing Carrying Amount	Current Valuation*
Land	2,950,000	-	-	-	2,950,000	-
Building & Improvements	2,039,404	361,089	-	77,393	2,323,100	4,085,300
Musical Equipment	22,183	-	-	3,076	19,107	-
Furniture & Fittings	14,062	-	-	5,960	8,102	-
Office Equipment	1,319	2,487	-	2,079	1,727	-
Hall Equipment	11,302	1,992	-	4,314	8,980	-
Heritage Assets	2,668,000	-	-	-	2,668,000	8,957,900
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,706,270</b>	<b>365,568</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>92,822</b>	<b>7,979,016</b>	

St John's has not committed to or contracted for any future capital expenditure which has not been accounted for in the financial statements (2016: \$350,000).

# Notes to the Performance Report (continued)

## 6. Accumulated Funds

2017				
Description	Capital contributed by owners or members	Accumulated Surpluses/(Deficits)	Reserves	Total
Opening Balance	3,851	1,079,790	22,973,317	24,056,958
Surplus/(Deficit)	-	(140,182)	-	(140,182)
Transfer to Reserves	(3,851)	(249,157)	253,008	-
Transfer from Reserves	-	60,399	(60,399)	-
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>750,850</b>	<b>23,165,926</b>	<b>23,916,776</b>

2016				
Description	Capital contributed by owners or members	Accumulated Surpluses/(Deficit)	Reserves	Total
Opening Balance	-	1,469,161	23,416,922	24,886,083
Surplus/(Deficit)	3,851	(341,060)	-	(337,209)
Derecognition of Investment Revaluation Reserve	-	-	(492,639)	(492,639)
Transfer to Reserves	-	(99,592)	100,315	723
Transfer from Reserves	-	51,281	(51,281)	-
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>3,851</b>	<b>1,079,790</b>	<b>22,973,317</b>	<b>24,056,958</b>

Capital comprising land, buildings and capital investments of St John's in the City Presbyterian Church are legally owned by the Presbyterian Church Property Trustees in accordance with the Presbyterian Church Property Act, 1885.

	2017	2016
<b>7. Breakdown of Reserves</b>		
Nature of the Reserve and its purpose		
<b>Capital Trust Fund</b>		
Established from the sale of the plot ration in 1987 for the purpose of maintaining the buildings on the St John's heritage site under an agreement with Wellington City Council.	14583494	14360008
<b>Legacies (see below)</b>		
Amounts bequeathed to St John's, many with conditions limiting use of the funds to specific purposes or allowing only the interest to be used.	743760	778488
<b>Planned Maintenance Reserve</b>		
Amounts set aside from general reserves to fund the annual maintenance requirements set out in St John's 10 year building maintenance plan.	443879	443879
<b>Staff Training Reserve</b>		
Amounts set aside from general reserves to cover the specific training requirements for Ministers and ministry staff.	20097	20097
<b>Women's Association Reserve</b>		
Brings the finds of the St John's Women's Association (Fellowship Group) into St John's as part of St John's charitable status.	3851	3851
<b>Property Brought to Account</b>		
Created in 2001 when previously uncapitalised Church Land and Buildings were included in the Financial Statements based on valuations as at 30 June 2001.	7370845	7370845
<b>Total</b>	<b>23165926</b>	<b>22977168</b>

## Notes to the Performance Report (continued)

MOORE  
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### Legacies

Legacy name	Opening balance	Interest	Movement	Closing balance
Sunday school prizes	5,021	166	-	5,187
A W Reed memorial for Ministers books	2,390	79	-	2,469
Endowment fund	11,338	374	-	11,712
E Carter Trust	246,280	8,120	(17,820)	236,580
A Gordon Trust	11,931	393	-	12,324
D Chappel Trust	11,931	393	-	12,324
J Andrews Estate - Specific or special item for St John's	154,843	5,106	(25,000)	134,949
J Andrews Estate - Andrews Family Memorial Trust	129,944	4,285	(5,785)	128,444
N Woods Estate	98,751	3,256	(4,431)	97,576
A Dornan Estate	1,988	66	-	2,054
J E Hetrick Estate	5,283	174	-	5,457
J C White Estate	7,856	259	-	8,115
N O John Estate	20,700	683	(7,363)	14,020
W S Barrett Estate	12,907	426	-	13,333
Scott Estate	1,313	43	-	1,356
L Pollock Estate	3,050	101	-	3,151
A Fowler Estate	37,504	1,237	-	38,741
L Rodgers Estate	15,458	510	-	15,968
<b>Total</b>	<b>778,488</b>	<b>25,671</b>	<b>(60,399)</b>	<b>743,760</b>

Legacies were used to fund the following:

Presbyterian Support Services Central - Out of Gate Programme	\$17,820
Otago University - contribution to the Lectureship in Christian Studies	\$25,000
Downtown Community Ministry	\$5,108
Presbyterian Support Central	\$5,108
Pastoral Care Co-ordinator	\$7,363
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$60,399</b>

2017 2016

### 8. Commitments

#### Commitments to contribute towards the University of Otago lectureship

St John's contribution for the Otago University Wellington-based lectureship comprising monthly payments of \$2,500 for three years, beginning 1 June 2016	57,500	87,500
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### 9. Contingent Liabilities and Guarantees

There are no contingent liabilities or guarantees as at 30 June 2017 (2016 - Nil).

### 10. Goods or Services Provided to the Entity in Kind

Description		
Volunteers - approximate hours	13,870	13,800



## Notes to the Performance Report (continued)

MOORE  
STEPHENS

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### 11. Related Parties

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There were no transactions involving related parties during the financial year (2016 - Nil).

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### 12. Events After the Balance Date

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There were no events that have occurred after the balance date that would have a material impact on the Performance Report (2016 - Nil).

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### 13. Ability to Continue Operating

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St John's will continue to operate for the foreseeable future.

# Independent auditor's report

## To the Congregation of St John's in the City Presbyterian Church

### Qualified Opinion

We have audited the accompanying performance report of St John's in the City Presbyterian Church on pages 3 to 18, which comprises the entity information, the statement of service performance, the statement of financial performance and statement of cash flows for the year ended 30 June 2017, the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2017, and the statement of accounting policies and notes to the performance report.

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion section of our report:

a) the reported outcomes and outputs, and quantification of the outputs to the extent practicable, in the statement of service performance are suitable

b) the accompanying performance report presents fairly, in all material respects:

- the entity information for the year then ended
- the service performance for the year then ended, and
- the financial position of St John's in the City Presbyterian Church as at 30 June 2017, and its financial performance, and cash flows for the year then ended

in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Simple Format Reporting – Accrual (Not-For-Profit) issued by the New Zealand Accounting Standards Council.

### Basis for Qualified Opinion

St John's in the City Presbyterian Church has not provided for depreciation on the heritage assets and a building. This is a departure from Public Benefit Entity Simple Format Reporting – Accrual (Not-For-Profit) which requires that depreciation be charged on property, plant and equipment including heritage assets at the end of each accounting period. As a result the net surplus in the statement of financial performance is overstated by \$30,450 for the year ended 30 June 2017, and accumulated depreciation is understated by \$456,750 and assets and equity are overstated by \$456,750 in the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2017.

We conducted our audit of the statement of financial performance, statement of financial position, statement of cash flows, statement of accounting policies and notes to the performance report in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand) (ISAs (NZ)), and the audit of the entity information and statement of service performance in accordance with the International Standard on Assurance Engagements (New Zealand) ISAE (NZ) 3000 (Revised). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 'Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the performance report' section of our report.

We are independent of St John's in the City Presbyterian Church in accordance with Professional and Ethical Standard 1 (Revised) 'Code of ethics for assurance practitioners' issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Council, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other than our capacity as auditor we have no relationship with, or interests in, St John's in the City Presbyterian Church.

### Other Matter

For the performance report of the prior period the audit report was modified in the respect that St John's in the City Presbyterian Church had not provided for depreciation of \$30,450 on the heritage assets and a building. As a result the net surplus in the statement of financial performance was overstated by \$30,450 for the year ended 30 June 2016, and accumulated depreciation was understated by \$426,300 and assets and equity were overstated by \$426,300 in the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2016. our audit report was issued on 5 October 2016.

### The responsibility of the Council for the performance report

The Council are responsible for:

- a) Identifying outcomes and outputs, and quantifying the outputs to the extent practicable, that are relevant, reliable, comparable and understandable, to report in the statement of service performance
- b) the preparation and fair presentation of the performance report on behalf of St John's in the City Presbyterian Church which comprises:
- the entity information
  - the statement of service performance; and
  - the statement of financial performance, statement of financial position, statement of cash flows, statement of accounting policies and notes to the performance report in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Simple Format Reporting – Accrual (Not-For-Profit) issued by the New Zealand Accounting Standards Council, and

- c) for such internal control as the Council determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the performance report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the performance report, the Council are responsible on behalf of St John's in the City Presbyterian Church for assessing St John's in the City Presbyterian Church's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Council either intend to liquidate St John's in the City Presbyterian Church or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the performance report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the performance report is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (NZ) and ISAE (NZ) 3000 (Revised) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the decisions of users taken on the basis of the performance report.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (NZ) and ISAE (NZ) 3000 (Revised), we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the performance report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of St John's in the City Presbyterian Church internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the use of the going concern basis of accounting by the St John's in the City Presbyterian Church and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on St John's in the City Presbyterian Church ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the performance report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause St John's in the City Presbyterian Church to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the performance report, including the disclosures, and whether the performance report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Perform procedures to obtain evidence about and evaluate whether the reported outcomes and outputs, and quantification of the outputs to the extent practicable, are relevant, reliable, comparable and understandable.

We communicate with the Council regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

This report is made solely to the Members of St John's in the City Presbyterian Church. Our audit has been undertaken so that we might state to the members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the members, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



**Moore Stephens Wellington Audit** | Qualified Auditors, Wellington, New Zealand  
17 September 2017



# Office Bearers

## ***Ministers***

Rev Allister Lane

Rev Stuart Simpson

## ***Inducted***

November 2008

January 2010

## ***Elders Emeriti***

Ewan	Muriel	1990
Ewan	Rob	1990
Gould	Russell	1993 – 2017
Hunt	John	1968
Lawson	Sandy	1987
Littler	Betty	1968 – 2016
Lloyd	Roger	1979
McKenzie	Elizabeth	1993
Robertson	Betty	1992
Stewart	Charles	1979

## ***Kirk Session***

Allen	John	2001
Anderson	Robert	1980
Beard	Beth	2008
Chesney	Ross	2006
Galt	David	1981
Galt	Margaret	1987
Gibbs	Mary	2004
Gilkison	Margaret	2006 – 2017
Gousdwaard	Carolyn	1987
Irvine	John	2001
Milkop	Ashley	2010
Ojala	Anton	2010
Pack	Janie	2016
Pasullean	Enrino	2016
Pearse	Elaine	1990 – 2017
Purchas	Fiona	2016
Ramsay	Paul	2001
Read	Richard	2004
Read	Nicki	2004



# Office Bearers

Salt	Ailsa	2006 – 2017
Shaw	Linda	2013
van Milligan	Linda	1990
Webster	Iris	2010
Webster	Lawrence	2001
Williamson	Gina	2013
Wood	David	2003

## Council 2016-2017

A Ojala (Chair), R Anderson, R Chesney, D Ensor, E Gibbs, M Gibbs, D Galt, A Salt, D Wood

# 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
Rev Dr Llewellyn K. Anderson	1975 - 1976
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
Very Rev Dr Graham Redding B.Com., B.Theol., Ph.D. (Moderator 2008/10)	2001 – 2006

Rev Helen Martin B.A., Dipl. Rel. Educ., Post-Grad. Dipl.Theol. (Assistant)	2003 – 2007
Rev Allister Lane, B.C.A., B.Theol. (Hons)	2008 – present
Rev Stuart Simpson, NZCE Telecommunications, BMin	2010 – present

### ***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
75th 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
50th Anniversary of the The Boys' Brigade, 2nd Wellington (St John's) Company	1999
Opening of the St John's Centre, Troup House and Mackay Chapel	April 1994
150th Anniversary of St John's in the City	November 2003
125th Anniversary of the Wellington Boys' and Girls' Institute Inc.	2008
60th Anniversary of the The Boys' Brigade, 2nd Wellington (St John's) Company	June 2009

# Interest Groups at St John's

## ***Monday Home Group***

**Meeting day:** Monday  
**Time:** 7:30 to 9:00pm, every week  
**Who to contact:** David and Margaret Galt, 934 4422 or [margaret@galt.net.nz](mailto:margaret@galt.net.nz)  
Bible study, discussion and friendship – meets in Karori.

## ***No Longer Tuesday Home Group***

**Meeting day:** Monday  
**Time:** 8:00pm, every second week  
**Who to contact:** Paul and Louise Ramsay 386 2755 or [paul@clear.net.nz](mailto:paul@clear.net.nz)  
Bible study, discussion and friendship at various homes around the city.

## ***English as a Second Language Bible Study***

**Meeting day:** Thursday  
**Time:** 7.00 to 8.00pm, every second week  
**Who to contact:** Ino Pasullean or [e.pasullean@stjohnsinthecity.org.nz](mailto:e.pasullean@stjohnsinthecity.org.nz)  
Bible study, discussion and friendship especially for people with English as a second language.

## ***St John's Stitchers' Group***

**Meeting day:** Monday  
**Time:** 9:45am, every second week  
**Who to contact:** Lesley Shaw, [lesleyjanet@hotmail.com](mailto:lesleyjanet@hotmail.com)  
Stitch and chat – we knit, embroider, quilt, applique, crochet etc. Sewing machines welcome. Tea and coffee served.

## ***Football Group***

**Meeting day:** Monday  
**Time:** 7.00pm to 8.00pm second Monday of the month  
**Who to contact:** Fitch 027 272 7716 or [gordonfitch@gmail.com](mailto:gordonfitch@gmail.com)  
Casual football in the church hall (18+).

## ***Fellowship Group***

**Meeting day:** Tuesday  
**Time:** 11.00am, on the fourth Tuesday of the month  
**Who to contact:** Mary Gibbs, 383 8446  
Speakers and lunch. Open to anybody from the congregation who wants to join. Enjoy good fellowship and lunches.

## ***Preschool Music and Movement***

**Meeting Day:** Thursday  
**Time:** 10.00am, during school terms  
**Who to contact:** Church office, 385 1546  
Fun and friendship for pre-schoolers and their caregivers

## ***Men's Breakfast***

**Meeting day:** Thursday  
**Time:** 7.30-8.30am, every second week  
**Who to contact:** Rev Stuart Simpson, 385 1546 or [s.simpson@stjohnsinthecity.org.nz](mailto:s.simpson@stjohnsinthecity.org.nz)

## ***Wine and Theology***

**Meeting day:** Friday  
**Time:** 7:30 to 9:00pm, first Friday of month  
**Who to contact:** Malcolm Shaw, [preludio@xtra.co.nz](mailto:preludio@xtra.co.nz)  
Informal wine tasting and then a discussion about a theological topic.

## ***Choir***

**Meeting day:** Sunday  
**Time:** Before, during & after church  
**Who to contact:** Eleanor Carter 586 7080 or [mcart@xtra.co.nz](mailto:mcart@xtra.co.nz)  
Singing music to support the service. There is also a monthly practice on a Thursday Evening.

## ***Indonesian Group Church Service***

**Meeting day:** Sunday  
**Time:** 12.30pm, second Sunday of the month  
**Who to contact:** Ino on 385 1546 or [e.pasullean@stjohnsinthecity.org.nz](mailto:e.pasullean@stjohnsinthecity.org.nz)  
Please join us if you are interested in a church service in our first language.

## ***Badminton & Table Tennis***

**Meeting day:** 1st and 3rd Sundays from May to September  
**Time:** 2.30pm to 4pm  
**Who to contact:** Kai on 027 804 4733 or Harriet on 472 2774  
14 years and above are welcome. Equipment provided. Cost \$2, free for students.

## ***St J's Kids***

**Meeting day:** Sunday  
**Time:** During term-time church services from 10am to 11.15am  
**Who to contact:** Monika Demuth-Barber, 385 1546  
Friendly Sunday school and crèche from 0 to 12 years. Special events once a term.

## ***St John's Youth***

**EPIC:** Meets Fridays 6.30-8.30 pm and Sundays at 10am during term time  
**Who to contact:** Richard Hpa at [richard@bgi.org.nz](mailto:richard@bgi.org.nz)  
Youth Group for Years 7-10. Social activities on Fridays.  
**Thrive:** Meets Fridays 6.30-8.30 pm and Sundays at 10am or 5.45pm during term time  
**Who to contact:** Laura Putt at [laura@bgi.org.nz](mailto:laura@bgi.org.nz)  
Youth Group for Years 11-13+ Social activities on Fridays.

***Office***

St. John's in the City Presbyterian Church  
Corner of Willis & Dixon Streets,  
PO Box 27-148, Wellington 6011

***Phone:***

04 385 1546

***Email:***

[enquiries@stjohnsinthecity.org.nz](mailto:enquiries@stjohnsinthecity.org.nz)

***Website:***

[www.stjohnsinthecity.org.nz](http://www.stjohnsinthecity.org.nz)

***Facebook:***

[www.facebook.com/pages/St-Johns-In-The-City-Wellington/197057586974092](https://www.facebook.com/pages/St-Johns-In-The-City-Wellington/197057586974092)



