

## Wednesday 29 September 2021

It's a blustery, chilly Spring day and I'm finding it hard to be hopeful of us meeting each other face to face in the near future as news of 45 new cases of Covid 19 is announced today. So here's another "lockdown letter" seeking to connect and inform us. Thank you for your positive feedback regarding our attempts to keep you informed. Please share our news with those who don't have email by phoning them or let Isabella know who to post it to.

Keep looking after each and staying in contact. If you or someone you know would benefit from a "lockdown call" let Patsy (ph: 5218219, 021 024 00417) or Isabella (ph: 575 5323, 021 776 263) know.

Please continue to pray for our church family, community, our country's leaders and all those working on the frontline or in essential businesses.

**Progress towards our future:** Lockdown is not stopping your Interim Church Council from beavering away to move things forward. We are pleased to invite you to nominate parishioners to represent you on the **Ministry Settlement Board** ([please see our email sent out on Monday 27.9.21 regarding this important step towards our future.](#)) The deadline for nominations is **6 October**, so please pray about this and send in your nominations to [Mathieson.family@gmail.com](mailto:Mathieson.family@gmail.com)

**Council News:** Our Interim Church Council continues to meet via zoom. In an attempt to keep everyone informed of decisions made on your behalf we have produced our first edition of "COUNCIL NEWS" (**attached**). If you have any questions relating to our Council News please contact our Parish Clerk Helen Millard ([helen.millard@xtra.co.nz](mailto:helen.millard@xtra.co.nz) or 021 2438237) This will be sent out to all parishioners after each meeting of the Council. We thank our ICC and interim moderator for their work and commitment during this challenging time.

**Your opinions are important:** Thank you to those who have responded to our survey that asks two important questions: **What are we doing well?** and **What could we do better?** For those who haven't responded please devote some of your lockdown time to offer your feedback in relation to the last 8 months. (**attached**)

**Celebrating Life Dinner:** All are invited to this social gathering and dinner at The Terraces Restaurant on Saturday 6 November from 6.30 pm. \$50 per person for a buffet (vegetarian and gluten free catered for). Please let Isabella (575 5323) or Jeanette (575 3136) know if you'd like to attend

**Lockdown Worship:** Our written reflection for this week is by Jill Kayser and encourages us to intentionally choose a life centred in Christ every day.

We thank Rev David Williams and the virtual community of St Andrew's Symonds Street for including us in their online worship service.

Both these worship resources will be emailed to members on Saturday afternoon. Thank you for your encouraging feedback on these resources.

**Food for hunger:** Please keep buying packaged food and cans to help us build “towers of food” for those less fortunate ourselves. Thank you Bill Duncan for leading this initiative.

**Still Seeking a Health and Safety Officer:** Our Church Council is committed to ensuring that safety is a priority for our Church, Community Centres, staff, parishioners and the public. Graeme Smith, our Acting General Manager is doing a great job on revising all our health and safety policies and has identified a need for a Health and Safety Officer to oversee this important area in the future. A role description and responsibilities (not too onerous) is available for interested candidates. Please let Graeme or any Church Council member know if you would be willing to serve our church in this area.

**Lockdown Inspiration:** Read a good book, watched a good film or TV series, listened to a good Youtube talk or podcast?

A friend of mine sent me this beautiful rendition of the Doxology performed by her nieces – The Carter Quartet. <https://youtu.be/eZQPifs2kjo> Enjoy. And let’s sing along as a blessing to each other!

**What’s inspiring you this lockdown?**

Stay safe and well. God bless.

**Jill Kayser, Transition Facilitator**