



Weekly Newsletter
Sunday 12 November 2017

**"Being the Gospel to all
People"**

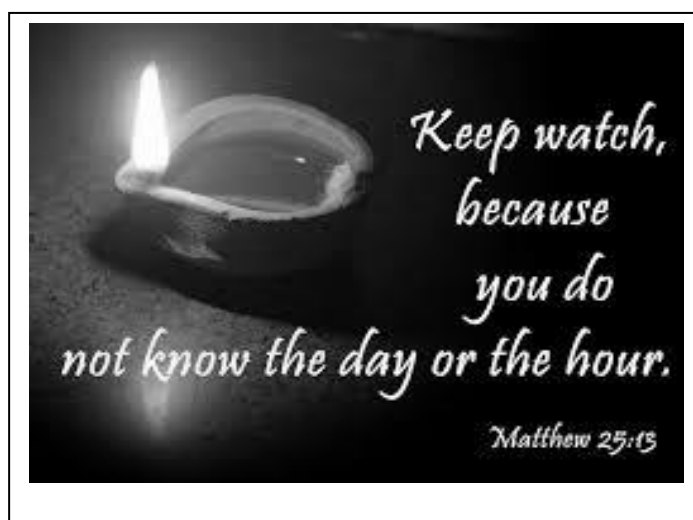
A very warm welcome is extended
to all visitors to St Johns

Morning tea is offered after the service today, so please stay and enjoy.

This week's theme: 'Be Ready'

Focus Scripture: Matthew 25:1-13

Other Readings: Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25; Psalm 78:1-7; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18



Matthew 25:1-13

"At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. ² Five of them were foolish and five were wise. ³ The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. ⁴ The wise ones, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps. ⁵ The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep. ⁶ "At midnight the cry rang out: 'Here's the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' ⁷ "Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸ The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.' ⁹ "No,' they replied, 'there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.' ¹⁰ "But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut. ¹¹ "Later the others also came. 'Lord, Lord,' they said, 'open the door for us!' ¹² "But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I don't know you.' ¹³ "Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

Next Sunday: 19 November 2017

Next week's theme: Investing What is Offered

Focus Scripture: Mathew 25:14-30

Other Readings: Judges 4:1-7; Psalm 123; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Prayer points for: Brenda Ryan for good health; Families, Children and Leaders for Mainly Music Ministry please; George Morrison and family with the sudden death of his daughter, Fiona.



Congratulations to Joshua Wong and Erika Lim
on their engagement

THANK YOU - Uniting Congregations of Aotearoa New Zealand (UCANZ) have sent a letter acknowledging the importance of the in-between times for the 70 plus participants at the recent UCANZ forum in Onehunga. They are grateful to all the church groups, including St Johns, who generously took responsibility for assisting with the morning and afternoon teas. The full letter can be seen on the foyer column.

THANKSGIVING ENVELOPES 2017 are still available on the foyer table. If you would prefer to make your thanksgiving offering by direct credit please put 'Thanksgiving' as your reference.

This year's thanksgiving offerings will go towards refurbishing and freshening-up the upstairs hall which is badly needed. This is the environment in which our Mandarin language services are held. So if you can please give generously.

In particular we wish to:

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|-------------------------------|----------|
| 1. Install blinds | \$ 1,500 |
| 2. Improve the sound system | |
| - Microphone upgrade | \$ 1,000 |
| 3. Install heat pump | \$ 6,000 |
| 4. Paint | |
| - Upstairs Hall | \$ 2,480 |
| - Gallery | 1,780 |
| - Foyer | 1,440 |
| 5. Replace the vinyl flooring | |
| - Hall | \$11,684 |
| - Stairwell | \$ 5,715 |

As always we will be giving 10% of the money raised to a cause outside of St Johns. This year the Leadership Team decided to support the Chinese Churches Support Mission (CCSM). This is close to the hearts of our Mandarin Brethren. Murray Cameron who is often here to speak at services upstairs works for CCSM.

Commons Auckland – “Healing our Divided Nation” Monday 16 November, 7 -9 pm.

Greenlane Christian Centre, 17 Marewa Road, Greenlane. Commons is a live learning experience that challenges attendees to stay curious, think well, and advance good in our

communities. During this two-hour live event, attendees hear fast-paced global and local talks educating them on how to thoughtfully engage their city and cultural moment. Join us to learn and consider how to advance good in Auckland.

INSPIRE/PREACH Ecumenical Lay Preachers Meeting, Saturday 25th Nov 9.30am – Noon.

The Methodist Church Offices, 409 Great South Road, Auckland. This is the beginning of a new venture for Lay Preachers in our area. The Lay Preachers License requires that Lay Preachers are involved in continuing education and the organisers intend to make it a practical for all Lay Preachers whatever their experience. RSVP 18th November marilynw@methodist.org.nz

Decorate the Church for Christmas. We need as many people as possible to come and help put up and decorate Christmas Trees, other room decorations and the light 'strings' around the building. The more people we have the quicker it is and the more gets decorated! Tuesday night, **28th November from 6-9pm.** Please come and help :).



SAVE THE DATE - Sunday 3 December

Family BBQ at St Johns 4.30 pm-6.30 pm

If you have a portable Gazebo we could use on the day please contact Alan Vickers

09 533 3790 or 021 051 3040

CHRISTMAS CAROL SINGING

Yes we will need you to join the two carol singing opportunities we are planning for this Christmas.

Sunday afternoon 10th December and Tuesday night 12th December.

More details closer to the time – but please save the dates in your diary.



ROSTERS

December 2017 and January 2018

Your assistance is needed for the smooth running of services over the festive season and summer holidays.

Please see the sheets in the foyer and place your name on the dates you would be available and willing to serve. *Thank you*

Sunday Services: English / Mandarin & Children's Ministry 9:30a.m.
Office Hours: 9:30am – 3:00pm, Tuesday – Friday
Phone: 534 2305, Fax: 534 6355, Email: office@stjohnsbb.org.nz
PO Box 39 278, Howick Website: www.stjohnsbb.org.nz
Lorraine: minister@stjohnsbb.org.nz CYL: cyl@stjohnsbb.org.nz

Minister	Rev. Lorraine Francis	534 1380
Administrator	Alison Stanton	534 2305
Child /Youth		534 2305
Session Clerk	Alan Vickers	533 3790
People's Warden	Julie Dickey	535 5814
Minister's	Felicity Vincer	535 5883
Pastoral Care	Judy McDonald	274 8534
Prayer Chain	Judy McDonald	274 8534
Justice of Peace	Margaret Wernham	534 9921

Ministry Groups:

Bucklands Beach Rest Home: 3rd Thursday's of the month, 11:00am

Children's Church (Preschool, Primary & Intermediate): Sundays, 9:30am

Girls' Brigade: In recess for 2017 CTC Julie 535 5814

Home Groups: No home group at this time please contact Rev Lorraine Francis

Men's Group: Thursday nights 7:30pm in the Chapel; contact Alan Vickers ph: 533 3790

Mainly Music: Wednesdays, 10:00am (Term Time)

Music Ministry: Thursdays, 7.30pm; Wednesdays 7:30pm

Young Adults / Youth on Sundays: at least on Youth-band Sunday after Church till 12:30 pm

	This Week's Helpers (12 Nov)	Next Week's Helpers (19 Nov)
Minister	Rev Lorraine Francis	Rev Lorraine Francis
Keyboard	Joshua Wong	Rahil John
Projector	Amie Ma	Ian Dittmer
Sound Desk	Alan Vickers	Erika Lim
Reader	Mavis Haig	Mary Hall
Intercessor	Shirley Snoad	Liz Speer
HC set up	N/A	Joan Jones
HC Serving team	N/A	David Hall; Joan Jones; John Copping; John Pybus; and Christo John
Prayer ministry	Sheila Simmons	Loas Toung
Welcome Desk	Pheon Hung	Loas Toung
Ushers	Nick and Olga Ferreira	Trevor and Mavis Haigh
Counters	Nick Ferreira and Christo John	Trevor Haigh and Grace Li
Morning Tea	Rita Chi and Betty Curd	Uraiwan Jolly and Nessie Crawford
Flowers	St Johns	St Johns