



Weekly Newsletter
Sunday 15 March 2015

"Being the Gospel to all People"

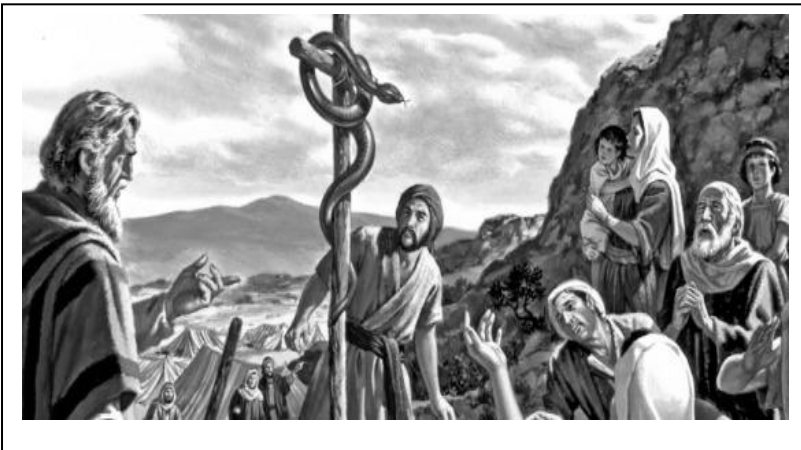
A very warm welcome is extended
to all visitors to St Johns

Morning tea is offered after the service today, so please stay and enjoy some time with us.

Today's Theme: "Lifted Up"

Focus Scripture: Numbers 21:4-9

Other Readings: Ephesians 2:1-10, John 3:14-21



BACKGROUND: There is a pattern in the wilderness stories of the people of Israel. The people complain, God sends some kind of "wake-up call," the people repent, Moses intervenes on their behalf, and God delivers them. In this week's story, we see a snapshot of the dilemma and hope of the Hebrew people in their journey with God. The wilderness, a dangerous place for the inexperienced, might spell the end not only of the nation they hoped to become but also of their very existence. Even so, the wilderness was a place of hope, blessing, liberation, and new life for those willing to trust God.

Numbers 21: 4-9 (NIV) The Snake Made of Bronze

They travelled from Mount Hor along the route to the Red Sea, to go around Edom. But the people grew impatient on the way; they spoke against God and against Moses, and said, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the desert? There is no bread! There is no water! And we detest this miserable food!" Then the LORD sent venomous snakes among them; they bit the people and many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We sinned when we spoke against the LORD and against you. Pray that the LORD will take the snakes away from us." So Moses prayed for the people. The LORD said to Moses, "Make a snake and put it up on a pole; anyone who is bitten can look at it and live." So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, he lived.

NEXT WEEK: Sunday Worship: 22 March 2015

Theme: "On Our Hearts"

Focus Scripture: Jeremiah 31:31-34

Other Readings: Psalm 51:1-12, Hebrews 5:5-10, John 12: 20-33

Prayer points: Please pray for: School and University children returning to school. Ron Ashton, Margaret Morrison.

Girls Brigade: Girls' Brigade recommenced on 10th February with 9 girls. Our priority now is forming a new leadership team to share more equally the planning and delivering of weekly programme to girls in our community. **Please continue to pray for a new group of leaders to come together in these early weeks of the year.** For those who aren't aware, Wendy is now running a newly opened GB Company in her home church in Huntly. I would like to acknowledge the wonderful support she has been to me over these past 2 and a half years and pray God will lead many girls from the Huntly community to join this new 1st Huntly Girls' Brigade Company. *Julie Dickey 535 5814*

Lent-in-a-bag: If you didn't pick up one of our Lenten Devotional Study Bags but would like one please talk to Lorraine or Liz or Mavis. Thank you.

New Fenced area: This week the new fence was installed by the Kindy for the Kindy. It provides a safe grass playground for the children and has already been put to good use. This has taken a wee while to come to fruition and has been subject to much discussion between the Leadership Team and Kindy as we worked towards a successful outcome. We are pleased to offer a safe outdoor area for children to play in. Upon installation the Fence became ours – will all responsibility – so please drive carefully ☺.

New Sign: This past week we have installed a new sign in the carpark. This explains clearly that our carpark is not a pick up and drop off zone for BBI children. We are all very concerned with the safety of our little children and especially with the kindergarten and their high number of special needs children and carers that have more than one child at the kindergarten, one split second is all it can take. Children of the age of year 7 and 8 are more than capable of walking to school and we have full support from the school's Principal. This also impacts our evening renters of the building when there is a function on at the school and our tenants do come first. Thank you for your understanding and support of this. If you have any questions please see Jeannine or Alan.

An **ORGAN RECITAL "ANCIENT & MODERN"** by **Christopher Hainsworth** the Entertainer
Sunday 29th March 2015 at 4:00 pm at Takapuna Methodist Church 427 Lake Rd Takapuna
A programme of Surprises Admission by donation & programme at door. Proceeds to the TMC Organ Fund.

Stump Grinding: Recently we have been completing a lot of work on the church house. Part of this was having 3 tree stumps removed. We contacted a grinding company called Stump Busters for a quote for the job.



0800 728 782

They came and removed all three of the trees without quoting. We decided that they needed to be done anyway and when we called for the invoice they very kindly advised that they had donated their time and machinery as their community giving. I expressed on our behalf our total appreciation of this and so if you ever need a tree stump removed or know someone that does please pass on the name of the company above and the Manger's name Grahame Avery.

Real Life: This Sunday night (15th March) John Cowan's guest will be co-host of "Breakfast", Alison Pugh.

Classical Music Lovers: There is a box of free classical music CD's on the table next to the pigeon holes. They have been donated by Eddie Simmons. Please help yourselves and enjoy!

Inspirational TV : Welcome 10 March. In order to take a stand, we first have to decide what we believe in. It has to be something important to us, not just a passing fad or trend, because we're going to need to be prepared to follow through on it. Are you ready?

Getting stuck in with **www.inspirationaltv.net**:

- New Breed Gospel Choir – Stand Up Stand Out 2014
- Jamie MacKenzie: A poem about Dr. Martin Luther King: Standing Tall
- Inspired Word: John 3:16-18

I DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW
A SNAKE ON A STICK
FIXES ANYTHING!



I THINK IT'S ABOUT
THEM TRUSTING IN GOD
TO SAVE THEM.
IT WORKED BECAUSE
THEY BELIEVED IT WOULD.



THAT'S A PRETTY
FANCY PLACEBO!



NINTHES 21:1-9.

CONTEMPORARY 09.03.18