



Weekly Newsletter
Sunday 27 August 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: 'Defiance'

Focus Scripture: Exodus 1:8-2:10

Other Readings: Psalm 12; Romans 12:1-8; Matthew 16:13-20



Exodus 1:8-22

⁸Then a new king, to whom Joseph meant nothing, came to power in Egypt. ⁹"Look," he said to his people, "the Israelites have become far too numerous for us. ¹⁰Come, we must deal shrewdly with them or they will become even more numerous and, if war breaks out, will join our enemies, fight against us and leave the country." ¹¹So they put slave masters over them to oppress them with forced labour, and they built Pithom and Rameses as store cities for Pharaoh. ¹²But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread; so the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites ¹³and worked them ruthlessly. ¹⁴They made their lives bitter with harsh labour in brick and mortar and with all kinds of work in the fields; in all their harsh labour the Egyptians worked them ruthlessly. ¹⁵The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, whose names were Shiphrah and Puah, ¹⁶"When you are helping the Hebrew women during childbirth on the delivery stool, if you see that the baby is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, let her live." ¹⁷The midwives, however, feared God and did not do what the king of Egypt had told them to do; they let the boys live. ¹⁸Then the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and asked them, "Why have you done this? Why have you let the boys live?" ¹⁹The midwives answered Pharaoh, "Hebrew women are not like Egyptian women; they are vigorous and give birth before the midwives arrive." ²⁰So God was kind to the midwives and the people increased and became even more numerous. ²¹And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families of their own. ²²The Pharaoh gave this order to all his people: "Every Hebrew boy that is born you must throw into the Nile, but let every girl live."

Next Sunday: 3 September 2017

Next week's theme: "The Concerns of God"

Focus Scripture: Exodus 3:1-15

Other Readings: Matthew 16:21-28; Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45; Romans 12:23-26

Prayer points for: Rev Grahame Drummond and family as they mourn Maureen and for Erika Lim as she and her family mourns the death of her Grandmother; Rita Jackson for comfort and healing; Brenda Ryan for good health; Steve Logan for strength in his recovery; Families, Children and Leaders for Mainly Music Ministry please; Everybody with winter coughs and colds!

Nomination Team: The year has cycled around and we are into the season of the approach of our Annual General Meeting (**AGM 24 September 2017**). The first step was to establish the Nominating Team who are tasked with gathering a list of people to serve on the Leadership Team. There is a detailed letter available on the foyer table with more information about the process. At the congregational meeting following our service on 20 August, Christo John and Lily Han were elected to serve on the Nomination Team.

Notice of Annual General Meeting: Our AGM will take place after our service on **Sunday 24 September**. Please stay to join us for this important meeting in our annual calendar.

Alpha course: The Alpha course is an opportunity to introduce people to the Christian Faith. The course is recommended for those questioning God, having doubts, or have a desire to get closer to God. Please continue to pray for: The course and for God to touch the hearts of those seeking or in need of renewal. For spiritual protection for St John's and all involved during Alpha.

Congratulations: Congratulations to Joshua Wong on being admitted to the Bar. A remarkable achievement.

Church Welcome-er: Please consider being a Church welcome-er on the first Sunday of each month. If you or you think someone else might help out in this ministry please talk to Lorraine – or Loas Toungh or Joan Rutherford. Thank you.

Combined Youth Worship Service

Sunday 10 September 6.30 pm – 8 pm at Holy Trinity Cathedral, Parnell. This is a combined Youth Service, with young people from the Anglican, Baptist, Presbyterian and Wesleyan Methodist Churches of Auckland. Join others to fill up Holy Trinity Cathedral with young people from all over Auckland to worship together, hear a great message and celebrate being one in the body of Christ. Charlie Baker (former AYM staff & preacher from E-Fest '16) will be preaching. The St Paul's. Symonds St Youth band will be leading the worship.

Real Life with John Cowan 7.30pm Sunday 27 August. John hosts his weekly nationwide chat show featuring a different high-profile guest. John talks with them about their life, their upbringing, their passions and their view of the world.

The Prayer Course A six week, free, online course based on the Lord's Prayer. It is produced by Alpha to help Christians develop their prayer lives. The course consists of six quarter hour videos. It features Pete Greig, the founder of the 24/7 Prayer movement, author of several books on the topic of prayer, and the director of prayer at Holy Trinity Brompton in London.

The prayer course can be accessed, signed up for, previewed and downloaded on line at prayercourse.org.

One More at the Table: Uniting Congregations of Aotearoa New Zealand (UCANZ) Forum 'One More at the Table' takes place from 26-29 October at the Onehunga Co-operating Parish, Corner of Grey Street and Onehunga Mall. This year's UCANZ Forum goal is to enlarge vision and equip those attending with greater understanding of the diversities encountered in the life of Cooperative Ventures. Early bird registration until 31 August \$180. Full programme at www.ucan.org.nz



On at the Movies from 31 August: ALL SAINTS a film based on the inspiring story of salesman-turned-pastor Michael Spurlock (John Corbett), the tiny church he was ordered to shut down, and a group of refugees from Southeast Asia. Together, they risked everything to plant seeds for a future that might just save them all.

The Five Hundredth Anniversary of the Reformation 1517-2017 The community of St Luke and St Heliers Presbyterian Church invite you to a public marking this anniversary. **"How do we speak about God? Authenticity for Martin Luther and for us"** by Professor Peter Matheson, **St Lukes Church 130 Remuera Road, 17 October at 7.30 pm.**

Peter Matheson taught church history at Edinburgh and Otago Universities and is Principal Emeritus of the Uniting Church Theological College in Melbourne. He has researched and written extensively about the Reformation. His books in this area include: *The Collected Works of Thomas Muntzer*, *The Rhetoric of the Reformation*, *The Imaginative World of the Reformation*, and three books on Argula von Grumbach, the first published Protestant woman to defend the Reformation. Peter edited the volume, *Reformation Christianity* in the series, *"A People's History of Christianity"*. A peace activist, a poet and retired Presbyterian minister, Peter lives in Dunedin.

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 (27 August)	Next Week's Helpers (3 Sept)
Minister	Rev Lorraine Francis	Rev Lorraine Francis
Keyboard	Rahil John	Joshua Wong
Projector	Alison Stanton	Alison Stanton
Sound Desk	Jamie Corbett	Bob Corbett
Reader	David Dickey	Derek Speer
Intercessor	Alan Vickers	
HC set up	N/A	Alan Vickers
HC Serving team	N/A	Alan Vickers; Dave Dickey Jnr; Grace Corbett; Joan Rutherford; Thomas Liu
Prayer Ministry	Alan Vickers	Joan Rutherford
Welcome Desk	Joan Rutherford	Is this you?
Ushers	Nick and Olga Ferreira	John Pybus, Derek Speer
Counters	Nick Ferreira, Li Ying Zhang	Derek Speer, Christo John
Morning Tea	Sue Chang and friend	Vanessa & Chris Lewis
Flowers	St Johns	St Johns