

KNOX PARISH

Newsletter May 2024

Session's prayer

Psalms 115: 12-13

The Lord remembers us and will bless us.

He will bless the house of Israel,
He will bless the house of Aaron,
He will bless those who fear the Lord, small and great alike.

Pray for the blessing of the Lord to over our congregation, that we might grow in wisdom and compassion, and be a people of power and strength in our community.



Anzac Day is a significant occasion in the life of our country, and many will be attending services on 25 April.

I have asked two of our Defence Force Chaplains, Rev Chris Purdie and Rev Paula Levy, to share their thoughts on Anzac Day with us.

We are grateful for the valuable work they do as chaplains, and pray that God will continue to bless, strengthen and equip them as they serve in this capacity.

Right Rev Rose Luxford

Moderator Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand

moderator@presbyterian.org.nz

I have put both messages at the end of the Newsletter as they would not fit in this space.

May Services

05 Rev. Clive Thomson

12 Rev. Joe Beattie - Communion

19 Glenys Middlemiss

26 Ken Brown

'Fill a bun' lunch after the service

Following the Congregational Meeting held following the service on the 28th April 2024 the Ministry Settlement Board will proceed with providing the Parish Profile to the Kaimai Presbytery.

We will request permission to continue with the task of assessing the needs and capabilities of the Parish for the future of the church. We will look at all options available to the church, and report back when able.

May Duties

Morning Tea Roster

05 Brian & Gwen Weightman
12 Glenys Middlemiss & Felicity
Wilson
19 John & Bev Reid
26 Joe & Frances Beattie

Door Duty Roster

05 Glenys Middlemiss & Viv Robins
12 & 19 John & Dorothy Brownlie
26 John & Bev Reid

Church Cleaning

12 Shirley Power
26 Bo Kennedy

Flower Roster

05 & 12 Lorraine Candy
19 & 26 Bev Reid

CONTACTS



Church office 889 7997

Please leave a message.



admin@knoxmorrinsville.org.nz

Parish Clerk

Glenys Middlemiss



mob 027 453 3956

Duty Elder

Jennifer Bills

FINANCES

Monthly Offering:

May Offering: \$

Mission Finances:

May Offering: \$

Finances

If you would like to go on the envelope system for offerings, please contact Glenys. She will give you a number and you can use that for online giving, or envelopes for this purpose.

NOTICES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Session meets on the 21st of May @ 3pm at Jennifer's home.

Board of Managers meets on the 13th of May @7pm. Check with Tom for the location.

Session News

Session encourages members of our congregation to give a short testimony if God has put on your heart. Please see one of the elders to arrange a suitable date and help is offered if required.

Board of Managers News

The external refurbishment of our buildings will be starting early this month.

The first Job is to repair the damaged eaves around the hall.

Later there will be new guttering put on both sides of the hall as the present guttering has holes in it.

The style of the guttering will also be updated to better match the rest of the building.

Then painting will be done as the weather permits.

Please be aware that there will be workers and scaffolding up around the buildings for a large amount of this time, so please be mindful when walking around the buildings.

Knox Kafe

This is held each fourth Thursday of the month at 10am in the church foyer. Please think about who of your friends, family or neighbours you would like to invite for a cuppa.

Everybody Shop

If you would like to be added to this roster, please phone Frances 07 888 7177

Work wanted.

Sharon Alexander is looking for cleaning jobs, including windows.
Please phone 027 725 0593

You are welcome to make online payments.

General Account

01-0367-0007970-00 (use this for normal church offerings)

Mission Account

01-0367-0007970-01 (use this for mission giving)

Anzac Day message from Defence

Force Chaplain Rev Chris Purdie

Reflecting on ANZAC Day after 17 years of ministry as a chaplain to the forces has been an interesting exercise for me, and one which raises issues of memory.

We in New Zealand do remember and pay tribute to all those people who have sacrificed their lives in the cause of war against tyranny, and for our freedoms, and it's right and important that we do so. So, we remember the people and the families of those people, and yet, by contrast we have lost sight of things closer to that time - the importance of war memorials. I think we have forgotten why memorial stones in the town square, on the wall of the church, at the memorial gate at the school, the rugby ground, or at the municipal gardens are important. These memorials are important because for many years after the significant wars in our country's history - WW1, WW2 and Korea - they were the only place where the name of the deceased was publicly remembered in the community from which they came.

Why? Because there was no grave for them in New Zealand.

In those wars, military personnel were buried where they died, a whole world away in Belgium, in France, in Turkey or in the North Sea, or on an Island in the Pacific. From those wars no caskets came home. No remains, no casket, no

Prayer Chain

We have an e-mail prayer chain outreach for intercessory prayer. If you would like to have a prayer included, please contact Jackie Cantley, via email jacall@xtra.co.nz, or 07 889 7501 (voice message available). Please include "prayer request" in the subject line. If the prayer is urgent, please indicate "Urgent prayer request".

You may also like to become an e-mail intercessor, if so, please contact our Minister, Jackie.

PARISH FACEBOOK AND WEBSITE

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/KnoxMorrinsville/>

Website:

<http://www.knoxmorrinsville.org.nz/index.htm?d=50217>

Anzac Day message from Defence Force Chaplain

Rev Paula Levy

This year it will be my privilege to lead the dawn ANZAC Service for several hundred soldiers, families and guests at Linton Military Camp, Aotearoa's largest military base.

Being only my second year as a uniformed chaplain I have much to learn but I know this service will be of deep meaning to those who attend.

Reflecting on the specific events of WWI and the ANZAC landings on the Gallipoli Peninsula is one thing; such immense sacrifice and loss of life on both sides by those who gave all for a cause they believed in or were asked to fight for. Thinking about all those since, who have committed themselves to protect and defend our country is another. For those serving, all know or know the stories of those who have died in service. They also know the sacrifice of those who have survived but have been forever changed and affected by what they have seen and experienced.

As someone passionate about God's heart for mission it reminds me also of those who have answered a call to go and serve in another culture and context, not all came back home. Our early missionaries who left by ship with all their

grave, no headstone, and therefore no place to mourn or to remember them by.

All that the families would have received back then was a telegram, which informed them of the death of their loved one. Later, the family might have received a letter from the unit commander or the unit chaplain explaining some of the circumstances of their death and possibly some words about their actions or their character. Maybe sent with it some personal items - their dog tag, a watch, a ring, some letters - mere bric-a-brac of their existence.

In the hard times of these wars, and in the following years, ANZAC Day wasn't just a day of remembering, it was a funeral procession to the local memorial for family and veterans alike - to the only place where the existence of these people was recognised and visible.

I am honoured as a Presbyterian Military Chaplain to participate in services at memorials on ANZAC Day, and to bring dignity and mana to those occasions in order that we are able to remember the fallen with their due respect. As time goes on it's important to remind ourselves that not so long ago these carved names were people who were known personally to those who stood here.

Lest we forget.

Rev Chris Purdie

belongings, including a coffin. Our more recent ones who continue to go to the hardest places, including war zones and places of persecution and immense danger.

As I stand before dawn, and lead others in prayer and reflection, my heart is we would remember. Remember those who died, those who served, those who are forever affected. Remember those not just in military service but in many other fields who give themselves with the hope and commitment to making the world a better place and to ease the suffering of others.

As we remember, give thanks, pray for those who grieve and prayerfully long for peace in our broken world.

May we commit ourselves again to following the example of Jesus who gave himself for the world he loved. Even if it costs us everything.

Rev Paula Levy