



Alpine Presbytery

resourcing the braided river

www.alpinepresbytery.org

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Newsletter 28th May 2020

Presbyterian Church 2020 Statistics Forms

The 2020 Statistics forms have been sent to parishes from Wellington this week. If you haven't received them, copies are in our Dropbox—click here: [Statistics 2020](#).

Included in there is a [letter from Assembly Executive Secretary Wayne Matheson](#) with guidance on how to record attendance figures taking into account the reduced physical meetings and different ways of worship under the Covid-19 restrictions:

If we do not meet physically or meet in a combination of physical and other ways in June please record what you are doing. It could be the number of people participating in 'Zoom Church' or the number of views of a 'YouTube' service or devotional, the number of service sheets delivered to your community. Maybe June will be a mixture of physical gathering and new community.

Whatever it is, record it. The form probably won't cope as it is optimistically designed for our meeting together.

So write a note, an email, include a narrative with your forms when you return these. There has been much impressive, imaginative caring connection. Please let us know your experience.

Latest COVID-19 virus update from PCANZ

The update issued 25 May can be viewed/downloaded here: <https://www.presbyterian.org.nz/sites/default/files/COA%20-%20COVID-19%20Update%20-%20Level%20Two%20-%2025%20May%20Final.pdf>

The Garage Series

Here are this weeks episodes of "The Garage Series." This is where we go out and about and find out what questions people are asking.

#7: Barry & Clare from Lake Hood in Mid Canterbury: <https://youtu.be/AGyaOozl-bA>

#8: Mo Morgan from Whanganui, one segment of her sharing at our weekly ministry leaders meeting: <https://youtu.be/WAtQOFKpN4>

If you missed last week:

#5 <https://youtu.be/SJcRMQwcou8>

#6 <https://youtu.be/g92krMRO9J4>

The Vine Newsletter

With the announcement on Monday that gatherings of up to 100 people are allowed from Friday 29 May, this will be the last edition of "The Vine". (If there is a move back to Level 3 or 4, we will review what things might be needed to keep us resourced.)

Download this week's [Vine Newsletter](#) here.

Resources

We have set up a Covid-19 page on our website to give you ongoing access to the various resources available to use at this time. It will include lists of resources advised in previous Newsletters. Go to:

alpinepresbytery.org/covid-19/

A central place for resources is being coordinated here (scroll to bottom of the page)

www.presbyterian.org.nz/for-parishes/coronavirus-information.

Newsletter Items

We will be continuing with the Newsletter over the lockdown period. If you have notices or resources to share, please email to gail@alpinepresbytery.org

Cut off date for next week's Newsletter is **Thursday 4th June**.



New free resources from Scripture Union

The Scripture Union team have been working on new and exciting resources to help you reach out to your community and beyond. Read more in their newsletter here: <https://mailchi.mp/scriptureunion/mhs-lockdown-resources?e=2ba48f753d>

More Musings & Thoughts from Lockdown

A few more thoughts received from around the Presbytery:

- Preparing on-line services has given us some new skills and the ability to use new technology.
- With many churches having on-line services available, we have had the opportunity to see what other churches are doing (mainly in on-line services) and to pick up some new creative ideas, some of which could be used in our regular services too.
- It would be good to give some thought to ways we can lead the church into the 21st Century, particularly in our services. In many ways our services have continued the way we did them 20 or 30 years ago, but the world and the ways people view the church have changed. We need to keep asking why we do what we do and whether there are ways we can connect and engage with people better. Our message and values stay the same, but our means of communication and presentation need to change so that we engage with people and connect people with God.
- Another challenge was around music. Some larger churches make their own music videos. Is there some way that larger churches could help smaller churches with music?

From last week

- **The Garage Series**
- **Alpine Mission Fund**
- **Resource for Funerals**
- **Covid-19 Health & Safety Plans**
- **Update on the Moderator's Appeal for Vanuatu**
- **Applying Christian ethics in a time of pandemic**
- **The Hospital Chaplains are here to support you at this time**
The contacts for Chaplains are as follows:
 - *Christchurch Hospital - 03 3640 640 Ext 89555 or 86358*
 - *Christchurch Women's 03 3640 640 Ext 85722*
 - *Burwood Hospital 03 383 6836 (can also use Christchurch Hospital) Ext 99762*
 - *Hillmorton/The Princess Margaret Hospitals 03 337 7969 and ask to be put through to the Chaplain.*
- **Financial Consolidation**
- **The Vine Newsletter**
- **Studying Theology at the University of Otago**
- **Wanted—Submissions for a new Spiritual Anthology of Writing**
- **New journal table-of-contents - Hewitson Library**
- **Musings & Thoughts from Lockdown**

Presbytery Contact Details

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Presbytery Directory

To download the Presbytery Directory, [Click here](#)

Any amendments or corrections should be advised to Gail in the Presbytery Office.

Alpine Presbytery Strategic Framework

[Click here](#) to download the Strategic Framework