



# Alpine Presbytery

resourcing the braided river

[www.alpinepresbytery.org](http://www.alpinepresbytery.org)

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## Newsletter 18th June 2020

### Alpine Moderator's Message

What a strange time we are emerging from! From the disturbing stories that floated through of this nasty virus that was taking hold on the other side of the world, to the realisation of what a global pandemic really means! This thing was coming for us all, regardless of geography, race, socio-economic status etc! Very quickly, we learned what an alert level system meant, and then bang, we were into almost total lockdown - something none of us could have imagined. It came fast and we were left dealing with the realities of only being able to leave home for essentials like food and medicines, and lovely long walks. We learned about bubbles, managed isolation, contract-tracing, PPE, and community transmission. We discovered we have a Director General of Health, who he is, and that his face might look good on a tote bag!

Then we began to learn a whole lot of new things like, what a difference it makes to our world when there are very few cars on the road. When everything was forced to stop, the quiet was palpable. We heard sounds we hadn't heard so much before, like birds. A whole new series of questions arrived, like how do we do church when we can't leave our homes? and, how do we stay connected? and how will we be when we eventually emerge from this time? There was much to learn from having to stop. Had we been going too fast before? What really matters when the busyness is peeled back? And, what do we need to hold on to and what can we let go of?

Then quite suddenly, it seems, we were roaring back down the levels to an openness many of us didn't think we would see until at least the end of the year. Most importantly, we were there with, relatively speaking, minimal loss of life. Sure, we have some considerable economic challenges, but, as I read somewhere this week, we can rebuild an economy, we can't rebuild lost lives.

My hope is that many of you have been able to take the opportunities this strange time enabled, and bring something 'new' into your church lives, but also into your personal lives and that each learning might strengthen the other. Hopefully we can bring some of the learnings into how we will be going forward.

Thank you for the work you did to hold your communities through this time. From providing various styles of worship designed to suit your various contexts, to caring for the vulnerable who were more restricted than many of us were, to giving time to connecting with people and letting them know that their wellbeing matters. Thank you for being church as best you possibly could through this strange and difficult time. Thank you for not giving up and hiding away, even if you felt like doing that. Thank you for sharing ideas and encouraging others.

May whatever is next be enriched by what you have learned about yourselves and those near. May our more mature folk find energy in the knowledge that the team of 5 million had their backs and did what they could to keep them safe. May our church communities feel renewed in this new start they have been given and be readied to grow in their connections with their communities and neighbours.

God bless you all

*Rev Anne Stewart, Moderator Alpine Presbytery*

### Newsletter Items

Please share this Newsletter around your Parish, especially with members of Session/Parish Council and all office bearers.

Details of events, or requests to be added to the distribution list, should be emailed to [gail@alpinepresbytery.org](mailto:gail@alpinepresbytery.org)

Cut off date for next week's Newsletter is **Thursday 25th June**.

### RESOURCES

A selection of resources – and links to resources – to assist you with your work and outreach can be found on our website here: [alpinepresbytery.org/resources/](http://alpinepresbytery.org/resources/)

If you are preparing material that could be shared with other congregations please let us know the details and we can include it on this page.



## The Garage Series

Today we hear from Spanky Moore, who is one of the chaplains at the University of Canterbury and is on the diocese staff at the Anglican Church with young adults. Also, Esther Sabey and Marty Redhead from Hope Presbyterian.

Episode 12: <https://youtu.be/OLKB2ARpsQk>

Episode 13: <https://youtu.be/IIMi0q1MsDM>

See previous episodes and subscribe to the Youtube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCN1zIOMYMjvl78CclqMRcVQ>

## Other Newsletters

[Presbyterian Church Property Trustees - June Newsletter](#), which includes:

- Special Access to Property Capital
- Glen Innis Holiday Houses Re-open
- Insurance Renewal
- Presbyterian Investment Fund: New Long Term Investment Option, and Borrowing from the Presbyterian Investment Fund

[Bush Fire](#)—newsletter of Presbyterian Women Aotearoa NZ

[Vaughan Park eNews for June](#)

## Position Available: Christian Education Network CEO

The Christian Education Network (Canterbury) is seeking a CEO.

The network, established in 2005, is a unique and respected collective of non-denominational Christian state integrated schools with a vision of “Standing and working together to provide excellent all-round Christian education”.

Following 15 years of significant progress in growing the quality and quantity of provision through an exemplary working relationship with the Ministry of Education, the network has developed an exciting new Strategic Plan (2020-2030) and welcomes applications from leaders able to work successfully with schools and the Ministry advocating and promoting Christian Education to advance the plan.

This is a part time position, with flexible hours. Start date by negotiation.

Marriane Reinders ([m.reinders@middleton.school.nz](mailto:m.reinders@middleton.school.nz)) to receive an application pack. Applications Close 17 July

## New books in the Hewitson Library

Hewitson Library have a bumper edition of the most recent [New Book list](#) available. As well as practical theology books, there are some new England Collection books as well as some new EBSCO ebooks.

Anybody can become a member of the [Hewitson Library](#) and borrow books at no cost. If you would like to join please email the library at [hewitson@prcknox.org.nz](mailto:hewitson@prcknox.org.nz).

## From last week

- [Presbytery Budget 2020/2021 year](#)
- [The Garage Series](#)
- [Upcoming Presbyterian Insurance Renewal](#)
- [Theological Education and Leadership Training \(TELT\) Report](#)
- [Year End Training for Parish Treasurers](#)
- [Eco theology study](#)
- [New journal table-of-contents - Hewitson Library](#)
- [PS:Connect Autumn/Winter 2020](#)

Dropbox link for documents mentioned in this newsletter: control & click, or copy & paste the link to your browser: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/5k528skz4nighgg/AABDjLatKU2-C2reVHA6hVza?dl=0>

## 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