



Alpine Presbytery

resourcing the braided river

www.alpinepresbytery.org

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Newsletter 3rd September 2020

Presbytery Gathering: The Village, Bryndwr, 11th & 12th September

Registration cut off date is Sunday 6th September!

Register at: <https://forms.gle/5wFRGs8Sa3sCY6dB6>, or you can also find the form on our website, on the Events page.

The Gathering is a chance for us to meet people from around our Presbytery and experience key learning and connecting time together. All ordained ministers and Presbytery Elders are encouraged to attend, but **everyone is welcome!**

The pre-Gathering event this time is the Rural Ministries get together:

Stop for a moment and ask yourself what sort of ministry do you work in. Is it urban or rural? Rural parishes usually have a unique style and flavour compared to urban parishes. The issues they face can be very different, and the way in which they organise their parish life is often a response to the cycles of rural life and the community as a whole.

We aim to gather rural ministry people together to encourage and challenge each other to be the very best that God wants us to be, where God has planted us. At times this might be physical but at other times it would be electronically. It would be a place to share ideas, get advice and develop resources for the mission.

So we invite those that wish to begin a journey of discovery together to meet over a BYO lunch from 12.30pm - 2.30pm to explore how we can encourage and support each other where God has planted us.

A Draft outline of the programme is on the [Alpine Presbytery website](http://www.alpinepresbytery.org)

PLANTS 4 U @ RAKAIA

Saturday 3 October 9am—1pm, at St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Rakaia (Main Road, by the 2 big trees)

Lots of Plants for Sale, featuring:

- Natives shrubs, bulbs, perennials, succulents, plus many more varieties.
- Vegetable Seedlings for that spring garden
- Produce, preserves, baking.
- White elephant
- Special bargains throughout the morning.

All must go after 12 o'clock.

A Plains Parish Project. Contact. dottsknights@gmail.com

Other Newsletters

[Bush Telegraph](#)

Background Information on the Stipend Increase

As part of its report to the General Assembly in 2006, the Stipend Task Group

COMING UP

Presbytery Gathering: 11-12th September, in Christchurch

Garage Sale: 12 September at St Andrew's Blenheim

Plants 4U @ Rakaia: Saturday 3rd October

Presbytery Retreat: 11-12th October, in Hanmer Springs

Blenheim Garden Tour: 17 & 18 October—contact St Andrew's Blenheim

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

Cut off date for next Newsletter is **Thursday 10th September**



recommended that the basic stipend be average weekly earnings wage index adjusted each year from 1 July 2008. The Assembly carried that motion.

The Basic Stipend is one of the aspects of the terms of call – which the Presbytery confirms for each ministry settlement.

Since 2008 – using the calculation set down – the stipend has been adjusted annually. The Finance Manager has advised Treasurers and Ministers of these changes each year.

The Assembly Office has no delegated responsibility to change the instructions of the Assembly between Assemblies and the recent information sent out containing information about the change is merely the Assembly Office fulfilling its administrative functions

Alpine Presbytery Council met using the great Zoom technology on Thursday 27th August.

The only apology was Phyll Harris.

Anne Stewart (the Moderator) led a reflection on the braided river image as it works out in the way that a Presbytery works. A conversation ensued with Jon talking of the Wairau River and the necessity of some kind of human intervention to make a diversion channel in order to ensure that there wasn't flooding and destruction. Brent talked of the need to step out of the river from time to time for rest. Dugald identified the different channels in a braided river that have signs of life and even ways of being that, though different, or hidden, still invite us to respect them.

Anne then constituted the meeting with prayer.

It is our pattern to identify conflicts of interest, and there was only one.

Reports and decisions:

- Rev. Brent Richardson is the Interim Moderator for Trinity Temuka whilst Rev. Gene Lawrence is on study leave.
- Rev. Heather Simpson is appointed to the St. Martins MSB
- Rev. David Sang-Joon Kim and Jill White are appointed as Presbytery reps to the Korean Church MSB (one more person still to be appointed)
- The Alpine Financial Statements for the period ended 31st July 2020 were approved.
- In relation to the Hakatere Parish (Ashburton), the following matters were approved to be sent on to the Church Property Trustees for final approval:
 - a. approve the application to strengthen their church building at 61 Oxford Street Ashburton at an indicative cost of up to \$245,000 utilising capital funds held in their PIF Property account; this includes initial expenses already paid of \$14,849 and an allowance for new chairs to replace the pews.
 - b. approve the application to strengthen their property at Thomson Street, Tinwald at an indicative cost of up to \$92,000 utilising capital funds held in their PIF Property account; this includes \$33,575 already paid for initial work incl to bring part of the hall up to standard last year and an allowance for new chairs.
- It was agreed that a small group comprising of Dugald Wilson, Kathryn Walters (Methodist Superintendent) and Martin Stewart be established to identify issues arising from a recent complaints processes involving the Presbytery and PCANZ, invite the affected parties to contribute ideas, and recommend possible changes to our processes and any further actions that may be required.
- Martin is working on a paper to help our church Councils attend to issues around boundaries, conflicts of interest, and confidentiality
- **Moderator's Report**

It was noted that this was Anne's last Council meeting. Anne identified that she would miss the experience of working with the Council very much. Comments were made about 'the very good job' Anne had carried out for the Presbytery. It was noted that Anne brought heart to her role, she contributed to the culture, care, and regard for one another that has become a feature in the life of the Presbytery. At one point someone said 'she represents the epitome of good Presbyterianism' in that carried out her role carefully, respectfully, and well. After a moment of blushing, Anne recovered her composure and we moved to the next business.
- A Complaint had been received from a church member. After discussing things in private mode, it was agreed that Council convey to the appropriate person that, because we have an existing complaints process in motion that this person is already involved in, we do not consider it is appropriate to deal with their new complaint.
- It was agreed that Alpine Council accept the Alpine Presbytery Annual Performance Report for the year ended 30th June 2020 and refer it to the Presbytery Gathering for approval.
- **Resourcing**

Abi Trevathan (The Resource Team Leader) and Rev Dr Darryl Tempero (Presbytery Resource Minister) joined the Council.

Darryl reflected on the scouting 'refresh' work, pioneering (incl the Zoom with Alistair Birkett from Scotland) and the projects at Prestons and Hanmer Springs.

Abi reflected on the Mission Discernment process and the idea of creating a kete/basket/tool-box in the Presbytery resources for parishes to use and if wanted, seek a coach. She identified the need for support people for ministers, young adult's ministry, and youth ministry and is involved in setting up appropriate networks. The youth workers support group might well involve an overnight retreat in Christchurch.

- **September Gathering**

There was a discussion around holding the September Gathering given the Covid-19 Level 2 status. Good feedback was given on protocols for maintaining good practices. Abi to follow up on these, as the meeting was teetering dangerously into shifting into 'management' mode rather than 'governance.' But it was rescued at the last minute and no one suffered.

- **Culture and Strategic Framework**

With just a few suggestions re wording, there was general agreement that this is ready to go to The Gathering. Darryl and Martin asked to present it outlining the story of how we got to where we have got. Printed copies would be made available for participants.

- **Hope LOM application**

Brent spoke to the application from Hope West Melton.

It was agreed that Hope West Melton/Halkett fill their ministry vacancy through the appointment of a Locally Ordained Minister, and the suitable person be assessed for his call and suitability to fill this position upon receipt of his application.

- Charissa Nicol (COA representative) joined the meeting at midday and spoke of the Council of Assembly's recent work.

- **Korean Church Vacancy**

Martin reported on the Call process underway at KPCC.

It was agreed that Presbytery Council approves the functionality and processes to be undertaken by the Korean Church Call Committee members working with the Presbytery MSB representatives.

Presbytery Council would also want to approve the Terms of Call before any congregational vote.

The next monthly Council meeting is scheduled for **Thursday 24th September 2020 Village Papanui.**

The minutes of this meeting can be downloaded here: [Council Minutes August 2020](#)

From the last Newsletter

- **Covid-19 in South Auckland**
- **Referendum briefing for pastors and leaders in Christchurch**
- **Referendum Questions**
- **Ministry Vacancies:**

[St Peter's Church, Ellerslie/Mount Wellington, Auckland](#)

[St John's Papatoetoe Church advert](#)

[Uniting Church in Western Australia advert](#)

Presbytery Contact Details

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Alpine Presbytery Strategic Framework

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

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/

Presbytery Directory

If you need to obtain information from the Presbytery Directory, please initially ask your Parish Office, as most of these have been given a log-on to Infoodle.

If you do need for your own logon access, send your request to Gail at gail@alpinepresbytery.org.

Please do bear in mind, though, that we need to be aware of our obligations under the Privacy Act.

Dropbox link for documents mentioned in this newsletter: control & click, or copy & paste the link to your browser: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/5k528skz4niqgg/AABDjLatKUt2-C2reVHA6hVza?dl=0>