

[View this email in your browser](#)



September Southern Presbyterians Newsletter

Kia ora, and welcome to the Southern Presbyterians' bi-monthly newsletter. We've been a little quiet recently, but after some re-working we will be back to our regular newsletter schedule. We've recently employed Gabe Hawker to take over our communications department. Gabe has a background in graphic design and advertising, so we are excited to see what he can bring to the role.

This September update offers us a message from both Southern Presbytery and Synod moderators, an update from Fergus and Brad, an introduction to some new staff members and some important upcoming events. If you have any articles or advertisements for the newsletter, or would like any help with graphic design for your church, please contact at office@southernpresbyteries.co.nz or Gabe on 022 133 7047.

A Message from the Moderators

To our Presbyterian family in the South: Grace to you and peace from God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

As we live through another lockdown, we remember that we have been here before. Last year's lockdown saw the development of new creative ways of connecting together for Sunday services via the internet. It was a huge learning curve for all involved, and the knowledge and competency in using this technology continues to be such a blessing in keeping us connected. We now know what to do, because we've been there before. Since the last lockdown,

resources. *Thank you* to everyone who is working hard to ensure this continues.

Pastoral phone calls, texts, Zoom and FaceTime catch ups are very important tools to use both within our congregations and to connect with those who may be on the fringes in our parishes. Taking a few minutes to check in with someone can mean the world to them. Loneliness is huge, especially for those living on their own: To have get a friendly phone call from someone is much appreciated. *Thank you* to everybody making those calls, and checking in.

To our ministers and ministry teams - you are doing a great job caring for your flock. Please take time for yourselves to rest in the presence of our Lord. Take time to be with those in your bubble. Take a little time for yourself. (Isaiah 40: 28-31)

Following COVID19 guidelines is one of the ways that we support our neighbours, our community, our country: staying home in Level 4, wearing masks, getting vaccinated for our own safety but even more for the wellbeing of those around us. We have an opportunity to "love one another" in a very practical way, by accepting what may seem like inconvenience so that we can look after others. This is another way we can "bear one another's burdens" (Galatians 6:2)

We, your Moderators of the Southern Presbytery and Synod of Otago and Southland, invite you to join us in prayer for our people in the South, asking for God's strength and wisdom to guide us through this time, and for God's protecting hand to be with us and all the people of Aotearoa New Zealand.

- We give thanks for the work being done in our communities by essential workers, whether medical workers or supermarket staff or courier drivers or those keeping infrastructure going
- We give thanks for the development of new technology like Zoom, enabling the business of Presbytery and Synod, Parish councils and team leaders meetings to continue at a distance.
- We pray for the children of our congregations, and for those who are at home with them, juggling school and work and restrictions and boredom. We give thanks for the inspiring children's on-line services and activities that are available.
- We pray for our elderly folk, those at home and those in rest homes, and for the recently bereaved. When other people cannot be with them, to visit and chat, may they know God's abiding presence with them.
- We pray for God's compassion to be evident in all we do in God's name. May God help us to hold loosely to our plans amidst this lockdown and follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit leading us forward into a future of hope.

"The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace" Numbers 6:24-26 NIV

Anne Thomson & Debra Clark

An Update from Synod

The Committee have noted that in recent times there have been very few applications for new mission initiatives. We realise that existing mission work can and often does expand or develop into new areas of mission so on-going applications for funding of existing work assists with that. Covid-19 lockdowns have impacted significantly on most if not all parishes' finances and that may have put Church Councils into a cautionary mindset on how more scarce funds are spent. However, Christians need to continue to take God's mission to the community forward even in more uncertain economic times. The Mission & Evangelism Committee would like to encourage Church Councils to prayerfully consider what new mission and evangelism work God is calling them to, and if that needs some assistance in funding and qualifies for funding under our rules then we would welcome your applications. Please note we look carefully to see that the Church Council's missional heart is in applications and that they are putting up some funding themselves to demonstrate that they really believe God is calling them to this Mission and Evangelism work. If you would like help with your parishes' mission, please contact Erin Pendreigh, Mission Advisor. If you need to discuss the rules or how to make an application please contact Fergus Sime, Executive Officer. Applications close on 15 October and 15 June each year.

The **Ecclesiastical Fund** applications close annually on 15 October. This fund is for church property expenditure. Qualifying expenditure includes land and building purchases, alterations, major and routine maintenance. For further details please contact Fergus Sime, Executive Officer.

The **Educational Fund** applications close on 30 November annually. This fund is for Christian and/or secular education and is open to any educational group in the Synod area. More parishes could be applying to this fund if they had educational projects they wanted to seek assistance with funding for. For further details please contact Fergus Sime, Executive Officer.

	Group	Parish	Project	Yrs	\$ p.a.	Yrs	\$ p.a.
Pre-approved allocations							
646	Dunedin	The Seedling	Salary	1	30,000	1	30,000
627	Dunedin	Mornington	New Expression of Church	3	35,000	3	35,000
			Total Pre-approved Applications		65,000		65,000
Regional or joint parish Applications							
653	Dunedin	Tirohanga Camp	Manager's Salary	1	30,000	1	30,000
			Lex Wylie Missionary Fellowship				
			Nil				
			Parish Applications - General				
654	Dunedin	East Taieri	Revisioning Children's & Families	1	19,000	1	15,000
655	Dunedin	Leith Valley	Children, Jnr Yth & Yth Salary	1	40,000	1	20,000
656	Mataura	Mataura	Family Worker Salary	1	15,000	1	15,000
657	Southland	St. Andrew's	Salary Church and Com Worker	3	14,500	1	7,500
658	Central	Cromwell	Intern Support	1	6,000	1	6,000
			Total New Applications		124,500		93,500
			Total Funds Available				136,000
			Amount to carry forward to 2022 Year				42,500

Youth Update

EMERGE LEADERSHIP FORMATION

Investing in Our Youth Leaders...

Emerge Leadership Formation - Young Leaders (yr 11-13)

Our ministry vitality depends on our leadership capacity. We need to create a strong culture of invitation, discernment and leadership development throughout the Church.

Emerge is a free two-year video-based leadership formation programme aimed at creating a culture of servant leadership in our young people (Year 11+), developing their character, competency and sense of calling.



PYM Key Leaders Retreat

Queenstown. Nov 27-30

We know how hard our youth leaders work and how much they sacrifice to care for the young people in our parish's and community. We want to say thank you and to support our youth leaders. PYM is again offering their "Key Youth Leaders Retreat" in Queenstown this Year. This retreat will be a fantastic opportunity for you to connect up with other key leaders in the PCANZ; sharing stories, best practice ideas and offering encouragement and support.

The retreat is free for one key youth leader per Church. Additional key youth leaders can still attend the retreat for \$150.

[Learn More](#)

Meet our New Staff



Mandi Geustyn

Children & Families Advisor

“The Lord will command the blessing on you in your storehouses and in all to which you set your hand, and He will bless you in the land which the Lord your God is giving you.” Deuteronomy 28:8

Cromwell NZ is what we, as a family, now call home.

I've been in Children's Ministry in South Africa for 7 years (where I also obtained my bachelor's degree in Christian Children's Counselling), before immigrating to New Zealand with my family to take up the role of Children and Families Leader for Cromwell Presbyterian Church for the last 4 years.

I am passionate about Children & Families Ministry with a strong desire to see families and young children grow in their faith. I value opportunities to reach, encourage and support families in their spiritual growth.

I consider serving in the Children's Ministry a great privilege (on any level), and I want to serve God in all I do, whether spiritually, at home, with my family, at church or professionally within Ministry.

I feel honoured stepping into this



Gabe Hawker

Communications Support

“Let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.” 1 John 4: 7-8

Kia ora, I've recently been appointed as Communications Support for the Southern Presbyteries, and am looking forward to bringing my skills to this role.

I have been a graphic designer for some time, originally working for a newspaper in Christchurch. Once I began studying at Laidlaw, I switched to freelancing in design and have been doing so for the past few years.

One of my passions is to increase the quality of design for churches. I'm passionate about making things that not only convey the right information, but look good while doing so.

I'll be in charge of the newsletter and website, as well as other various creative ideas in the Southern Presbyteries.

Please contact me if you have any issues, or need something created

region and very excited about what this new journey for the Southern Presbyterians entails.

I'm excited to really get stuck into this role and look forward to what's ahead.

God Bless

News and Notices



CPE Spring 2021 possible course

Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) are requesting indications of interest for late August-mid-November 2021

[Learn More](#)

Suggested guides for Zoom

Knox Dunedin have helpfully shared what they felt useful while running a digital congregational meeting over Zoom

[Learn More](#)

Upcoming Faith



Learn local with

Short faith courses are offered by the Theology Programme, University of Otago and some Dunedin Churches

[Learn More](#)

Learn Local is offering opportunities to find out about local mission initiatives and experience grassroots mission

[Learn More](#)

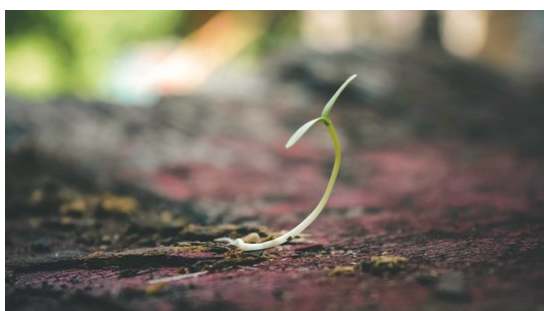
CWS appeal for Afghanistan

Community World Service is appealing for support for the people of Afghanistan in this tumultuous time

[Learn More](#)

Congratulations Malcolm Gordon

Malcolm Gordon recently wrote a paper on part of Paul's letter to the Romans that won the ANZATS Award.

[Learn More](#)

Spiritual Renewal Update

generously provided an update
for us

[Learn More](#)

Vacancies



Mosgiel Children and Families

Mosgiel Presbyterian are looking for a part time Children and family worker.

[Learn More](#)

EO for Kaimai Presbytery

Kaimai Presbytery is looking for a part time (20HPW) Executive Officer

[Learn More](#)

St Oran's College

St Oran's College are looking for a permanent part time chaplain

[Learn More](#)



For any additional information or for help please contact:
office@southernpresbyteries.co.nz

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe](#)

This email was sent to <<Email Address>>

[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

Southern Presbyterians · Evan Perry House · 43 Princes Street, Dunedin Central · Dunedin, Otago 9016 · New Zealand

Grow your business with  mailchimp