

August 2023

# SOUTHERN HEADLINES

## Southern Presbyterians' Newsletter

**Kia ora and welcome** to the August newsletter from the Southern Presbyterians for 2023. This month we have an update from the Presbytery Executive Officer, the Synod Moderator, the Spiritual renewal group and other upcoming events.

If you have a story, article, or advertisement you would like to share, please contact Gabe at [office@southernpresbyterians.nz](mailto:office@southernpresbyterians.nz)



## From the Presbytery EO

### **Closing Service of the Dipton Church**

(Central Southland Parish) on October 15th at 2pm, everyone welcome

Address - 60 George Street, Dipton, Southland.

For more details please contact the Session Clerk

J & G Willis [john.glenda@e3.net.nz](mailto:john.glenda@e3.net.nz)

### **Induction Service for Rev Charissa Nicol as Principal, Columba College**

Venue Knox Church, Dunedin

Tuesday 17th October

Presbytery Meeting at 5.40pm in the Matheson Room (ground floor of the halls behind the church)

The service begins at 6pm and will be a full service of the Columba College community with Presbytery.

It is occasion is led by past moderator

Rev Anne Thomson,

the preacher will be Very Rev Hamish Galloway.

### **Presbyterian General Assembly**

Auckland, September 27th to October 1st 2023

Rev Rose Luxford of St Paul's, Oamaru, will be inducted to office as Moderator of the Assembly

for coming two years.

Please note that Sessions and Parish Council's cannot meet during the Assembly without it giving special permission

**Click Here** - to sign up for daily assembly updates

### **Presbytery Council**

This Council is meeting on September 10th in Lawrence.

The following meeting will be on October 12th (Thursday) 4pm video mtg

Please note if you have notices of motion for the November Gathering - have these in to Alan by October 5th.

### **Presbytery Gathering**

November 10th and 11th

Venue - Weston Presbyterian Church

-44 Main Street, Weston, Oamaru

The start time is undecided at this point as the programme is a work in progress.

### **Other Information to note:**

Our Nominating Committee is keen to receive your nominations – see the call for nominations sent in July. This includes nominations for our next Moderator.

Moderator James Watt will be away between September 27th and November 4th.

Executive Officer Alan Judge is retiring after a decade as our Executive Officer and Presbytery Clerk and he has advised his final day as December 20th 2023.

Rev Ray McKendry, Minister Emeritus, has resigned from the ministry of the PCANZ.

# Spiritual Renewal And Growth

The SPRAG task group has, in recent times, led planning retreats for the elders of two of our churches and spoken at the Mataura Valley regional group meeting, exploring what it means to be “spiritual”. We are very willing to do similar things for other churches and regional groups. The task group members are available but there are also other resource people willing to help you explore various topics. They are listed in the **SPRAG website**. Our desire is to see our churches experiencing more and more of God and flourishing.

We have also been very encouraged by the visit of Julie-anne Laird, from City To City Australia, the Australian branch of the organisation started by the late Timothy Keller. Julie-anne’s visit was organised by Ian Hyslop and Aaron Johnstone. She led workshops on evangelism in three places around our presbytery and the response has been enthusiastic. People are looking at getting her back and/or drawing on the leadership City To City can give in church revitalisation. We will explore this and if this looks like a real possibility, we will make sure you hear about it.

The biggest factor in spiritual renewal and growth is prayer. We have some people praying and we pass on to them prayer requests from individual churches. Would you please also pray about the vitality of our churches? If you have prayer needs, or we can help in any way, please do get in touch. Email Peter Cheyne at [Peter@followers.org.nz](mailto:Peter@followers.org.nz).

Please do check out our **website**.

May God bless you all,

The SPRAG team



## A note from the Synod Moderator

There are congregations in the Synod area who are planning to dispose of or develop their land and buildings and who wish to acknowledge the important status of Māori as original inhabitants of the land and to work with local iwi when making decisions about land and property. Such a commitment lies entirely at the discretion of local congregations, of course, but for those seeking some guidance in this area some notes and resources have been added to the ‘Resources’ section of the Southern Presbyterian website. **Click here to view**

## Vacancies



**Dunedin  
Hospital Chaplain**



**Dunedin Hospitals  
Māori Chaplain**

**St Paul's  
Napier**

**Alpine Pres  
Ministries  
Coordinator/  
Kaihautū  
Whakatipu**



# Upcoming Events



Preaching Workshop  
Hawea Flat

**25 Aug**



Preaching Workshop  
Wanaka

**26 Aug**



Christian Savings  
Conference

**30 Aug**



Tirohanga  
Boost

**15-17 Sept**



Social Enterprise  
Conference

**27Sept**



## Synod Moderator

Murray Rae - [murray.rae@otago.ac.nz](mailto:murray.rae@otago.ac.nz)

## Presbytery Moderator

James Watt - [presbytery.moderator@southernpresbyterians.nz](mailto:presbytery.moderator@southernpresbyterians.nz)

## Synod EO

Fergus Sime - [synod.otago.southland@xtra.co.nz](mailto:synod.otago.southland@xtra.co.nz)

## Presbytery EO

Alan Judge - [Alan@southernpresbyterians.nz](mailto:Alan@southernpresbyterians.nz)