

This Week's Activities

St Peter's Church

Thurs 10am Pete's Place—drop-in
 Fri 10am Craft Group

St Christopher's Church

Mon 1:30pm Prayer & Share (foyer)
 Wed 7pm Prayer for new Vicar
 Thurs 10am Pop In
 Fri 7am Prayer for Community transformation
 Sat: 8am Prayer, (Emmaus Centre)
 Sun: 7:30AM Listening to God, (Church)

Longview Home-

Thurs 11.20am Communion Service



Many of our regular activities are on a break until next term.

Financial Matter\$

Income: March \$32,706
 Monthly expenses budget \$28,945



Administrative Matters

St. C Cleaning 22 April

T & J Mclvor, Chogumaira family



For those who generously give via automatic payment or internet banking, electronic giving acknowledgement cards are available in the foyers. These may be placed in the offertory plate as a symbol of your giving.



Lawn mowing

17/4-30/4 Paul Roberts

Encouragement Cards available in Foyers. If you would like to encourage someone, please write your words of encouragement, then either give to person, or place in offertory plate if you would like to remain anonymous.

Parish Office and Ezee Meals

Office Hours:- Tues—Fri 9.30am-12.30pm
 1 Lyndhurst Road, P O Box 51 023, Tawa
 Phone: 232 8448
 Website: www.tac.org.nz
 Facebook : Tawa-Linden Anglican Church

Name Tags are available at the back of the church/foyer. If you do not see your name and would like a tag, please contact office and one will be made for you.



If you require confidential prayer support please phone Shirley 232 4300 or Philippa 232 3262

Priest in Charge and Mission Director

Rev Terry Mclvor (day off Friday) Terry.Mclvor@tac.org.nz 0212421822

Children's Ministry Hayley Balmer on leave

Youth Pastor/Deacon Asst Rev Andy Hickman andy.hickman@tac.org.nz 232 8448

Parish Manager Fiona Wymark Fiona.Wymark@tac.org.nz 232 8448

Vestry vestry@tac.org.nz



"Jesus is risen from the dead."

Nothing makes sense without those six words. I find it fascinating, and a challenge to try to fit something about our essence into such a narrow form.

Here are some examples: "Not Quite What I Was Planning" or "It All Changed in an Instant".

Some six-word stories are quite moving: "I still make coffee for two," writes someone recovering from a breakup.

Some are clever: "Well, I thought it was funny," is the offering of a comedian.

Some are tragic: "For Sale: baby shoes, never worn."

Then again "Secret of life: marry an Italian".



And this made me think that, for all the joy and fanfare of Easter, for all the complexity and mystery of our Christian life and for all the billions and billions of words we use to try and explain it all, that Christianity itself has a six-word autobiography, and it is this:

Jesus is risen from the dead. There are 775,000 words, more or less, in the Bible, and not one of them makes sense without these six words. There are roughly 2 billion Christians in the world, and not one of us has a thing to say without these six words. These are the words that the breathless women carried from the empty tomb back to the other disciples. These are the words that have been passed from person to person, from community to community, every day since then – in secret, in triumph, in darkness, in celebration. It is these six words that have taken us from scattered, broken people who are lost, to the largest faith in the world. It is these six words that have found countless individuals whose lives were already dead – broken by pain and suffering, by sin and darkness, and given them new life. These are the words that are whispered at bedsides and shouted from rooftops and shared at dinner tables and workplaces and in neighbourhoods. These are the words that have been forbidden by governments, both ancient and modern, and yet somehow they have still been spoken, still been shared. Jesus is risen from the dead. These are the words that the martyrs sang as they were being burned at the stake, fed to the lions. These are the words that Dietrich Bonhoeffer, the German martyr who opposed the Nazis and was forced into seclusion, taught his students in the secret seminary he managed to hold. These are the words that Martin Luther King Jr. held fast to as he opposed violent racism, the words that inspired Desmond Tutu's work in South Africa; Jesus is risen from the dead.

Are these words true? If they are not, Paul says to the Corinthians we are of all people most to be pitied. But this is not our story. Of course, we hear all the time that Jesus' resurrection cannot be proven, because nobody saw it; that it cannot be true, because people still suffer, they still die; that we cannot believe it, because it seems so utterly unbelievable. To which we say: Jesus is risen from the dead. How many lives have been transformed, starting with Mary Magdalene and

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8:30am service
 St Peter's Church, Linden

10am Family Communion
 St Christopher's Church, Tawa

Easter Sunday

Readings

Acts 10:34-43, Psalm 118:1-2, 14-23, Colossians 3:1-4, John 20:1-18

Sentence

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. *Psalm 118:24*

Collect of the Day

Glorious Lord of Life, we praise you, that by the mighty resurrection of your Son, you have delivered us from sin and death and made your whole creation new; grant that we who celebrate with joy Christ's rising from the dead, may be raised from the death of sin to the life of righteousness; for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever. **Amen.**

2017 Diary Dates

Service Sunday: 30 April, see notice →
AAW meeting: 11am Sat 6 May, St P. For more info contact Margaret 2326828

Diocesan Leadership training day: Sat 6 May, St C, talk to Terry if interested or check www.movementonline.org.nz.

Alpha course: begins with dinner 7 May, contact Andrew 2325338 for details and then runs every Sunday until 16 July

Men's Convention: 7:30pm. Wed 10 May, the Roundabout Pub (note change of date)

Pop In birthday: 19 May, Friday evening, details to follow

Big Nite Out: 4:45pm Sat 20 May, Emmaus Centre

Prayer@parliament: 7:20pm Thurs 9 June—see noticeboard for details



Please Pray for:

- Strength and healing for all those struggling with ill health, and recovering from surgery.
- Comfort and peace for those who are bereaved especially the Wrightson family with the passing of Bill last week.
- Safety on our roads, waters and mountains.
- For our clergy.
- For the Parish Nominators as they continue the search for a new Vicar.
- The peace-makers and the peace-keepers all over the world.
- For all those affected by the flooding throughout NZ.
- Upcoming Alpha course, especially for who you could invite to come along.
- For the real story of Easter to touch people's hearts and minds

Stamps for Missions. Thank you to all who continue to support this Mission. Please leave used stamps in foyer box or bring to office.

Pete's Place.
Come in, have a cuppa and some good company Thursdays 10am-2pm at St Peter's Church.



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her companions, falling to the ground in utter shock, upon hearing these six words? What could we possibly use to measure the impact that these six words have had upon the world. Is it true? Listen to the stories. C.S. Lewis said, "I believe in Christianity as I believe that the Sun has risen, not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else."

This is the story of our lives, the story of the life of the world, the story of life itself. It is the story of how life is stronger than death, how God's love for us is stronger than death. It is, in the end, the only story that there is. And so, in Easter, we hear these six words again: Jesus is risen from the dead. How will these words change your story? And how will these words change the world? What does our story still have to say to a world at war, a culture at odds, a people in pain? How will we be sure that they will hear our story of hope? Every day we write our story again, and we say that it is no less true today than it was on the first day; it is no less miraculous today than it was on the first day - no less shocking, no less joyful, no less important, no less life-changing and meaningful.

Jesus is risen from the dead. Run and tell the others what you've heard.
Terry

This week and beyond

Service Sunday 30 April

Whenever there is 5 Sundays in the month we do "church" a little differently.

There is no 8:30am service at St P

However we meet at St C

8:30am Combined Breakfast—Annex

9:00am Short Communion Service

9:30am Depart into Community to serve in the community.

There is something for all ages and stages of life.

Sign up sheets will be appearing shortly. If you know of any projects that we could be involved in, please speak to Rev. Terry as soon as possible.

Also seeking a team (life group, 3DM Huddle) to "spearhead" this initiative, please let office know if you might be interested.

Vicarage Update

Health and safety notice

Please note that the Vicarage is now a worksite and should not be entered without prior approval from the Project Manager—Grant Quin ph 232 6447

Funds raised (March) \$7695

Alpha dinner-7 May.

We need your help. If you are able to help either with food preparation, setting up or waiting on tables could you please contact Ginny Gordon from Our Lady of Fatima on cell 0211304177.



Piano free for removal

We have a steel-framed piano which is in "as is" condition. If you would like this please ring Sally 568 4843 or 021 356 364

