

This Week's Activities

St Peter's Church

Tues 10am Pop In
 Wed 10am Study and Communion
 Thurs 10am Pete's Place—drop-in
 Fri 10am Craft Group

St Christopher's Church

Mon 1:30pm Prayer & Share (foyer)
 Wed 10am Pop In
 Wed 3.45pm Youth discipleship group
 Thurs 10am Pop In
 Fri 7am Prayer for Community transformation
 Fri 5pm Illumin8—yrs 6-9 youth group
 Fri 7:30pm Radi8—yrs 10-13 youth group
 Sat: 8am Prayer, (Emmaus Centre)
 Sun: 7:30AM Listening to God, (Church)

Longview Home
 Thurs 11.20am Communion Service

Small groups meet for study and fellowship most evenings.
 Contact office for more details, or see notice-board in Annex or check in "Welcome Book".

Financial Matter\$ (not incl vicarage refit)	Year to date (11/9)	budget
Income for Sept (11/9): \$13,030	Income: \$244,425	\$273,772
Monthly expenses budget: \$29,696	Expense: \$232,000	\$267,116

Administrative Matters

St. C Cleaning 30 September



McHale Family, F Wharton,
 T Smith

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.

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.

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 on 232 4300 or Philippa Reaney on 232 3262

Lawn mowing James Fahey



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

Priest in Charge and Mission Director

Rev Terry Mclvor (day off Friday) Terry.Mclvor@tac.org.nz 0212421822
Children's Ministry Hayley Balmer 232 9433
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

Which would you choose, love or justice?

If you're anything like me, you understandably want both, and yet every once in while, we are forced to make a choice. I think that's part of what is going on in this parable.

Let's put ourselves in the place of the workers who were chosen last. They had likely given up hope for work that day. These are not workers who are trying to make extra cash. They are labourers who expect to earn just enough to support their families for one more day. What we call poverty is their norm, and so it's easy to imagine their excitement when they finally get an opportunity to work. This excitement only multiplies when the manager pays them for a full day!

Now, let's put ourselves in the place of those who had been called to work at the beginning of the day. They had worked all day, simply to put food on the table. At the end of their shift, they line up, and when word travels down the line that those hired at the end of the day received a full day's wage, their moment of wonder turns quickly to anticipation as they calculate what that might mean for them. All that anticipation turns to dust when the manager gives them the same payment. This appears unfair, and so resentment, rather than gratitude takes over.

Sensing this, the owner of the vineyard protests that he actually *has* treated them fairly, paying exactly what was contracted, and wonders why they begrudge his generosity to others.

It is easy, for us to dismiss these labourers as ungrateful or selfish. Their reaction is what most of us would have felt had we been in their situation.

So if forced to choose, which would you take, love or justice?

Justice counts and measures and calculates because justice is a matter of the law and seeks to ensure that all people receive equal treatment, equal opportunity, and equal standing. The manager responds that he has acted not with justice in mind but rather with love expressed through generosity. When these two – justice and love – clash, it can get ugly, because where justice counts, love loses track; where justice calculates, love lets go; where justice holds all things in the balance, love and generosity give everything away, upsetting the balances we have so carefully arranged.

Love is not the opposite of justice, love passes beyond the realm of justice and law, into the realm of relationship. What would it be like to govern your relationships primarily by the law of justice, counting up every insult or injury done by your partner so that you could do the same to him/her? Can you imagine living your life this way?

While justice makes room for relationships, it is love, generosity, and forgiveness that enable relationships to flourish. Acknowledging that while we want to choose love, but end up calling for justice. Maybe rather than asking which we would choose, lets in-

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

10am Family Communion
St Christopher's Church, Tawa

The 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings

Exodus 16:2-15; Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45; Phil 1:21-30; Matt 20: 1-16

Sentence of the Day

By grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God. *Ephesians 2:8-9*

Collect of the Day

God, you have given us a lodging in this world but not an abiding city. Help us, as a pilgrim people, to endure hardness, knowing that at the end of our journey Christ has prepared a place for us. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

2017 Diary Dates

Holiday Programme 2017—"Champions," Oct 2-6 volunteers needed, see Hayley **TEARFUND EVENT**— 27 Sept @ St Chr 7pm-8:30pm -Noel Pabiona/Omega Levine

AAW— Monday 2 Oct 7:30pm at St Peter's

ticTACtoe board games: 6:30pm; 7 Oct, 11 Nov; 9 Dec, Emmaus Centre—all welcome

Day of Giving— Sunday, 15 October

Over 60s morning tea Monday 16 October, 10-11:30 am Emmaus Centre (this replaces the usual lunch) \$2 koha to help cover expenses

Cap Life Skills— 17 Oct 10:30am Linden Social Centre, 10 Linden Ave,



Please Pray for:

- For the Last, the Lost, and the Least
- For the election and wise counsel and that the politicians would engage in relevant discussions
- Blessing on all new babies and their families
- For our clergy Terry and Andy; and Hayley our Children's Ministry Leader
- Strength and healing for all those struggling with ill health, and recovering from surgery.



stead point to which one God chooses.

The primary actor in this story is the vineyard owner, the one who keeps asking for workers all day long until everyone has secured employment; the one who instructs the manager to pay generously; the one who takes the time to answer the indignant labourers, the one who in all ways and at every possible turn chooses love over justice. It is love that saves, and so when forced to choose – between exercising God's just judgment against us or forgiving and accepting us in love – God in Jesus, the cross and resurrection chooses love.

No matter how much we identify with those who worked all day, in the end we realize that we are the latecomers, those who had no reason to expect such lavish, even reckless generosity. This is God we discover in Jesus, The God who looks at us in love and therefore overlooks all those places we fall short and chooses to treat us with unmerited grace, mercy, and generosity. Which would we choose? Better question – which has God already chosen? Terry

We are family, we are disciples, we care for the last, the lost and the least

This Week and Beyond

Programme Fully Booked

Champions Holiday Programme

Party Night: 5 October 5p.m. - 7p.m. (All invited)

We still need : Prayers, chair movers, bakers, welcomers, leaders and cleaners - please speak to Hayley if you are keen to participate in any way.

What does it mean to be a follower of Jesus?

Cap Life Skills

- Making your money go further
- Cooking on a budget
- Living a happy healthy life
- Building strong relationships

Linden Social Centre
10 Linden Ave
17 October 10:30am

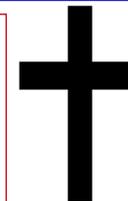
Prayer Meetings

Friday 7am

Prayer for Community Transformation (St Chr)

Sat: 8am Emmaus

Sun:7:30am St Chr



New on the Noticeboard

- Newsletter from the Robertson's in Thailand

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." Ps119:105

Porirua Sing Your Lungs Out Choir needs a volunteer

This is a therapeutic choir for people with lung and heart problems. If you are able to help with the choir mainly in the capacity of greeting people and making them feel welcome, serving teas, coffees etc.

Please contact Claire Richards (Manager)
027 2263260 or 027 405 6458

Annual Children's Church Electives

will be starting on 22 October and we would love to have you join the fun. They run for 4 wks until 12 November and I would be grateful if you could consider offering to participate for just one 1 hour session.

Everyone has something that they are passionate about that they can share with a small group of children - it could be cooking, baking, first aid, knitting, art, craft, sewing, sports, boardgames, dance, beading, gardening, puppets, electronics, photography, acting ... or something completely different.

The children would like to get to know the members of the congregation other than their regular leaders and the children's church leaders deserve a break.

The emphasis will be on relationship building since we, both children and adults, are all part of one body we should all get to know each other and share our skills which should all be used for God's glory. The electives will provide an opportunity for different groupings of children and adults to get together every week. Contact Hayley to discuss what you would like to share with the children.

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