

This Week's Activities

St Peter's Church

Tue 10:00am Pop In
Wed 10:00am Study and Communion
Thurs 10:00am Pete's Place—drop-in
Fri 10:00am Craft Group

St Christopher's Church

Mon 1:30pm Prayer & Share (foyer)
Wed 10:00am Pop In
Wed 3:45pm Youth Discipleship Group
Thur 10:00am Pop In
Fri 7:00am Prayer for Community transformation
Fri 5:00pm Illumin8—yrs 6-9 youth group
Fri 7:30pm Radi8—yrs 10-13 youth group
Sat 8:00am 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 noticeboard in Annex or check in "Welcome Book".

Financial Matter\$ (not incl vicarage refit)
Income for 1—29 Nov: \$31,222
Monthly expenses budget: \$34,320

Year to date	budget
Income: \$337,916	\$349,294
Expense: \$302,784	\$335,752

Administrative Matters

St. C Cleaning 9 December

Spurdle family,
J & S Dean



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

Dave Allo 4/12-17/12



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 on 232 4300 or Philippa Reaney on 232 3262

Priest in Charge and Mission Director

Rev Terry McIvor (day off Friday)	Terry.McIvor@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	

UPDATE 3 December 2017 tawa-linden anglican church

Christmas Already?

It's the Christmas season, right? The shops are filled with Christmas carols, Santa is parading everywhere and, wondrously Pak 'n' Save Petone have constructed a huge manger scene.

Well, no. It isn't. For Christians, the Christmas season begins on Christmas Eve and runs for roughly the traditional '12 days of Christmas' until around the Feasts of the Baptism of Jesus, and the Epiphany on January 6.

What we begin today is the season of **Advent**. It's different. It looks forward to the birth of the Messiah Jesus but it is not a season of celebration. It is a time of reflection, of waiting, of repentance – of changing our minds. A time to stop and consider if we really have got our heads around what the coming of Jesus, the triumph of God in Jesus, and the birth of the Kingdom into our world really means for us. We also anticipate the Kingdom's fulfilment with Jesus' long-awaited return. The busy-ness that infects us all at this time of year is a real travesty and works to completely undermine this reflective spirit.

The First Sunday of Advent also marks the beginning of the Church's liturgical year. We move to the second of the three yearly cycle of readings (Year B). We will be focused through much of the year on the Gospel of Mark, with as usual the odd reading from John's Gospel thrown in on special days!

Oddly, we begin, not early in Mark's Gospel, but towards the end; in chapter 13, right before the events of Holy Week. Jesus is talking to a few close friends, on the Mount of Olives looking across at Jerusalem's temple. Jesus had just foretold the destruction of Jerusalem's temple and they want to know when this will happen.

Christians have traditionally read into Jesus' response, not just a prediction of the shocking events that would befall Jerusalem around AD70 but also of our need to be alert as we anticipate Jesus' return. But this not an idle, or even only a prayerful, waiting. It is a call to action; to live what we say we believe, to allow the Gospels to imbue and inspire our daily lives, to embrace the values of Jesus and therefore of our Trinitarian God.

"We must neither look helplessly at a dark and sleeping world, nor think complacently that we, the church, are all right as we are. We must wake people up to the fact that the sun is already shining, and that the judge of the nations is at the door, longing to see his justice and peace enfold the world in a single embrace". (Tom Wright).

Phil

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

10am Family Communion
St Christopher's Church, Tawa



First Sunday in Advent

Readings

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; Isaiah 64:1-9; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37

Sentence of the Day

"Heaven and earth will pass away" says the Lord, "but my words will not pass away".

Collect of the Day

God of hope, When Christ your Son appears may he not find us asleep or idle, but active in his service and ready; through the same Jesus Christ our Redeemer. **Amen.**

2017-2018 Diary Dates

Advent Service: Sun 3 Dec - 7pm Our Lady of Fatima **TONIGHT**

AAW: Mon 4 Dec, 7:30pm in St. Peter's

Men's Convention: Wed 13 Dec 7:30pm Roundabout Pub

SGM: Sun 10 Dec 11:45am St C

Nine Lessons and Carols: Sun 10th Dec. 7pm—8pm at St C's

Christmas fun day: Mon 18 Dec 10am, contact Hayley for details.

Christmas Eve: 6pm Family Service and 10:30pm Evening Service

Christmas Day service—Mon 25 Dec, 10am St Christopher's

New Wine Festival 2018—18-22 Jan at Kapiti College—see noticeboard for details.

Installation of new Vicar—28 Jan, 3pm at St C followed by afternoon tea.



Please Pray for:

- For the Last, the Lost, and the Least
- 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, especially remembering Terry as he recovers from Shingles.
- Refugees everywhere, may they build new lives somewhere safe.
- For students sitting exams and making plans for their future.
- All suffering from extreme and unusual weather and the effects of climate change; that the governments of the world would acknowledge their impact on the environment and heed the call for action.

New Wine Festival 2018 18—22 Jan at Kapiti College

Registration forms available in both churches.

**Movement Anglican Diocese
of Wellington—Newsletter**
<http://movementonline.org.nz/>

"Finding The Forgotten God - Credible Faith for a Secular Age" by Ron Hay. He introduced his book to us when visiting last year. It is 'A brilliant explanation of the Christian faith which deals in a fresh way with the questions people often ask'. 'It contains some challenging stories from secular Kiwis who have become followers of Jesus.' I have 2 more copies @ \$25 ea. Lesley Anderson 022-232-4533.

This Week and Beyond

Rev Andy Hickman, currently our Youth Pastor and Deacon Assistant has been offered a position of Deacon assistant in the Parish of All Saints' Palmerston North starting mid-January.

We will be officially farewelling Andy and his family on 17 December although he will continue to work in the parish until his departure. If you would like to contribute to a farewell gift please put it in an envelope marked "Gift for Andy" in the collection plate or drop it into the parish office by Tuesday 12 December.

Christmas Funday Monday 18 December

Crafts, games, lego, stories...

For Primary School children

Time: 10a.m - 2.00p.m.

Venue: The Emmaus Centre, St Christopher's Church

Cost: \$15 per child

We are limiting the numbers and likely to fill up so please book by e-mailing hayley.balmer@xtra.co.nz as soon as possible

Nine Lessons and Carols Service

Sun 10 Dec 7pm at St Christopher's
Anyone interested in joining a small choir to sing at the service contact Gail Milner 2324739 or milner_family@xtra.co.nz.



**Tawa—Linden Anglican Church
Annual General Meeting
11:45, 10 December 2017
St Christopher's Church**

Nominations have now closed.

Included in this update are short biographies of nominees.

Report books have been emailed to parish and printed versions are available from foyers or office.

Any items for business please contact Mike Henderson.

CHRISTMAS FOOD PARCELS

Every year we give Christmas food parcels to Birthright families and to some of our local folks who may find Christmas a difficult and lonely time.

Boards for the Christmas food parcel donations are in both churches from today. Please take as many tickets as you can and return the items with the tickets on Sundays or to the office during open hours.

Or Alternatively, families or small groups may like to donate a whole food parcel instead. Parcels have a value of \$80-\$100. If this appeals to you please contact Jill Bruce 0210323350 jillmarian@hotmail.com



"Toot for Tucker". 5 and 7 December. Between 6pm and 8pm

Rotary of Tawa are looking for helpers to help with the collection. from 6pm to 8pm. If you are able to help please contact Peter Lockery 0275390396 or lockery@xtra.co.nz