



# THE MOORING POST

ANGLICAN PARISH OF FENDALTON – ST BARNABAS AND ST THOMAS  
*The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand & Polynesia – Diocese of Christchurch*

## Stewardship: Supporting Parish Vision

*Dear Members of the Parish of Fendalton,*

It's a privilege to bring you my best wishes and commend to you the work of God through our parish. In this issue of the Mooring Post we look at the way faith effects our work, the growth of Christian ministry among children and families, pilgrimage and spiritual refreshment. I'm amazed at the diverse ways in which God is at work in our Christian community set in the heart of Fendalton!

When Jesus first began his public ministry he declared that he had come to 'bring good news to the poor, release to the captives, recovery of sight to the blind and freedom for the oppressed.' He set about in deed and word to replace oppression with human flourishing and died to deal decisively with all the forces that dehumanise and deface our world. I want to get on board with God's vision of restoration and I want our parish to be fully involved in ministries that help people find faith and find fullness of life.

In this edition of the Mooring Post you will find a Stewardship Brochure enclosed. We have set

out the specific ways in which God is working to restore people to wholeness in our parish and beyond. There is information about our worship, young people finding a place to belong to, children learning about God's love, the elderly enjoying friendship groups, parents receiving mentoring, food being delivered to the hungry and support being offered to those who mourn. The Christian faith makes a practical difference to life – connecting with God releases a tremendous power for good in our community.

I hope you'll be able to read the Stewardship Brochure and think about ways you can partner with us in bringing God's love and healing to our community. Giving financially is one way of contributing to the fabric of our community and helping people thrive - especially those who struggle in life.

You'll find a pledge form at the back of the brochure and I invite you to prayerfully complete it and return it to the parish. You can do this by dropping it in to the Parish Office at 8 Tui St or giving us a call on 351 7064 and arranging for one of our team

to pick it up. There will also be an opportunity to complete the form on Sunday 19 and Sunday 26 during the service.

If you are a regular giver to the ministry of St Barnabas or contribute in any other way, I want to thank you most sincerely for your generosity, but ask that you prayerfully review your giving, complete the form and return it to us. If you have never contributed financially to our parish before, I ask that you consider doing so now. There has never been such a great need for the work of your local church in the community – to support those in need and offer everyone the good news of Jesus Christ and God's love. You will have the satisfaction of knowing that you're making a tangible difference to build up our community.

I also invite everyone to attend one of the Thanksgiving Services on Sunday 26 July and Thursday 30 July as we offer our pledges to God and ask for his richest blessing.

I thank you in advance for giving this your thoughtful consideration,  
 Yours in Christ,

*Rev Mark Chamberlain.*

## alphaLIFE

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## Where do We Look for Meaning? To the Heavens? Science? Art? Each Other?

The alphaLife course is a series of eight interactive sessions exploring life's meaning, purpose and the Christian faith. The course is relaxed, has great food and engaging people sharing inspiring stories. There are no obligations and no expectations. So why not come along?

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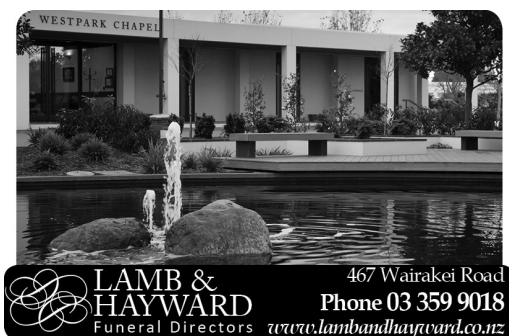
*'The Mooring Post' is a phrase from p479 in A New Zealand Prayer Book/He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa. Christ is described as the single mooring post for many waka – Ko te Karaiti te pou herenga waka. Christ is the one who unites us.*

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## Faith, Medicine and Public Practice

*In my line of work as a junior doctor working at Christchurch Hospital, I predominantly see God in my interactions with colleagues, rather than with my patients.*

The fact that I have God on my side makes a dramatically positive difference to the way I practice medicine. During my morning bike ride before a 'long day' (fifteen hour shift), I pray to God for help.

Specifically, I usually ask him (selfishly) for three things:

1. That my day is not so busy that I am overwhelmed, but not so slow that I am bored;
2. To bless my interactions and conversation with patients, their families and other colleagues;
3. To be with all my patients and their respective families during this illness-period of their life.

With the benefit of hindsight, I can genuinely say that I am yet to experience a "nightmare shift" as a junior doctor where one feels isolated, afraid, overwhelmed and is literally drowning in acute clinical work. I believe God is guiding me during every shift, even though I may fail to notice his presence at the time.

Medico-legally, I do what is required of me in my duties as a junior doctor. I handover sick patients that need review and tests that need "chasing". If I do this right, upon walking out the hospital doors at the end of my shift, I am not clinically responsible for whatever may happen to my patients until the next day – but that's not to say that I don't worry about them when I am back in the comfort of my own home! However, as a Christian doctor, I have an advantage in that I can still care for my patients while I'm away from work – and this is simply through prayer.



I find it hard to sneak God into my workplace. We were taught at medical school to not reveal our own 'religious' views to patients. One needs to wait for patients to mention in passing a keyword - such as 'prayer', 'church', 'bible' or 'spiritual' - before one can discuss matters of Christianity and faith in the hospital environment. To that end, I feel compelled to answer my pager with willingness and reasonable delight, and to smile and simply say 'Hi' to those I walk past every day.

I'd like nurses, other doctors, clerical staff - indeed all staff - to question why this junior doctor is so positive, all the while working with a cheeky smile on his face, so that I may hint to them that I'm not at work primarily for them, myself, or even my patients - but that I'm here striving to glorify God's healing name.

Dr Nigel Yeoh

## Youth Ministry at St. Barnabas

Contact Harry Newton 027 342 2574

**Youth Group:** Christian youth community! Friday nights in the hall. 7 - 8.40pm for yrs 7 - 9 & 8.20-10pm for yrs 10-13

**The Revs:** Christian group for high school age young people. Meets on Sundays during Lifestreams at 10.30am.

# Does Our Work Really Matter to God?

Some years ago I interviewed 100 New Zealand Christians about their faith and life at work. I was dismayed to find that most Christians think that what they do most of the time doesn't matter to God. Or at best that their daily work is important to God only for its evangelistic potential and money-earning value.

Actually, there are exceptions. Most notably, Christians involved in what we might broadly call the "helping professions" (doctors, nurses, counselors, social workers and teachers). These people do feel that their work matters to God. The church has obviously affirmed the worth of "people-helping" work. But most lawyers, architects, data entry workers, entrepreneurs, engineers, students and marketing reps don't experience the same kind of affirmation.

What's more, it is still common for Christians to talk about some jobs as "full-time Christian service" and other jobs as "secular work". There is

a hierarchy of "ministry" significance – with missionaries and pastors at the top, then other church/mission workers, followed by the helping professions, and finally everyone else involved in full-time "secular work" at the bottom. So how does this fit with the way God sees things? Or, is this actually the betrayal of a truly Christian world view?

This devaluation of the significance of most work to God is the product of a major philosophical fault line in Western thinking that separates the spiritual world from the physical world. It is much more a product of Greek dualism than Christian thinking



and directly contradicts a genuinely integrated biblical worldview.

Is it any wonder then, that so many Christians feel such a deep disconnection between their faith and their daily work. And not only those who are bored or find little meaning and fulfillment in their jobs, but also for people who are energised, engaged and deeply committed to the work they pursue. Either way, the sacred/secular split has the effect of minimising our sense of God's interest and involvement in our work. And the little attention and value such work is given in church life reinforces this.

But surely a more honest reading of the Bible story tells us something very different, starting with the very first chapter which makes plain that we are workers made in the image of a God who works. I believe your daily work (whatever that is) really does matter to God.

*Alistair Mackenzie, Laidlaw College*

## Introducing Rev Dr Pauline Stewart

Three weeks ago I officially joined the St Barnabas church family as Priest Assistant (non-stipendiary) following the granting of a licence to officiate by Bishop Victoria. I come to St Barnabas from All Saints Anglican Church, in Invercargill, Southland, where I was Priest Assistant (non-stipendiary) for 6 years.

My transition back to Christchurch where I grew up and attended school has been a gradual one, but I am now able to be with 2 grown up children and 4 precious grandchildren. I left Christchurch following my marriage in St Barnabas to a Southlander and have spent just over 40 years in the south. Following an early career as a Teacher of Deaf children, a primary teacher and for 10 years as a secondary teacher, 20 years ago I moved into a position as an Educational Psychologist working for the Ministry of Education in Southland. Just over 4 years ago I left my position as a senior psychologist at the Ministry to establish a private

practice in psychology, working in the fields of Educational and Counselling psychology, a practice I am continuing today.

Alongside my career I have always been fully involved in the family farming enterprise, which was initially a sheep and cropping farm near Winton, Southland but over the past 14 years as a dairy farm. Following the sudden and untimely death of a much cherished husband due to heart failure in 2003, I continued to farm our quite large dairy farm alongside my career, with the help of great staff. In 2010 I reorganised the governance of the farm and now have 2 equity partners. This now



allows me to be near my family who are all in Christchurch but I continue to have business stimulation and enjoyment of the farm which my late husband and I had worked so hard for during decades of challenging farming conditions.

My interests are travel, music, reading and business development in its widest sense. Life is indeed full and busy and I seem to manage the challenges and enjoyments of my varied interests.

I have been warmly welcomed by the staff team and am now meeting lots of the people associated with St Barnabas. I am hoping to serve in many and varied ways as a Priest Assistant in the parish. I feel blessed to have had the opportunities and life experiences I have had so far (apart from losing my adored husband at the age of 55) and am looking forward to the next part of my journey, as part of the talented St Barnabas staff team.

*Pauline Stewart*



## Association of Anglican Women

*Aim: To unite in prayer and participate in the mission of the Church. To promote, safeguard and nurture Christian family life*

### Daytime Group

Wednesday 1 July at 11.45am for 12 noon.  
Luncheon at the Gloucester St RSA. Meet at the Tui St car park at 11.15am to pool transport.

Leader: Adrienne Robinson - 352 9200

### In Between

Tuesday 21 July at 7.30pm in the Hall  
Speaker is Allison Nicol and her topic is 'The History of Ranui House and our Vision for the Future.'

This meeting is open to all members and their husbands as well as to the whole Parish.

All would be most welcome  
Leader: Pam Chapman - 322 9409

# Pilgrim's Progress

*Rainer Heidtke writes about his pilgrimage to Nidaros Cathedral, Norway*

Do you sometimes feel that God is trying to call you, but you are so caught up in daily life, that you don't take the time to listen to what God wants to tell you? This is how I felt and I had to do something about it!

The term "pilgrim" is derived from "Peregrinus" (Latin), which means "foreigner". A pilgrim is a distant traveler on a journey, usually to a sacred place.

I decided that a pilgrimage was the answer to my problem. It would be a physical journey to a place that had personal meaning. It would also be a spiritual journey - its slowness offers time to communicate with God.

I was born in a town near Cologne, Germany, so I decided that this is where I wanted to begin my pilgrimage.

I always enjoyed the unspoiled beauty of Norway. King Olav II brought Christianity to Norway in 1015 and the Nidaros Cathedral was built over his burial site in 1070. Naturally, the Nidaros Cathedral had to be the final destination of my pilgrimage.

Between start and finish was a distance of 1,500km on land and a sea journey as well. I decided to walk one segment of 500 km, once a year, over a period of three years and I would walk on the traditional pilgrim paths - Europe has an extensive network of these.

When I started my journey my focus was on the physical part. Can I manage to walk such a long distance? How foolish I was! Of course I



*Nidaros Cathedral, Norway*

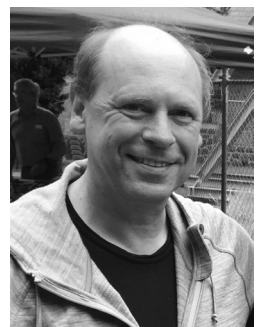
could! It was actually quite easy!

Walking forces you to slow down and take your time. It allows your body to relax. However the distance on land is nothing compared to the distance into your inner self while you are on a pilgrimage.

Being far away from your daily life, the silence takes over; you have time to pray while you walk; you are led into a spiritual level which lets you encounter doubts, anger, crises and boundaries; time for inwardness, time to enjoy. Attentiveness and determination takes you far afield. Being surrounded by nature, freedom and simplicity led me into an area of spirituality I have never experienced before. God certainly challenged me and used my pilgrimage to communicate with me.

So far I have completed the first 1,000km of my pilgrimage. I am very much looking forward to the next 500km! When I have finished have decided to walk all the way back! I need far more time to listen and experience.

Last but not least the hospitality en route has shown me, that the community of Christ is alive everywhere. Meeting other pilgrims on the way has given me a new sense of community.



*Rainer Heidtke*



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# Messy Church – Imagine What God Might Do!

Imagine a place where people of all shapes and sizes come and gather to have food, fun, faith, family craft and meal together. A place where Playgroup, Mainly Music, community, family and friends can come to hear about the Love of God. This is Messy Church!

Imagine the joy of 'Fruit of the Spirit' kebabs – one marshmallow being self-control. Amongst all this imagine a 3yr old saying "Who is this God?" and the reply given "God is the one who loves you." This is Messy Church reaching the heart of a child in creative ways.

Imagine singing "My God is so big, so strong and so mighty" and "The Fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace patience..." this is Praising God Messy Church style.

Imagine Barney the Puppet guessing what the Pentecost

Promised Gift is. Imagine a giant torch with a HOLY SPIRIT battery, representing us with the Holy Spirit in us, not just with us. This is Christ-centred teaching in a creative, powerful and memorable way. Imagine a hairdryer melting crayons on canvas to show the transforming power of the Holy Spirit – these are treasured master pieces and teaching wrapped up in fun – this is Messy Church.

Imagine 86 people aged 5 months to mid 70's talking, playing games, sharing grace, saying the Lord's Prayer with actions, sharing a sit-



down dinner – this is Messy Church All Age Community and Celebration and Hospitality.

Messy Church is a fresh expression of doing Church together – Saturdays 3.30 – 5.30pm - and building a new Christian community. Messy Church is more than creative and colourful all-age worship. It's a form of Church for our changing culture and is aimed at those who are not yet members of any parish. Messy Church is a place where adults are enriched by learning from children and allowing them to minister.

Imagine being part of sowing seeds in the hearts of a new generation. Come and join the next Messy Church August 15 and you will have a WHALE OF A TIME!

*Angela Brown, St Barnabas Children and Family Worker*

## Things Bright and Beautiful for God's Glory

Have you ever wondered who the talented person was who put together the wonderful arrangement of flowers that we see each Sunday in church? Have you noticed how bright and shiny the silver communion chalices are or the brass candle sticks with candles burning brightly, and the Cross - the best known symbol of Christianity?

All these pieces are lovingly cared for by a group of dedicated parishioners who each week arrange the flowers, clean and polish the silver and brass, as well as preparing the linen for our Sunday services.

In May the Sanctuary Guild met together for their AGM giving thanks for the past year and to plan and look ahead for the next year. If you would like to be part of this important ministry the Guild would welcome your help. This is a very special contribution you could make in the life of our parish. Contact Ruth Harwood on 354 1428 to find out more.

In the past some families have donated flowers in memory of

loved ones, for special wedding anniversaries or baptisms. If your family would like to contribute in this way, celebrating those occasions, please contact the parish office.

*Ruth Harwood, Parish Sacristan*





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## Spiritual Refreshment at Te Waioira

What a privilege and a gift for 16 of us to be able to attend the recent Pentecost Retreat in the warmth and comfort of Te Waioira House at Hororata - a place where we experienced God's great love and many blessings in the quietness and beauty of the property. Our many thanks to Angela Moore for the vision for this day and to Rev Philip Robinson, Diane Brooker-Newton and

Anne Shave for so ably and sensitively leading the day. We came away feeling spiritually refreshed and with a greater sense of God's constant love and goodness to us.

*The Prayer Ministry Team arranges retreats during the year – the next one is the Advent Retreat on Saturday 28 November.*

Mary Mills



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## What's Coming Up?

### Launch of Stewardship Programme

Today we begin a four week period of encouraging parishioners to prayerfully reconsider their financial giving for the mission and ministry of St Barnabas.

SUNDAY **28**  
JUNE

### St Thomas Day Celebration

All are welcome to join the St Thomas parishioners at the 5pm Evensong service celebrating St Thomas' Day. Stay on for a light meal - Koha.

SUNDAY **5**  
JULY

### Book Fair

Please support our Book Fair fundraiser in the Parish Hall. 9am to 12 noon.

SATURDAY **18**  
JULY

### Pastoral Care Training

All those involved in Pastoral Care Visiting and Home Communion are invited to this training session. Time and place to be advised.

SATURDAY **18**  
JULY

### Elizabeth Braggins

Come and support the second concert in our Winter Series at 3pm in the Parish Hall. Elizabeth Braggins and her piano and vocal performance is a 'must attend' fundraiser. Invite a friend. Tickets \$20

SATURDAY **25**  
JULY

### Thanksgiving Sunday

We give thanks for the results of the Stewardship Programme at all services today remembering that God has given us life and all things as we offer a portion back for the ministry of the Church.

SUNDAY **26**  
JULY

# DIRECTORY

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## MOORING POST DESIGN

Alex Thomson  
Contactable through office  
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# SUNDAY WORSHIP

## ST BARNABAS (in the hall)

- 8.00am *Eucharist*, followed by breakfast (Tui Room)
- 9.00am *Sung Eucharist* followed by morning tea (Tui Room)
- 10.30am Lifestreams *Eucharist* with children's & youth programmes followed by morning tea.  
For All Age services, check online
- 5.00pm 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays – *Evensong*  
2nd Sunday – *Choral Night Prayer*  
4th Sunday – *Eucharist*
- 7.00pm *Antioch* in the hall for students/young adults but all welcome

## MID-WEEK WORSHIP

8.30am Tuesday to Friday – *Morning Prayer*  
Wednesday – *Eucharist* all welcome in the Makora Room or Prayer Room at east end of hall.

10.00am Thursdays – *Eucharist*  
1st Thursday – *Prayer and Healing*

## ALSO OFFERED...

Home Communion:  
Each 2nd & 4th Wednesday in the month.

Communion is also provided at Fendalton Retirement Village fortnightly and St Winifred's & Holly Lea monthly.

## Vestry News

**Financial Report:** The Treasurer reported that offertories were drifting below budget and for the year to May stand at \$150,678 compared to budget of \$163,558. Expenses are being contained although when the roof of the Tui St property is replaced this will represent a major expense.

**Ministry Team Goals:** A template was tabled which will enable the clear reporting of Ministry Team goals. Vestry will receive a progress report using this template three times per year.

**New Parish Database:** Staff have now been trained in the use of the parish database especially around 'People', 'Groups', 'Events' and 'Calendars.' It is clear that the database is a way of coordinating pastoral care which is especially important for a large staff. It will also enable a higher level of accountability among staff. Group leaders in the parish will soon be trained in the use of the database although they will only have limited access.

**CYPSO:** A parishioner has been invited to take on the role of Children and Young Person Safety Officer for the parish. However the guidelines covering this topic published by the Diocese is extensive and there is concern that to do the job well would take many hours per week. The Vicar will ask the Diocese for clarification on the way forward.

**Church Interior Decision Making Process:** A process was adopted to make decisions about the interior layout and functionality of the church. There will be a series of workshops to enable people and groups to express their aspirations for the future use of the interior of the church. This process will take place during July and August.

**Common Life Missions Conference:** Vestry supported the request from the Overseas Missions Team to send two parishioners to the Common Life Missions Conference which is to take place at King's College, Auckland from 6 – 9 October. The theme this year is 'Mission Together' and about 1,000 delegates are expected from many different countries and cultures.

## REGISTER

### BAPTISMS

We welcome into the family of God the following child who has been baptised

June  
26 Alexander James Riley



Visit the St Barnabas Website at  
[www.stbarnabas.org.nz](http://www.stbarnabas.org.nz)



## Contributions to the Mooring Post:

Have you got a story that you want to share with the parish community? Get in touch with our Vicar, Mark, and let him know!

**August articles are due by Friday 10 July**





## Last Month's Messy Church



[Mandycaldwell.co.nz](http://Mandycaldwell.co.nz)

## Children's Ministry at St. Barnabas

**St Barnabas Playgroup:** Creative play for pre-schoolers on Wednesdays from 9.15 – 11.30am in the hall.  
Helen Wakefield 351 3595.

**Mainly Music:** Music and movement for pre-schoolers and their caregivers, Fridays 10 – 10.30am followed by morning tea. Angela Brown 027 335 0105.

**Fridayzone:** Christian after-school club for Primary School children. Fridays 3 – 5.30pm.  
Angela Brown 027 335 0105.

**Kidzone:** Creative Sunday School for children 5 – 13 yrs  
Sundays 10.30am. Angela Brown 027 335 0105.