

THE MOORING POST

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

Covenant – a Model for Human Flourishing

Rationalist David Hines' campaign against Bible in Schools seems to be working. More than 60 schools have dropped the program in the last two years. Hines developed a database on schools and their involvement in religious education and discovered that 578 schools out of 1,800 had Bible in Schools. This has led to widespread questioning in the media over the role of religion in our secular society.

It's my belief that religion not only has a place in the personal lives of citizens but it has a legitimate voice in the public discourse of our nation and community as well – including schools. One of the things I enjoy about being a vicar is that I am a readily identified person of faith who occupies a place in the public life of our community. It's not a place of privilege as was the case in years gone by but rather a place of equality along with those of different faiths or no faith. I try and occupy my place with both confidence and humility.

I also believe that without religion there only exists in Western democracies the social contract – the tacit agreement whereby the individual sacrifices some of their rights to the State in exchange for the protection of their remaining rights. However this can quickly descend into a 'What's in it for me?' attitude where people pay attention to their own needs and give little thought to the common good. We see this in the rise of individualism, the consumer society and in diminishing

rates of volunteering that some community groups report.

By contrast religion fosters the idea of 'covenant' – like the Old Testament covenant between God and Israel and the marriage covenant. A covenant is distinct from a contract in that it is a pledge between people based on loyalty and love rather than a simple, reciprocal exchange. Covenant is about mutual responsibility rather than rights and is active not passive. It is about our identity as a community of persons who have entered into a relationship – not only interested in receiving but also giving and investing in the common good.

The idea of covenant revealed in the Bible and the history of the Christian faith enables people to

be motivated to contribute to the community by loving their neighbour without expectation of gain. And that is the basis of a truly caring society. I rejoice in the positive relationships we have with Christchurch Boys' High, Medbury and the Community Board. It's an example of people of good will working together to create an inclusive, compassionate community.

Let us be a people who confidently own our faith among our family, friends and neighbours and work together to develop our community. The 'contract' is a human approach, but God has given us the 'covenant' as a model for human flourishing.

Mark Chamberlain

Come to Harvest Thanksgiving at St Barnabas Sunday 2 March at all Services



The celebration of the harvest goes back to the time of Moses when God commanded the people to give thanks for the fruit of the land – it was called the Festival of Tabernacles and was a time of music, singing, processions and feasting. On this special day of celebration we also give thanks for the good things we enjoy from God's good creation. Please bring gifts of fresh produce or preserved food which will be donated to the City Mission.

'The Mooring Post' is a phrase from p479 in A New Zealand Prayer Book/I 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.

Explore our website and like us on Facebook – www.stbarnabas.org.nz | www.facebook.com/st.barnabas.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. Becky George 357 1363

Fridayzone: Christian after-school club for children 5 - 10 yrs Fridays 3.30 – 5.30pm.
Angela Brown 027 335 0105

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



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ST BARNABAS' COMMUNITY VAN

Last year after conversations with Maryanne Lomax, Strengthening Communities Adviser at the Fendalton-Waimairi Community Support Unit, a grant was made available to the parish for the purchase of a 12 seat community van for use by parish groups and also by other non-profit organisations in the Fendalton Waimairi Ward.

The van has already been used by our Youth Group, The Selwyn Centre, CAMEO and other community groups. We have received very positive feedback about its comfort, ease of driving and the great help it has been. It's a wonderful way that we can support other groups in our neighbourhood and 'Develop as a compassionate, spiritual centre in our community' which is what our mission statement says.

Although we are still waiting for signage to be painted on to the van, it remains available for day trips for any group which might be needing transport. Please call Kofe Havea or the parish office to make your booking and to discuss the terms and conditions of 'hire'.

Our heartfelt gratitude goes to the Christchurch City Council Fendalton-Waimairi Ward for their support in this and other ventures of our parish.

*Tu'a 'Ofa atu
Kofe Havea*



Rev. Mark and Community Board Chair, Val Carter, sign the Memorandum of Understanding for the parish community van

Youth Ministry at St. Barnabas

Contact Lynda Davies on 351 7064

Youth Group: Christian youth community! Friday nights in the hall. Open to years 7 – 13, from 7 - 9pm

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

DIRECTORY

PARISH OFFICE

Secretary: Marion Cook
8 Tui Street, Christchurch
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MOORING POST DESIGN

Michael Cropp
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michael.cropp@live.com

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 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

8.45am 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

Parish Growth Team: This team met once late last year and is due to meet again in February. They will submit to Vestry a list of recommendations regarding the ways and means whereby we might grow as a parish. This is especially relevant in this 200th anniversary year of the preaching of the gospel in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Valuation Report: Derek Cockburn submitted a valuation report for the parish communion vessels. David Page will work on an inventory of all parish assets, along with indicative values, in the coming months. Graeme Robinson has done valuable work in this area with good photographic records.

Discipleship Plan: The Bishop has declared 2014 to be the 'Year of Discipleship' and asks all parishes to be 'actively engaged in discipleship training and the making of new disciples.' Vestry learned that the Discipleship Team led by Dr Richard Neville have begun work on a year plan for discipleship. This group has met once and will finalise their plans in February. The Lent Bible Study groups and the course 'Christianity Explored' are opportunities for parishioners and new people to come to know Christ and grow in faith as disciples.

Parish Computers: Parish computer operating systems will need to be upgraded from XP to Windows 8 in the near future. The Finance Team will oversee this. There is also the need to upgrade the Parish Administrator's computer as this is an old machine and unacceptably slow.

Leisure Group: This group, which meets weekly in the Tui Room, will continue to be managed by an appointee of the Fendalton-Waimari Community Board.

REGISTER

Baptisms

The Parish welcome into the family of the Church through Baptism:

February

9 Ivana Catherine Preston

Funerals

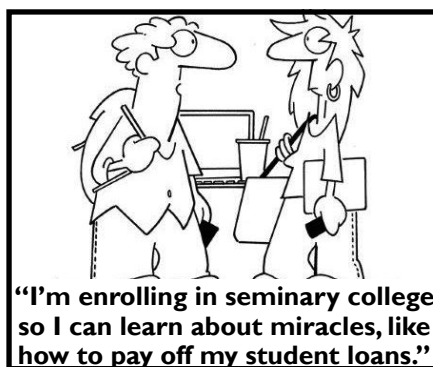
We offer our deepest sympathy to the relatives of those who have died:

December

2 Russell Forrester Wilson
20 Margaret Alice Lindsay

February

8 Margaret Rose O'Brien
21 Dorothy Grace Addison
23 Albert Edward Taylor



We'd love to feature your thoughts, musings, and creativity in the Mooring Post. Contact Rev. Mark for more info.
April articles due by
Friday 14 March

‘Living the Life’ with Sam Knight

Sunday 30 March, 5pm



Step in tonight to hear Rev Sam Knight talk about God’s call to step out into the unknown – what that’s meant for him and his family and how that has shaped his life.

Annual Men’s Dinner



Come and hear Nic Hill – Headmaster of Christchurch Boys’ High School speak about ‘Educating Boys in the 21st Century’ at our Annual Men’s Dinner Tuesday 6 May St Barnabas Hall from 6pm
Cover charge is \$25 which includes refreshments
Tickets are available from the Parish Office.
Enquiries to Philip on 351 7064 or 027 420 3504

FUN IN THE SUN FOR WHOLE COMMUNITY

St Barnabas invites the whole community to share an afternoon of fun together

The smell of fun was in the air; waffles waffling, sausages sizzling, children laughing and people chattering. What a wonderful way to get not just the St Barnabas community but the whole of the wider community together both young and old!

The sunny afternoon contributed to the warmth that was generated by the Kaiapoi Rock’n Roll dancers who not only entertained us with their dancing but they brought their 1950’s classic cars with them. The

Japanese Choir then entertained us with a bracket of songs. This was followed by the very energetic Taiko Drummers – it was both rhythmic and full of theatre!

Our own ‘Barney’s Band’ and ‘Ashley and the Classics’ continued with a great range of music and singing. The old fashioned running races were a great hit particularly with the children, along with the face painting and other activities. The men’s sack race seemed to be especially competitive as was the tug ‘o war!

Our Vicar and Curate Sam bravely faced a barrage of water ballons to finish the day! This was an unexpected initiation by baptism for Sam who was only in his second week!

The committee included Don Mackenzie (Chair), Christine Fokkens, Becky George, Corinne Haines, Peter Hill and Mark

Chamberlain. It was an enthusiastic group who overcame a number of disappointments and obstacles in the planning phase but put together a great afternoon. It was made possible by a \$1,500 grant from the Council.

The work of all the helpers is commended for all the tasks done but an extra big thank you must go to Don. Special thanks to Hilary Muir from the Breeze radio station who kept things moving with her lively commentary. Thanks finally to the Mad Butcher, YMCA and the Christchurch Earthquake Appeal Trust who support the Fun Day in a number of ways.

We are all delighted with the result – a most enjoyable community fun day!

Shirley-Anne Collins



What’s Coming Up?

Harvest Thanksgiving

Please bring gifts of produce to all services this Sunday as we offer our thanks to God for the bounty of our land and sea and the skills we have learned to grow and harvest these resources.

SUNDAY **2**
MARCH

Ash Wednesday – Combined

Join us at 7pm in our parish hall with members of the Holy Trinity Catholic Parish, to mark the beginning of Lent with the Imposition of Ashes. Refreshments to follow as we fellowship with our Catholic neighbours.

WEDNESDAY **5**
MARCH

Parish of Fendalton AGM

7pm, in the parish hall. Documents will be available from the office and on the website. Nomination forms will also be available from the office or in the foyer of the hall for Vestry, Treasurer, and People’s Warden.

WEDNESDAY **12**
MARCH

Lifestreams Women’s Retreat

All Lifestreams’ women are invited to this weekend retreat led by Rev Jan Brodie. It will take place at two houses at Hanmer. To register please obtain a form from the office.
Friday 14 – Sunday 16 March.

FRIDAY **14**
MARCH

Youth Formal Dinner

All young people and their families are invited to our annual Formal Dinner. Please register with Lynda Davies or Jordan van Irsel.

SATURDAY **22**
MARCH

Church Working Bee

Bring your hedge trimmers, shovels, forks and cleaning gear to help tidy up the church groups and clean our parish facilities. Begins at 9am, finishing at 12 noon with a good morning tea!

SATURDAY **5**
APRIL

‘Keep me travelling along with you’

Frieda Looser reflects on the world wide Anglican family

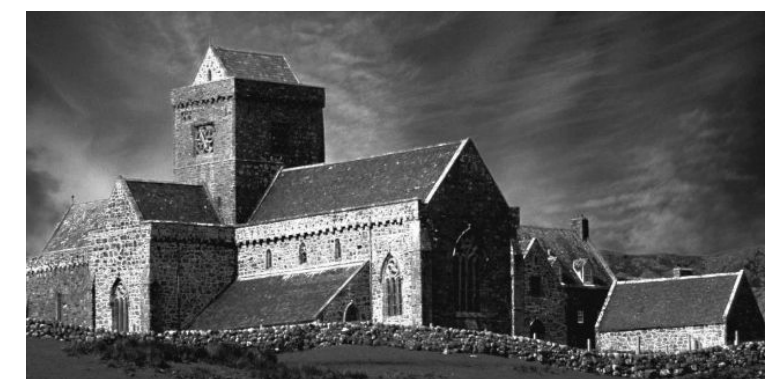
This catchy chorus line from the lively song of praise ‘One more step along the world I go’ by Sydney Carter was so apt when members of my Scotland 2013 history study tour group sang it as the closing hymn in the wee Celtic stone church of St Maelrubha at Poolewe near Ullapool in the western Highlands. St Maelrubha (642-722) was an Irish monk, educated at Bangor, and one of the most important early missionaries to the Picts in Wester Ross. The welcoming notice board identified St Maelrubha’s as ‘Part of the Worldwide Anglican Communion.’

I really appreciate being part of the worldwide Christian Church. I have always loved to travel; I think I have some Viking in my DNA! But there is always a haven of friendship in a Christian community. We sing that we are pilgrims on a journey, that we are there to help each other and share the load. And that is what is available to us all throughout the Anglican Communion and among our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ.

When you travel do you consciously find a local church, attend a service and make yourself known to the welcomers and clergy? As well as spiritual food for the journey, there is the warmth of a local welcome and an appreciation that you have joined their local congregation - the grace from such a visit can last a lifetime.

Another Celtic saint, Columba, founded the abbey on Iona. There was an ecumenical service on 22 September in Iona Abbey for Harvest Festival, attended by a large congregation of locals, tourists and pilgrims and all 14 children who make up Iona School. The sermon message has stayed with me: the letters of HARVEST sadly can also spell STARVE for some in our world. With rearrangement we can make the word SHARE. The words of Sydney Carter’s hymn are singing in my head:

‘As I travel through the bad and good,
Keep me travelling the way I should.
Where I see no way to go,
you’ll be telling me the way, I know.’



Iona Abbey, Isle of Iona, Scotland



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

Afternoon Group

Wednesday 5 March 2pm
Tui Room

Speaker: Rev Alexa Evenden, Chaplain at Christchurch Hospital

Leader: Yvonne Cummins 358 2153

In Betweens' Group

Tuesday 18 March, 7.30pm
St Barnabas' Church Hall

Speaker: Rachael Ensor
'Three Generations in Persia'
Sales Table, all welcome

Leader: Pam Chapman 322 9409

INTRODUCING ELLIOT & LILY

New St Barnabas Parishioners

We are Elliot and Lily, brand new members of Fendalton Parish. We are both from Tianjin, a big city in North China which is very close to Beijing. My Chinese name is Wei Luo and my wife's Chinese name is Rongrong Zhu.

Currently I am studying at the University of Canterbury for my Postgraduate Diploma in Education. Before coming to New Zealand, I had been teaching English in a polytechnic institute for eight years. Prior to that, I spent a year in Scotland studying for my Master's degree and I was also baptized there.



Elliot Luo and Lily Zhu

New Zealand has been attracting us with her purity and peace for a long time. Last year, we finally got a chance to come. We liked Christchurch very much because this city is named after the Lord Jesus our Saviour and the University of Canterbury enjoys great academic reputation.

By God's grace, we came to settle down in Fendalton and God prepared very good neighbours for us – Margaret and Bernard Biddlecombe. Not long after we settled down in Fendalton, Margaret took us to the Wafer Room as helpers. We were so glad for that because Lily's parents are in the service team in the church back in China. Lily grew up in a Christian family and she is the fourth generation Christian now. We were happy that we had opportunities to participate in church work. That's how we came to know St. Barnabas, and we really thank Margaret for that. Then, we came to attend the morning service regularly and appreciate that very much as both of us prefer the service in a traditional approach.

Now we both join the Wafer Room team as a baker and packer. Thanks Charles for that. And I'm in the church choir as well. I truly thank Denis for that. We truly treasure these opportunities of serving God, and the friendly, family-like atmosphere. Rev Mark, Rev Philip, Rev Chris and Marion all give us great support. I hope we can get involved in more duties of serving at St. Barnabas.

We both like travelling around for beautiful sceneries and cultures. Our short trips to Sumner, Akaroa and Diamond Harbour made our holiday colourful and exciting. We once travelled across Europe for our honey moon and went all the way to Scotland for our wedding which was actually held in the same church that I was baptized in years ago.

We truly believe that God has been leading us all the time and what he gives us always exceeds our expectations. A new phase of life has already started here in Christchurch. We hope that we can live and reside here eternally with God's grace.

KEN BOOTH REVIEWS LLOYD'S LATEST BOOK

From the Big Bang to God: Our Awe-Inspiring Journey of Evolution, by Lloyd Geering

I know of few others who continue to publish books well into their 90s. Age has certainly not slowed Lloyd Geering down and several books have appeared in the last few years. That is a somewhat awe-inspiring journey in itself. And the book is a bit of a tour de force. Bringing together his interests in science and religion, Geering sets out to produce an account of the BIG story. The first part of the book sketches what we usually think of as the story of evolution, down to the emergence of humanity. The second part explores the history of our human search for meaning and the place of God in that. Geering writes with his customary facility and ability to communicate clearly. It is an easy read.

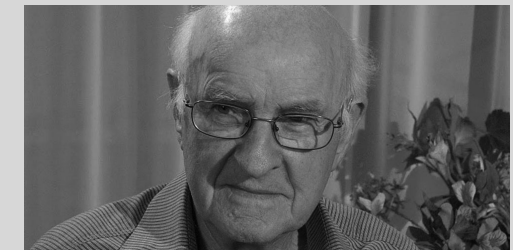
Does the book achieve what Geering sets out to do? The main title is misleading: by the end of the book, God has disappeared from

the story, except as a kind of shorthand for human longings and desires. A more accurate title, though less catchy, would be From the Big Bang to Human Autonomy. In the journey towards human autonomy, Geering covers familiar ground. God is a human construct of our own making, arising from our dreams, aspirations and fears, and must be dethroned as we take responsibility for our situation and our future.

The sub-title raises more serious issues. Geering wants to replace the traditional Christian story of the world, its origin and destiny with the awe-inspiring journey of evolution. Will it serve? Evolution is not a problem even for most Christians. It puts humanity very much in its place as a product of a very long and complex process. It is also clear that we ourselves have shaped the way we talk about God. But will this story address our basic questions

about life?

Religion is about the structures and habits that nurture and sustain what gives meaning to our life. Religion need not have anything to do with church-going. The expression, "Rugby was his religion," conveys correctly the meaning of religion. In that sense, does what Geering offer provide a religion for the future as he claims? Keep that question in mind when you finish the book. Where are the profoundly human needs for forgiveness, reconciliation and the search for true community addressed in this story?



Fundraising Plans for 2014

The Fund Raising Team are planning to organize a number of events this year so that the parish is financially prepared when the church repair project gets the green light. Last year 9 events raised \$53,000 and this year the team hopes for a similar result.

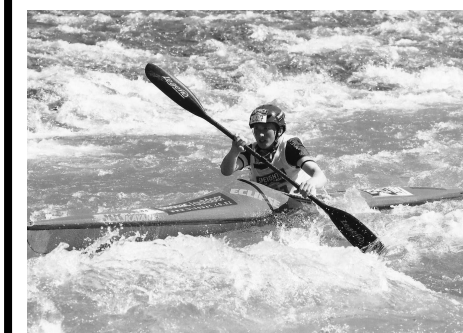
The biggest event will be a Gala Variety Concert which will take place on 28 June in the Medbury Hall. This will include an auction. The Winter Concert Series which proved so popular last year will again feature. The team will also be using the Christchurch Marathon as a sponsored walk or run – parishioners will be invited to enter the 10km, half marathon or full marathon distance – two years ago \$15,000 was raised.

There will also be a major raffle in the second half of the year as well as an Antique Road Show. If you have any fundraising ideas please contact any of the following members of the Fundraising Team; Cam Moore, Sandra Bird, Steve Johnston, Laura Murray and Patsy Wardell.

Anthony Fokkens Completes Coast to Coast!

Anthony, who attends Lifestreams and Antioch, completed his first Speight's Coast to Coast race on Saturday 15 February with a time of 18 hours 31 minutes. Well done Anthony! He finished 45th in his category after running 36 km, biking 140km and kayaking 67km. He's been planning the challenge for 18 months and finished the last 70 km bike leg into Sumner strongly. This is what he said...

'Setting a goal to complete the Coast to Coast was only the start. Accomplishing it was a different story! The year leading up to



the event was huge. Many days training and improving on what I could do better and trying out and experiencing new things. I had many ups and downs as the year passed by but my attitude towards achieving the goal only grew stronger day by day.

'You only fail, when you fail to try' was in my head throughout the year as I knew that now there was nothing stopping me from giving it a crack. I always thought to myself 'Just keep going' as I knew I couldn't stop now and let myself and everyone supporting me down - not to mention all the training I had done. Finishing the race was amazing - nothing felt better - travelling 243km in two days via running, biking and kayaking. What a race! When you think about it, it's actually not that hard when you put one foot in front of the other!'

Well done, Anthony, and good luck for your next effort!

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