

Opportunities for Prayer @ St George's

Prayer Chain: A small number of St George's members have pledged to pray regularly for those that seek support. Requests for prayer are strictly confidential & can be made to David & Lynette Wood. Email: dandlwood@gmail.com or Ph: 021 208 3561

Pre-Service Prayer: Held before the **8.30am and 10.00am** services in the Pastoral Care / Prayer Room. You are welcome to join us. Access is through the back entrance of the main church building, first door on the left.



Blue Christmas



December 13th at 5.30pm



St George's Church Car

Our poor, old church car is coming to the end of its life. We were told that the WOF we got in August will be our last. If anyone has or knows of a vehicle that is for sale, is not too expensive, perhaps can take more than 5 people, so our youth ministry can use it too, we would love to hear from you. We'll consider all options.



Please let the office know, phone 520 5652 or email office@stgeorgesepsom.org.nz **Thank you.**

NZCMS (New Zealand Church Missionary Society)

Next fellowship meeting

Date: Tuesday, 24th November 2020 **Time:** 10am **Venue:** Selwyn Village, Point Chevalier, "Music Room"

Speaker: Judith Looser - NZCMS (Pakistan) **Contact:** Lea Tovey on 528 7773.



Don't forget morning tea in the hall after the 8.30am service and in the church after the 10.15am service today.

Everyone is very welcome.



St. George's Life Groups

St George's has a number of **Life Groups** that operate on a fortnightly basis. These groups focus on pastoral support, spiritual nourishment and getting to know one another better. We are keen for as many people as possible to be a part of a supportive **Life Group**.

Please contact office@stgeorgesepsom.org.nz or speak to Josh after one of the services if you are interested in finding out more about **Life Groups**.

Saturday Morning Prayers

Every Saturday, during term time, a group of people get together to pray for all areas of church life. You are very welcome to join this group at any time.

8am - 9am in the Pastoral Care Room
Enquiries: Malcolm Taylor - 027 499 7749



st George's
EPSOM

STORIES OF

HOPE

"Empowering people to be Christ's followers in the world."

SUNDAY SERVICES, 22 November

8.30am - 10.15am

THEME: "Christ in the Workplace"

SPEAKER: Chris Clarke

WEDNESDAY SERVICE, 25 November

10.00am

Speaker: Judy Carey - "Acts 14"

SUNDAY SERVICES, 29 November

8.30am - 10.15am

Speaker: Rev. Josh Jones "Christ in the Workplace"

**VISITORS ... It's great to have you worshipping with us today.
Do pick up a 'Welcome Pack' on the table at the back of church.
We hope you feel at home here and we look forward to getting to know you.**

REFLECTIONS FROM JOSH JONES

For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, and in Christ you have been brought to fullness Colossians 2-9

In this great swirling sea of uncertainty called the year 2020, one of the most fundamental questions about our human condition, has probably been asked of all of us. **What is our core identity?** Both individually and collectively.

Christian writer the late Henri Nouwen describes the modern identity as based on '5 lies'

- I am what I have
- I am what I do
- I am what other people say or think of me
- I am nothing more than my worst moment
- I am nothing less than my best moment"

These are some of the profound questions a group of men from St George's spent considering together at the Men's Retreat at Vaughan Park Long Bay on Friday night and all day yesterday.

I personally have found it enormously helpful to have spent the last month in personal reflection and prayer to take a 'balcony view' of this past year. A year-long version of the Christian Spiritual practice of the 'Daily Examen' in order to see the work and presence of God in my life and how I aspired to find my identity in Christ when it matters most. As St Paul said to the people of Colossae, the fullness of God lives in Christ and its in Christ that we have been brought to the fullness of our human condition. This is a truth that can feel a little difficult to understand and experience in the daily trials and rigours of life. But isn't this why it's so important that we gather and walk together as a community in Christ. This is a life-long journey and adventure of discovery together.

TODAY, Chris Clarke will continue exploring what it means for us to find our hope in the certainty of our identity in God, through the person of Jesus Christ. Chris will explore all this through the dearly loved words of Psalm 23. The most well-known Psalm in Holy Scripture, often called, The Lord's my Shepherd.

Church Roof Fundraising Appeal

Last weekend at the **Spirituality of Music night**, we raised the awesome total of almost \$1,300 to begin the launch of this crucial and historic project. Please take time today to seek out the one-page statement explaining this project. Thank you so much to everyone who came to last Saturday's celebration of the sacred gift of music. Its was truly an occasion of joy.

St. George's leadership team.

If you would like to make regular donations or a one-off gift to the church, you can do this by completing one of our **"Giving Forms"**.

These forms can be found on the table at the back of the church, from the office or downloaded from our website, www.stgeorgesepsom.org.nz

Please complete this and either drop it into the Sunday Offertory Box at the back of church or post / drop into the office, 9am - 3pm weekdays
(St George's Anglican Church, 15 - 19, Ranfurly Road, Epsom, 1023).

At the end of every financial year a tax receipt is provided via email.

GIVING

- EFTPOS: Terminal is available at the back of the church.
- INTERNET BANKING: Westpac Bank account # 03-0104-0109844-01
- DONATION BOX: At the back of the church.

Those of you studying for exams, we are thinking of you and praying for you, feel free to schedule a study break at youth group time!

Next Friday (27th) is Flashback Friday!

This Sunday we will be checking what Isaiah is about and running through our scene for the Christmas Play, those of you who enjoy acting, speak up, and those of you who are happy to stay in the back ground, that's cool too!

Finally, **Camp Rego** is up on social media and in the **Youth E-bulletin**, sign up now!

Steph, Callum, Ajit and Oscar



Hi families,

The other day I walked into a supermarket in Motueka, and right by the entrance was one of those Father Christmas's with a digital countdown in his tummy giving us how many days there are until Christmas! I confess, I usually 'shhhh' anyone who starts to give me a countdown to Christmas because Christmas is such a crazy, delightful, worshipful, and over-full season!

However, this week in KidsChurch we will be entering into the season! We will be learning a little bit about Isaiah and running through the Shepherd and Angels scene that KidsChurch will be both recording and performing live (as long as things stay calm on the Covid front of course).

See ya soon!

Lynette, Hayley, Steph and the Kids Ministry Team



Please pray for our partners working overseas.

Dee Jones, Zambia, Foundations for Farming - working with SIM, who is at home in NZ for 5 months furlough at the moment

Miriam Tillman, Togo, Africa, Pharmacist, Hospital of Hope Pharmacy, working with CMS

Sarah Scott Webb: Human trafficking and exploitation prevention, SIM Intl./ Communications NZ

Also supporting Alongsiders



Auckland City Mission - Be Someone's Angel this Christmas

St George's are again helping the **Auckland City Mission** to make Christmas special for families in need, by collecting Christmas gifts for the **Auckland Angel appeal**.

If you'd like to be someone's Angel this Christmas, please drop off your donation of a **new, un-wrapped gift at the church office collection point**. All donations will be picked up from **TOMORROW, Monday, 23rd November**.

See our e-news or church notice board for more details.

Thank you for your generous support this Christmas.



St George's Advent Lunch on the Lawn and a Huge Thank You to Everyone!

Save the date! Sunday, 29th November at 11.45am

We would like to invite you all to the start of **Advent** with lunch on the lawn, which we are combining with our annual **Thank You** event this year.

This year we'd like to thank everyone, not just all our wonderful volunteers, but everyone for your continued support throughout this extraordinarily difficult year.

We appreciate everyone in our St George's community and would like to show that with a gathered lunch.

There will be a pizza truck, with strawberries and cream to finish for all. **Just bring yourselves and enjoy being together.**

We look forward to seeing you there!

