

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.

Kiwi Pilgrimages Timetable 2021

Upcoming events:

Friday, 26 March 2021 - Destination: The Chelsea, St Peter's Chapel at Beach Haven on the North Shore. Leaves St George's at 8.00am and returns approx. 5.30pm



Saturday, 17 April 2021 - Endurance or Muscular Christianity - Destination: The Selwyn Monument at Bombay. Leaves St George's at 6.00am and returns approx. 9.00pm. Dinner and return transport is organised for you.

More information about these pilgrimages is on the church website under Kiwi Pilgrimages.



To register a place, please email Greg Smith at gregskelbrooke@gmail.com or phone Brian Perkins on 636 3259.

Walking notes will be sent prior to the date to those who have registered.

Northern Bound Pilgrimage

Matapouri to Whananaki

Friday, 23rd – Sunday, 25th April 2021

The northern pilgrimages are now made up of a couple days walking using the Te Araroa (long pathway) trail to journey toward our destination, Rangihoua. Our next pilgrimage north will have some more beautiful northern beaches to enjoy as we head from Matapouri to Whananaki.

We will stay the two nights, Friday, 23rd and Saturday, 24th April in the comfortable motels at Whananaki Holiday Park. We'll have plenty of time to get to know the history of the local peoples as we continue to walk both the off road coastal tracks and the Te Araroa trail.



If you're interested in joining this leg of the journey we can provide you with more detailed information, please email Sarah sarah.laurie56@icloud.com or Fiona fee.mccauley@gmail.com

ROSTERS

Thank you everyone who offers help every month with our rosters. New rosters are now at the back of church for you to amend or update. If you are new to the church and wanting to help please add your name and contact Leanne in the office, leannes@stgeorgesepsom.org.nz, training can be provided if needed.

We greatly appreciate any assistance you can offer.

thank you

St. George's E-News

We send out a weekly **E-News** which provides info on up-coming events, community life and ways to get involved at St George's. If you haven't received it in your in-box, check your spam / promotions mail folder.

If you are not receiving it at all and would like to, please sign up on our website.

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



THE JOURNEY OF LENT

St George's EPSOM



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

SUNDAY SERVICES, 21 March

8.30am - 10.15am

THEME: "The Problem of Poverty"

SPEAKER: Dee Jones

READINGS: Deuteronomy 15:1-11; 1 John 3:17-18; Matthew 26:6-13

VERSE OF THE DAY: Proverbs 19:17 "Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the LORD and will be repaid in full."

WEDNESDAY SERVICE, 24 March

10.00am

Speaker: Warren Brookbanks

"The New and Living Way - Bringing Sin Into The Light."

PALM SUNDAY SERVICES, 28 March

8.30am - 10.15am

Speaker: Chris Clarke - "The Season of Lent"

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

Today we are especially delighted to welcome our Mission partner to Zambia, Dee Jones. Many of you will know Dee, who is a long-time member of our community, and some of you will not as she returns to NZ every couple of years for a well-earned sabbatical. Hearing from Dee is always an inspiring and challenging joy, so we look forward to Dee's contribution to our Lent season and journey to the foot of the Cross.

Lent Re-Cap - Given the interrupted nature of our Lent series, we thought it might be helpful to capture some of the core area's covered, as we've entered this Lenten time of self-examination through grace.

On **Ash Wednesday** I began the journey with King David's great Ash Wednesday prayer ... "**Create in me a clean heart O God**". Lent is a time to allow the Spirit to 'search much deeper within' so that we can deepen the meaning and the value of our Christian lives. Cleanse me, to restore me O God. We fast, in order, to understand more fully the value of the feast.

Week 1 - Rev Lyndon Drake, Archdeacon of Tāmaki Makaurau, painted a picture of repentance, of what it looks like to turn from sin and find reconciliation with God and others through stories of repentance and reconciliation in this land.

Week 2 - My turn to explore how Jesus' teaching, life and death holds up a mirror to us and invites us to truly know ourselves for a Christ-shaped life. In the spirit of humility "look with sober judgement" to see more clearly the logs in our own eyes and allow the power of prayer to begin changing us from the inside out.

Week 3 - Steph explored Jesus' anger at the injustices at the Temple, giving us a window into the nature of God. It was both a challenge and an invitation to face the consequences of our own actions (or inactions) head-on, but also how the consequences of Jesus' actions on the cross invite us into a deep and complete forgiveness, while also challenging our sense of comfortable acceptance of the things that anger Jesus.

Last week, Jeremy explored the nature of 'sin' and the core spiritual practice of 'confession' as a doorway to healing. A reminder that in both Hebrew and Greek the word for sin often carries a sense of '**missing the mark**' of God's way and truth as revealed in Christ. Jeremy also gave us the insightful and helpful quote from Cornelius Plantinga: "**sin is a culpable disturbance of shalom** (peace, wholeness, wellbeing) and a resistance to divine restoration of that harmony." A disruption between us and God, each other, creation and also within ourselves. The practice of confession, especially within a safe and trusted relationship, is a powerful way to bring something into the light and begin the process of healing.

Josh and the 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.



Kids Church and Youth on Sundays will meet today in our usual places. Kids Church will be finishing off their rainbow in time for our Palm Sunday celebrations on the 28th!

See you later!
Step, Callum & the KidsChurch Team

Please pray for our partners working overseas.

Dee Jones, Zambia, Foundations for Farming - working with SIM, who is at home on furlough for 5 months and will be here speaking **TODAY!**.

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**



**Resurrection
Lunch on the Lawn
Sunday, 11th April from 11.45am**

We've booked the pizza oven again.
Everyone is very welcome!

Palm Sunday, 28th March

Do you have, or do you know someone who has palms in their garden that they might be happy to donate to the church so we can decorate for Palm Sunday?

If you do, please let Lisa in the office know,
office@stgeorgesepsom.org.nz

Thank you so much!



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.



Hope Project – The Big Idea

The **Hope Project** is seeking to bring an awareness of Christ back to the public square. The strategic suggestion is THREE annual media efforts.

Public perspectives affect the tone of EVERY conversation the Christian community engages in this nation. The value of engaging with those perspectives cannot be underestimated.

Hope Project Easter – putting Christ back into Easter.

Homes in the Epsom area (930) will receive a small booklet called '**Hope for All**', they can read about Raki's story, also about two Ngati Ruanui men and Mandy's story.

If you'd like to know more, or you'd like to help with the distribution of the booklets, please call Malcolm Taylor on 027 499 7749. **Thank you.**

