

CHURCH CALENDAR 16 - 22 DECEMBER

Monday	
10:00 am	Seedpods (Downstairs)
10:00 am	Study Group (Lounge)
7:00 pm	ESOL for Migrants (Lounge)
Tuesday	
9.30 am	Women in the Word Study Group (15a Selwyn St)
6:00 pm	DBX (Hall)
Wednesday	
7.00 am	Prayer Meeting (Lounge-Lemon St entrance)
7:30 pm	Music Practice
7:30 pm	Barnes Home Group (752 2126)
7:30 pm	Williams Home Group 758 3861)
Thursday	
7:30 pm	Thursday evening service (Lounge)
Friday	
1.15 pm	Mum's in Prayer
Saturday	
Sunday	
9.00 am	Pre Service Prayer (Prayer Room)
9.30 am	Family Service
6:00 pm	Encore Sermon (Lounge)

Today:

Crèche: B West & R Hale

Next Week:

Morning Tea: S Knowles & Volunteer

Crèche: P Graham & N Hansen

Pastoral Prayer: A Hewlett

Oasis: T Gibbons

Main Door: G & J Harding

Inclusion: J Dunlop



CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH

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Dennis Westbury - Children's Worker Ph: 758 6512

Administration:

Karen Pullein (Office hours - 9 am-1pm daily)

Prayer Chain:

Margaret Collins (Co-ordinator) Ph: 758 2777

Mavis Easton Ph: 753 6493

Pastoral Care:

Janet Dunlop Ph: 758 9309

New life in christ
Planted in the community
Continuing to grow
Becoming equipped
Commissioned to go
with christ
growing & going together



*For
unto us
a child is born
unto us
a son is given*



Welcome to Worship

15 December 2013

Today at NPCBC

9.30 am Family Service (children presentation, baptism & special morning tea)

6:00 pm No Encore Service this week in favour of Christmas Variety Evening @ the Bowl

Prayer Ministry: If you would like someone to talk or pray with you after the service please come to the front and someone will meet with you.



**December Duty Elder
Anne Knox**

Thursday at NPCBC

7:00 pm Evening Service (Lounge 2)



Tel: 758 6512

Martien's Musings

Good morning to you all. This morning we are privileged to witness the Baptisms of Julie Cannon and Wayne Gibbons. The Lord bless you both in

taking this step in honouring Him. Welcome to all family and friends here to witness this event. To help you get your head around what this all means I have copied in the notes from our baptism materials. There are four key concepts in baptism.

1. Cleansing from sin: The rite is about washing away your sins. (See Acts 22:16) As Christians we do not believe the actual water does this, rather baptism is a sign. (Titus 3:5). In fact in the early church they symbolised this by having the baptismal candidate put off their old used clothes before going into the water (yes naked!) then after the act of baptism they were clothed in new clean clothes. Fortunately for our modern modesty we are strong on symbolism only and do not ask for nakedness !!!!
2. We are baptised into Christ: This means we are symbolically united with the death of Christ (going into the water) and the resurrection of Christ (coming up again). These following phrases point to the depth of this symbolism. Read **Romans 6:3-4** and **Colossians 2:12** for this picture

Dying → Rising (resurrection)

Dying to self → Rising to Christ

Old creation → New creation

Born of the flesh → Born again of the Spirit

Death → Eternal Life

However we note that while baptism is highly symbolic it is not without reality. What Christ is asking of us is that we internalise the symbolism and build our lives on the principles.

1. The Gift of the Holy Spirit: Just as Jesus was filled with the Holy Spirit at his baptism so baptism in Jesus name is associated with receiving the Holy Spirit. John the Baptist anticipated this, (Matthew 3:11), Peter promised it at Pentecost along with forgiveness of sin. (Acts 2:38. See also Acts 8:14-17, 10:44-48, 19:1-7). In fact the Holy Spirit is the one who baptises us into the church (see next) Read (1 Cor 12:13)
2. We are baptised into the church: Believers all around the world, and ever since Jesus walked on the earth, have been baptised expressing to family and friends that they have been joined with Christ and his Church. Baptism is in fact your statement that you have joined the church. In effect "a new beginning of a new belonging." In

Martien's Musings Continued.....

many other countries where other faiths are more prominent (e.g. Islam, Hindu etc.) to 'say' you are a Christian is not that significant, baptism is the statement that is really believed and may cost you family, friends, jobs and even your life. Because you are baptised into the church baptism is carried out in the presence of church members who will welcome you, and in public before others as a statement of confession and commitment.

We welcome any inquiry or desire for further explanation regarding baptism.

Grace and peace
Martien

Church Life

Faith@Home <http://npcbcfaithathome.blogspot.co.nz/>

Christmas Variety Evening @ the Bowl: Tonight at 8 pm at the Bowl of Brooklands.

Carols in the Hospital: Thursday 19th at 7pm. Gather in the Hospital Main Entrance Foyer at 6:45 pm.

Nativity Play at the St Mary's Peace Hall: Friday 20th December at 5 pm. To attend you will require a (free) ticket as seats are limited. See Janet Dunlop by 15 December if you would like a ticket. We'll leave NPCBC at 4.45 pm sharp—after the play we'll share pizza together back at the church for dinner. \$5.00 per person for pizza payable on the evening. No RSVP needed for tea.

2013 Christmas Services:

Tuesday 24 December: Christmas Eve Service; join with us at City West Church, 6:30pm. Car pooling from Central, leaving at 6 pm.
Wednesday 25 December: 10 - 11 am Celebration Service here at Central. Bring your family and friends.

School of Healing: John & Bron Fergusson will be ministering here at NPCBC on Friday evening 3 January 7 — 9.30 pm and Saturday 4 January 9 am — 4.30 pm. If you would like to learn and grow in the area of healing ministry you are welcome to join us. The cost is \$10 to cover refreshments; bring your own lunch. R.S.V.P. to Martien on 021 443 810 or email martienk@xtra.co.nz

Other matters & events.....

NewWine Summer Festivals: "Made For More" Register now for a New Wine 2014 Festival, Warkworth 8-12 January and Waikanae 16-20 January. There is something for all ages from wee tots, through the school years to youth and **adult time!** This is a wonderful opportunity for special time with your own family, church family and for personal growth. The folk who went to the 2013 couldn't recommend it more highly. Register at newwine.org.nz or 0800 NEW WINE (639 9463).

Get ready for a legit weekend of music, fun and **GOD!!** Hayley is receiving expressions of interest from Youth who may wish to attend Parachute Festival with a group from NPCBC, so if that's you, contact her on 0223508143. For the artist and speaker line up, tickets and other information go to www.parachutefestival.com

Membership: Mark and Jo Dowle have put their names forward to become members.

Recently Arrived: Beside the book library there are some recent brochures from several organisations. If any of these interest you, help yourself to the resources:

- ✓ Carey College and Laidlaw College prospectuses (distance learning guides)
- ✓ OMF international prayer diary
- ✓ Recent Word For Today



Bible Thought:

I am the Lord your God Who directs you in the way you should go. Isaiah 48:17 NIV

The life of the believer is a conducted tour. God is a skilled guide. He is leading us not only to heaven but to the goal of a Christ like character. Therefore He chooses the way with great wisdom. Our part is to follow.