



with Christ
growing & going together

Church Office: 758 6512

NPCBC

New Plymouth Central Baptist Church

14 FEBRUARY 2016

Welcome to Worship

Services at Central Baptist are held on:
Sunday's at 9.30 a.m.

Thursday's at 7.30 p.m. (in the Lounge via Lemon St)

Prayer Meeting

Sunday's at 7.30 p.m. (in the Lounge via Lemon St entrance)

Duty Elder & Staff

Duty Elder

Fiona Cayzer
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0211709009

Senior Pastor

Martien
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021 443810

Associate Pastor

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Youth Pastor

Hayley Kirkland
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*The name of the LORD
is a fortified tower; the
righteous run to it and
are safe.*

Proverbs 18:10



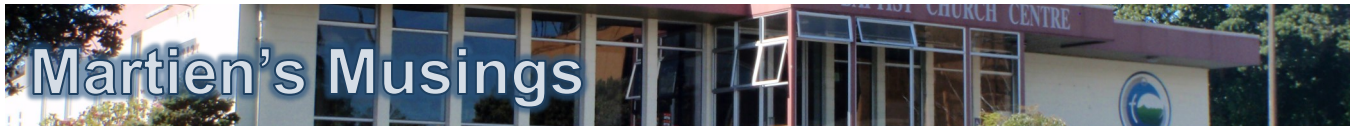
A fellowship of the family of God in New Plymouth

Today

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.

Prayer Chain

For urgent prayer requests please phone Margaret Collins on 758 2777 or Mavis Easton on 7536493



This last week was Marriage week, acknowledged in 30 countries but not acknowledged with too much noise because it gets complicated these days with new versions of marriage being offered and supported in our society. However, regardless of what the world may say, your marriage, should you be married, is an important relationship.

There's no such thing of course as the perfect marriage. For the simple reason that at least one of the partners is not perfect - usually the other partner, right? Every marriage can be improved. Sustaining a healthy marriage is a skill that can be learned. We can learn how to become good partners. Forgiveness, communication, transparency, time spent together, sharing common interests, recalling what made us fall in love with each other in the first place – these are some of the skills we can all learn and practice. At the home improvement store every weekend you can watch couples purchasing expensive items to improve their homes. How much do these couples spend on improving their marriages? How much have you spent on improving your marriage? Perhaps we should do 'marriage-maintenance' just as we do maintenance on our homes and cars? Can I recommend the Alpha Marriage course coming up later this year, commencing 9th May. It's not a huge investment in time or even money but it brings valuable reflection and ideas for building strength into marriage. A good maintenance check.

All the same time we need to be careful about the signals the world around sends us about marriage. On the one hand society tells us that the institution of marriage is not so important and easily dispensed with, or modified. Many disregard it as a useful institution even when the alternate structures they offer are statistically worse in outcomes. On the other hand the world has developed a mystique about the "soulmate" version of marriage. The central longing of every chick flick movie. Here the ideal person, who meets all our needs at every level, exists out there somewhere. This one replaces all other contenders and when we have him / her we have no need of anyone else. Good luck if one person in the marriage meets all those credentials, truly astonishing if both did for each other.

We were not created that way nor did God purpose it that way. The end result of the soulmate formula is firstly; that it becomes impossible to meet "Mr Right" or "Mrs Right" if you are single because they probably don't exist. Secondly; it sets up unrealistic tensions through expectations of each other within marriages that simply cannot be met. This person I am married to "has to", "must", "is expected to" fully meet my every need (and of course I have to meet theirs) socially, intellectually and emotionally. Interestingly, the only biblical expectation for exclusivity to the actual marriage is physical intimacy and sexual connection. For all other aspects of life we dwell in larger communities of people such as extended family or clan in the Old Testament and this new family, the *ekklesia* (church) of Christ in the New Testament. Thirdly; if it were possible and commonly achievable that couples were everything to each other, they would become isolated (and lonely) units in society, hardly reflecting the community that God calls us to be. It would be just another form of individualism.

In this marriage week and in the midst of the fluff of Valentine's Day consider booking yourselves in for a marriage maintenance check, perhaps even a marriage WoF.

Martien



Church Calendar

8 - 14 February

Monday

10:00 am Seedpods (in the Hall)
7:00 pm Williams Home Group-
7583861

Tuesday

9:30 am Women in the Word (Lounge)
7:30 pm Siraa Home Group
Fortnightly-753 9878

Wednesday

10:00 am International Group (Lounge)
12:30 pm Intercessors Gathering (Lounge)
7:30 pm Prestidge Home Group
Fortnightly-7510711
7:30 pm Kelderman Home Group
Fortnightly-021443810
7:30 pm Men's Study for Life Group
Fortnightly-021443810

Thursday

7:30 pm Thursday Service (Lounge via
Lemon St)

Friday

10:00 am mainly music
7:15 pm Youth Group (All Complex)

Saturday

Sunday's

9:30 am Family Service
2:00 pm Jesus is Lord Church
Service (Auditorium)
2:00 pm Chinese Fellowship Service
(Lounge)
5:30 pm CCC meetings 7th & 21st
January (Lounge)
7:30 pm Call to Prayer (Lounge via
Lemon St)

Today!

Today is Pastor Paul Chan's (of Holy Word Fellowship and of our fellowship at Central Baptist) last Sunday with us as he leaves to take up the Senior Pastor position at Holy Word Church in Auckland. Paul it has been a pleasure to get to know you and have you part of our fellowship. We pray for the Lord's blessing on you in your new position.

CAP Money Course

The first CAP Money Course for 2016 begins on Tuesday 23rd of February. Speak with Peter Cayzer or Sara Knowles for information or to register your interest.

Men's Camp

6pm Friday 19 February to 2pm Sunday 21st February. Men's camp is all about getting together with a group of men and boys to share life together, reminding us that none of us is meant to do life on our own. Registration forms from Peter Cayzer or the office. Registrations close 7th February.

School of Spiritual Warfare

With David and Greta Peters to be held on Friday evening 26th February and all day Saturday 27th February. Cost: Adult \$30, Married Couple \$55, Student \$20. To register contact Karen, phone 758 6512.

CWCI-KYB Summer re-Treat 2016

Speaker—Lisa Watson, Australia

Who cares? Lisa was born in New York, USA, now living in Australia with her husband Roy. Along with her own battle with cancer, Lisa has worked in the Celebrate Recovery programme ministering to those struggling with addictions, abuse and unresolved challenges in their lives. Lisa's delight is to share the life-giving message of God's love.

Monday 29 February at 7 p.m. at the Bible Chapel, Vivian St. Cost \$15 - Coffee & Desert
Contact: Miriam Ph: 758 0935

Theology Group

This new study group begins on Monday 29th February, 7 p.m. in the church lounge (access via Lemon St). The frequency and days the group meets will vary and be determined by the group as suits. If you intend coming please have made a start reading "From Eternity to Here" by Frank Viola, this and the scriptures will be the subject of the study. The book can be obtained through the Good News Centre.



A reminder to all women that the Women in the Word study group has begun meeting again. All women are welcome; Tuesday mornings at 9.30 a.m. in the church lounge.

A Word of Encouragement

He sits enthroned above the circle of the earth, and its people are like grasshoppers. Isaiah 40:22 NIV

Such a grand concept of God is more intelligible now than in Isaiah's day. With a God Who sees and controls the whole universe, why should His people fear what any other power can do to them?

Prayer Points

- Pray for those amongst us who are facing serious health challenges. Pray for Hayley, for baby Samuel (Murray and Margaret's grandchild) Natasha (Ken and Marlene's daughter), Gary (close friend of Anna) Norma, all of whom have been or are in hospital in the last week. Seek the Lord who is our healer on their behalf. Let us in prayer change the atmosphere on health.
- Pray for the men's camp coming up next weekend. Pray for good fellowship and friendship, pray for Christ to be present with the guys as indeed we seek His manifest presence for those who remain here in town.
- Continue to pray for the financial and personnel resourcing of the churches ministries. Financially we are on breakeven on our very tight budget expression for which we thank the Lord. We now seek His provision for our ministry aspirations. Pray to know what part you might play in this.

Rosters

February 21st

Creche: P Jaques & D Gane
Tadpoles: D McCall
Oasis: S Rajasingh
Morning Tea: S Knowles & M Williams
Main Door: I McKillop & J Johnston
Inclusion: J Barnes
Offering: I McKillop, R Allen,
A Gilmour, P Richards,
J Vickers & K Gilmour

February 28th

Creche: D Knight & Volunteer
Tadpoles: T Welsh
Oasis: S Knowles
Morning Tea: L & D Winters
Main Door: M Oliver & K Whittaker
Inclusion: J Harding
Offering: M Oliver, T Anjaiya-Winder
P Jaques, K Whittaker,
G Sherwood, D Judson

Contact Us

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