



For  
to see a

child  
is born,

to us a

**SON**

is given...

And he

will be called

Wonderful

Counselor,

Mighty

God,

Everlasting

Father,

Prince of

Peace.

**December**

**@ ALC**



# ---- Pastor's Comment ---

## Kia Ora Church

*The thief comes only to steal, kill and destroy. Jesus came that you may have **life** and that you may have it **more abundantly**. John 10:10*

There are times when what we believe isn't being demonstrated freely in and through our lives. We all have the gift of **faith** to move mountains but at the same time we battle with **unbelief**. At this time God is exposing and healing areas in our lives that would restrict us for in season ahead. Remember, as we respond to God, our past does not define our future. There are **limitless possibilities** ahead as we align with God's plans for us as individuals, as a church and as a city.

Tim Jensen (25<sup>th</sup> Nov) reminded us that we are **seated** in heavenly places, **walking** worthy of our calling and **maintaining our stance of victory** over the enemy. (Ephesians 6:13)

Our ability to stand depends on our **relationship with God**. It is our responsibility to **sustain connection**, receiving the refreshing of God through His Word. Out of a place of thanksgiving, meditating on and aligning with the Truth, we maintain a Biblical perspective regardless of what is happening around us. We **chose to stand**, dealing with the "little foxes and giants", temptations and distractions, and joyfully walk the "**narrow way**" led by Him. (Matthew 7:14)

Our ability to stand also depends on our **relationships with one another**. Femi Oni (4th Nov) asked the question "Who are the people we have in our lives?" Ones we are accountable to, friends alongside and ones we are helping to grow into maturity. Unity establishes and strengthens us as the Body of Christ. How special it was to witness the Anglican Church apologise to local iwi over land issues. We believe this is a significant step towards revival for our city. (Psalm 133:1,3b)

The Christmas season is a wonderful time of celebrating God's gift of love expressed to the world, through the birth of His Son, Jesus. It is a time when many get together with family and friends to celebrate Christ and enjoy our beautiful Bay of Plenty weather. For many this is a time of tremendous blessing, but for some it can be a very lonely time. Let us be aware of ones around us living on their own, those who are sick –neighbours, friends, church family members. We have been blessed to share the blessing of Christmas with all we have contact with... '**Jesus with skin on**'!

Join us as we deliver Christmas fruit mince pies to our **ALC neighbours** on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December, and on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> December sing carols at Bayview Care (Melrose). How special it is to bless our neighbours in these ways. 😊 😊

This year, ALC **Christmas service** is on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> December. On Christmas Day Tim and Sue Jensen are opening their home for a **shared lunch**. Email ALC office if you would like to join them. We also look forward to Colleen Doyle sharing with us on 30<sup>th</sup> December, and Jon and Maria Cullen on 6<sup>th</sup> January.

May each one of you have a safe, relaxed December –January. Keep in touch with your Life Group and others, alert to Holy Spirit inspired opportunities and quick to testify to the goodness of our wonderful God.

Arohanui

Lorraine 😊 😊



A special welcome to our visitors today!  
We trust that you feel at home with us as we worship God together.  
It is a pleasure to have you join with us!



## **Today**

9:00am Prayer Meeting  
10:00am **MIKE CULLEN**  
10:45am Kidz Rock

2:00pm **MegaLife**

## **This Week**

**Tuesday**  
KOYF  
Bible Survey

**Friday**  
Youth

## **Meetings in December**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Mike Cullen**  
**MegaLife**

**9<sup>th</sup> Children & Youth**  
**MegaLife**

**16<sup>th</sup> Steve Stock**  
**MegaLife Christmas Service**

**23<sup>rd</sup> Tim Jensen**  
**Christmas Service**

**30<sup>th</sup> Colleen Doyle**



## **Coming Up**

**4<sup>th</sup> Dec** Tuesday weekly KOYF **12:00pm**  
Balance exercise

**6<sup>th</sup> Dec** Thursday 65+ Club **10:00am**  
Christmas celebration

Thursday 2 weekly Young Adults **7:00pm**

**7<sup>th</sup> Dec** Friday weekly Youth **6:30pm**

**13<sup>th</sup> Dec** Thursday CM EOY **6:00pm**

**14<sup>th</sup> Dec** Friday last Youth **6:30pm**

**23<sup>rd</sup> Dec** Sunday Christmas Service **10:00am**

## **2019**

**6<sup>th</sup> Jan** Sunday Service Jon Cullen **10:00am**

**13<sup>th</sup> Jan** Sunday Church Picnic **12:00pm**

**15<sup>th</sup> Jan** Tuesday weekly KOYF **12:00pm**  
Balance exercise

**18<sup>th</sup> Jan** Friday Trustees/MTeam New Year

**29<sup>th</sup> Jan** Tuesday Word of Life **7:30pm**

**12<sup>th</sup> Feb** Tuesday mainly music **10:00am**

**14<sup>th</sup> Feb** Thursday 65+ Club **10:00am**

## MISSIONS GIVING

	Received	Outgoings
Marine Reach - Hosking	\$0	\$250
YWAM - Cole	\$0	\$250
Africa – Joshua Foundation	\$1140	\$1140
Peru – Arevalo	\$0	\$500 Dec
Nasik - Sunil	\$0	\$500 Dec
Philippines - Hands of Hope	\$0	\$500 Dec

We encourage targeted financial giving for these missions. Presently, most missions support is sent from our general giving.

Please **specify mission** on the tithe envelope or reference for online banking – (mission and tithe number - e.g. “Nasik 1206”)

Account: Abundant Life Church 06 0491 0011061 02  
Please pay mission **IOU's** into the 02 account.

**Give generously – Sow into the Kingdom – Reap a Harvest**



## **The Key to Abundance & Financial Blessing**

As a church we believe wholeheartedly in the biblical principle of tithing. We have a box for Tithes and Offerings situated on the wall by the crèche room. Remember to write your tithe number on the envelope provided. Tithe and AP forms are also available.

Our bank details: Tauranga Abundant Life Church

Tithes, course fees etc                      06 0491 0011061 00

Missions, mission IOU's                      06 0491 0011061 02

IS54 Building Fund                              06 0491 0011061 25

**IS54 giving for November \$26,604.00**

## ROSTERS

### **FACILITATORS**

**2 Dec**

Ross & Niki Nicol

**9 Dec**

Ian & Julie Kelly

**16 Dec**

Terry & Karen Wills

**23 Dec**

Rob Oversluizen &  
Lynn Henderson

### **KITCHEN**

**2 Dec**

Pat & Raylene Newson

**9 Dec**

Peter & Trish Nixon

**16 Dec**

Robyn Gulliver &  
Miriam Morgan

**23 Dec**

Sue Jensen &  
Grant Smith



### **KIDZ ROCK**

**2 Dec**

Leanne – Elaina

**9 Dec**

Presentation to church

**16 Dec**

In Church

**23 Dec**

Holiday Packs in Church

### **NURSERY**

Tiffany Limmer

# Social Concern

Hello Everyone

What an interesting year. God is on the move and yet there seems to be so much going on both good and bad. I have seen lives changed in so many areas. Healings, freedom and big changes are all good. Our oldest grandson has left school and goes out into the world. Our oldest granddaughter gave her heart to the Lord. God is gracious and good. No matter how the world seems God is still in charge and He reigns. May He reign in your heart and be at the centre of all you do this Christmas.

God bless you. Ian Carter

There is much discussion these days about the use of plastic shopping bags. There are many plastic items in use today; tools, implements, and children's toys. I imagine the difference is that these can be melted down and the plastic re-used, for concrete fill etc., but one use plastic bags are a convenience, and get disposed of conveniently. This is not new. In 1974, when travelling overseas on a passenger ship, I saw kitchen waste thrown into the sea in plastic bags. Today there is more awareness. There is a strong "Green" influence in parliament. Some say these people are fanatical. I don't believe that God will allow this world, His creation, to be irreparably damaged, and perhaps He will use these people to bring change. Have a blessed festive season.

Robert W.

I am very grateful to Robert Watson and Ian Carter for sharing this monthly article. They are both excellent writers, and their comments and perspectives on the world around us are challenging and often very thought provoking. It is a blessing to have them both on board.

Some months ago I was given an email to read from Francis Frangipani. It was titled "Angry, Angry, Angry" and it gave a sound view of where our world is today, and the decaying condition of our society. It went on to address the response that must come from the Christian community if we are to see our cities renewed.

We often feel disappointed, offended, stunned and outraged, when we witness things like the passing of a corrupt law, gang violence breaking out, public figures being scandalised... Where once our Christian hearts were full of faith and love, we can easily become bitter, full of hatred, malice and unbelief. Francis went on to say...

"Should we be angry about what's wrong? Yes, but we must be Christlike in making things right. We cannot just be political, we must be spiritual. To see our nation transformed, we must first be transformed. We cannot become those whose hearts are given over to anger.

Let us consider what Jesus commanded; You have heard it said "you shall love your neighbour and hate your enemy, but I say unto you, LOVE your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in Heaven. Matthew 5;43-45."

Take the joy of this Christmas season where ever you go. Remember YOU are blessed to be a blessing.

See you in 2019

Blessings Barbie



# ALC Christmas Carols At Bayview Care

(Formerly Melrose)

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> December**

Meet in the carpark at **5:50pm**

Wear any Christmas apparel, bring your singing voice  
and come spread the good cheer of Christmas!



THANK  
YOU



A big **THANK YOU** to all who have served on the Kitchen & Office Cleaning rosters over the last year, you have done a wonderful job. As you have blessed the church family, may the Lord bless you and your families especially over this Christmas / New Year season. May He reveal His greatness to you in new ways and refresh you for the coming year.

**A big thank-you** to our Life Group Leaders & Pastoral Care Team for 2018! Please continue to pray for and show appreciation to this dedicated team who devote many hours to serving us.

If you have any urgent concerns while the office is closed contact your Life Group leader

May God bless you abundantly and keep you and your family safe over the next two months when many of you will have holidays. Enjoy the summer!



♥♥ *Lorraine*

*Tim & Sue*

## PRAYER MEETINGS

Morning Prayer Tuesdays @ 6:30am - 7:30am

Intercessors Wednesdays @ 10am - 12noon

These Prayer Meetings will continue  
through until 19th December 2018  
and restart on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019



# WORD OF LIFE

*Bible & Discipleship Training Course*



Starts: **Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2018**

**7:30 pm**

Brochures and registration forms available at notice board  
Registrations to ALC office

## Church Picnic

***Sunday 13th Jan***

***12:00pm***

***At ALC***



*Sausages, bread & sauce supplied*

***B.Y.O.*** *Sunscreen, hat, chairs/blanket,  
salad, dessert, cutlery, plates etc.*

**Come have some fun and fellowship in the sun!**



# SOZO Testimony

Spiritually I feel so much lighter, things have been calmer and I definitely feel closer to Jesus, my son has not mentioned bad dreams or “eyes” outside so that is amazing! I feel the ties between me and my abusive ex-partner have been severed and that is just the most amazing feeling! I would recommend sozo to anyone who needed healing in any aspect of their life and to become closer to god. My first physio back the week after our session I had so much more movement in my neck and back that they were shocked in the difference and now I have gone from 2 to 1 appointments a week and may be able to stop soon :) I feel a lot more piece in my life and feel I can talk to god and hear him more, more in my life and that’s amazing! Thank you so much for helping me on my journey.

To book a sozo session or to find out more information please contact:

ALC Sozo Team on 022 3002032 or

Email: [sozo@abundantlife.org.nz](mailto:sozo@abundantlife.org.nz)

## Is 54 The Centre update from your ALC trustees

A big thank you to those who recently helped install the 250 sheets of gib. The remaining upper walls in auditorium will have gib sheets installed later in January. David is now working on the stage and ramp.

Our next significant purchases will be the 40 internal doors and the plumbing for bathrooms and kitchen.

Thank you to all who have faithfully prayed for and given financially to this work.

**Online donations** can be made into the ALC building account **06 0491 0011061 25**

If you are considering loaning money please talk with a trustee: Mike C, Lorraine W, David C.

At the beginning of 2019 ALC trustees will be announcing specific ways we can help moving forward to complete this building project.

May you and your loved ones enjoy God’s richest blessings this Christmas and New Year.