#### **GISBORNE PRESBYTERIAN PARISH**

#### *Matawhero Church – Church Lane*

#### *St Andrew’s Church and Community Centre:*

#### *176 Cobden Street, Gisborne*

#### [*www.standrewsgis.org.nz*](http://www.standrewsgis.org.nz)

***17 September 2023 Blessing of Spring Flowers Pentecost 16***



***Springtime God***

***You burst through the inter of our despair***

***with warmth and beauty***

***colour and light***

***You dance with us when we are fearful***

***and laugh with us when we are sad***

***In the darkness of our pain***

***you bring us light to see***

***and peace to heal***

***With a mad excess of love***

***You melt our stringency***

***and dissolve our narrow prejudice***

***by enfolding us in your everlasting arms***

***Come, God-with-us, God of Springtime***

***Blossom again in this season of our lives.***

***We should be blessed if we lived in the present always, and took advantage of every accident that befell us…***

***We loiter in winter while it is already spring.***

 Henry David Thoreau (1817-1862)

***We welcome all visitors to our service this morning. Please sign the Visitors’ Book and make yourself known to the Hosts who stand at the back of the church.***

***A toilet is located in the foyer.***

***In our worship we use inclusive language as much as possible. Sometimes, especially in the hymns, this is not possible. Feel free to insert the language with which you are most comfortable.***

***BOLDED WORDS are for congregational response.***

***Where there is an asterisk \* you are invited to stand.***

WELCOME --- NOTICES

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

L- PRAISE THE LORD

**ALL- WE WILL THANK AND PRAISE GOD**

     **WE WILL COME AND WORSHIP GOD TOGETHER**

 L- WE COME TO CONNECT WITH THE SPIRIT OF GOD

 **HYMN** CH 405 ALL MY HOPE ON GOD IS FOUNDED

 **PRAYER**

 **HYMN CH** 87  BE THOU MY VISION

 **SCRIPTURE READING**  JOHN 15: 1-17

 PRAYER GARDEN / DISCUSSION

 OUR LIFE HAS ITS SEASONS (READ) WORDS: SHIRLEY MURRAY

 PRAYER,  FOLLOWED BY THE LORDS PRAYER

 **OFFERING** ;

       PRAYER OF DEDICATION

 **ALL- GOD, WE THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR GIFTS TO US.**

**BLESS THE OFFERINGS WE BRING**

**AND BLESS US AS SEEK TO SERVE YOU**

**AMEN**

**BLESSING OF OUR SPRING FLOWERS**

**HYMN** 154 ALL THINGS BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL

**BENEDICTION**

GO IN GOD'S GRACE AND KEEPING.

BE EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT AS GOD'S PEOPLE OF LOVE

**THE GRACE**

SING 3 FOLD AMEN

       MINISTERS: ALL THE PEOPLE

        LEADER : BARBARA LARSEN

        READER : JAN EWART

*Please join us for a time of fellowship and friendship over a cup of tea or coffee.*

**Mindful Prayer topics:** Young travellers on their OE – their friends & families; Parishioners with health issues; GPP; the upcoming AGM & Parish Council; Ourselves.

**Note:** The offering is now received at the door as we enter. If you miss noticing this, you may place a retiring offering in the offering boxes at the door as you leave.

**Please remember** donations for the Love basket when shopping. All offerings gratefully received.

As you will have read in the recent *Signpost* Val Hall and Pat Flockhart are offering Home Communion, and they need an Elder to be present. Any Elders willing to assist, please phone or email Val Hall.

For all Pastoral care needs please contact one of the committee members:

Jenny Lawton  868 4268; Ruth McLennan 021 02704867; Jan Gordon 0211836008 Annette Ormiston 0275535028 Barbara Larsen 863-9009

With blessings from the Pastoral Committee

Mindful Prayer contact Margaret Graham ph. 021 026 03990 or email m.n.e.gra@xtra.co.nz

**DIARY**

**SUNDAY 17** **PENTECOST 16**  **Spring Flower Service**

 **9.00am Matawhero – Hall service**

 **10.00am St Andrew’s Spring Celebration**

Monday 18 9.00am Walking Group

 9.30 am Matawhero Gardening

Tuesday 19 10.00am Open Door All welcome

Wednesday 209.45am mainly music

 2.00pm **Finance Committee**

Thursday 21 3.30pm Dunblane Service

 3.30pm Kids’ Cafe

Friday 22 1.00pm Choir rehearsal

Saturday 23 8.00 -11.30am Car Boot Sale

**SUNDAY 24** **PENTECOST 17**  (School Spring Holidays start)

 **10.00am (NZ Daylight Saving time) St Andrew’s**

 **Café Group Service in Hall followed by AGM**

 **Matawhero – No service**

3.00pm Sea of Faith

**Coming up: Sunday 1 October** World Communion Sunday and Animal Blessing service at Matawhero. No service at St Andrew’s

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sunday | Reader | Door & Team | Morning Tea | Sound Visual |
| 17 SeptemberPentecost 16Spring FlowerCelebration | **Matawhero**Hall Service Jan Ewart**St Andrew’s** Colleen Skuse | **Chrissie Parker**Linda Savage, Alvin Hall | Ruth McLennan, Paulina Melief | S: HansV: AlanC: Don |
| 24 SeptemberPentecost 17St A’s in Hall Café Group | **Matawhero**No service**St Andrew’s** Café Group  | **tbc**tbc | Tbc  | Hall service |

***Gisborne Presbyterian Parish***

***St Andrew’s Church and Matawhero Historic Church:***

***Office: 06 868 5513******Hours 10-12 Tuesday – Friday***

*176 Cobden Street 4010*

standrewsgisb@xtra.co.nz[www.standrewsgis.org.nz](http://www.standrewsgis.org.nz)