

"We aim to be a reflection of God to the community"

EDITORIAL by Kerry Enright



The Christian movement is remarkable. Of course, terrible things have been done and continue to be done in its name that we continue to confess and lament. At the same time, it has shown a great capacity to adapt and spread. To the point that now one in three people in the world identify with it, nearly 2.7 billion people.

This happened despite an unpromising start among poor, powerless people in a postage-stamp sized country and the leader of the movement being killed.

I have had the privilege of experiencing some of its consequent diversity. As a young minister, I travelled with others to churches behind the then Iron Curtain. We visited Romania ruled by the despot Ceausescu. He built an opulent castle while people lived in abject poverty. Years later, I met the pastor who began the uprising that toppled him. The pastor had criticised Ceausescu so the feared secret police were coming to arrest him. The congregation surrounded the manse. From that small gathering of Christians on a street in Timisoara, the uprising spread until three weeks later, Ceausescu was removed. It took great and sacrificial courage by people against what seemed a powerful and violent foe.



More recently, I visited the Presbyterian Church in South Sudan. That newish nation had the worst health and education statistics in the world. Civil war had raged for more than a generation. When I was there at the end of 2013, an agreement had achieved a

fragile peace. I was flown on a UN plane to the city of Malakal, about the size of Dunedin. Two weeks later, war resumed. Malakal was destroyed. It felt like one of the most hopeless places on our planet.



Yet there I met a group of church women who were determined that one day their children would go to school. They prayed and agitated for peace with fierce determination. They embodied hope. One day they will prevail.

We have lived in Alexandra for five months. I love walking and riding beside the river, the mighty Mata-au. The power of its flow is evident, hence its Maori name. I believe that as the river flows and keeps flowing, so the movement of God in the world keeps on until one day it will bring peace to all creation. The Jesus movement is unstoppable, just as 12 became 2.7 billion.



It is hard to sustain that belief amid war and the threats of war so evident now. Yet I want to stand with the people of Romania and South Sudan and millions of others who against incredible odds, work and long and pray for peace and the harmony of all creation.

This is our noble calling as followers of Jesus. This is what it means to be church. This is what it means to be part of our congregation. I am thrilled to join with you in this incredible enterprise.

Shalom, Kerry

Kerry Enright is a retired Presbyterian minister. Mavis Duncanson and Kerry moved to Alexandra early this year to be nearer family. He has been a minister for 42 years in New Zealand and Australia. By heritage of the Waikato, his waka is Tainui.



Tri-monthly Newsletter of The Alexandra, Clyde Lauder Union Parish ~ June/July/August 2025



Left: Tarn & Ollie leading the singing @ St Enoch's



Right: Pink Ribbon Brunch fundraiser

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IN MEMORIAM

Our thoughts and prayers to the families and friends of...

- * Helen Ida Isabel Love - funeral held on 30th June 2025
At John Rhind Chapel - Christchurch

WE CELEBRATE OUR CHILDRENS PARTICIPATION IN OUR SERVICES AT ST ENOCH'S



Jesus said:
"Let the little children come unto me."



Left: Tarn and Ollie Yeoman leading the singing at St Enoch's

Right: The children gathered around Linda at the table to see how the yeast has risen during the service she took on the 16th of March 2025.

Linda Armstrong's service was based around the mustard seed as in Mark 4: 30-34

30. "What shall we say the kingdom of God is like?" asked Jesus. "What Parable shall we use to explain it? 31. It is like this. A man takes a mustard seed the smallest seed in the world, and plants it in the ground. 32. After a while it grows up and becomes the biggest of all plants. It puts out such large branches that the birds come and make their nests in its shade."
33. Jesus preached his message to the people, using many other parables like these; he told them as much as they could understand. 34. He would not speak to them without using parables, but when he was alone with his disciples, he would explain everything to them.

Using the yeast as an example of something small becoming something really large was a great analogy for the children to understand the lesson of Linda's reflection. ...and not only the children! **Well done Linda.**

Fathers Day

Father's Day in New Zealand is a special day to recognise and celebrate the role fathers play in our life. Whether it's your Dad, Granddad, step-Dad, foster Dad or just a special father figure who has helped you along the way, Father's Day NZ is your chance to say 'Thank You'.

My Hero By Jaime E. Murgueytio

My hero is the quiet type,
No marching bands, no media hype,
But through my eyes, it's plain to see,
A hero, God has sent to me.
With gentle strength and quiet pride,
All self-concern is set aside,
To reach out to his fellow man,
And be there with a helping hand.
Heroes are a rarity,
A blessing to humanity.
With all they give and all they do,
I'll bet the thing you never knew,
My hero has always been **you**.

A Treasure Hunt

Create a Treasure hunt. Add some extra flare to your dad's Father's Day gift by having him discover it himself. Leave him a list of riddles and clues that will lead him right to his present.

Paste the bookmark shape onto cardboard. Let it dry. Cut the bookmark shape out and then cut/punch out the circle at the top and then thread some string through the hole & knot. Write your name and a Message at the bottom.



A
Bookmark
for
You
Dad
with
love
on
Fathers Day
from

oooooooooooooooo

The Seed, The Word

Today I am reading your Word Lord,
I see the lamp in my mind,
it is glowing and then the warmth
is entering my heart
making a place for your truth.

The truth of your endless love,
the truth of your compassion
for your own beloved children
makes my heart sing
and I praise you with song.

The song I sing is about the
seed within my heart,
waiting to grow
waiting for me to nurture it
with hope and love
from your Word.

The word is yours, Lord,
waiting to be given to
someone else waiting
for your grace
and the seed of truth
to enter their heart and Life.

Changed, transformed, loved.

Gaynor Gordon 12 07 2017

Past & Upcoming Events



WHO's 95 Now?

We raise our glass to you Jean and Alma.
Age is only an issue of mind over matter. If you don't
mind, it doesn't matter says Mark Twain.. If you look
back at the years you will see that all along you were
blooming. Thanks for the memories. ♥ ♥ ♥ ♥



2025 PINK RIBBON BREAKFAST



We were again very pleased with this year's Pink Ribbon event held on 24th May raising \$801.80 for Breast Cancer Foundation. This is the 8th occasion which we have hosted this event at St Enoch's Lounge. The ticket price remained at \$25.00 per head and the first time we have had a Brunch Menu.

Our thanks particularly to: The Breast Cancer Pink Ribbon for the Host Kit with merchandise and support; Alexandra Clyde Lauder Union Parish for the use of St Enoch's Lounge; The Otago Daily Times with assistance for our advertising in The News; News Talk ZB for advertising this event; Funky Stuff for the donation of a necklace for our raffle Pat Tyrrell for donations for our raffle; Sandra Sutherland for donation for our raffle; Alexandra Community House for selling of our tickets and printing of posters; Wendy Becker for providing tomato soup; All the businesses in Alexandra who agreed to display our posters; Members of ACL Union Parish for setting up the venue and cleaning up; All those who gave donations; All of our guests on the day. Without your help this function would not have been as successful as it was. We sincerely thank you.

Many thanks to: Don and Sue Melville, Kathy Mears, Chris Beilby, Sheryll Hanning, Maureen Bush, Pat Tyrrell, Annette Meyer, Kay Pringle and all who assisted with the preparation, cooking and clean-up. Kay Pringle [Co-Coordinator St Mungo's Pink Ribbon Brunch 2025](#)



♪ SOUP GLORIOUS SOUP ♪ & BUNS

ACLUP SOUP SUNDAY Will be held from Sunday June 22nd Come along and join in fun, food and fellowship after Church in St Enoch's Lounge. Soup and buns provided. Bring your friends and family. Everyone welcome.

Rev Andrew Doubleday, UCANZ Ministry Facilitator Over King’s Birthday Weekend, 74 of us gathered for the UCANZ Biennial Forum at Onehunga Co-operating Parish to respond to that which is both a statement and a question - “Our Future Together”.



The UCANZ Forum held at Onehunga Cooperating Parish 31 May to 2 June 2025 affirms that: **We acknowledge** the historic concluding section of the 1984 Statement of Accord

1. **We affirm** that even in our failures God speaks to us that the unity of Christ's church on earth is His will and our hope that the unity we seek is not uniformity but a unity enriched by our diverse heritages, traditions and cultures. This unity will be marked by an ending of prejudices and hostilities and a lifting of condemnations and barriers and sharing of one faith in God and the Trinity, a mutual recognition of one baptism, one Eucharist, and a ministry recognised by all ways of deciding and acting together.
2. The Forum and Partner personnel present affirm their on-going commitment to supporting the life of CV parishes and congregations throughout the nation.
3. We recognise the need for a broad and thorough review of UCANZ – of the very need for its existence, its purpose, procedures, and basis.
4. In the light of 3. (above), we invite the current partners – Anglican, Methodist, and Presbyterian – to establish a commission of nationally recognised Partner leaders (3 from each) to establish terms of reference and engage in a facilitated process to develop a new way forward together - embracing each of their bicultural, multi-cultural, and gospel commitments .
 - a. We anticipate this work to be completed within a two-year time frame, reporting to the forum of 2027 and allowing time for the implementation of changes before 1 July 2028.
 - b. Regular progress feedback (minimum three times per year) will be provided to UCANZ Standing Committee and disseminated across its constituency.
 - c. The UCANZ Standing Committee will initiate the process with the Partners.
 - d. We invite each of the Partners to populate their portion of the commission by 1 July 2025.
 - e. Terms of reference would be desirable by 1 September this year.

REGULAR MEETINGS AND GROUPS

| Weekly | | |
|------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| Study Group | Tuesdays 10am – All Welcome | 3A Mayfair Grove Alexandra |
| Monthly | | |
| Afternoon Fellowship | 4th Thursday of the month 1.30pm Contact: Various | Various |
| St Mungo’s Fellowship | 3rd Wednesday of the month 2.00pm Contact: Kay Pringle | Various 021 269 4280 |
| Parish Council | 3rd Wednesday of the month 3pm Contact: Don Melville | St Enoch’s 03 448 9233 |

| Upcoming Worship Services 2025 | | | |
|--------------------------------|------------|---------|--------------------------|
| July 13th | Alexandra | 10.00am | Pentecost 5 |
| July 16th | Castlewood | 10.30am | |
| | Ranui | 11.00am | |
| July 20th | Alexandra | 10.00am | Pentecost 6 |
| July 27th | Alexandra | 10.00am | Pentecost 7 |
| August 3rd | Alexandra | 10.00am | Communion -Pentecost 8 |
| August 10th | Alexandra | 10.00am | Pentecost 9 |
| August 17th | Alexandra | 10.00am | Pentecost 10 |
| August 20th | Castlewood | 10.30am | |
| | Ranui | 11.00am | |
| August 24th | Alexandra | 10.00am | Pentecost 11 |
| August 31st | Alexandra | 10.00am | Pentecost 12 |
| September 7th | Alexandra | 10.00am | Communion - Pentecost 13 |

EDITORS NOTE: The next ACLaim will be Sept/Oct/ Nov 2025 please have any articles to me by **Monday 8th September 2025.** sent to me via email : ggordon@actrix.co.nz *Gay Gordon.*

Your Pastoral Visitor Message:

Contact Us

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Visit us on the web at
www.alexchurch.org.nz

Like us on FaceBook
Facebook.com/

Worship Times

Sunday:
Alexandra: 10.00am

If you require transportation to church please ask!

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