

Dates to Remember	
TODAY	Voting after service for Paul to join Elders Team
Sun 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas Family Service / BBQ Lunch
Fri 23 <sup>rd</sup> Dec	8:15pm Carols By Candlelight



**Church Office Hours:** 9am - 12noon, Mon - Fri (excluding public holidays).

**'Prayer Chain'** – Any matters requiring confidential prayer support, can be referred to the Prayer Chain Group. Contact Val Judd or Elaine Oates.

**Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study** – Has finished for the year and will recommence in February 2023.

**'Men's Breakfast Group'** – Meets at 7am on Tuesdays. Contact John Hawksworth for more info.

**Thursday 'Womens Breakfast'** – Meets at 7am on Thursdays in the Church House for Breakfast. Last day for 2022 will be 15<sup>th</sup> December. For more info contact Amanda Lewis.

**Women's 'Growth Group'** – Meets fortnightly on Thursdays at 1pm in the Church House.



**Foodbank** – The demand on our food bank has increased lately and we are currently low on the following items: canned corn, canned peas, pasta sauce, flour, washing powder, dishwashing liquid. These are items not usually supplied by Gizzy Kai.

**Te Hahi Christmas Hampers** - In conjunction with the Te Hahi Police Whangaia Unit, we will be putting together special hampers for families in need this Christmas. If you wish to give to this over the next few weeks, there is a list of items needed for the hampers on the back noticeboard. Please put any food items for them in the regular collection basket – but label them 'for Te Hahi'.

**Giving/Tithing** - If you wish to tithe or make a donation to Mangapapa Church, our account number is: Mangapapa Church, 03-0638-0381084-00. Please make sure you say 'tithe' or 'donation' in the reference. If you would prefer to give using our 'Envelope' system, then see Jenny Phin who will set you up with envelopes allocated to you.

	Today	Next Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> December
<b>Greeters</b>	J & L Hawksworth	I McCoy, M Raitaukala
<b>Explorers Crèche</b>	Parents	R Theobald
<b>Ministry Team</b>	S Clement	A Clement
<b>Cups of Tea</b>	W Carstens, L Hindle	N Coffey, P Oram
<b>Flowers</b>	B Bowis	B Bowis
<b>AV &amp; Sound</b>	P Madsen / R Levy	D Russell / S Patrick
<b>Counters</b>	B Wheeler	G Stevenson

**Mangapapa Church** (UNION PARISH)

Our motivating vision is...  
'To be His Love, Light and Life'



**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2022**



**10am: "Keep Awake, He Is Coming"**

*Matthew 25:13*

**Leading and Preaching: Stewart Patrick**

**Duty Elder: Stewart Patrick**



**Church Office:** Dione Russell 06 867-9604 9am – 12noon  
**E-mail:** [office@mup.org.nz](mailto:office@mup.org.nz) **Website:** [www.mup.org.nz](http://www.mup.org.nz)  
 Mangapapa Church, P.O. Box 2146 Gisborne 4040



**Elders Team**

Stewart Patrick: 021 047 0795 Rodney Judd: 06 863-2400 Al Clement: 027 855 5949

Children 4-8 years go out with Marilyn. 9+ years to go out with Janice.

**If you have cold, flu or COVID-19 symptoms, please stay home and get a R.A.T. Test.**

**Stewart writes ...** Our 'Christmas Advent Displays' that we have planned and been working on over the past 2 weeks – **both inside the auditorium, and outside on the Church lawns** –



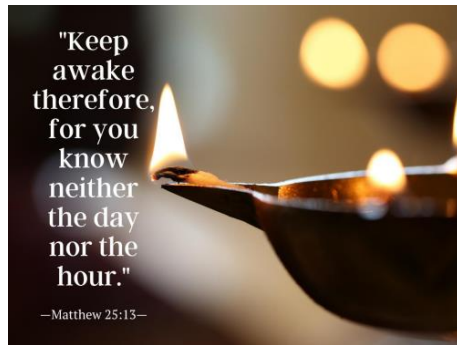
should all come together in completion today (Friday). It has been a lot of work but so much fun too. Here (left and right) are pics of some of what is being prepared this week. (Thank you Justin for your help in cutting out our scenes). Remember, the season



**of Advent in the Christian calendar anticipates the "coming of Christ" from three different perspectives: 1) The physical nativity in Bethlehem; 2) The reception of Christ in the heart of the believer; and 3) The eschatological (final things/results), of Christ's Second Coming.** By Christmas Day, we will have shared these 3 Gospel truths clearly with all who come or even just pass by.

**Last Sunday morning in our Service, one person experienced No. 2 above – a most powerful infilling of Jesus by the Spirit.** Tears of joy and forgiveness flowed. We delight with them and at some point you will hear more of this testimony and it's many parts that led to this, but I can say that the 'Nativity' display project played a big part in this too. Folks please never underestimate the fact that Jesus' presence meets with us here - Hebrews 2:12, *For He said to God, "I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters. I will praise you among your assembled people."*

**Today in our Service, we build our worship and word around chapter 25 of Matthew's Gospel, which is all about No. 3 above – Christ's Second Coming at the end of the Ages.** There are two parables that depict 'The Kingdom of Heaven' at this end of the Age we are in. Then Jesus describes in absolute clarity, His Judgment words on that Day which is coming. It is challenging reading, but our key Scripture that we take away is Matthew 25:13 "Keep awake ..."



The 10am service is live streamed. To access – at 10am 'Ctrl click' on the following Facebook link: [Mangapapa Union Parish](#)



**Christmas Wrapping Paper Needed** – to wrap Te Hahi parcels. Please drop into the Church office on weekday mornings.

**Congregational Vote** - This morning, after the 10am Service, we will vote on this recommendation to the congregation – **'That Paul Madsen be appointed an Elder to the MUP Elders Team'**. With such appointments we seek ratification by a congregational vote. Please note that if you wish to vote but cannot be here on Sunday, you may email in your vote, to Dione at [office@mup.org.nz](mailto:office@mup.org.nz)



**Who is eligible to vote?** If you are in our MUP Church Directory, and a regular participant and giver to the work of MUP, you are eligible to vote today.



### **For Prayer this Week:**

**Anne Walker's mother** is in Hospital in Hanover, Germany. It is hard of course for Anne here, being so far away at this time.

**Noeleen & Don Welch** in Ryman – as they both recover from infections. **Those folk who are recovering** from Covid and other personal health issues.

**Let's pray for our witness to Jesus Christ in this 'Advent Christmas Season', to our community** – Our Advent displays, 'Christmas Family Service & BBQ Lunch', 'Community Carols by Candlelight', Christmas Day Service.

**Just received, this update from Ken & Alison McFarlane, with 'Partners' Medical Training Mission in Myanmar / Thailand.**

*"The teaching has been crammed into a much smaller time this year as we could not start until June because of Covid and shut borders. So we decided to just carry on through Christmas because this is not one of the important festivals in this Buddhist land! Except for the shops which have many decorations up already, of course. Our kids in NZ are distracted at Christmas by travelling round to different relatives and so I think us missing one Christmas at home will be OK. We are finishing here in early January, then going to Australia for a few days to visit Chris and Jenna and Toby, then back to NZ!! The teaching is going well -bright kids - and the accelerated teaching programme is really helping the learning!! Love to everyone back at Mangapapa - we totally read every MUP Newsletter to stay in touch!! Love Alison"*



**'Christmas Family Service' & BBQ Lunch - 10am Sunday 18<sup>th</sup>**

**December** - This will be a special morning with several folk contributing to the Service and a big lunch to follow. *To help us with catering, please indicate on the sheet on the back table if you will be staying for the lunch and whether you could bring a salad or dessert.*



**8:15pm Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> December**

It has been 2 or 3 years since we have been able to hold one of these Community events, and all going well, we will do so this year.

