

Dates to Remember	
Thursdays	7am-7.45am Prayer at the Church Office
<b>TODAY</b>	<b>Congregational meeting after service - Church leader vote</b>
Mon 11 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Movie - Journey To Bethlehem, 6pm at the Odeon
Sun 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Combined MUP/Fiji Fellowship Christmas Family Service
Thu 21 <sup>st</sup> Dec	8pm 'Carols In The Community'



**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.

**Monday Bible Study** – Meets Mondays at 1.30pm in the Church House. Last meeting for 2023 will be 18<sup>th</sup> December. For more info contact Elaine Oates.

**Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study** – Meets Tuesdays at 1.30pm in the Church House. Everyone welcome. For more info contact Maureen Wilson.

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

**'Womens Lunch Group'** – Has finished for the year. Will commence again end of January 2024. Contact Amanda Lewis for more info.

**Women's 'Growth Group'** – Has finished for the year. Will commence again in February 2024. Contact Elaine Oates or Diane McLean for more info.

Jesus said, "I'll be back," way before Arnold did.  
- unknown

**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 17 <sup>th</sup> December
<b>Greeters</b>	M Raitaukala, I McCoy	J & L Hawksworth
<b>Creche</b>	Parents	Parents
<b>Ministry Team</b>	A Clement	M Freeman
<b>Cups of Tea</b>	J Dyas, M Freeman	M Smith, N Aston
<b>AV &amp; Sound</b>	R Nelson / S Patrick	D Russell / A Russell
<b>Counters</b>	G Stevenson	G Stevenson

**Mangapapa Church** (UNION PARISH)

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



**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

**10am: "New Beginnings"**

*Mark 1:1-8*

**Leading: Angela Paton      Preaching: Diane McLean**

**Duty Elder: Al Clement**

**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

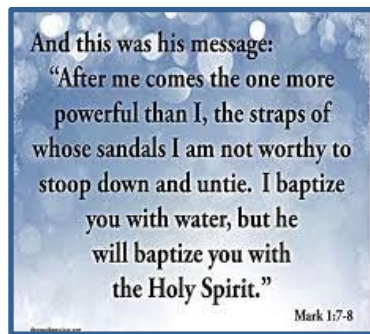
**Elders Team**  
 Stewart Patrick: 021 047 0795    Rodney Judd: 06 863-2400    Al Clement: 027 855 5949  
 Paul Madsen: 027 511 4769

*Children go out at 10:15am to their programmes.*

**If you have cold, flu or COVID-19 symptoms, please stay home and don't share them.**

## Diane McLean shares the message this morning. She writes ...

"The Old is in the New revealed." Today's passage from Mark makes it very clear that all that was foretold in the Old Testament is gradually being revealed. John the Baptist played a crucial role, but rightly stated that there was one coming after him, "the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie." – Mark 1:7



## Shane & Ali Roche - Notice of MUP Congregational Meeting & Ballot Vote Today - Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December (Immediately following the 10am Service).

Today your MUP 'New Leader' Search Team, MUP Elders and Leadership Team present the following motion to the MUP Congregation Members for approval by a ballot vote. Here is the motion what you will vote, 'Agree' or 'Disagree' to:

***'That Mangapapa Church (Union Parish) extend a Call to Shane Roche to the full-time paid position of 'Church Leader' at Mangapapa Church, Gisborne, NZ, subject to NZ Immigration Visas and work approvals being obtained.'***



E-mailed votes will be accepted from those unable to attend the congregational meeting today. Please ensure these E-votes arrive to the MUP Office before 12:00 midday, Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December. **Note: Who is eligible to vote? – Mangapapa Church members. Anyone who is listed or has given their approval to be listed in the MUP Church Directory, or anyone who has made MUP their home church. If unsure, ask Stewart or Dione.**

Notice of this Congregational Meeting is posted on the Church Notice Board on the Sound Desk at the back of the Church. Remember too - the interview video is available for screening to individuals or groups that have not seen it. Contact Stewart or Dione at the MUP office for this.



**Christmas Holiday Office Hours** – The office will be closed from **23<sup>rd</sup> December** for two weeks over Christmas and New Year, and re-open again on **Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024.**



## Our Christmas Advent Season Events –

- 1) **Come down one night to have a look at our Church Christmas Lights.** The Star, angels and entrance are lit up all through the night now, and the Nativity Display should be too as we are working on that as this goes to print.
- 2) **Combined 'Christmas Family Service' with the Fiji Fellowship – Next Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December.** This will be full of fun and we will share in a BBQ Lunch together too.



- 3) **'Carols in the Community' - 7:30pm Thursday night, 21<sup>st</sup> December.** Taking Carols to the street corners of Mangapapa. We gather first at MUP at 7:30pm, and sing our first Carol in front of the Nativity Scene, then we head off in cars to selected Street Corners in Mangapapa to sing carols and give out Children's Christmas Booklets and Nativity sets. Thank you Angela Paton and Nicola Hawkins who will be providing the accompaniment for us. **Please put your name down on the list on the table in the auditorium and we will contact you to advise of a practice time.** Please join us, anyone can sing Carols and bring joy.



### For Prayer this Week:

- Pray for our **Advent witness** with our outdoor **Nativity displays**, and our **'Carols in the Community'** team prep.
- **Pray for Shane & Ali Roche and family** – They are engaging a NZ Immigration Advisor to act on their behalf, and pray for the letter required from Ali's University where she trained, as she has been told by them it may take up to 15 weeks before she receives it!
- **Pray for those unwell, receiving treatment or recovering.**
- **"Pray for the peace of Jerusalem".** (Psalm 122)

**Ken & Alison McFarlane: Update from Myanmar** – Alison says, "Closing ceremony for this year's Medical Training Course is on 9 December. It has been a great class this year – a little older and seem to be very good at asking questions and soaking up information. Ken is working hard to get a lot of resources given to them electronically — we have worked hard on textbooks and have most of it translated now, but this gives them 13 books and the pile ends up about 30 cm high!! So electronic is good. We fly out of Thailand 14 December and then a little time in Perth and Whangarei to catch up with the kids, finally arrive in Gisborne on 23 December."



Nicola Hawkins is looking for a place for her lovely retired friends to house sit for some, or all of, 27<sup>th</sup> December – 17<sup>th</sup> January. They are excellent with pets, gardens and at taking care of houses. If you know of anyone who would like to offer their home, please contact Nicola on 022 131 9171 or [nicandbruce@yahoo.com](mailto:nicandbruce@yahoo.com)