

Dates to Remember	
Thursdays	7am-7.45am Prayer at the Church Office
Mon 25 th Dec	9.30am Christmas Day Service



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 18th December. For more info contact Elaine Oates.

Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study – Has finished for the year. Will commence again in 2024. 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.

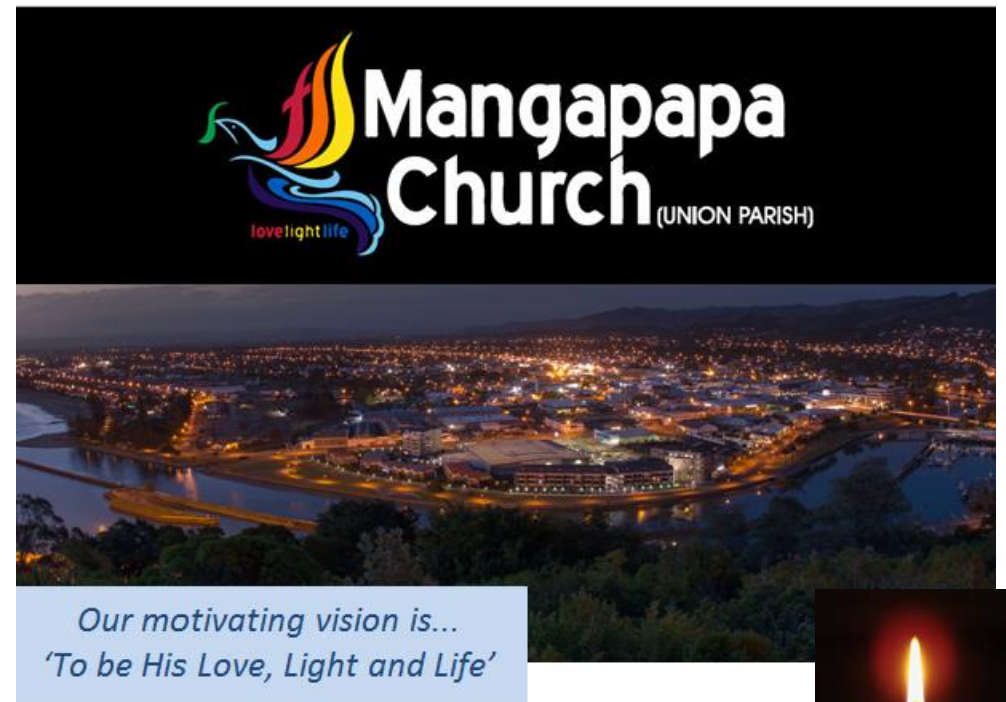
Women’s ‘Growth Group’ – Has finished for the year. Will commence again in February 2024. Contact Elaine Oates or Diane McLean for more info.



Christmas Holiday Office Hours – The office will be closed from **23rd December** for **three weeks** over Christmas and New Year, and re-open again on **Monday 15th January 2024**.

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 31 st December
Greeters	J Dyas, L McAra	A Clement, I McCoy
Creche	Parents	Parents
Ministry Team	E Oates	A Clement
Cups of Tea	N Coffey, A Tyler	D McLean, P Oram
AV & Sound	R Nelson / S Patrick	Not needed / A Russell
Counters	N Coffey	Volunteer Needed



Sunday 24th December 2023

10am: “God Sent His Son”

1 Timothy 3:16

Leading: Elaine Oates

Preaching: Frank Darcy

Duty Elder: Stewart Patrick



9.30am Christmas Day Service



Church Office: Dione Russell **06 867-9604** **9am – 12noon**
E-mail office@mup.org.nz **Website:** 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

Kids go out for ‘Punchinello And The Most Amazing Gift’ movie.



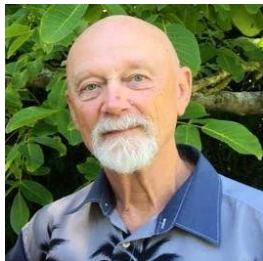
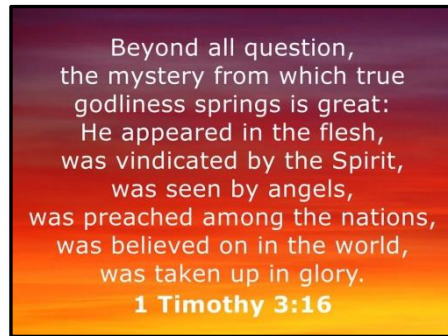
Frank shares with us this morning. He writes ...

“On that first Christmas night in Bethlehem, ‘God was manifested in the flesh’ (1 Tim. 3:16). This manifestation was in the person of Jesus Christ.

“What an incredible truth! Think of it: The God of the universe came down from Heaven that first Christmas night and took human form! ‘Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity’.

“If you want to know what God is like, take a long look at Jesus Christ – because He was God in human flesh. In Him were displayed not only the perfections that had been exhibited in the creation – such as wisdom, power and majesty – but also such perfections as justice, mercy, grace and love.

“To His disciples Jesus said, ‘You believe in God, believe also in me’ (John 14:1). This sequence of faith is inevitable. If we believe in what God made and what God said, we will believe in the one whom God sent.” – Billy Graham



Frank Darcy's last (regular) Preaching, this Christmas Eve

– Since Frank & Lorraine retired from full-time ministry and returned to Gisborne in 2009, Frank has been a regular Preacher and Teacher here on our roster at MUP and at other local churches too. Now the time has come, in Frank's words, “After 55+ years, to pull back from regular rostered preaching. While I still have my physical health, there is much I wish to do outdoors at my bushland home. Preaching involves many hours prep at a

desk, and I desire to get out more with my bushwhacker and chainsaw while I can!” Frank will still preach on occasions and he plays the organ at Holy Trinity some Sundays too. Now to mark this occasion with a big ‘Thank You’ from MUP Leadership, we have given Frank a monetary gift, which hopefully will go a good way towards the extensive repairs of his personal much loved Organ (it has been away in Auckland to be fixed). We know you have all much appreciated Frank's teaching over the years, and suggest that some of you too may like to contribute a monetary gift to Frank? Scripture is clear, that a labourer for the Gospel is worthy of his hire. Well done Frank.



Paul Madsen finishes his short-term contract as ‘Lay Leadership Assistant’

– On Wednesday morning the MUP office staff – Dione and Paul, went out for a Morning Coffee with Stewart & Marilyn and Andrew, and we took a moment there to especially thank Paul, who finished his 18 month short term contract on Friday. Paul has worked 16 hours a week for MUP, from June 2022 in Pastoral Care coordination, research and compiling the ‘MUP Land Story’, Te Hahi Rep, Flood Relief Fund distribution coordinating and Office Admin

back up. As MUP leadership, looking back over that period, none of us could have imagined the ‘extra natural disaster challenges’ over this past year, with even Paul and his Mum's home also affected regularly - as was Paul's ‘Market Days’ and importing business. Paul is at various Markets in other centres most weekends now through the Summer and will take a break from Eldership to focus on getting his business back on track. He will still be relieving for Dione when needed at the MUP office and remain on Leadership Team. Paul was a gift to MUP for this crucial time, and now we look forward to our new Leader, Shane Roche coming in 2024, in the Lord's time.



‘Carols in the Streets’ - We had a lovely time and learnt some things for next time.

- 1) Go out earlier – it was appreciated by more in the light and twilight.
- 2) Shopping Centres where people gather were best. Riverdale was quite special, where we were thanked with, “You brought joy where there is sadness”.



For Prayer this Week:

- 1) **Pray for Paul Madsen** – his business and witness at Markets around the central North Island.
- 2) **Give thanks for our Church acceptance of Shane Roche as our new ‘Church Leader’** – Now we pray for the engaging of a NZ Immigration Advisor to act on their behalf, and pray for the letter required from Ali's University where she trained.
- 3) **Pray for the final week of our Advent witness** with our outdoor **Nativity displays**, and **Christmas Day Service at 9.30am Monday**. There will be 20,000 young people travelling Ormond Rd every day and night to R&V Festival – pray for them as they glance, that some may remember Jesus.

The Te Hahi Awhi Christmas Hampers



9.30am
Christmas
Day
Service