

Dates to Remember	
Thursdays	7am MUP Prayer meeting in the Church House
Next Sunday	10am Garden Service at the Wheeler's place



**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 weekly at 2.30pm on Mondays in the church house. Commencing again on 2<sup>nd</sup> February. See Elaine Oates for more info.

**Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study** – Meets weekly at 1.30pm in the Church House. Commencing again on 3<sup>rd</sup> February. Contact Maureen Wilson for more info.

**'Men's Group'** – Meets weekly on Tuesdays at 7.30am, currently at Noel Dunn's place. Contact John Hawksworth for more info.

**'Womens Lunch Study Group'** – Meets fortnightly on Thursdays at 12noon in the Church House. Bring your lunch. Next meeting will be 5<sup>th</sup> February. Contact Amanda Lewis for more info.

**Women's 'Growth Group'** – Meets fortnightly on Thursdays at 1pm at Diane McLean's. Next meeting will be 5<sup>th</sup> February. Contact Diane McLean for more info.

"New Year is a good time to fix one's eyes on the only One who knows what the year will hold." - Elizabeth Elliot

**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 1 <sup>st</sup> February
Greeters	M Wilson, N Aston
Ministry Team	E Oates
Cups of Tea	D McLean, J Dyas
AV & Sound	S Patrick / N Dunn
Counters	A Radcliffe
	I McCoy, M Raitaukala
	Garden Service at the Wheelers
	B Wheeler



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

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

**10am: "Prayer – The Life Of A Christian"**

**Leading: Dione Russell**      **Preaching: Andrew Russell**  
**Duty Elder: Stewart Patrick**

**Church Leader:** Shane Roche      **E-mail:** shane@mup.org.nz

**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, PO Box 2146, Gisborne 4040

**Elders Team**

S Roche: 027 501 6584  
A Russell: 027 815 1635

S Patrick: 021 047 0795  
Clement: 027 855 5949

*Kids and Youth stay in this morning for the Christmas Family Service.*

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

## Andrew Russell shares the message with us this morning.

He writes ...

Prayer and Bible reading are as important to the Christian life as breathing in and out is to the physical being. Today we look at some aspects of prayer and recognise that prayer does not equip us for greater works, it is the greater work. The importance of prayer should not be underestimated and so we will look at examples in scripture and take inspiration as to how we can pray more in our daily lives and see prayer not as a religious requirement, but as a privilege in partnering with God in changing the world around us.

*Prayer is more than asking God for things, it is partnering with Him. Through prayer, we pull heaven into earth. God designed prayer as the channel through which His will is released. When we pray, we align ourselves with His desires, not our own.*



## 'Farewell & Thank You' to James & Wendy Carstens

This Sunday is the last Sunday for James & Wendy here at MUP and in Gisborne, as they are moving on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January to a new home in Rangiora, Christchurch, where two of their boys, Ian and Michael and their families live. James & Wendy, along with their 2 young boys at that time, came from South Africa to NZ in 1977, to take up an Anaesthetist position here in Gisborne's Cook Hospital. Here in Gisborne, they both found faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, and they have been fellowshipping here at MUP for around 35 years. Their faith had a big part in James setting up the Gisborne Palliative Care Service in 1980, in which both James & Wendy worked for 29 years. In their 'retirement' years they have served in so many ways, and have helped many through discipleship counsel, individually and in small groups. We will miss them very much, but know it is time for them to be near their family and receive their love and care. We pray they find new Church fellowship in Rangiora.



## Restored Mahogany Table For Our Display

**Bible** - We had a 1930's 'Queen Anne' half table given for the 'TOSS Garage Sale' recently. It needed a lot of restoration, so we gave it to Justin Dyas (Heartwood Furniture Restorer), to see what he could do with it. Well it has come up beautifully, stripped of old varnish and an oil finish. Thank you Justin!



## Church @ the Wheelers – Next Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> February

Just a reminder that there is **NO SERVICE AT THE CHURCH NEXT WEEK**. We will be enjoying some fellowship and kai with Bill & Jody Wheeler, who will be hosting our Sunday service at their home. Our shorter than normal service will be followed by a pot luck lunch. We really want to encourage you to come and spend some quality time with your church family. If you can, please bring an outside chair and a dish. If you need transport please contact Shane ([shane@mup.org.nz](mailto:shane@mup.org.nz)):

**LOCATION: 644 Back Ormond Road, RD1, Gisborne, 4041**



### **For Prayer This Week:**

1. **Pray for Zandro (and his family)**, as Zandro sustained a severe injury to his knee two weeks ago. It is still dislocated and damaged ligaments and swelling mean he can't have it set yet. Pray for the swelling to go down so that the needed treatment / operation may be able to proceed.
2. **Pray for those who have been affected by the floods**; who are grieving loss of life, homes, whenua, and livelihoods. For many, the days ahead will be long and uncertain, marked by grief, clean-up, waiting, and deep emotional and financial strain.



**Letter from Oscar** – We have received the latest update from Oscar Owani, the child MUP sponsors through World Vision in Uganda. If you would like to read it, and see how Oscar is doing, then you find it and the latest info on the wall beside the coffee servery.



### **Cherie Crisp has a room for rent**

in a lovely straw bale house in Patutahi. Own bathroom and sharing the kitchen. Happy for either male or female. \$250 per week inclusive except food (power, wifi, gas etc). Ph: 021 071 1985 or email: [cherie\\_crisp@hotmail.com](mailto:cherie_crisp@hotmail.com)



**We would love to be able to keep you updated** on things happening at MUP. If you do not receive our emailed newsletter and/or notices, and would like to, please let the office know and we will add you to our list.



### **Foodbank** – Our current foodbank needs are:

Weetbix, spreads, muesli bars, biscuits, UHT milk, milo/hot chocolate, tuna/salmon, canned corn, dishwash liq, washing powder, 2 Min Noodles.