

Dates to Remember	
Tuesdays	6.30pm Interchurch Volleyball
Thursdays	Te Hahi Combined Churches Prayer - 7am AOG Church
23 rd May	MATRIX event after church
27 th May	CAP Money Course starts



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

'Prayer Chain' – Urgent matters for confidential prayer support, can be referred to the Prayer Chain Group. Contact Joy McHardy or Val Judd.

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

Wednesday 'Mens Breakfast' – Meets for breakfast at 6.45am in the Church House. For more info contact Paul Cosson.

Thursday 'Womens Breakfast' – Meets for breakfast at 7am in the Church House. For more info contact Amanda Lewis.

Women's 'Growth Group' – Meets at fortnightly 1pm on Thursdays, in the Church House. If you are interested in joining please contact Nicola Hawkins.

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.



Calling All Our Year 789's!

12pm-3pm 23rd May - after church

Come use your creativity and design skills.
Let's revamp our room to make it fun and make it ours.

Bring \$5 to cover lunch.

See Deb or Phil Viljoen for more details.

Matrix Event!

	Today	Next Sunday 23 rd May
Greeters	M Raitaukala, L McAra	B & A Hall
Explorers Crèche	A Lawton	Parents
Matrix	B Wheeler	P & D Viljoen
Ministry Team	A Clement	J Newman
Cups of Tea	K & A Tyler, D Benson	P & A Walker, R Keelan
Flowers	B Bowis	A Lewis
AV & Sound	S Patrick / R Levy	R Nelson / P Cosson
Counters	C Robinson	B Wheeler



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

Sunday 16th May 2021

10am: 'Esther – Part 2'

For Such A Time As This

Leading: Dione Russell

Preaching: Paula Levy

Duty Elder: Paula Levy

Church Leader: Paula Levy **Office** 06 867-9604 **Cell** 021 140-4667
E-mail paula@mup.org.nz

Church Office 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

Andrew Russell: 027 815-1635 Rodney Judd 06 863-2400 Llew Paul: 022 052 8297

*'Explorers' creche is available for 1-4 years.
'Kidzspace' Primary age children and Matrix 789's go out at message time.*

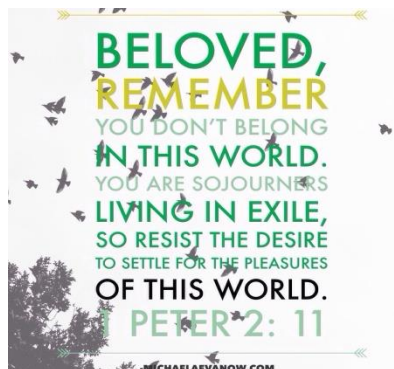
Paula writes...

This week we continue with the story of Esther. As we think about lessons from her life, it got me thinking about how, for the Jews as a minority in exile, there are similarities with us as Jesus' followers living as a minority in a Post Christian culture. As I thought about this I found this article by Alistair Begg which made a lot of sense. He writes:

When I was a child, I was taught this chorus:

***This world is not my home,
I'm just a-passing through.
My treasures are laid up,
Somewhere beyond the blue.***

Honestly, until recently I had no idea what I was singing. For us in the English-speaking West, this world has tended to feel very much like home, and our treasures have been right before our eyes.



Perhaps it is only in the last few years... that we have finally faced that what the Bible says is true: in this world we really are sojourners and exiles (1 Pet. 2:11). That reality has been clouded and obscured by the size and legal protection of the church in most of the Western world. But this world is not actually our home. We're not supposed to settle down here. We're not supposed to expect the church to be large, influential, and respected.

Christians are increasingly going to be seen as different, and not in a good way. We are increasingly going to have to choose between obedience and comfort. The next decades will not bring apathy to the gospel, but antagonism. And that's OK. After all, that has been the reality for most of God's people through most of history.

In this sense, as we move ahead in time, we're going back—back to the world of the first-century church, and back even further to the Babylon of the exiles. And so we have many lessons from early Christians, and from men like Daniel and his friends (and women like Esther).

Your church may seem small. As you drive to meet with the household of God on a Sunday, you may pass hundreds of houses whose inhabitants give no thought to what you are doing, except politely (or not so politely) to deride it. It may feel little. But God's kingdom is unsmashable, and it has an embassy in your neighbourhood that we call the church. Don't be discouraged as you meet; don't be distraught over dwindling numbers or a more and more hostile media. Instead, commit to it.

Serve your church family. Give yourself to it. Because when the Lord builds His church (either in number or in maturity) through our labours, gifts, and giving, we are being used to build the only kingdom that will last forever. There is nothing coming next. So, give your best to this kingdom. It may feel small, but it is never in vain, for this kingdom is eternal, and it is God's. So we do not panic and we do

not vent, and we enjoy a deep confidence even as the tides seem to run against our faith. God is God, He is in control, and His kingdom—His church—ultimately knows no rivals.

May this encourage and inspire you as you seek to serve Him.

Blessings, Paula

Congratulations to Al Clement who was voted in as an Elder last weekend. Al needed at least an 80% majority which he well and truly got. He joins our current team of Elders - Rodney Judd, Andrew Russell, and Llew Paul - who have been faithfully serving MUP for many years now. Welcome aboard Al!



CAP Money Course – There is room for more participants on this course running at 10am on 20th May, 27th May and 3rd June, at MUP. If you are interested please contact Nicola on 863 2580 or 022 131 9171.

RUEL ORPHANAGE PHILIPPINES – Tragically, with a surge in Covid-19 infections occurring especially in Manila but also Calapan City where the orphanage is, they are expecting another lockdown. The caregivers tell Pauline (Director and CEO in Tauranga) they are scared because most have husbands who have all lost their jobs. So they're only getting by on one very low income. Pauline has assured them they will be paid if they contract Covid and also if they have to isolate after a test. It is such a worry for them as most have young families. Angela Paton is putting a box together of much needed items to send by ship. The main list is on the Missions noticeboard, but some things are: kids bath towels, tea towels, hand towels, face clothes, any size sleeveless tank tops and shorts (new or gently used), activity books, pens, sports equipment, biscuits, (not chocolate 😊). The children are so resilient. Many keep themselves busy by growing vegetables for the orphanage since the recent typhoons have caused prices to soar. Mushrooms in particular do really well! The box costs \$160 to send so baking for sale will recommence. Thanks for your help. Angela.



Volunteers needed (especially men) on an occasional basis to help families that need to move at short notice. We are putting together a list of people - so if an urgent request arises we can quickly find one or two to work with those from other churches. See Paul Madsen for more details or let us know in the office.



Wanted to Rent – A fully furnished 3-4 bed roomed house is wanted to rent for June and July by a family coming from Japan for an urgent visit to family. If you can help or know of anyone who could help with this please let Marilyn know.

Original Oil Painting raises \$400 for 'TOSS' Community Mission Funds

— This striking original oil painting by artist Philippa Phillips, of the Christchurch Cathedral, was purchased around 1958, by a lovely young woman who soon married and moved to Gisborne. Then approx. 45yrs later she gave it to another 'Christchurch born' friend to enjoy. Now another 23yrs on, it was donated to our 'TOSS Garage Sale' for our Community Mission fundraising. Of course it is too good to sell there, so we sought advice from our local 'Paul Nache Art Gallery'. Enquiries with several Art experts revealed although is a 'lovely and quite striking painting', it would likely fetch between \$200-\$400 at auction. We decided to directly contact Christchurch folk we know, and we sold it privately this week for \$400+ p&p. A good result. We then saw Angela Paton's need for \$160 to send care parcels by ship to the Ruel Orphanage in the Philippines, and so we would like this sale of the painting to cover that shipping cost. Many thanks to our two MUP families who owned, enjoyed, and then gave away this painting!



Thursday Open Shed Sale – This Thursday, 20th

May. Can we please ask that you do not donate electrical goods that do not go or do not have any cords, or any broken things. This costs the church to dispose of them. Thanks for your consideration.



Partners NZ's 'Virtual Coffee Night' – 7.30pm Tuesday 18th May

Join the Kiwis working for Partners in Thailand and NZ online for a virtual coffee catch up. Find out what they are up to and how they are doing, especially in light of developing events in Myanmar. You'll have a chance to talk to Claire, Doug, Katie, Ken and Alison, listen to their stories and ask them questions. Details to join the Zoom meeting are:

To join the Zoom Meeting go to:

<https://zoom.us/j/99331565178?pwd=YW5FSS8zL2NrT0tCMVg1TWYzTXF1QT09>

Meeting ID: 993 3156 5178

Passcode: 851103





Building awesome whānau

with Pio Terei

In this show, well-loved entertainer Pio Terei shares his heart, stories and practical parenting ideas about family life in a way that really 'clicks'. This presentation will have a wide appeal across all audiences.

Monday 17 May
Tauawhi Men's Centre (downstairs), 73 Peel Street, Gisborne
5.30pm: Doors open
6pm: Presentation
Cost: Free community event
and opportunity to enrol for Breakthrough parenting programme

For more info, contact Tim Marshall
at tauawhi@psec.org.nz or 0275586362

parentingplace.nz



BREAKTHROUGH

TOITŪ TE MANA TAMA-ARIKI



A life-changing programme for fathers and their children

The heart of Breakthrough is that all children in Aotearoa would grow up knowing they are loved, safe and supported by their families/whānau to dream and explore their potential.

Parenting Place and The Salvation Army have developed Breakthrough specifically for fathers who don't yet have this reality with their children. Our dream is to help deepen their insight and develop the skills necessary so they are empowered to transform their own lives and those of their families/whānau.

Building Awesome Matua
continues from Thursday 20 May, 6pm
Tauawhi Men's Centre (Upstairs),
71 Peel St, Gisborne
Contact Chris Semmens 021 199 5634

 **Tauawhi**
TAUAWHI MEN'S CENTRE



"We deeply believe that transformation best happens within meaningful relationships."