

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 'Prayer For the Nation'-11am–12noon in Church prayer room. For more info contact Janet Burgess.

Tuesday Bible Study – Meets at 1.30pm in the Church Prayer Room. For more info contact Val Hawkins.

Wednesday 'Mens Breakfast'- Meets at 6:45am - 7:50am in the Church house lounge. For more info contact Paul Cosson.

Friday 'Revival Prayer'– every Friday evening 6:30pm-7:30pm at Joy McHardy's home.

Matrix Social Event – TODAY!

Meet at 12pm at church. Bring togs, towel, sunhat, sunblock, shorts, top, water bottle – and a friend!

Church Garden Tidy-up

This Thursday, 8:30am to 10am - Followed by morning tea together. 😊 BYO gloves and hand tools and let's pull, prune and plant. Come and join if you are free.



Subway - Kayaking - Swimming

Life's Short

Sunday 24th February, 12pm at Mangapapa Church
Ending 3pm Anzac park

Bring – Swimming togs and towel, sunhat and sunblock
Clothes for kayaking (shorts, top)
Water bottle
Bring a friend!



Needed – Ladies Bike

If anyone has a ladies push bike they are not using and would consider giving or selling it – please contact Joy McHardy.



Friday 1st March – How to throw a party!

Replay some old party games, make a balloon arch, and chow down on some party food!

At MUP 7pm-9pm. Bring \$3.

See Tirzah for more info.



	Today	Next Sunday 3 rd March
Greeters	M Wilson, <i>volunteer</i>	L McAra, <i>volunteer</i>
Explorers Crèche	N Hawkins	M Schnuriger
Matrix	L Hindle	N Hawkins
Ministry Team	A Clement	J Newman
Cups of Tea	N & C Coffey, M McHardy	A & D McLean, <i>volunteer</i>
Flowers	E Oates	A Lewis
AV & Sound	D Russell, G O'Neil	R Nelson, P Walker
Counters	D Welch	N Coffey

Mangapapa Church (UNION PARISH)

love light life

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

Sunday 24th February 2019

10am: "Lord, Teach Us to Pray"

Luke 11:1-11

Leading: Andrew Russell Preaching: Paula Levy
Duty Elder: Llew Paul

6:30pm - Evening Fellowship Gathering

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 operating and available for 1-4 years.

'Kidzspace' Primary age children head out when directed.

'Matrix' Intermediates meet during the message time, over in the house

Paula writes....

This week we dive into the six-week **Prayer Course** in Sunday sermons and weekday small groups. This course is one means to explore further how we “grow in God” this year. My heart is that at the end, each of us would be praying not just more often but with more confidence and focus – and that we would see God at work.

the PRAYER course

A survey of more than 800 full-time pastors in the USA revealed that 84% of them were discontent with their prayer life. And I don't think it's just Pastors....! Henri Nouwen, a well-known author and priest wrote, “Prayer is the essence of the spiritual life, without which all ministry loses its meaning. It is the fulfilment of The Great Commandment....”

Thankfully the disciples acknowledged their inadequacy in prayer and one day asked Jesus, “Lord, teach us to pray.” Jesus didn't rebuke them or put them down for their question, and he will not do that to us either! He simply responded by giving his followers the prayer that is prayed regularly by more than a third of the world's population. The Lord's Prayer is the basis of this course.

The course-writers suggest that there are at least four great myths about prayer that are lurking in the hearts and minds of Christ-followers that will be addressed in this course:

Myth 1: That everyone else is praying more than you.

Truth 1: We all need help.

Myth 2: Prayer always works if I do it right.

Truth 2: Even Jesus lives with unanswered prayer.

Myth 3: God will do what He wants whether or not we pray.

Truth 3: Our prayers can be a matter of life and death.

Myth 4: Some people are naturals at prayer while I will always struggle.

Truth 4: You can become someone who sees miracles in answer to prayer.

Because no one is born a prayer warrior, we can all be better at prayer! God has so much more for us than we currently experience or understand. Because the course-presenters themselves struggle with prayer, it is good to know the above myths and challenges of prayer will be addressed, and there will be time to share our struggles and questions.

If we come with humble hearts asking, “Lord, teach ME to pray”, then I believe that God will respond by transforming prayer from a guilty ‘should’ at which we are

forever failing, into an exciting ‘could’ which is accessible, enjoyable and powerful for everyone who loves Him. Let us all join in this prayer today....

Lord, I often talk more about you than to you and I'm sorry. I pray for my own prayer life to grow. I pray for prayers to be answered through this course. I pray for complacency to be replaced by expectancy and disappointment by fresh faith; that those who don't see themselves as pray-ers will be quietly hijacked by your Spirit. Lord, we long for more of your presence, your perspective and your power in our lives. Would you please teach us to pray? Amen

Blessings for the week... And remember it's not too late to join a group for these 6 weeks.... Paula

Small Groups for Prayer Course

The following Small Groups are doing the Prayer Course, commencing either next week or the week after. If you want to join one of these groups for the course please get in touch with the contact person and find out when they are starting.

- **Monday, 7pm @ Joy McHardy's. Contact Elaine Oates.**
- **Tuesday Women's group, 1.30pm @ Church house. Contact Val Hawkins.**
- **Tuesday, 7pm @ Rodney & Val Judd's. Contact Rodney or Val**
- **Tuesday, 7pm @ Church house. Contact Paula Levy.**
- **Wednesday, 10am @ Church house. Contact Paula Levy.**
- **Thursday, 7pm @ Jenny Phin's. Contact Diane McLean.**



Abiding Life Course – Stewart & Marilyn Patrick are planning to commence an Abiding Life Course in their home on Tuesday 12 March at 10am. Please contact them if you are interested in being a part of this, or let them know if a different time would suit you better.

Church Family Camp 2019

Held at **Tolaga Bay Holiday Park** on **Friday 1st – Sunday 3rd March.**

Come and enjoy being together, with God and His creation. Fishing – swimming – body boarding – walking – chatting – developing friendships. **You need to book your own accommodation – either online www.tolagabayholidaypark.co.nz or by ringing 06 862 6716.** Please register your interest by adding your name to the clipboard, and speak to Nicola Hawkins if you need more info.



I spent part of last week in Auckland at the annual CAP conference. The theme was around the word "Awhi" (embrace): embracing our own relationship with God, embracing each other and embracing the vision of CAP. Nicola.