

Dates to Remember ...	
27 th Nov	Women's Night Out
28 th Nov	TOSS Garage sale
30 th Nov	Garden Working Bee
1 st Dec	Angel Tree gifts to Office
7 th Dec	Angel Tree wrapping day
21 st Dec	Carols By Candlelight service



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 Maureen Wilson or Judy McLatchie.

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

Thursday 'Womens Breakfast'- Meets at 7:00am – 8:30am in the Church House lounge. For more info contact Gretchen Norman or Amanda Lewis.

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

Foodbank – Due to the high demand on the foodbank recently, we are need of Long-life milk or 500g milk powder, weetbix, porridge, canned fruit, canned vegetables, pasta sauce, tuna/salmon, rice, coffee, crackers. Any help restocking these items would be greatly appreciated.



Youth Group has finished for the year

See YG Facebook page for more details.



	Today	Next Sunday 1 st December
Greeters	A Clement, L McAra	M Raitaukala, M Wilson
Explorers Crèche	M Patrick	R Theobald
Matrix	P & D Viljoen	R Levy
Ministry Team	J McHardy	A Clement
Cups of Tea	N & C Coffey, D Benson	P & D Viljoen, L Hindle
Flowers	D Dobbie	D Dobbie
AV & Sound	D Russell / S Patrick	J Russell / P Walker
Counters	D Welch	D Welch



Sunday 24th November 2019

10am: 'At Just The Right Time: The Challenge Of Waiting'
Galatians 4:1-7

Leading: Rachal McIntyre Preaching: Paula Levy

Duty Elder: Llew Paul

6.30pm Evening Fellowship

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

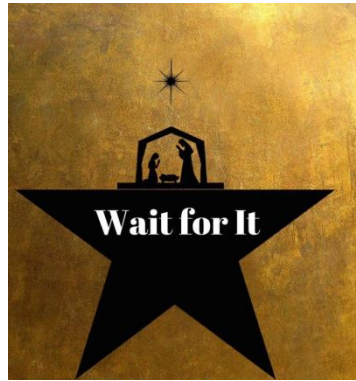
Elders Team

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 go out at message time.
'Matrix' Intermediates are to go out during message time.

Paula writes...

Today we begin preparing ourselves for the celebration of Jesus' birth, as we begin a series called 'The Christmas Experience'. Over the next few weeks we will look at different aspects of the Christmas story, and its impact not only on world history but also to each of our own lives. Today we look at the challenge of waiting, and remind ourselves about our faithful God who does keep His promises. Things that stand out:



- From the Fall in Genesis 3 to the promises to David that his reign would last forever, from the prophets to the 400 years of "silence" in between Malachi and Matthew, Israel was waiting on God.
- Even though they believed God, and even though they put their hope in His promise of deliverance, when God's people wait for Him, they begin to ask the question of faithfulness: *Will God keep His promise?*
- That question is the hinge on which Christianity turns. If God doesn't keep His promises then what are we waiting for? But if He does – that changes everything.
- As God's people waited for that first Christmas, they were undoubtedly asking the question of faithfulness. And as we wait for God to keep His promises to us, we often ask the same question.
- Since most of our lives are spent waiting on God to keep many different promises, but especially His ultimate promise to return, what can we learn from the Christmas story about waiting on God?

Waiting is one of the themes of Advent, of these weeks leading to Christmas. As we re-look at the familiar story may God give us new insights into His incredible plan, and new confidence in His faithfulness. Whatever our prayer, or situation, or worry: He is faithful, He does see and hear, and we are not forgotten. May He give us strength, based on this knowledge to wait, even when it is hard.

Blessings, Paula

Angel Tree Christmas 2019 – Last opportunity to take a gift card for local children. These cards are available in the foyer today, please sign them out on the clip board. Use the child's card to purchase their suggested gift, spending at least \$25 on each gift. Gifts need to be returned (unwrapped) to the church office before next Sunday, 1st December. We would also appreciate donations of \$25 – our team will then purchase the child's gift for you. **Wrapping Day: 9am Saturday December 7th in Kidzspace Room (followed by the delivery of the gifts later that day).** Feel free to join us on Wrapping Day to be part of blessing these local children and whānau. Blessings, Raewyn and team.



Wanted – a small artificial Christmas tree for use as a prop in a short play that Elaine Oates and Diane McLean are performing at the Blind Foundation's Christmas Social on 7th December. If anyone has one they are willing to loan, please contact Elaine Oates.

Women's Night Out! – This Wednesday, 27th November at Peppers Restaurant. \$15 per person for dessert and a hot drink. Ladies, I hope you have RSVP'd as we would love to see you there. Invitations available from the back table.



TOSS ... This Thursday 28 November – We welcome any things you no longer need or want and are willing to donate to us to raise money for local mission. Please drop anything in to office weekday mornings or phone Marilyn. NO clothes or books thanks. We will have a Christmas table so perhaps you have some decorations or trees that someone else would love.



Working Bee – 8am to 10am, Saturday 30th November

We are having a gardening Working Bee on Saturday 30th November to weed and trim the garden along the fence. We need to finish at 10am because the church is being used at 11am, but the more hands we get, the quicker the job will be done.



"This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it."

Psalms 118:24



Put Christ back in Christmas – Many will have noticed how nativity scenes have been progressively removed from many public places throughout New Zealand - and nativity-based Christmas carols from shops and some Christmas carol gatherings too. The Hope Project Christmas is about a single idea: **Let's return nativity scenes to Christmas!** Visit the Hope Project's website <https://alltogether.co.nz/christmas/> for free ideas and resources for businesses and individuals. There is more information available on the Sound Desk Noticeboard.

Carols by Candlelight Service – We will be holding our Carols by Candlelight evening this year on **Saturday, 21st December**, and we are looking for volunteers to help out with this evening. If you are willing to help, please write your name on the list provided on the back table.

