

Dates to Remember	
12 th Dec	Ney's Farewell 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 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. Contact Paul Cosson for more info and venue.

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

Women's 'Growth Group' – Meets fortnightly at 1pm on Thursdays, in the Church House. Contact is Nicola Hawkins.



Booking for Services – Booking for services is very helpful for the greeters who just need to tick off your name when you arrive. **Book by emailing or ringing the office before 12pm Friday.** If you would like a permanent booking let the office know and we will automatically book you in each week.

Paula's Thank You Dinner

On: To Be Confirmed
Where: Mangapapa Church

POSTPONED!

Due to where Gisborne is on the Traffic Light system, Paula's Thank You Dinner celebration has been postponed until a time next year when we will be able to hold a 'mixed' gathering of 50+ people. For more information contact Debora Dobbie.

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 12 th December
Greeters	J & L Hawksworth	M Raitaukala, <i>Volunteer</i>
Explorers Crèche	Parents	R Theobald
Matrix	?	?
Ministry Team		J McHardy
Cups of Tea	P & A Walker, M Patrick	W Carstens, P Oram, D McLean
Flowers	B Bowis	B Bowis
AV & Sound	J Russell / A Russell	R Nelson / P Walker
Counters	C Robinson	B Wheeler

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

Sunday 5th December 2021

10am: "The Christian Hope"

Titus 2:12b

With Communion

Leading: Janice Langford

Preaching: Frank Darcy

Duty Elder: Stewart Patrick

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

*'Explorers' creche is available for 1-4 years. Parents will need to stay and supervise.
'Kidzspace' Primary age children go out at 10.30am.*



Frank writes ...

Titus 2:12b – “We should live in this evil world with wisdom, righteousness and devotion to God, while we look forward with hope to that wonderful day when the glory of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ, will be revealed.”

Throughout the Christian world, the four Sundays before Christmas are the four Sundays of Advent. Each Sunday has a special theme, special readings from both Testaments, and a candle is lit.

The theme for this Sunday (the 2nd of Advent) is “The Day of the LORD.” It is important to remember:

1. Depicted in the Old Testament as the ultimate mega event. Sometimes the term is used to describe a judgment within history, but it is also used to portray the end of history.
2. It is a day of destruction for the wicked, but also is a day of release and rescue for God’s people.

This morning we will be looking at Malachi and two passages in the New Testament to relate to this theme when “all the forces of evil are laid low once and for all.” – F.F. Bruce



Decisions from the Elders & Leadership Team Meeting on Wednesday 1st December

Church Services Change Under the RED Covid Traffic Light System

Elders and LT had to make very difficult decisions on how we will operate as a Church in pandemic times, with this new Traffic Light system and the ‘My Vaccine Pass’ commencing Friday. For those not vaccinated, for whatever reason, this is



a difficult time. We looked at several options of providing ‘worship gathering’ opportunities, such as having ‘multiple small Home Groups’, or just ‘live streaming’, or a flow of small gatherings through

the Church auditorium on to other rooms, but in the end we resolved (6 for, 2 against) to provide; **Mangapapa Church 10am Services, for 5th and 12th December, under the ‘RED’ Level requirements will be open to those only with the ‘My Vaccine Pass’ - up to 100 people. (Children under 12 do not need a Pass to attend).** When the Government reviews the NZ Regional Level settings on 13th December, MUP Leadership will review also. We have no idea how long we will be under RED, but as soon as we go to ORANGE, several changes are possible. There will be small Home or Auditorium Gatherings available for those **‘With or Without My Vaccine Pass’.** ‘Home Gatherings’ are tricky though, as if they are MUP sanctioned, they are required to follow the same specific protection guidelines framework as for the Church Gathering, that is 1 metre spacing etc. I also know there will be **‘informal home gatherings’** offered privately, **but MUP Leadership cannot sanction or promote these as if we did, we would be responsible if an infection broke out at one.**

Now we advise that this decision did not have unanimous agreement, (6/2), and sadly has resulted in Neil Smoker resigning from all the positions he holds at MUP in relation to him being on the LT (A&F Chair; Worship Team Leader). Stewart has spoken to other Church Leaders/pastors over the past days and all are experiencing difficulty at this time. Pastor Norm McLeod says; “*Although the Civil laws are making doing Church inconvenient, they are not forcing me to violate Divine law. We are still free to worship, to pray corporately, we are not being banned from accessing a church service (online or offline). Even though it is causing some short-term inconvenience I’m still free to live my faith. As we head into the traffic light system, each Church leader / Pastor will be doing hopefully what they feel Jesus is telling them to do and to lead.*” That is exactly how we Elders at MUP feel too ... from your Elders Team.

Nativity Display Sign On Ormond Rd Corner

– Marilyn Patrick and Angela Paton held a ‘TOSS’ Garage Sale on Thursday and raised \$446 for local missions. This one will fund the \$240 we need for a lovely large Nativity Sign (pictured) that will go up next week, we hope, for the Advent Season. We will pray a blessing on it when it is up.



‘Drop In Communion, Prayer and Meditative Time’ – A NEW ‘Small Gathering’ for anyone - Wednesdays 12:30-1:30pm

- for any folk (vaccinated or unvaccinated) that desire to receive Communion and share in simple meditative worship, or receive prayer. It will not be a lot of talking, but listening. If for whatever reason, you are not able to be at a Sunday 10am Service, because of work, no MY Vaccine Pass, not wanting to be in a crowd - this is for you, but for anyone else too. Stewart will be leading this.

Needing Help With A Vaccine Pass? – If anyone is needing help getting their vaccine pass, please see Angela Paton who would be happy to help anyone after church today. Also, if you don’t have access to a computer you can ring 0800 222 478 to register.

Patrick & Kate Ney Family – Farewell Blessing/Prayer – It has been a joy to have had this family at MUP over the past 10 years, and we will ‘pray them out with blessing’ at our **10am service on 12th December**, as they are returning to Canada in January to live this next stage of their adventurous lives. We are so grateful for their contribution here in the community, Church, youth, and of course that amazing Uganda mission experience for our youth in 2018.

Te Hahi Christmas Hampers – Last year we provided Te Hahi with gift boxes for children whose parents were in prison. This year Te Hahi is asking if each church could provide 5 Christmas Hampers for families that Whangaia have been working with over the year. These are to be filled with Christmas goodies rather than children’s gifts, as due to privacy issues they are unable to tell us who the baskets are going to or whether there are children involved. If you would like to donate to this please label your money or items ‘Te Hahi’ and drop them in the food basket. ***There is a list of items to purchase for the Hampers on the back table.***

