

| Dates to Remember ... |                                       |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| TODAY                 | Moreere Caves & Hot Springs visit     |
| TONIGHT               | Combined Churches Prayer Evening      |
| 9 Mar                 | Riverdale-Mangapapa Community meeting |
| 10 Mar                | Open Doors speaker - Michael Burrows  |
| 13-16 Mar             | Men's Weekend at Whanarua Bay         |
| 15 Mar                | Combined Te Hahi Service              |
| 17 Mar                | Otipi Bike Trail                      |
| 28 Mar                | Working Bee                           |



**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 Group** - 1.30pm in the Church House lounge. For more info contact Maureen Wilson.

**Wednesday 'Mens Breakfast'**- Meets 6.45am – 7.50am in the Church House. For more info contact Paul Cosson.

**Thursday 'Womens Breakfast'**- Meets 7am in the Church House. For more info contact Gretchen Norman or Amanda Lewis.

**Friday 'Revival Prayer'**– Has started up again. Meets 6.30pm at Joy McHardy's place. For more info contact Elaine Oates.

**Free 'Ballarat Apples'** – Anne & David Russell have a tree full of apples for anyone wanting some. Great for cooking. Please bring a bag and pick your own. Anytime – ladder available. Contact Anne or David for more details.



### Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March – No Youth Group

Youth Group is having a break this Friday due to leaders all being away. Will meet again on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March.



|                         | Today                    | Next Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> March |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Greeters</b>         | J & L Hawksworth         | J Phin, L McAra                    |
| <b>Explorers Crèche</b> | R Theobald, P Erasmus    | A Lawton                           |
| <b>Matrix</b>           | V Robinson               | R Levy                             |
| <b>Ministry Team</b>    | E Oates                  | J McHardy                          |
| <b>Cups of Tea</b>      | S & M Patrick, D Benson  | P&A Walker, A Alder                |
| <b>Flowers</b>          | A Lewis                  | E Oates                            |
| <b>AV &amp; Sound</b>   | R Nelson / J & A Russell | R Nelson / J Russell               |
| <b>Counters</b>         | D Welch                  | D Welch                            |

## Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2020

**10am: 'Where Justice & Mercy Meet'**  
*Psalm 85*

**Leading: Sal Clement      Preaching: Paula Levy**  
**Duty Elder: Anna Alder**

**NO Evening Fellowship due to Combined Churches Prayer Meeting**

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

**Church Office** 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, 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...

Thanks to those who gathered to pray on Tuesday. It was a significant time of bringing to God the needs of our church, community and world, listen to His voice and humbly ask Him to move.

This week has been our church's rostered week for "Te Hahi". This is where we work with 6 other churches and the Police Family Harm team, and when requested go to families in particular need to offer support and practical help. A special thanks to Sepoima for being the key person for us in this Ministry. Some of the visits can be challenging and heart-breaking, but it is a real privilege to be invited to go and offer even simply kindness and a listening ear to families in crisis.

It is also our church's turn to bless the Police Whangaia office and team who are at the coal-face of this work. They have an office, separate to the Police station itself, where police and social workers are based and where people come if they are victims of family violence. Over the last year different churches have taken time to work on making this space more welcoming and family friendly, provided resources and baking and generally be a blessing to this work. Sepoima will share a little more about this today and how we may be able to help.

Today we continue looking at the 'Attributes of God', and in particular His justice and His mercy – and how these can go together.

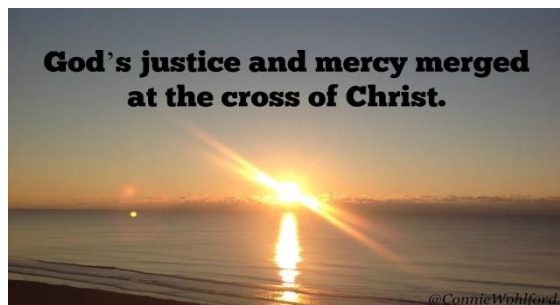
Throughout the Old and New Testaments we see God's rich mercy towards sinners and communities who are not faithful, as well as His profound desire to see wrong things made right. Mercy is God extending patience to those who deserve the consequences of sin. Mercy is not something God owes to us but is something God extends in kindness and grace to those who do not deserve it.

God is Holy and Just, and therefore cannot ignore judgement. He is not soft on crime. In His *justice*, God judges us because we are guilty. BUT - then in His *mercy* and love He came down in the person of His Son, Jesus Christ, and paid the penalty for us. Through the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross, God is both just and merciful.

May God help us understand His Incredible Justice and fairness – but also be blown away by His patient mercy. And may we grow in understanding of all that was accomplished on the cross.

**Blessings, Paula**

**NO Sunday Evening Fellowship** – tonight, due to the Combined Churches prayer meeting at HOB, or next **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March** due to the Te Hahi Combined Service.



## **Matrix Event**

The Matrix group enjoyed Pizza at the Party Place. About 12 kids (Matrix and friends) and 4 adults feasted on pizza, melon, plums and ice blocks then burnt this off playing sea weed, fruit salad and other board games. Great fun!!!



**Titling Envelopes** – Can anyone who has changed from using the envelope system to doing automatic payments, please let Jenny Phin know. Thanks.

**Combined Churches Prayer Evening – 6.30pm TONIGHT! – Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March** – at House of Breakthrough. Prayer for the city in preparation for the Hope Project's Easter booklet drop. Volunteers needed to deliver the booklets. If you are willing please sign up on the Volunteer Form at the back table. More info on noticeboard.

**Riverdale-Mangapapa Community Meeting** – You are invited to attend the community meeting at 4.30pm-5.30pm Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March in the Church House lounge.

**Visiting Speaker – 7pm Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March – Michael Burrows** from *Open Doors* will be visiting Gisborne in a week, and will be sharing with us about the persecuted church. The meeting will be held here at Mangapapa Church, and anyone is welcome to attend.



**Combined Service – 5.30pm Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March** at *Alive Church* in Leith St. Take a plate of finger food and stay for a shared supper after the service.



## **Men's Weekend – 13<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> March**

Come and join us at Whanarua Bay. Swimming, fishing, tramping, cycling or relaxing. Put it in your diaries now.

## **Otipi Bike Trail – Tues 17<sup>th</sup> March**

For those who are fit, have a good mountain bike and are able to stay until Tuesday, we will be cycling the Otipi Trail. Check it out at: [motutrails.co.nz/trail-guides](http://motutrails.co.nz/trail-guides). **Contact Paul Cosson or Roger Levy (021 139 9742) for more details.**



**Working Bee – Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March** – We will be having a Working Bee on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March and would appreciate as many helpers as we can get. Please put in your diary. If you know of anything that would be good to add to our list of jobs, please let the office know.



I've seen a few new people recently. It would be lovely to take food to bless people. If you are keen to bake/buy savoury muffins, scones, pies, quiches or soup, then please do and take them to the office to be frozen. Thanks – Nicola.