

Church Office Hours: 9am -12noon

'Prayer Chain' – Urgent matters for, Mon - Fri (excluding public holidays). 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.

Wednesday, 'Mens Breakfast'- meets every Wednesday morning 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.



FOODBANK...Thank you for your faithful giving to this ministry. Our foodbank is reasonably well stocked, however we would greatly appreciate help with the following items:
sugar, toilet paper and light bulbs.

TOSS Garage Sale is on this Thursday 13 December. We would appreciate any things to sell that you no longer need. All monies raised go towards helping our local mission projects when needed. Please drop any unwanted goods off to the office any morning before Thursday.



Te Wiremu Rest Home Worship Service, 621 Aberdeen Rd – Mangapapa Church's Gretchen Norman will be leading this service at Te Wiremu on **Wednesday 12 December at 3pm**, with help from Debbie Dobbie. See Gretchen if you'd like to join her, for this last Rest Home service for 2018. All welcome!

Evening Fellowship Gatherings – The last evening gathering session for the year will be on Sunday 16 December and resume in the New Year at the beginning of February 2019.

Church Directory - We are in the process of updating our church directory. If you have any details to update, or you are new to the church and would like to be included in this booklet, please see Marilyn at the table after the service.

	Today	Next Sunday 16 December
Greeters	N Hawkins, <i>volunteer</i>	Al Clement, L McAra
Explorers crèche	J Langford	M Parker
Matrix	S van Wyk	Christmas Family Service
Ministry Team	J Newman	E Oates
Cups of Tea	A & D McLean, D Benson	P & A Walker, <i>volunteer</i>
Flowers	B Bowis	E Oates
AV & Sound	R Nelson, P Cosson	D Russell, S Patrick
Counters	N Coffey	A McLean



Sunday 9 December 2018

10am: "Hold On To Hope" Luke 2: 21 - 40

Leading: Andrew Russell

Preaching: Paula Levy

Duty Elder: Rodney Judd

6.30pm: Evening Healing Service

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... Thank you to Gretchen Norman for sharing some of her story and our story with us last Sunday. I pray we will continue to build on the foundations and prayers of those who have invested in this church community, and take up her challenge to faithfully continue to run the race and pass on the baton, in all the ways God might be calling and leading us.

There will be a special Healing Service this evening at 6:30pm. This will involve a time of worship followed by opportunities to receive prayer for healing. Please come if you would value prayer for healing.

Not surprisingly I have been reflecting a lot on Christmas, and all that it means, and am again reminded of the amazing opportunity it brings to re-tell the Jesus story, and demonstrate love and generosity. This Sunday is the second Sunday in Advent and we are going to be looking at the theme of Hope.

What helps us keep our hope in God when some of our hopes may go unanswered?

Life has a lot of uncertainty and it's often not easy. Our world is broken in many ways – yet the story of Christmas is a story of certain hope and a certain promise fulfilled.

From the beginning of our human story, God promised a rescuer who would come to fix our brokenness. When He made good on that promise He did so in an unexpected way – by sending His Son, as a baby – to live among us. He also became the Saviour who lives in us, and the coming King who will return for us.

During the four weeks of Advent, we prepare for the celebration of Jesus's birth and of this breaking into history. We wait, we reflect, but we also have the absolute certainty that Christmas Day will come. We **will** celebrate. God became a human, came into our world, walked and talked with us, taught and healed, and ultimately died for us.... and rose again ...that we might also experience forgiveness and new life.

It also reminds us we are called to live out the hope we have, showing a Kingdom way of living that is different. Where the lost and lonely are welcomed into families, where people are healed, spiritually and physically, where the values are those of the Kingdom.

Advent can also remind us we are still in the middle of the story, not only do we have the hope of salvation now, and the challenge of living out the Kingdom now, but we have the hope and equal certainty of Jesus returning. We know the end of the story!

Blessings as you reflect on, live out and enter in to the Christmas story this week.

Paula

There is nothing the nearness of Jesus cannot overcome.

For Prayer & Praise...

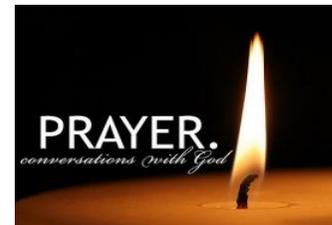
- **Congratulations to our Random Acts of Kindness (RAK) Ministry!** These ladies, who along with the voluntary drivers, have been running this community outreach ministry for 20 years!



OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR POSITION - We are in the process of finalising a new job description for this position. We are looking for someone who loves people, is committed to the mission of our Church, has great computer and technical skills and copes well with a wide range of tasks and responsibilities. If you know of someone who fits this description and is interested please get them to contact Paula.

You're invited to...

✚ **HEALING SERVICE this Evening @ 6.30pm**



Please join us for a service of worship and prayer for healing, and invite anyone you know would especially appreciate prayer.

✚ **CHRISTMAS FAMILY SERVICE!** **next Sunday @10am –**

Theme is "Presents/Presence"

Is there someone you could invite to this service? If so, help yourself to the flyer invitations on the church auditorium table.



✚ **CHRISTMAS EVE CAROLS! Church Lawn @ 8:15pm**

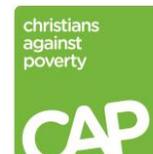


'Carols By
Candlelight'

Christmas Eve
Monday 24 December



On the Mangapapa Church Lawn
71 Atkinson Street



CAPtion – Support friends are soon to deliver Christmas gifts to CAP clients as a way of connecting with them, demonstrating God's love and hopefully sharing some of the true story of Christmas. Please pray for these encounters - Nicola.