



cambridge
baptist

BRINGING GOD'S HIDDEN
TREASURE INTO THE LIGHT

8TH MAY 2022

Dear Friends,

As I write this I am in Tawa having come down to care for my elderly mother after a stay in hospital. She is recovering well, thank you, but a concerning time for her and those near & dear.

It is also Mother's day this Sunday so I have reflected on the attributes that we so often attribute to mothers.

In Matthew 24 we see Jesus mount a blistering attack on the attitudes & actions of the so called spiritual leaders of Israel. The only bright spot is at the end of this lambast where he says in verse 37 "...how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings..." (NIV)

Such a lovely picture of the longing God has for us to experience the safety, comfort & protection such as the mother hen provides to the chicks that are willing to run to her. I have seen video clips of a mother hen protecting her chicks from snake attack, such is her commitment to them. Psalms particularly portrays God as the one who protects, gathers, helps, comforts... those that come to him.

Let us remember this mother's day those attributes of God exemplified in a mother hen, the longing He has for us, the gathering under his wings when a threat arises and the together-ness we have in this gathered position. God wants our intimacy with him more than we want it ourselves.

In Christ

Peter Bichan on behalf of the Elders

NEW TO CAMBRIDGE BAPTIST CHURCH?

If you are visiting for the first time, we say kia ora and a very warm WELCOME to you. As you worship with us we trust that you will feel at home, but more than that, to know the presence of God has touched your life through the worship and the Word. It is our intention to provide you with a loving environment, where people are encouraged in their journey of faith. Please join us for a cup of tea or coffee after the service.

OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY TO FRIDAY 9 AM TO 1 PM

Tel: 827 6490 | Email: cambap@xtra.co.nz | Church Website: www.cambridgebaptist.co.nz

Eldership Team: Peter Bichan, Ruth Martis, Peter Millais, Mervyn Taylor

BIBLE READING

Ephesians 3: 14-19

FOR FURTHER STUDY

1. **Ephesians 3:16** What is the main prayer request from Paul for the Ephesians? Often we pray for healing and provision, but not for strengthening of the inner being. Is there an area in your life where you could use spiritual strengthening?
2. **Ephesians 1:15-21** An earlier prayer from Paul for the Ephesian church. What can you learn from Paul's prayer in this passage? How can you align your prayers for our church fellowship, your family, your community, your town and our nation to Paul's prayers?
3. **Ephesians 4: 1-16; 4:29-32** The church and our personal relationship with God is grounded and established in the love of God. Does this love, so great, it defies our comprehension, motivates you to pray and talk in such a way that it builds up your fellow Christians and fellow non-believers (v. 29)? What can you do to be more kind, compassionate to one another and talk and pray so it is 'helpful for building others according to their needs' and support unity in our church fellowship (v. 29 and v. 32)?
4. Can you take time each day to pray for yourself and others in your life that your inner being would be strengthened and grow in 'grasping how wide and long, and high and deep the love of Christ is' v.3:18?

NEWSLETTER

SURVEY ABOUT SUNDAY SERVICE START TIME Today is the last day to complete this survey. Please place any hard copy responses in the box in the foyer before leaving, or complete the online survey by 8 pm.

HARDSHIP FUND Cambridge Baptist Church's goal is 'Bringing God's Hidden Treasure into the Light'. The Church has a hardship fund which exists as a means of facilitating this goal by expressing God's love to those finding themselves in some form of hardship. If you find yourself or know of others facing significant financial hardship that you are unable to help with, please contact the Church leadership who may be able to provide help from this fund. As part of the yearly budget we allocate some money for this purpose. If you feel led by God to donate to the fund you can do so through the normal giving options.

NEW MEMBERS We welcome Barry Copp and Carl Rix into membership of Cambridge Baptist Church.

LAURIKA NIEMAND has been appointed as the interim music ministry leader. Laurika has felt God's calling for a while. She has a huge passion for music and a burning desire to bring our congregation closer to God. Many of you would have been singing with her already and appreciate her wonderful smile!

MUSIC/WORSHIP MINISTRY TEAM MEETING SATURDAY 14TH MAY, FROM 2 – 4 PM Everyone who has been involved in music/worship or would like to be involved is invited to attend. This also includes people who are interested to help with the sound and ProPresenter. Please bring a plate to share for afternoon tea, as we fellowship together and prayerfully consider this ministry as we are going forward with a combined service.

A BIG THANK YOU FROM WERNER & HEIDI - for the wonderful gifts they received and the heartwarming, thoughtful words that so many wrote in their card.

ONLINE SERVICES Since Werner left, the sermon is no longer being pre-recorded, but is recorded during the Sunday service. This means that the service is not available online until later in the day.

COMMUNION BREAD We are now using gluten-free bread for communion on the first Sunday of each month.

MISSION NEWS FLASH - WOMEN IN MISSION - in 1876 a qualified nurse was sent out from Britain, the only female medical missionary in the whole of India. She set up a nursing clinic, which also worked to train Indian nurses. One day, when a Maharani (wife of a Maharajah) was in the clinic she told Miss Bielby it was not enough to have nurses. Could she, when next in Britain, ask Queen Victoria for women to be trained as doctors. Miss Bielby was doubtful, but friends in Britain gained her an audience and Queen Victoria said "yes". By 1887 of the 50 British women qualified in medicine, 6 were serving in India. The work expanded and hospitals were opened. Leprosy work began, homes opened for the care of orphaned children. A school for orphaned children began, the forerunner of what is now Kinnaird College for Women, a highly regarded University for women in Pakistan.

NEWSLETTER CONTINUED

MICROWAVE - USED, FREE TO A NEW HOME - 20 litre Panasonic , has slight rust inside, in working order. Contact Ray or Margaret on 09 535 9015 (landline) or 021 105 4958

KNITTERS & NATTERS do you enjoy knitting or crochet, for a good cause, (wool supplied) as well as time to chat with others? Join us each 1st & 3rd Thursday of the month, from 1.30pm to 3.00pm in the Church Lounge. Contact Ruth Shute 0276883474 for more details.

SCHOOL CHAPLAINCY – OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE Warren Salisbury is the Waikato Regional Coordinator for Lifewalk. He writes *“Lifewalk is a Christian based Trust set up nationally to promote chaplaincy in our state schools. My role is to promote, facilitate training, encourage, care for, & support the dedicated chaplains who serve in some of our state schools throughout the Waikato. However, we need more volunteers especially in this so in the Cambridge area! Do you think you have the qualities & giftedness to be an effective chaplain? Do you have a heart for children & young people? Do you have empathy, understanding, & do you regard yourself as a good listener? If so then this could be you!”* If interested contact Warren: mob 027 485 5286; email Warren@lifewalk.org.nz; www.lifewalk.org.nz

TITHING - the bank account number, for those who would like to pay online is: 02 0300 0014711 00. Please make sure to include your tithing number in the reference column. If you don't have a tithing number, please contact the church office.

PRAYER POINTS FOR THE WEEK STARTING MONDAY 9TH MAY

- Thank the LORD for an engaging ministry leaders breakfast last Saturday with over 30 people attending. Peter Bichan challenged us to be courageous leaders.
- Please keep on praying for clear guidance and wisdom for the search committee as informal meetings are happening with potential candidates in the coming weeks. The advertisement has closed now. Thank the Lord, for further applicants who have submitted their application.
- Pray for the Elders and Gillian, in the office, that the increased workload is manageable for all of them. Without a pastor, there will be a duty Elder at church every Tuesday & Wednesday.
- Please pray for a high survey participation to find out what starting time suits most people for our combined service. Pray that people will be accepting of the results, even if it is not their preferred time. Let's focus on worshipping the LORD, no matter what time the service will start.
- On Saturday 14th May, there will be a music and worship meeting from 2-4pm at church. All past and current worship leaders and musicians are invited, as well as anyone interested in music and worship. Please pray that many people will attend and have an encouraging time and build a great team of volunteers for our combined service.
- Pray for the folk in our church who are sick and who are self-isolating because of COVID-19. There has been an increase of COVID-19 infections.