

Anglican Parish of Amberley

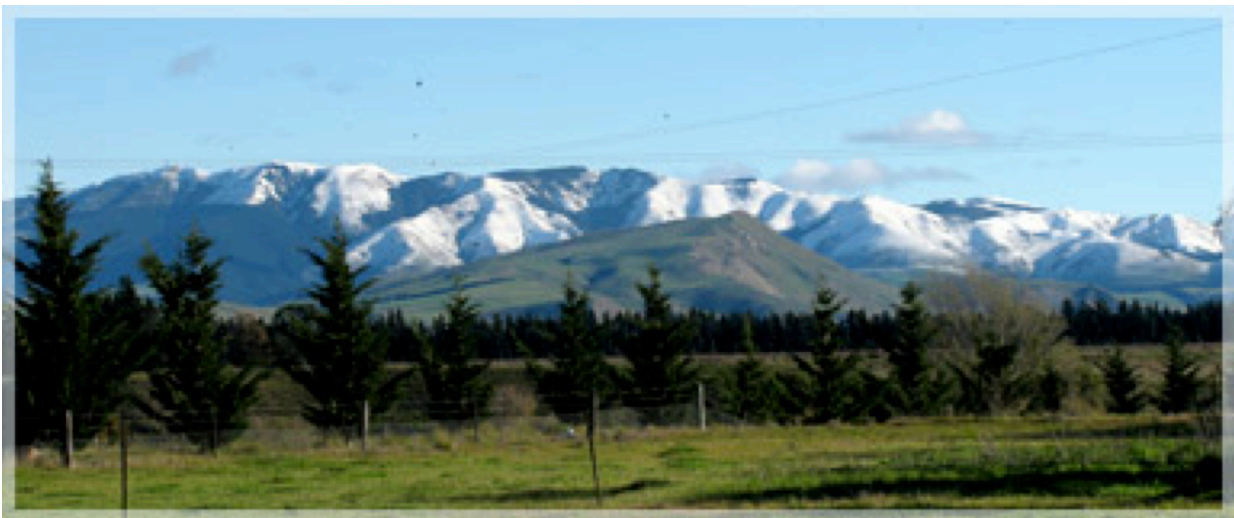


*Holy Innocents
Church Street, Amberley*



*St Paul's
Brighton Street, Leithfield*

Winter 2014



WHAM
(What's happening and More)

Letter from Lynnette

Believe it or not, it is already winter, and we are bracing ourselves for cold blasts and the gloomy forecasts. The Easter Season and Ascension Day are past, and Pentecost celebrations are here. Winter is a both an experience and a season. It has challenges and charms, delights and drawbacks, blessing and bleakness. And, like every season of the year, it has work for us to do.

After the warmth and fire of Pentecost – the red and gold colours – as we travel through winter we wear green for our stoles and use green for our drapes. Green speaks to me of hope and new growth. C.S. Lewis wrote:

Hope is one of the theological virtues. This means that looking forward to the eternal world is not (as some modern people think) a form of escapism or wishful thinking but one of the things a Christian is meant to do. It does not mean that we are to leave the present world as it is. If you read history you will find that the Christians who did most for the present world were often those who thought most of the next.... It is since Christians have largely ceased to think of the other world that they have become ineffective in this. Aim at Heaven and you will get earth “thrown in”: aim at earth and you will get neither.

Poet Macrina Wiederkehr wrote of standing before a barren and bare tree and asking herself, “*How can I give shade when I am empty and barren myself?*” Winter can make us feel depleted and barren – we can suffer from the “winter blues”. But it also gives us permission to care of ourselves and to face what we need. Paul wrote to Timothy, urging him to come before winter and to bring a cloak and scrolls with him (2 Timothy 4:9,13,21). He asked for three things:

*A cloak to keep his body warm
Scrolls to keep his mind alert
Company to keep his spirit nurtured*

Paul’s request gives us some insight into what we too need in winter. I think it is worth sitting with the questions and asking ourselves:

**What has made me feel barren and empty this year? *What work do I need to do in this season? *What are the gifts and graces of winter for me? *Is there a “spiritual hibernation” I can do – drawing in, keeping warm, resting, going at a different pace – that will help my body and soul and spirit rest and come into the new season of spring with greater energy and hope?*

I pray that we will all know the presence and blessing of God this winter – wrapped and encouraged by the fire of Pentecost which enables us to do the season well. May we all burst into the spring equipped to spread hope and encouragement in our own community and world.

Rev’d Lynnette Lightfoot

Report From Vestry

As often happens, good news is often accompanied by bad news and such is the case here. First the good news. Vestry has been successful in obtaining \$4,500 from grants to help meet the cost and installation of the new heaters in the parish hall. The Phillip Brown Trust has provided \$2,000 and the Kate Valley Community Trust \$2,500. We are certainly indebted to both for their generous donations, and of course to the Ladies Guild for their \$500 donation.

With the new heating, and the kitchen upgraded to Registered Foodsafe status, we hope that the hall will get more use from the Parish and especially the local community. **Contact Pat 314 8272 or phone 314 8131 for booking details.**



The bad news concerns the stained-glass windows in Holy Innocents Church. Several of the small panes on the southern side of the church were broken during the hail storm which hit Amberley a few weeks ago. On closer inspection, stained-glass specialists indicated that damage to the church windows was much more extensive. Some of the panes were obviously cracked some time ago while others could have been damaged during the earthquakes. This includes the altar window.

We have received the very alarming estimate of \$16,320 to replace or repair the damaged windows and restore them to their former glory.

As you can appreciate, this is well beyond our current financial means and we do not as yet know if insurance will cover at least part of the cost. A concerted effort to raise the necessary funds is now underway. Proceeds from the recent and highly successful garage sale held in the hall have started the ball rolling. The worst damage needs immediate attention and Vestry is currently looking at various ways to maintain a restoration programme that can continue as long as it takes to complete the restoration successfully.

Another issue concerning Vestry is the updating of the Parish Roll. Parishioners who currently receive our WHAM magazine will be sent a letter about this matter shortly.

Parishioners may be wondering what the outcome of the Partnership Review is. The Woodend-Pegasus Parish has only recently had its review and Vestry decided to delay the release of our findings until Woodend-Pegasus was in a position to do the same.

John Field-Dodgson, Vestry Chair

Treasurers Report

To date we have not had to use any funds from our investments to meet on-going expenditure. Generous donations totalling \$5,000 have been received from the Philip Brown trust, Kate Valley trust and the Ladies Guild. This amount was used to offset the cost of the hall heat pumps. \$2,295 was raised at the garage sale and this will be put towards the cost of repairing the stained glass windows. We are still waiting for an invoice from Logan Berg for the repairs to Holy Innocents.

Colin Teale

Garage Sale

A most successful sale was held on May 10th. Thank you very much to all those who contributed goods, those who made purchases, including raffle tickets, and those who worked so hard in the background. Over \$2200.00 was raised which will be earmarked for restoration of the beautiful stained glass windows in Holy Innocents. A great effort!

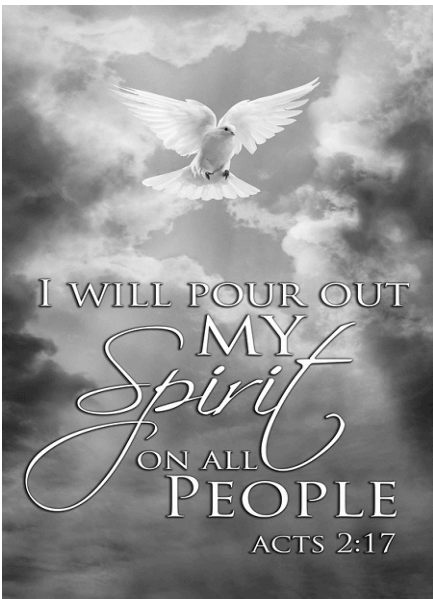
Patricia Gardner

Youth Group Buzz

It started small with 3, soared to 14 and then we had 8 around the fire at the Beach Bash [clashed with Mother's Day] and 6 today. It is looking very promising, with a range of children, mostly from contacts but some completely new.

Gillian, Llewellyn & I are very encouraged. One family has come to 2 church services since Youth Group began. Rev. Lynnette is right: we are seeing a greening! Yay! Please pray that the youth and their families will come and grow in faith. Amen.

Liz Dickson



Harvest Festival

Harvest Festival Service was a wonderful time to share our joy in God's provision over the past year. Ruth Benson travelled to get vines and generous gifts of produce; her decoration of Holy Innocents was beautiful and her prayer of corporate thanks moving. And then we brought our gifts up to the altar with the chance to offer our own words of thanks to the Lord. The singing swelled, uplifting hearts, praising God. Many people found it encouraging.

Thanks to David for running the produce auction that saw us raise over \$200 for the local foodbank.

Liz Dickson

Service times for Amberley Parish

June

15 th	9.30am	St Andrews – Combined Presbyterian / Anglican worship
NB	5.00pm	St P Evening Worship
22 nd	9.30am	H I Comb. Amberley/Woodend-Pegasus. Lunch to follow.
	5.30pm	H I Youth Group
29 th	9.30am	St P Holy Communion Celebration of St Paul's Day

July

6 th	9.30am	H I Family Eucharist
13 th	9.30am	H I Holy Communion
20 th	9.30am	H I Combined Anglican / Presbyterian Morning Worship
	5.00pm	St P Evening Worship
27 th	9:30am	St P Holy Communion – Social Services Sunday
NB: 4:00pm	hall	Messy Church – <i>Moses on the River</i> (early start time for July)
	5.30pm	hall Youth Group

August

3 rd	9.30am	H I Family Eucharist
10 th	9.30am	H I Holy Communion
	5.30pm	hall Youth Group
17 th	9.30am	St Andrew's – Combined Presbyterian / Anglican worship
	5.00pm	St P Evening Worship
24 th	9.30am	St P Holy Communion
	5.30pm	hall Youth Group
31 st	9.30am	St Barnabas Church, Woodend – Combined Service

September

7 th	9.30am	H I Family Eucharist
14 th	9.30am	H I Holy Communion
	5.30pm	hall Youth Group
21 st	9.30am	H I Combined Anglican / Presbyterian Morning Worship
	5.00pm	St P Evening Worship
28 th	9:30am	St P Holy Communion
	4.30pm	hall Messy Church
	6.00pm	hall Youth Group

Movie Nights: 'Gardening with Soul', Amberley Schl, Fri. & Sat. 27/28th June 7pm
Matinee screening Saturday 2pm (optional \$5 afternoon tea)
Amberley Schl PTA fundraiser. Tickets \$15: Sally Mac's & Amberley Schl office

Facebook Page & Blogsite

Many of you know that our parish has developed two social media sites. They are not only a form of outreach to let people know about us; they are also 'places' for us to meet online, have fun, exchange ideas, and encourage one another as members of a faith community. Any and all visitors are welcome!

The parish Facebook page is like an online photo album and noticeboard.

Here you can:

- ❖ view and comment on photos of the latest parish happenings
- ❖ see and comment on notices about upcoming events
- ❖ ask questions and make suggestions
- ❖ read an occasional inspiring quotation or story

Think of it as the internet 'face' that we present to the world and a place where we meet to share our photos and a few laughs. If you are not on Facebook but would like to be, we can help.

For people with a Facebook account:

On Facebook, search for: **Anglican Parish of Amberley**

Once you are there, **PLEASE:**

- 1) Click on the 'Like' button** near the top of the page. This is important and you only have to do it once.
- 2) 'Invite'** FB friends to 'Like' it too if you think they would enjoy it.
- 3) Add your Comments/Likes** – in *social media*, the more comments, the merrier.

The parish blogsite is called **amberleyanglican.com** A blogsite is different from a website because its content is regularly updated, and readers can join in discussions. It's like an online magazine and noticeboard. Our blogsite also has information about the parish for visitors.

On the blogsite you can:

- ❖ read and comment on short articles and parish news
- ❖ view an up-to-date schedule of worship services for the month
- ❖ read a weekly devotional reflection

Type **amberleyanglican.com** into the address line of your internet browser. You will arrive at the **Home** page. This page shows **summaries** of the latest news items and articles (called 'posts'). The most recent post will appear at the top. Scroll down to see older ones. To read the whole of a post, not just the summary, click on its title.

Some other things that you can do on our blogsite are:

- 1) Leave a comment.** Anyone can read posts, but to leave a comment or a 'Like', the site will require you to register an email address and password. Anonymous comments are never permitted on responsible sites. New comments don't appear right away but are always moderated first to avoid the 'spam' we would otherwise have on our site.
- 2) Have a look at the other pages.** The horizontal menu near the top of the screen lists them: 'About us', 'Messy Church', 'Church Services', 'Weekly Reflection'...

Type email
address & click
Follow for email
updates

3) Choose to 'Follow' the site. You must have an email address to do this. On the left side of the Home page, you will see this thing here, shown at left. Type in your email address, click Follow. Then you will receive in an email asking you to confirm.

Once a follower, you'll get an email **each time there is a new Post on the Home page** – usually once a week. You will NOT get emails every time other pages are updated, only the Home page.

Please contact me, Mary-Jane Mumford or Liz Dickson if you need help with any of this. We look forward to seeing you in church and online.

Gillian Trewinnard, ph. 314 9213
gillian@blueskies.co.nz

MESSY CHURCH

in the Parish Hall- all welcome!

Sunday 27th July

N.B. 4.00pm start this month only

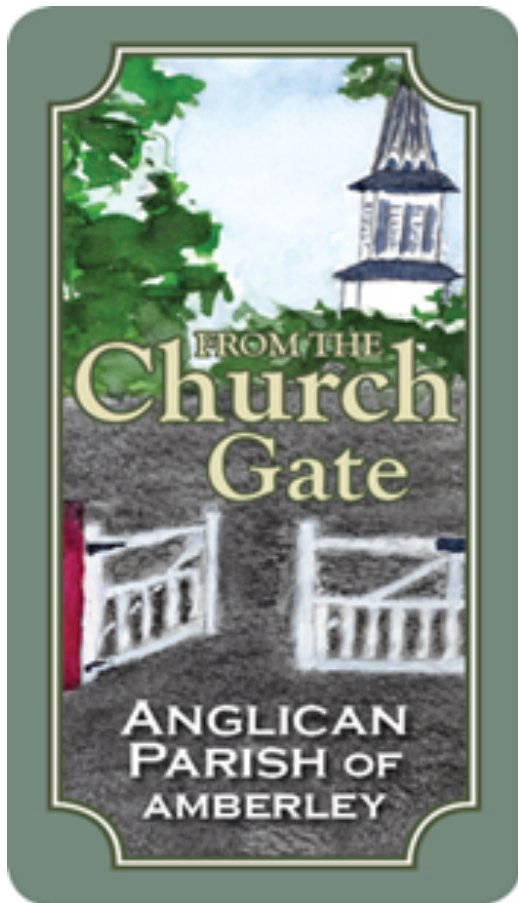
Theme: *Moses on the River*

A plate for a shared tea, please.

ph. Sally 314 6739



**Interchurch Social Evening, Parish hall, Friday, Sept 12th, 6pm.
Speaker Judith Moore – 'China's Diversity'. Supper provided.**



News from the Church Gate

Here we are nearing the middle of the year, and winter is upon us. Well done to Pat and Patricia for the Trash 'n Treasure Sale – what a great success – and thanks to all those who donated and assisted on the day.

We hope you will all come to the 'Spice-up-your-Winter Lunch' on 22nd June. We need to keep fundraising for the windows in the church. **Only \$15.00 per person.**

Please don't forget the Christmas Cake Sale for November. Let me know how many cakes you can commit to make, or if not bake, perhaps donate some money towards the ingredients. Last year we had 40 cakes (and they all sold), and we would like to have at least that number again this year.

If you have any special item that you would be willing to donate to the **window fundraising** cause that we could value over \$100, please talk to me about it because I am going to set up a Trade Me account to raise more money for the windows. Trying a new avenue.

Any ideas gratefully received. Ring me anytime 314 9956 or email me at mjmumford@xtra.co.nz

Thanks, *Mary-Jane*

'Spice-up-your-Winter' Lunch Parish Hall, June 22nd (after 9.30am service)

Come and celebrate Mid-Winter at this Amberley Parish Fundraising lunch – a heart-warming affair!
Food for the soul followed by food for the body.

Just \$15 buys you a ticket to warming food, fellowship and fun.
Contact Patricia, 314 9330 to book your ticket.

Those with food intolerances, please notify Patricia so that we can try to accommodate your needs.