

Worship Services March 2017

J. Coutts will be on leave from 06/03/17 to 03/04/17 inclusive

5th – 9.30 St Pauls J. Coutts Communion
11am St James Communion

12th – 9.30 St Pauls Dugald Wilson followed by lunch
7pm St James Rev Tevita Taufalele

19th – 9.30 Paul Inwood Combined with St James at St.
Paul's

26th – 9.30 St Pauls Betty Watson Harvest Festival none
perishable items only please
7pm St James Led by Eric Mattock

April 2nd 9.30 St Pauls Valmai McKenzie Communion
11am St James Harvest Festival—Alan Blair

Meetings and dates to remember in March

1st 1.30pm St James Worship Committee

3rd 10 am World Day of Prayer Holy Name Church

7th 10am St Pauls Women's group

15th 1.30pm St James Women's fellowship

19th Items due for Newsletter

21st 7pm Individual Council meetings 7.30pm combined Parish Council meeting
at St Paul's

26th Newsletter ready for distribution

April 2nd Daylight savings ends. Turn clocks back & check smoke alarms

Your newsletter has been brought to you by your contact person:

COMBINED NEWSLETTER

March 2017



St Paul's Presbyterian Church
65 Oxford Street, Ashburton



St James Presbyterian Church
127 Thomson Street, Tinwald

Easter Eggs



Have you ever wondered how eggs came to be associated with Easter? If so, you can learn the Christian history, meaning and symbolism of Easter eggs here!

The tradition of Easter eggs is almost certainly associated with the practice of Lent — a period of preparation for Easter that includes 40 days of abstinence (designed to imitate Jesus' forty day fast in the desert, Matthew 4:1-11).

The practice of Lent existed in the early church (atleast by the 4th century) and by 692, the Council in Trullo (a church council held in Constantinople) gave the following instructions:

“It seems good therefore that the whole Church of God which is in all the world should follow one rule and keep the fast perfectly, and as they abstain from everything which is killed, so also should they from eggs and cheese, which are the fruit and produce of those animals from which we abstain.”

Scholar Anthony McRoy notes, “In pre-refrigeration days, it would be difficult to preserve milk and meat products until Easter, but the same was not true of eggs. Eggs, which unlike other foods do not perish quickly, were therefore a natural way to break the fast on Easter Sunday.”*

Thus eggs served as the main course for many joyful celebrations of Easter, and they offered the additional benefit of serving as the perfect symbol for the “hope of new life” — a hope made possible for all believers through the resurrection of Christ.

In regard to the practice of coloring eggs, it has existed in many cultures throughout history. Interestingly, among Orthodox believers, eggs are most often colored red to symbolize Christ's blood that was spilled to give us new life. In the U.S., it is more common to see a variety of colors (usually pastels) symbolizing the many colors of “new life” that come into bloom in the spring.

**Minister Rev John Coutts – Phone 308 8705 /
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St James 127 Thompson St Tinwald

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St Paul's 65 Oxford Street Ashburton

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Rosters for March 2017 St Paul's

Welcome:

5 & 12 N & L Clucas

19 & 26 I & M Page

Elder:

5 & 12 M Harrison

19 & 26 N McDowell

Flowers:

5 & 12 J Butterick

19 & 26 M Chapman

Morning Tea:

5 A Bartlett/J Tyrrell

12 J Cunningham/H Mowatt

19 J McOmish/M Greenslade

26 B Arnst/S Dornay

Cleaning:

Feb 27-Mar 12 S Thomas/ M Greenslade

13-26 J Crouchley / M McAt-amney

27-Apr 9 Jen Dowdle/L Braam

Meals on wheels:

3-7 April this is a full 5 days so will need as much help as possible please.

Ph Sandra 3086536 or work 3077699

Rosters for March 2017 St James

Welcome:

5 M MacLeod

12 & 19 G Lee

26 J Reeves

April 2 J Ross

Elder:

5 E Armstrong

12 & 19 A Royds

26 M Bishop

April 2 M Bishop

Door:

5 G Lee

12 & 19 E Jones

26 G Lee

April 2 A Ross

Communion Elders:

Morning Tea/ Supper:

5 M Reeves/E Jones

12 M Twamley/M Bishop

26 Suzanne & Gloria Watson

April 2 Kate & Ailsa Lovett



People from St James, St Paul's and St Andrews gathered in the Ashburton Domain last month for a "bring your own" picnic. It was lovely to share fellowship on a beautiful day in our wonderful domain.

World Day of Prayer

Friday, March 3

10am Holy Name Catholic Church, Sealy Street

The ecumenical service has been prepared by the women of the Philippines with the title "Am I Being Unfair to You"

You are invited to join in worship and fellowship.

Wanted: A reader to take part in the service – just two or three lines to read. Contact G. Lee or E Jones if you can help. A practice will be held on Thursday, at 7pm

St James' Women's Fellowship

Wednesday, March 15

The next meeting will be held in the church lounge at 1.30pm on Wednesday, March 15 Sharon Wilson from the China Shop will speak to us.

Devotions led by Almond Royds

Roll call: Goods for Harvest Thanksgiving

Visiting and hostesses: Christine Fleming, Shona Thomas, Gay Lee

Sales table. All welcome

From the Worship Committee:

Proposed combined services on the 5th Sunday of the month. This was discussed at the individual and then combined Parish council meetings and the decision was passed that this would be good thing as there is only 3 in a year.

Monthly Combined Services – St Andrew's wishes to withdraw from this arrangement.

St. James and St. Paul's will continue with St. James (Feb) and St. Paul's (March).

J. Coutts will be on leave from 06/03/17 to 03/04/17 inclusive

Gospel Service – October 29th to be set as date for Gospel Service.

Items for Aprils newsletter due March 19th. Do you have a reflection or even a editorial you would like people to read?

Rev John Coutts will conduct the following services at rest homes on behalf of St James and St Paul's:

Sunday 5th 2pm Tuarangi Home

Wednesday 22nd 11am Terrace view

Thursday 30th 11am Ashburton Hospital

Your support is welcome.

St Paul's Women's Group

Tuesday, March 7 and March 21

The group meets fortnightly at 10am. Please contact Janet Benfell, Phone 307 6267 for more information. Visitors welcome.

St James' would like to wish Lyn Gutry all the best as she moves to Motueka to be nearer family. Thank you, Lyn for your work with us and your cheerful nature



A Mat and a set of Bowls have been given to radius Millstream from St James as the indoor bowling club is no longer operating. Residents are pictured trying them out.

The combined meeting of the Parish Councils of St Paul's and St James this week accepted the intention of our Minister, Rev John Coutts to retire in January 2018.

The combined councils will now work towards future ministry of both St James and St Paul's

All newsletter delivery people notice:

We would like to gauge the interest in the possibility of running a mid week late morning or mid afternoon Communion Service. If any of your people are interest can they please con tact Rev Coutts 3088075. Transport will be available along with Morning/afternoon tea.

Harvest Festival food donations from St Paul's will this year go to Presbytery support.