

**Saturday 11 February
9am—12noon**

Working bee

Yes, it's that time again when there are a few jobs needed doing around the church buildings and grounds.

More hands, make light work and it's a great way to meet more of St Luke's family. Plus, there's always a tasty morning tea on offer!

Things needing attention:

- gardens at rear of church
- raking up of tree debris
- cleaning below the bell tower
- Tidying of garden border
- Memorial Garden flower planting
- Cupboard tidy in hall kitchen
- Children's room sorting at front of church

Music and **M**ovement for pre-schoolers and their parents/carers began again on Friday morning for the year.

In preparation for this Caroline and Kevin Millard cleared up the children's play area.

A huge thanks to this intrepid pair.



Caroline knee deep in undergrowth!

**2017
St Luke's Anglican Church
Greytown**
www.stlukesgreytown.co.nz

Vicar
Rev Andy Eldred (06) 379 8889
027 476 1998
andy@stlukesgreytown.co.nz

Vicar's Warden
Ryan Monastra (06) 379 9217
027 261 8487
vicarswarden@stlukesgreytown.co.nz

People's Warden
Wendy O'Styke (06) 304 8958
027 226 9595
w.ostyke@xtra.co.nz

Administration & Hall Bookings
Marlene Ditchfield
(06) 304 7066
office@stlukesgreytown.co.nz

Kids' Church
Liz Crow (06) 929 7586
akalizzie@gmail.com

Music and Movement
Liz Crow (06) 929 7586
akalizzie@gmail.com

Women's Fellowship
Isobel Garrity (06) 304 9290

Weekly Bulletin
Items to: office@stlukesgreytown.co.nz

Bi-monthly 'Lookout'
Items to: office@stlukesgreytown.co.nz

Church Office
Hours 10am—3pm
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
Email: office@stlukesgreytown.co.nz

www.stlukesgreytown.co.nz
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Welcome Kia Ora St. Luke's Church Greytown Sunday 5 February 2017



Our commitment is to love, acceptance and forgiveness in Christ

Sentence of the Day

Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

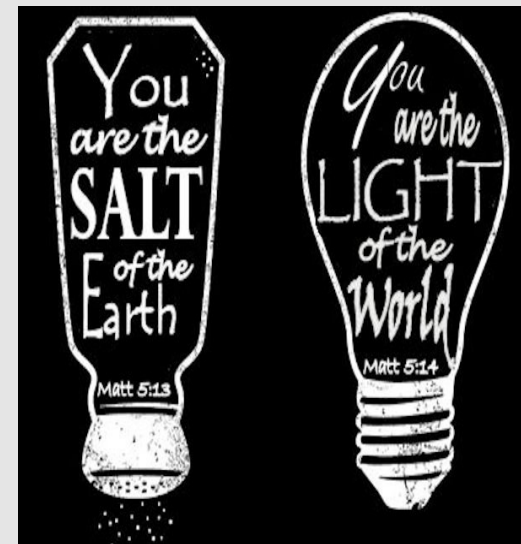
Matthew 5:16

Collect of the Day

We praise you, God,
that the light of Christ shines in our
darkness
and is never overcome;
show us the way we must go to
eternal day;
through Jesus Christ our Lord
Amen.

Readings

Matthew 5:13-16



Remember morning tea is offered in the hall after today's service.
Please join us .

Food for Thought?

Salt and light

"You are the salt of the earth....You are the light of the world."

This is a difficult time for many people and for many reasons. Whether it's the stress of trying to get into our new year rhythm; the pressures of trying to get our work/life balance right, or for many, the unease and anxiety caused by the new president of the USA. More than ever we need salt and light in this world. And the wonderful thing is that God has already provided it!

The absolutely crucial element of the gospel passage we read today is that we must keep in mind that Jesus isn't saying, "You *should* be the salt of the earth and light of the world." Or, "You *have* to be..." let alone "You *better* be..." Rather, he is saying, **you are**. As in **already are** right now, even if you don't know it. Even if you once knew it and have forgotten. Even if you have a hard time believing it.

Jesus is making to his disciples, and therefore to us, a promise about their very being; he is not commanding, let alone threatening them about what they should be doing. And that's worth stopping and reflecting upon. Because so many people seem to experience God more like a divine law-maker and rule-enforcer than a generous gift-giver and life-bringer. And because many of us experience God that way – always setting expectations that we can rarely live up to, we tend not to find as much inspiration and energy in our worship, experience, and faith lives as we might hope.

But in this passage, Jesus is making promises and giving out gifts. You **are** the salt of the earth. You **are** the light of the world. This is, like last week, sheer blessing. And, like the week before, it is about identity, about our very being, which in turn leads to doing.

But before getting there, just sit with this promise.

Shalom, *Andy*

UPDATE from Archdeacon May Croft Working together as Three Parishes in the Southern Wairarapa.

School is back, 2017 is really underway, and it's an exciting new time for the church in southern Wairarapa region.

The Ministry Team across the three parishes met last Friday (27 Jan) and we set the ground rules for future meetings. We discussed how our language and thinking needed to change to reflect the new paradigm of working together for God's Kingdom in the whole southern Wairarapa region.

We discussed the importance of good communication so expect to hear from us regularly and expect to see in your newsletters, updates on progress and prayers that embrace the entire region.

The Ministry Team includes Archdeacon May Croft as Leader and Interim Priest in Charge of Carterton; Andy Eldred, Vicar of Greytown; Philippa Young Lay Leader of Featherston; Sam Bate Interim Priest in Charge of South Wairarapa; Alan Maxwell Youth Leader Featherston and Archdeaconry Consultant for Youth. The Team will meet every Friday 1pm -2.30pm.

Bishop Justin intends to lead the team meetings twice a month.

The southern Wairarapa region is hosting "The Games" this year in Featherston Sunday 5th March 2pm (see below). This is an event for intermediate and college age young people (12 crazy games for 4 crazy hours). It needs a small army of volunteers to help muster the troops and offer support. Alan Maxwell is going to be visiting our congregations over the next few weeks to inspire us to offer help.

This is the first opportunity to have a great time together and experience our young people in action!

Blessings, *May*.



St Luke's Greytown is again going to celebrate this special day too.

The Family Service in March will focus and celebrate our precious Children even more than we normally do. We'll have all kinds of fun activities in the church grounds planned for the younger children until around 12.30pm. The annual youth event 'The Games' in Featherston for older children and youth runs from 2pm.

This is being organised by Wairarapa Anglican Youth (WAY) so you could make an afternoon of it all and really acknowledge Children's Day.