

8 Christmas & New Year Services in te Whare

CHRISTMAS 2023

Sunday 17 December

10am Carols Guest Service—60'
Followed by morning tea

Christmas Eve—Sunday

10am Worship & Communion – 60'
Followed by morning tea
6-7pm Christingle for Families
Includes eats and drinks

Christmas Day—Monday

8:30am Traditional Eucharist – 45'
10am Family Worship– 60'



The LYCiG PRAYER

God of mission
Who alone brings growth to your Church,
Send your Holy Spirit to give
Vision to our planning,
Wisdom to our actions,
Joy to our worship,
And power to our witness.
Help our Church to grow in numbers,
In spiritual commitment to You,
And in service to our local community,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

NEW YEAR 2024

New Year's Eve - Sunday

10am Family Guest Worship – 60'
Followed by morning tea
9pm Shared rolling supper,
games, singing, prayer with brief
Communion @ midnight

New Year's Day - Monday

5pm Family Barbeque—bring &
share



CHRISTINGLE

At 6pm on Christmas Eve we have a Family time when we sing Christmas carols, have a Bible reading, say a few prayers and create **Christingles** using oranges, candles, red ribbon, tooth picks, dried fruits with a lolly or two and a small candle. Each element of the **Christingle** symbolises a part of the Christmas story. The Christingle time ends with children's party food. All by 7pm. **ALL WELCOME.**



PARISH NEWS
November 2023

Leading Your Church into Growth LYCiG

Growing the Church the JESUS Way

Any Christian course that begins with, and majors on, PRAYER will always get my (Terry's) attention. We call our House of Worship te Whare Karakia—the House of Prayer—and we seek always to be talking with God about how to move forward as individuals and as a community. **Prayer must always be first.**

The LYCiG course begins with a session on *Creating a Prayerful Culture of Growth* in which we are invited to notice what we think about, talk about and spend time on in our church meetings doing. So often it can be about building issues (ring a bell?), financial struggles or lack of volunteers! **However, when it is about prayer then a culture of prayer will emerge**, like a plant from a bulb.

Philip North, an English Bishop asks, *If you are not leading your church into growth, where are you leading it?* A Growth Mindset is about seeing possibilities in:

- * Your situation
- * Your people
- * Yourself
- * Your God

And believing that God will lead us into those possibilities. St Peter in his first Day of Pentecost sermon quoted from the prophet Joel, *In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.* Acts 2:17. Read on and note what happened!

Pope Francis puts it like this,

*Religious life ought to promote growth in the church by way of attraction. The church must be attractive. Wake up the world! Be witnesses of a different way of doing things, of acting, of living. **How might we be more attractive?***

PRAYER

Please pray and give thanks for:

- The decision to permanently continue Church life at Te Whare Karakia.
- The outcome of the recent General Election and implementation of decisions for the betterment of all people in Aotearoa New Zealand.
- For local political leaders, especially Barbara Edmonds, MP for Mana and Anita Baker, Porirua Mayor and those they lead and the people they represent.
- That emergency medical care may be maintained in Porirua, despite reports to the contrary.
- The relevance of Porirua Anglican life in eastern Porirua—that we may draw people to Christ this Christmas and into 2024—giving thanks for newcomers with us recently.
- ALPHA Course participants...



PARISH DIRECTORY

Priest in Charge

Reverend Terry Alve—027 600 1926
poriruaanglican@gmail.com
Day off—Monday

Parish People's Warden

Stuart McLaren—022 198 4560

Bishop's Warden

Charles Nikora—027 285 4400

Call/Txt Parish: 027 944 4996

<https://www.poriruaanglican.nz>

What is Your Vision for Growth in the Porirua Anglican Community?

We have reached a natural turning point in our life together with the decision to permanently worship in te Whare Karakia. While we will discern together ways forward for GROWTH, we are so dependent on us each individually discerning and praying to God and searching the scriptures for God's plan for us. Please do feed back to Leaders ...

NOVEMBER WORSHIP

DAY	SERVICE HC = Holy Communion & L1,2,3, = LYCiG Material
Sun 5 Nov	10am Worship & HC— <i>Testimonies about Humility</i>
Sun 12 Nov	10am Worship & HC— <i>L2 Implement Rhythms of Growth—4P's</i>
Sun 19 Nov	10am Guest Service Worship— <i>The Parable of the Talents</i>
Sun 26 Nov	10am Worship & HC— <i>L3 Practice Fruitful Evangelism</i>
Sun 3 Dec	10am Worship— <i>Advent Sunday</i>

MID-WEEK

Wednesday Prayer—each Wednesday 2-3pm. Afternoon tea to follow.

Friday Worship—a short worship service (45') at noon each Friday. Followed by light lunch—bring and share.

Thoughts for Porirua Vestry and Anglicans

As I ponder what it means to have a growth mindset, I am convinced that by the end of 2024 fifty plus people will regularly worship in te Whare each week. Of course they won't all be there in the 10am worship service; te Whare is too small for that. However, it will happen in two, three or more meetings. Already we have a Friday noon service—10 people attended last week. And a Wednesday prayer meeting at 2pm—7 people attended last week. And for the last five weeks on Sunday morning our average attendance has been 16 people.

$$10 + 7 + 16 = 33$$

I believe that God is showing us the future is about attracting people to te Whare for meaningful encounter with God. In terms of the above target of 50 we are two thirds of the way there. How might we grow more?

- ◆ During five+ Sundays before Christmas Terry plans to **unpack more of the insights and wisdom from the LYCiG Conference**;
- ◆ **Our 8 Christmas & New Year gatherings** have been planned and are being advertised. I dare to believe that during these events we can reach 100+ people if we are proactive. A mail drop to the local area is planned.
- ◆ **Our Summer ALPHA Course begins 17 January.** Who will you invite to that? The target is outsiders NOT insiders, although we will need help with catering and hospitality: that's insider work. Please pray for 12+ new unchurched people to participate in this Course.

PLEASE PRAY FERVENTLY AND SUPPORT THESE EFFORTS PRACTICALLY—Terry

Parish SGM (15 Oct.) UNANIMOUS DECISION

“That Porirua Anglicans agree to continue worship, church life and administration at Te Whare Karakia, 49A Mungavin Ave, Porirua and we invite the Diocese of Wellington to discuss, and decide with us, the future of St. Anne's Church, 2 Ara-whata St, Porirua, with a view to it no longer being required for Parish Purposes.”

This decision has been sent to the Wellington Anglican Diocese for action in consultation with Porirua Anglicans.

ALPHA 2024

On Wed. 17 January 2024 an ALPHA course will begin in te Whare Karakia running from 6:30—9pm. This will run for eleven weeks, ending in Holy Week. It will also include a Saturday 9:30am-4pm gathering on 2nd March to learn about and experience the Holy Spirit. You can learn more & register to participate in this Course here: <https://tinyurl.com/poriruaalpha>