John Knox
Rangiora
www.johnknoxrangiora.co.nz

# 23 November 2025

*“I don’t want any fuss, just something low-key…”*

At Connect this week we had a very engaging conversation around funerals. Many would have heard someone close to us say, “…for my funeral, please, no fuss, just a short, private gathering. I just want something low-key…” As noble as that sounds, I have some problems with it. Recognising straight away that each person has the right to make their own decision, I get that, but I would like to challenge that decision.

It is a very human emotion and need to grieve. To lament the loss of someone we love. It is part of what it means to be human, to love and to face loss. Our grief is natural, and also important. It recognises that we have lost someone who held significant meaning for us and we will need to cope and find ways to move on with life without them. We inherently celebrate in community; it is a natural need to lament as a community too. While our lives will never be the same, we have this need to be surrounded by our communities as we journey through the stages of grief.

As much as we want to respect the wishes of those who have died, the unintended consequences of not having a proper farewell may be that we miss the chance to meaningfully honour the impact these people have in our lives. Our farewell may forever feel unfinished. Letting those close to you process their farewell is a very important part of our healing.

So, for those feeling like you don’t want to put anyone to too much trouble, maybe a chance to rethink who will have the greatest need when you are gone? Ngā mihi nui, Jas

## CHURCH SERVICE TODAY

**Service Leader:** Jas
**Preacher:** Jas

**YouTube Link: https://youtube.com/live/3WS0Y1flTmA?feature=s**

**PRE-SERVICE PRAYER**: 9.45am in Barrett Room

**READINGS:**
1 Corinthians 12:21-26
1 Corinthians 12: 27-31a

**The Worship Hymns and Songs:**
Love Divine
Here Is Love
Salvation Belongs to Our God
I Will Run To You
Lord Dismiss Us With Thy Blessings

**CELEBRATIONS:**
**Birthdays:** Angus King
**Wedding Anniversaries:** Ian & Joy Cormack
*May The Lord bless you and keep you well* 😊

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK:**

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|---|---|
| **Mon 24 November:** | **Revelation 21:5-27** |
| **Tue 25 November:** | **Revelation 22:8-21** |
| **Wed 26 November:** | **Luke 1:1-4** |
| **Thu 27 November:** | **John 6:25-35** |
| **Fri 28 November:** | **1 Thessalonians 5:1-11** |
| **Sat 29 November:** | **1 Thessalonians 5:12-22** |
| **Sun 30 November:** | **Luke 21:20-24** |

**NOTICES:**

- **Friday 21st November:** Hard Knox Café, 6.30 – 8.30pm, JKR
- **Friday 5th December:** Hard Knox Café end of year celebration, 6.30 – 8.30pm, JKR

- **LET'S THINK OF OTHERS THIS CHRISTMAS**
  Although our Church Women's Group is in recess, we'd love our Church Family to continue supporting PILLARS (families of prisoners) and the Salvation Army Christmas Food Boxes.
  **Dec 7:** Bring donations for the **Salvation Army Food Boxes**
  **Dec 14:** Bring donations for **PILLARS**. Collection boxes will be in the foyer on those Sundays. Thank you for your generosity!
  *Questions? Contact Annette Paterson (313 4116).*

**Christmas Singalong**
Musical Frenz would like to invite John Knox people to a Christmas singalong which will also be joined by Tōtara Club members.
This will be held from 1 - 2 p.m. on Friday 12 December in the Wyllie and Stewart rooms. No charge. Hope to see you there. If you need further information, please contact John Warburton (0211082866)

Christmas Tree Fundraiser: Our first tree sale is on 13 December. If you're growing trees, please record your available number on the foyer clipboard. Collection will be Friday afternoon or early Saturday morning. Thanks, Jas.
**Stations of the Cross**: If you'd like to take part by preparing a Station for next Easter's presentation, please speak with **Grenville**.

**October 2025**

| | Current Month | | Year to Date | | Annual | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Actual | Budget | Actual | Budget | Budget | Forecast |
| Total Months Giving | 9,761 | 9,275 | 36,032 | 33,390 | 96,460 | 99,102 |

**Prayer for our friends:**
*Our neighbouring Parishes: Oxford Union, Kaiapoi Co-operating Parish, Kowai-Cheviot Presbyterian Parish Amberley as they go through seasons of change*, *Rev Robert Robati-Mani and family*, *Max Atkins & Averill Gibson, Judith Spriggs, Jean Jeffrey, Janice and Ross Wilson, Donna Abernethy, Clare Calder*, *Mary Stewart and Ian Cormack.*

**CHURCH DUTY ROSTER FOR NOVEMBER 2025**
**23 November**

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| **Elder Duty:**<br>Richard McMurdo | **Door Duty**:<br>Kim Fletcher and Margaret Vallance |

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| **Power Point:**<br>Tracy Mayhew | **Mini Bus:**<br>Joan Shearer and Grenville |
| **Morning Tea:**<br>Lyn O'Malley and Gaye Edwards | **Offering Count:**<br>Tracy and Howard |
| **Readings:**<br>Richard McMurdo | **Heroes Leader:**<br>Lincoln |
| **Prayers:**<br>Ewen Nichol | **Fun with Music:**<br>Anne Moffat |

## 30 November

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| **Elder Duty:**<br>Anne Moffat | **Door Duty**:<br>Marlene Hawke and Margaret Hamilton |
| **Power Point:**<br>Allan Russell | **Mini Bus:**<br>Richard Mc / Lincoln |
| **Morning Tea:**<br>Kate King and Marlene Hopkinson | **Offering Count:**<br>Tracy/Howard |
| **Readings:**<br>Eric | **Heroes Leader:**<br>Megan |
| **Prayers:**<br>Annette Paterson | **Fun with Music:**<br>Mary Blaikie (1st Dec) |

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|---|---|---|---|
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| | Richard Morris | | |
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