John Knox
Rangiora
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Sunday 08 February 2026

How hard is it getting into the new year?

Starting back in the office this week, (with the added bonus of it being a short week) there is both an excitement and a panic as I find myself needing to hit the ground running! I found during my last week of leave, my mind was drifting into ideas and questions for the year ahead. What opportunities, what challenges, what needs to be built on from 2025.

If you're anything like me, the year ahead is like a child in a lolly shop! So many opportunities, so many different treats to try and sample. The greatest challenge is to not get too overwhelmed with the choices, like a puppy that has been thrown 4 tennis balls simultaneously! To try to focus on what is immediately in front of you and to not be distracted. In the initial few weeks at least…

Proverbs 3:21 "My son, do not let wisdom and understanding out of your sight, preserve sound judgment and discretion."

My Prayer is at the dawn of this new year (granted we are one month in already…) is for sound judgement and discretion and that we can listen well and focus on the Path ahead as the scene of 2026 starts to materialise before us!

Nga mihi nui, Jas

CHURCH SERVICE TODAY

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

YouTube Link: **https://youtube.com/live/8i-lgSSPEpY?feature=share**

PRE-SERVICE PRAYER: 9.45am in Barrett Room

READINGS: 1 Corinthians 14: 1-15

The Worship Hymns and Songs:

All The Earth
Here I Am Lord
At The Cross
How Great Thou Art (Whakaaria Mai)

CELEBRATIONS:

Birthdays in December: *Donna Abernethy*
Wedding Anniversaries: *Richard & April - 7th February*
May The Lord bless you and keep you well 😊

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

Mon 09 February:	**Romans 11:2-10**
Tue 10 February:	**2 Corinthians 4:1-12**
Wed 11 February:	**John 8:12-30**
Thu 12 February:	**Hebrews 8:1-7**
Fri 13 February:	**Hebrews 11:23-28**
Sat 14 February:	**Mark 9:9-13**
Sun 15 February:	**Matthew 17:1-9**

NOTICES:

Wednesday 11th February: Connect, 10am, JKR
Wednesday 18th February: Ash Wednesday service, 6pm
Wednesday 18th February: Parish council, 7pm

South Canterbury 'Wayfinder' - Full Time

A partnership between Timaru Presbyterian, Trinity Temuka Presbyterian, and Alpine Presbytery has been formed, and an exciting new ministry and mission leadership role has been created in South Canterbury. A 'wayfinder' is a term used to describe the ancient navigation skills of early Polynesian migrants. Without maps or GPS, they would navigate their way across oceans to discover new lands. The mind boggles at how they did this, relying instead on water currents, wind patterns, cloud formations, fish and bird life, the sun, and the stars. They became highly skilled at reading the signs around them and navigating their way across uncharted territory. This is a good metaphor for the kind of work required as we look to be present in our communities. The Spirit of God still calls and equips us for work in God's mission, yet the world has changed an awful lot since our settler churches arrived here in Aotearoa; a different approach is needed. We are looking for a person who feels a vocational call to this exploratory kind of ministry and who is both excited by and comfortable in experimental spaces. They will be able to self-start in new initiatives and generally possess a 'give it a go' kind of attitude. They will be able to work independently yet acknowledge the importance of cultivating key relationships. They will be able to walk alongside those they come in contact with and adopt a 'with, not at' posture in relation to discipleship and mission. They will also acknowledge that pastoral sensitivity is required and will conduct themselves professionally, hold confidentiality when appropriate, and act with integrity in their interactions with others. They will be able to coach and grow others to form teams who will share in the wayfinding journey.

If this excites you, expressions of interest are invited up until 5:00 pm, 20 February 2026. To find out more, submit your expression of interest to Dan Spragg minco@alpinepresbytery.org

Prayer for our family and friends:
Sandra McPherson, Max Atkins & Averill Gibson, Judith Sprigg, Jean Jeffrey, Janice and Ross Wilson, Donna Abernethy, Clare Calder, *Mary Stewart and Ian Cormack.*

CHURCH DUTY ROSTER FOR FEBRUARY 2026
08 February

Elder Duty: Ewen Nichol	**Door Duty**: Fran Taylor and Margaret Vallance
Power Point: Aimee-Cherie	**Mini Bus:** Lana / Vincent
Morning Tea: TBC	**Offering Count:** Gaye/Anne
Readings: Peggy	**Heroes Leader:** Marlene
Prayers: Jas	**Fun with Music:** Adele Warburton

15 February

Elder Duty: TBC	**Door Duty**: TBC
Power Point: Aimee-Cherie	**Mini Bus:** Lana / Vincent
Morning Tea: TBC	**Offering Count:** Tracy/Annette
Readings:	**Heroes Leader:**
Prayers: TBC	**Fun with Music:** Mary Blaikie

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