

Welcome to 'The Pulse'

The Pulse

"The heart of God to the heart of the community"

April 2017 Issue

The Pulse is a quarterly newsletter produced by the Ellesmere Cooperating Parish. We are three congregations that make up a rural parish in the south eastern part of the Selwyn District of Canterbury, N7.

Our three congregations, Leeston, Dunsandel and Brookside, draw people from all walks of life, with a high proportion involved in farming or associated services. Our Brookside congregation has shared use of St. Luke's Anglican Church at Brookside.

Purpose Statement: To spread the good news of Jesus by committing ourselves to work and worship together, to love and care for one another, and to be of value to God in our community.

Please take the time to visit us on line at www.churchatellesmere.org.nz to find out more about the Ellesmere Cooperating Parish.

We hope you enjoy this issue of The Pulse.

Your newsletter was d	elivered
by:	
Phone:	

Reflection from Rev. Heather Kennedy

Those who have worshipped at St. David's over the past few weeks will have noticed that I have commenced the practice of the 'Bringing in and taking out of The Bible'.

Quite rightly I was asked by Fay, what the meaning of that practice was and I was happy to give her some background information and thought the rest of you might like to know as well.

I will agree that this tradition which is usually observed in Presbyterian worship is accepted as a symbol of our Reformed Protestant theology. Prior to the Reformation, all Scripture was in Latin, could only be read by priests and was not available for the 'common man' to read as it was locked away. Since then, with the Word being shared in worship with everyone and with the invention of the printing press, Scripture has been available for everyone to read in their own language.

The symbolic bringing in of the Word, with us when we come to worship, focusses on our coming from the community, our many walks of life to share in worship as a faith community, a family

gathered to worship God. The taking out of the Word as we leave symbolises our going out, to where we have come from, to share the message of the Good News to all we meet in our everyday encounters.



You will have also noted that I have been following the Lectionary Readings for the Year of Matthew, Year A. (Year B - Mark, starts at the end of November). In doing so, I find I do not drift into the habit of preaching on favourite topics or of always covering the same ground. I find that the Lectionary liberates my sermon preparation by providing challenging verses to delve into, covering large sections of the Bible week by week and by observing the pattern and rhythm of the Church Calendar Year. This is particularly significant in an era where the secular world observes Christian seasons, in unusual and sometimes pagan ways, without regard to the real meaning for the season. Those of us who are prepared for the seasonal observances with the set readings leading up to Christmas and Easter in particular are therefore more equipped to tell others what they really mean and what they mean to us.

We are almost through the Season on Lent, which precedes Palm



Sunday, Holy Week and Easter. Then we move into the Season of Easter, which is followed after Pentecost by the very long season of Pentecost. This is followed in turn by the Season of Advent,

which leads into Christmas. The season between Christmas and Lent is called Epiphany - the manifestation of Christ to the World (and especially to the wise visitors from the East).

There will be a Maundy Thursday service at Trinity Church in Dunsandel at 7.30pm which will focus on Scripture readings

accompanied by graphic images, in a darkened room. On Good Friday there will be the Walking of the Cross through Leeston. This starts at 10am at St. John the Evangelist



Catholic Church, travels past St. David's and the Life Centre, finishing at St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church.

Parish Council Report from Rev. Heather Kennedy – March 2017

As you can all imagine, the time between our meeting with you all at the end of January and our departure from Invercargill went by with great rapidity. There was so much to do, so many decisions to make and plans to carry out. There were the usual meetings to attend and services of worship to lead, as well as trying to guess what we would need to take with us and what we would leave behind. Then came the day to shift, with so many people in our house and so many boxes and miles of wrapping paper. Our farewell from First Church, Invercargill (and many other organisations), was moving and a suitable end to my 16 years of ministry with the parish.

Moving into the Manse here in Leeston has been an interesting exercise in un-packing boxes, finding places to put things, getting the Internet connected, along with the phone connection, putting up a new bookcase, wondering why we brought so much stuff with us, and making sense of it all. Then there was the challenging task of meeting you all again, trying to remember names, trying to get entries into my diary on the right day at the right time. For any errors and omissions I have made along the way, I give my humblest apologies.

We are really liking the community, the weather (most of the time) and all the folk we meet. It has been really rewarding to get your feedback and encouragement. There are so many members of the parish who are already actively involved in many ways in the life of the parish, some of which I am yet to discover. I am really impressed by the way you outreach to the community with The Shed and feel this is a very important mission undertaking. I have appreciated the Lifetouch worship led by Filipino members and admire their commitment to their community. I have been

surprised by the amount of support for home-groups and the enthusiasm for sharing and discovering new insights from the Word of God. I am also amazed at the number of families who are attached to the music and movement sessions — as this form of outreach into the community has been shown to give those who do not attend Sunday worship an image of the church at work.

I am looking forward to ministering with you over the next 21months or so. There is much we can explore and many decisions to be made as we move into a time of discovery together. Understanding who the parish is and what the needs are for the future are going to be helpful processes to undertake in preparation for the Methodist Stationing process in 2018. Be prepared, time will disappear fast and events will arrive quickly, so as the Scout Movement says, 'Be Prepared'.

It is acknowledging that we are all members of the body of Christ, working together with God's love providing all we need, we are enabled by the Holy Spirit to achieve great things in Christ's name for the sharing of the Good News and the spread of God's Kingdom here on earth.

Message from Parish Council Chairman – Peter Withell

Parish Council are delighted to welcome Rev Heather Kennedy, and are enjoying Heather's perspective and governance experience.

Rev John Titlow and Barbara are taking some well-earned time out, and visiting family in the UK.

Parish Council wish to express a sincere thank you to Rev John Titlow and Barbara, and Rev Don Clearwater and Margaret, for their wonderful assistance and leadership during the Parish vacancy.

The St David's Place committee, has finally received Legal Unit Titles for the Unit properties, and can now proceed with the sale of vacant units.

Rev Heather is looking to revitalise the Worship and Pastoral Committees in order to co-ordinate activities in the parish.

Parish Council look forward in trust and hope as we all explore opportunities, outreach to community and provide support and care for each other.



News from the Leeston Sector Group -from Murray Doak

Unlike our local Selwyn River, a lot of water has passed under the bridge since the last Pulse. We are all looking forward to a time of regeneration as we welcome Rev. Heather and Jim Kennedy

to the community. After two services so far, it looks like they will fit in very well. As Heather has noted, she will do things differently to what we have experienced, but is also welcoming feedback – so the best way to do this is either directly or through the worship committee, led by Lois Birkett. A very sincere thank you goes to all those who carried the load of keeping worship and services going at Leeston during the last part of 2016. Everybody involved took on a lot, and tried a lot of different things. Bless you all, you (and God) know who you are.

Possibly the only physical change at Leeston has been that the church roof has been sprayed with moss-killer – so hopefully when you look up over the next few weeks, you shall see lovely grey colours. And from the sky too, to get the aforementioned Selwyn River flowing again!

The sound system upgrade has been put on hold for now, but the search for an organ replacement continues, though the current one is fine for now. There is always more room on the rosters for morning tea, church cleaning and lawn mowing, so please let members of the sector committee know if you can help. It's not a lot of time if everyone shares the load.

Leeston Sector particularly wishes long-standing congregation members, Roger and Jeanette Doak, the very best as they begin the next stage of life at Wigram. They welcome visits from any of their St David's family, and they likewise will be travelling out to the country from time to time!

-and from Lois Birkett

During the latter months of 2016, St. David's lost two of its stalwart members.

Ken Johnson, Marie's husband, was a member of the Church all his married life, sang in the Choir, and a willing helper and supporter in many facets of Church life. Ken died in early October.

The funeral of Margaret McMillan a life-time member was held at St. David's on 9th December. Margaret was an active participant in all happenings, especially the Women's Fellowship groups.

We acknowledge the contribution these two have made over many years, and we extend our love and sympathy to their families.



News from Dunsandel Sector group -from Helen Parr

Trinity Church started our Christmas season with a Sector meeting on 1st December followed by an enjoyable service on 4th December with Rev Don Clearwater at

which Margaret sang beautifully. We are so lucky to have had them help us out at this time of waiting for a new minister to be appointed.

We had a busy day on December 18th with Rev'd Lynne Horwood taking morning communion and the Christening of Charlotte Sophia Barron from Brisbane. Charlotte is the daughter of Mark and Jess Barron. That evening was the Annual Community Carol Service at Trinity. A large number of people were led by Gabi and Doug Michael for a very enjoyable time. A play written and directed by Jill Chamberlain was well received. Children from Dunsandel Primary School presenting it with lots of enthusiasm. We had a very large attendance for a wonderful Christmas Eve Service led by Don and Margaret.

The January services held around the Parish are always greatly enjoyed. Dunsandel's turn (like the others) was very well attended on January 22nd. Cafe Church continues to have a loyal following on the 4th Sunday of the month.

Several Trinity members enjoyed the Annual Killinchy Picnic Service on 12th February. Another Fire Party, organised by Heather Gullery, took place on March 4th with people from all over Canterbury there. A talk by Liam Chatterton about his trip to Nepal with fellow pupils from Ellesmere College was another highlight. All Trinity members are happy to welcome Rev Heather Kennedy as our new minister. We all wish Heather and her husband Jim a very happy time here in Ellesmere. We all look forward to a good year ahead.

The Shed

In the past year the World Mission Project (WMP) *The Shed* has experienced an upsurge in clothing intake as well as the sale of these garments through mid-week Shop Sales, TradeMe and Saturday Markets.

This is due to our local community's generosity in donating good quality pre-loved clothing and the increased need within our midst for affordable clothing for families.

The Shed is figuratively bulging at the seams so extra or alternative space is being investigated to allow this ministry to continue to bless

others across cultures and generation both here and overseas.

The Shed has been instrumental in supporting Pastor Ablos and family and the Kapangan Filipino Church, also early last year the Brown family in Myanmar.



Northern Philippians

Currently the WMP is still supporting Pastor Ablos and has made two 'one off' donations, one to Faustinah Ndovu who is raising funds for a clean water project at Donoreshato's Primary School in Zimbabwe; and secondly to Hope Homes International in Eldret, Kenya where rescued children learn to live in families with surrogate parents.

Thanks to all who attend meetings or have helped in any way and to Ann, Bruce, Janice and Kathy who willingly give of their time and energy to keep *The Shed* open.

At the last WMP group meeting it was unanimously agreed to commit to supporting "Friends of Qinghau Children's Programme" run through Christian Action in China.

This ministry co-manages 5 to 8 Children's Homes taking care of children with diverse needs; 90% being orphans with disabilities. Contact with this organisation was made through Madeline Hurricks.

Watch this space to see what will happen during 2017.

News from St. David's Friendship Group.

On the afternoon of 26th January, 15 Members met at "Hillyers" to wish Jeanette (and Roger) all the very best in their new home in "Sommerset Retirement Village". Shirley thanked Jeanette for her many years of Membership of our group--- for the use of her home for meetings and for her Music and her time as Secretary in 2008/9 and presented her with a Voucher and pretty posy.

Our February meeting was held at Jan Caunter's home, with Jan leading the Meeting and Devotions. 10 Members were present with several Apologies being accepted.

Members commented on the new name tag cabinet crafted by Peter Lemon. It was decided that our group would recommend to Sector that a Plaque be engraved to acknowledge his craftsmanship.

Our social time was "Knit and Natter", when we knitted peggy squares to Hilary's pattern, with the goal being a knee rug, which could be completed and donated to an appropriate organization—e.g. a rest home or hospital. A cuppa concluded our get-together.

On March 1st, we held our open Meeting in St. David's, when Don Heslop entertained us with his Travel talk and on screen photos of his trip to the Falkland Islands and the Antarctic Peninsula. What and interesting and very different part of our world to view on screen, but which few of us would visit--- 100s and 1000s of penguins of all shapes and sizes, literally covering the land masses and living alongside sea lions, seals and various

other sea mammals along the coast lines.

Ship board life was interesting and adventurous as they travelled to and around these southern parts of the world, amongst huge icebergs and frozen landscapes.

Thank you Don for sharing your travels with us, with your commentary and amazing photography.



Next Meeting;

Wednesday... 5th April, at the home of Hilary Boal, when we will hear Jill Lemon's (and Peter's) trip to Nepal.

This was to be our Annual Visit from 'Ilam Lifecare', but unfortunately they are unable to come out that day. Many thanks to Jill for so willing agreeing to step in and tell us about their very recent trip.

SOUTHBRIDGE HOME GROUP

Our meeting at 83 High Street Southbridge is the first Tuesday of each month at 9.30am.

We have been fortunate to have had John Titlow lead us since Paul Eden's departure, thank you John.

We look forward to Rev. Heather Kennedy being our leader in the future.

If you would like to join us you would be made very welcome.

There are two male members and a few more would add to our number.

St. David's Afternoon Fellowship

The Lord continues to bless our fellowship and new members have been welcomed.

2017 started with a visit from Natalie Baird, from Trade Aid. An informative and interesting talk, giving background information on the



formation of Trade Aid in 1960 by Richard Cotterill. A visit to India, buying beautiful Tibetan carpets, led to a Trust being formed and now 30 shops throughout New Zealand. Jute products, wooden toys and ceramics are available together with chocolate, made in Christchurch. They have long term partnerships; respect for the environment; no child labour; money raised goes to schools and education.

Talent was to the fore in March and after introducing Rev. Heather, every member contributed to a very enjoyable afternoon of shared talents. Sadly, no money was added to our funds though.

Looking back to 2016: August; a combined meeting at Dunsandel, where Madeline Hurricks spoke of her time Hong Kong; the sights, sounds, smells and the cultural differences. She also told of the orphanage for abandoned babies founded by Sue May. (This is supported by proceeds from The Shed.)

Constable Aaron Reid, Oamaru Police, in 'full gear' visited in September and again emphasised the importance of safety in the home. Questions were answered and a good rapport was established.

A combined meeting with Evening Fellowship in October when Nicola, a dietitian spoke about misinformation on food and nutrition and how to differentiate between products.

Simoné Hindon, Oamaru Library, came in November and spoke about the work of the Library within the community, being a place of information / innovation / programmes / bookclubs / science alive / computer courses / quiet corners for reading / meeting rooms.

Christmas luncheon was held at Cheryl Hall's and enjoyed by all members.

Upcoming events: Easter Reflections
'My Wedding'
Annual General Meeting
"With God, all things are possible"

ELLESMERE COMMUNITY CARE ORGANISATION

This year there was again a large number of families who needed some Christmas goodies – we had 33 families including 52 children. ECCO has been delivering these hampers for many years to those in need, and this year again they were received with surprise, excitement and much joy. This is possible through the generosity of many of our congregation at St. David's, the Afternoon Fellowship and the newly named Friendship group, who along with other groups in our Community, donate food items and gifts. The hampers are delivered by our ECCO Committee throughout the Leeston, Southbridge and Dunsandel districts, and we can assure you that your gifts made a difference to the Christmas joy and celebration of these families. Please accept our grateful thanks to all of you who gave so generously.

Lois Birkett



Saturday 8th April

10am to 3pm

Helpers and contributions needed for the Church Stall at the Leeston Fete.

To offer your assistance Contact; Janice 324 8202 or Heather 324 3315

A page for the children to colour-in

Connected in Christ



On the day of Pentecost, Jesus' disciples were together in a house in Jerusalem. The Holy Spirit came to help them teach and preach. Jesus gives us the Holy Spirit too.

Service & Events details April 2017 to July 2017

APRIL 2017		
Sunday 2 April		Communion Services
	9.30 am	St. David's, Leeston
	11.00am	Trinity, Dunsandel
	5.00pm	Pizza Café at St. David's
	7.00pm	Brookside Service (Anglican)
Tuesday 4 April	9.30am	Southbridge Home Group
Wednesday 5 April	2.00pm	St. David's Friendship Group
		at Hilary Boal's home
Thursday 6 April	7.00pm	Men's Group, Leeston Library
Saturday 8 April	7.30pm	Lifetouch Fellowship
Sunday 9 April		Worship Services
Palm Sunday	9.30 am	St. David's, Leeston – Family service
	11.00 am	Trinity, Dunsandel – Harvest
Tuesday 11 April	7.00 pm	Leeston Sector Meeting
Thursday 13 April	7.30pm	Service of Shadows
Maundy Thursday		Trinity, Dunsandel
Friday 14 April	10.00am	Walk with the Cross of Christ
Good Friday		Starting at Catholic Church
Saturday 15 April	7.30 pm	Lifetouch Fellowship
Sunday 16 April		Worship Services
Easter Sunday	9.30am	St. David's, Leeston
	11.00am	Trinity, Dunsandel (Anglican)
	7.00pm	Brookside
Wednesday 19 April	7.30pm	Dunsandel Café Church Meeting
Saturday 22 April	7 . 30pm	Lifetouch Fellowship
Sunday 23 April		Worship Services
	9.30am	St. David's, Leeston - Harvest
	11.00am	Café Church at Dunsandel
Thursday 27 April	7.30pm	Parish Council – Leeston
Saturday 29 April	7.30pm	Lifetouch Fellowship
Sunday 30 April	9.30am	Combined Worship Service
		St. David's, Leeston

MAY 2017		
Tuesday 2 May	9.30am	Southbridge Home Group
Wednesday 3 May	2.00pm	St. David's Friendship group
Thursday 4 May	7.00pm	Men's Group, Leeston Library
Saturday 6 May	7.30pm	Lifetouch Fellowship
Sunday 7 May		Communion Services
	9.30 am	St. David's, Leeston
	11.00am	Trinity, Dunsandel
	5pm	Youth Pizza Café
	7.00pm	Brookside Service (Anglican)
Thursday 11 May	2.00pm	Trinity Women's Fellowship,
	2.00pm	St. David's Afternoon Fellowship
	7.00pm	Leeston Sector Meeting
Saturday 12 May	7.30pm	Lifetouch Fellowship
Sunday 14 May		Worship Services
Mother's Day	9.30 am	St. David's, Leeston
	11.00 am	Trinity, Dunsandel
Thursday 18 May	7.30pm	Dunsandel Sector meeting
Saturday 20 May	7.30pm	Lifetouch Fellowship
Sunday 21 May		Worship Services
	9.30am	St. David's, Leeston
	11.00am	Trinity, Dunsandel (Anglican)
	7.00pm	Brookside
Thursday 25 May	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting - Brookside
Saturday 27 May	7.30pm	Lifetouch Fellowship
Sunday 28 May		Worship Services
	9.30am	St. David's Leeston
	11.00am	Café Church at Dunsandel

JUNE 2017		
Thursday 1 June	7.00pm	Men's fellowship – Leeston Library
Saturday 3 June	7.30pm	Lifetouch fellowship
Sunday 4 June		Communion Services
Pentecost Sunday	9.30am	St. David's, Leeston
	11.00am	Trinity, Dunsandel
	5.00pm	Youth Pizza Café
	7.00pm	Brookside (Anglican)
Tuesday 6 June	9.30am	Southbridge Home group
Wednesday 7 June	2.00pm	St. David's Friendship group
Thursday 8 June	7.00pm	Leeston Sector meeting
Saturday 10 June	7.30pm	Lifetouch Fellowship
Sunday 11 June		Worship Services
	9.30am	St. David's Leeston
	11.00am	Trinity, Dunsandel
Wednesday 14	2.00pm	St. David's Afternoon Fellowship
	2.00pm	Trinity Women's Fellowship group
Friday 16 June	7.00pm	'Fish and Chips' Family Social
		St. David's Church Hall, Leeston
Saturday 17 June	7.30pm	Lifetouch Fellowship
Sunday 18 June		Worship Services
	9.30am	St. David's, Leeston
	11.00am	Trinity, Dunsandel (Anglican)
	7.00pm	Brookside
Thursday 22 June	7.30pm	Parish Council meeting - Dunsandel
Saturday 24 June	7.30pm	Lifetouch Fellowship
Sunday 25 June		Worship Services
	9.30am	St. David's Leeston
	11.00am	Café Church at Dunsandel

For all events please check for updates or alterations in the Weekly Newssheets as times and dates may change.

JULY 2017		
Saturday 1 July	7.30pm	Lifetouch Fellowship
Sunday 2 July		Communion Services
	9.30am	St. David's, Leeston – Family service
	11.00am	Trinity, Dunsandel
	5.00pm	Youth Pizza Café – Leeston
	7.00pm	Brookside (Anglican) Service
Tuesday 4 July	9.30am	Southbridge Home Group
Wednesday 5 July	7.30pm	St. David's Friendship group
Thursday 6 July	7.00pm	Men's Fellowship – Leeston Library
Saturday 8 July	7.30pm	Lifetouch Fellowship
Sunday 9 July		Worship Services
	9.30am	St. David's, Leeston
	11.00am	Trinity, Dunsandel
Wednesday 12 July	2.00pm	St. David's Afternoon Fellowship
	2.00pm	Trinity Women's Fellowship
Thursday 13 July	7.00pm	Leeston Sector meeting
Saturday 15 July	7.30pm	Lifetouch Fellowship
Sunday 16 July		Worship Services
	9.30am	St. David's, Leeston
	11.00am	Trinity, Dunsandel (Anglican)
	7.00pm	Brookside
Thursday 20 July	7.30pm	Dunsandel Sector meeting
Saturday 21 July	7.30pm	Lifetouch Fellowship
Sunday 23 July		Worship Services
	9.30am	St. David's, Leeston
	11.00am	Café Church, Dunsandel
Thursday 27 July	7.30pm	Parish Council - Leeston
Saturday 29 July	7.30pm	Lifetouch Fellowship
Sunday 30 July	11.00am	Combined Service at Dunsandel

Small Groups for all ages!

Groups for Adults		
Intercessory	7.00pm	St. David's, Leeston, note: last Tuesday of
Prayer		month at Trinity Church, Dunsandel.
Lydia	10.00am	Friday mornings – for more information,
Intercessory		contact Barbara Titlow ph: 260 1762.
Prayer Group		
Southbridge	9.30am	1 st Tuesday of the month at Ruth's home
Home Group		in Southbridge.
		Contact Janice, ph:324 8202.
St. David's	2.00pm	1 st Wednesday of the month at various
Friendship		homes.
Group		Contact Hilary, ph: 324 3823.
St. David's	2.00pm	2 nd Thursday of the month at the Church.
Afternoon		Contact Janice, ph: 324 8202.
Fellowship		
Lifetouch		Ministry for Filipino families and others.
Fellowship	7.30pm	Worship Service every Saturday. Contact
		Teena, ph: 324 2240 or 021 081 62926.
Bible Study	9.30am	Fridays at Faye's home in Leeston.
Group		Contact Faye, ph: 324 4092.
The Faithful	7.30pm	1 st & 3 rd Wednesdays at Helen & Andrew's
Flockers		home, Leeston.
		Contact Helen ph: 324 3032 or Murray ph:
		324 4143.
Trinity	2.00pm	2 nd Thursday of the month at Trinity
Women's		Church, Dunsandel.
Fellowship		Contact Mavis ph: 325 4142.
Group		

Lunch Bunch		A Dunsandel Trinity initiative – 1st
		Thursday of the month at various local
		eateries.
		Contact Mavis ph: 325 4142.
Men's Group	7.00pm	1 st Thursday of month at Community
		Room, Leeston Library.
		Contact Michael ph: 324 2225.

Groups for Children & Youth		
Children's		Each Sunday during the school term in
Ministry "H2O"		Leeston.
-		Contact Helen ph: 324 3032.
Pre-school	9.45am –	Wednesdays at St. David's Church Sunday
Music	10.30am	School room, followed by coffee and chat
		for parents and caregivers.
		Contact Naomi ph: 324 4075.
Youth Pizza Café	5.00pm –	1st Sunday of the month at St. David's
	7.00pm	Church, Leeston.
		Contact Linda ph: 324 2166 or Kath ph:
		324 4100.

Deadline for next newsletter - 12 July 2017 Contact person - Rev. Heather Kennedy

Please send your information by email to rev.heather.kennedy@gmail.com by the deadline date.

Rev. Heather and Jim Kennedy will be away on Annual Leave from Friday 21st July to August 13th.

CONTACT DETAILS	
Minister	Phone
Rev. Heather Kennedy	324 3315
Email	rev.heather.kennedy@gmail.com
Website	www.churchatellesmere.org.nz
Lifetouch Pastor	
Teena Dela Cruz	324 2240
Senior Laypersons	
Paul Birkett	324 3884
Robbie Stewart	325 4535
Pastoral Care	
Lois & Paul	324 3884
Janice	324 8202
Robbie	325 4535
Noel	329 1877
School Chaplain	
Linda	324 2166

