

WORLD HOMELESS DAY 10 OCTOBER

Want to do something practical?

Join the Auckland Chinese Presbyterian Church and other church groups on Sunday 22 October for an 'urban lunch' at Griffith Gardens on the corner of Wellesley and Albert Sts, from 12.15pm – 1.15pm.



The plan is for youth groups and churches to prepare simple, healthy, tasty lunches to put in the Community Fridge. Bring along your own lunch and sit and eat together.

Yes, there will be some street people there, so it will be a special opportunity to share stories and learn with each other.

For further details contact Stuart Vogel stuartvogel8@gmail.com

We love receiving these beautiful hand knitted garments for babies and young children. Thank you Mairangi and Castor Bay Church.



KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE

Thanks to Family Works Waitakere and Henderson's Korean Presbyterian Church, 15 families have been given baby gates to help keep their toddlers safe.

The Church, which has previously donated nappies and socks, recently asked how else its congregation could help some of the parents and children that FW Waitakere works with.

When Rev Chung Man Cho put out the call for baby safety gates at the Church's dawn service in early August, someone from the congregation donated 15 gates the next day. Family Start workers will give the gates to families who are most in need.

"The families receiving these gates certainly appreciate the generous donation as their babies and toddlers will be kept safe from falls and other dangers," said Waitakere's Family Start team leader, Yvonne Boyd.



Family Start worker Marama Aatahua O Te Rangi receives 15 baby safety gates from Mrs Sunhee Yang from Henderson's Korean Presbyterian Church.



GARDEN PROJECT BINDS COMMUNITY SPIRIT IN RURAL BAY OF PLENTY

"Te Taurahere Whatumanawa – the rope that ties our hearts together."

Community spirit is blossoming in the small rural Bay of Plenty town of Taneatua where the Hughes Place Garden Project is leading the way.

Residents who live in and around Hughes Place have been developing a community garden on an empty section there since the beginning of the year. The project was formally launched in September and the garden is brimming with the fruits of residents' creativity.

Rev Tamiana Trupp and his wife Honey, who live in the street, were offered a section for the project and invited all their neighbours to take part in it.

Now people of all ages come to work and to play in the garden. There are swings for children and areas for them to enjoy riding their bikes, raised garden beds, bean poles, and tyres filled with potato seedlings.

It all started with the seed of an idea last year when Anne had a meeting with Rev Chris Barnard, of Whakatane Presbyterian Church and Rev Tamiana and Honey Thrupp from Te Aka Puaho Amorangi

at the Waimana Maori Pastorate. Anne talked about starting an initiative that would focus on working alongside local families to encourage them to grow their own food, either at community gardens or in their own backyards.

Tamiana says he enjoys connecting families so they can support each other.

Funding for the project came from the Aroha Fund which is part of the PressGo Mission Enterprise Fund. One fifth of those funds is set aside to help vulnerable rural communities working in partnership with Te Aka Puaho and Presbyterian Support regions.

The Hughes Place Community Garden is a new model of doing church on a street and it's all about connecting and caring for each other.



Contact details:

Anne Overton, Community Relationship Manager
Presbyterian Support Northern, PO Box 99890, Newmarket, Auckland 1149.
E: anne.overton@psn.org.nz P: 09 520 8624 M: 027 520 8653.
Or visit www.psn.org.nz for more information or to download more copies.



WHAT'S ON

Here are some upcoming events to inspire you to get involved in your community.

Entries close Wednesday 25th October

PSN's Community Action Youth Award

It's all about youth groups voicing their concerns about social issues in their communities and taking action.

Submit your three-minute video about your youth group making a difference in your local community. Entries close 25 October. The winning group receives a \$300 award to be used creatively to help your community.

If you need help with ideas or have any questions, contact anne.overton@psn.org.nz



kidsfriendly.org.nz

Doing Small Things with Great Love

Check out the winners of the Love Reaches Out Art & Writing Competition!

<http://www.kidsfriendly.org.nz/winners-love-reaches-out-doing-small-things-with-great-love-2017/>



Saturday 25 November

White Ribbon Day

White Ribbon Day on Saturday 25 November is an opportunity to raise awareness that love is not violent. Read the chapter on family violence in the Justice & Action booklet and become better informed and resourced as a church. It all starts with "what can I do?"

For resources contact anne.overton@psn.org.nz or ddi: 09 520 8624



FOODBANK STORY

SOCIAL ISSUES

Help Us Feed Our Families

Have you ever been hungry and not known where your next meal was coming from? Have you ever gone hungry so that your children could take lunch to school, knowing that dinner will be a slice of bread and tinned spaghetti for the fifth night in a row? Sadly this is happening every day to more and more families in New Zealand whose choice is pay the bills or buy food.



Every week AS Wilcox & Sons faithfully drop off potatoes and onions to the Foodbank. Such a blessing!

The other day, Olivia, our financial mentor, sent through a food parcel request to our Foodbank for a family she was working with. According to our records, this family had already received more than five food parcels this year. Now the father had been made redundant and they were desperate to find a way to feed their children. Obviously we sent out enough food to last them for several days but what was going to happen after that?

Our criteria allow families to receive two parcels a year and another two when they engage with one of our budgeters (financial mentors) but many of these families need ongoing food support to be able to get back on their feet.

Imagine if we were able to fill their pantry with enough food for a month. This would give them some breathing space to get their finances in order with the help of mentors like Olivia.

Email me if you are interested in talking about how we could make this a reality.

Thank you!



Anne Overton
Community Relationship Manager

We are so grateful for your ongoing generous support. You know who you are. The Presbyterian and Union churches, Saint Kentigern College, St Cuthbert's College, Saint Kentigern Boys and Girls Schools to name a few.

'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink... The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

Matthew 25: 37 - 40