

MOUNTAINSIDE RUMBLINGS

Mountainside
Lutheran Church

February/March 2020
Volume 19, Issue 1

A New Perspective On Life

We (the Kitchen family) have been living in Auckland and have been part of Mountainside for coming up 18 months. But it was only last year that I had a conversation with Pastor William Heidrich when he was visiting his family, which led me to walk up and take a look at Mount Wellington from the top. He said to me: "You should go up there sometime and have a look because it will give you a good perspective of Auckland".

Now I had been driving past Mount Wellington on a daily basis for some time, but it never occurred to me to go up and have a look around! I was always focusing on what was right in front of me. So one Sunday afternoon, we as a family went up to see the view. Indeed, William was right, you do get a very good perspective of the Auckland area.

Having a broader perspective means that you see things differently. You notice things that you didn't before. In some ways, we were able to see how certain parts of Auckland fit together. For the first time since I moved here, it gave me a sense of direction. I began to notice where things were in relation to their surroundings.

As we begin a new year ahead of us, I was thinking about the view from Mount Wellington when driving past it on the way to church on Sunday. I began thinking about how in the busyness of life (and all that happens throughout a year), we can so easily get bogged down in what is directly in front of us. Perhaps only looking at what we need to see in order to get to where we need to go. Which can be good, but perhaps at times this means that we have a limited perspective on life. As a Christian who believes in God, I believe that he has a bigger picture of life in view. He sees how everything fits together. He sees how all the different relationships work out. He sees the plan that he has for us as his people. You see, God has a complete perspective on our lives.

A part of the journey of following Christ Jesus in this life is lifting our eyes off our limited view of life and looking at Christ and how he sees the world. In other words, look at the world through Christ's perspective. Paying attention to what he sees. Looking at ourselves and others through his eyes. Paying attention to the bigger picture that he has for our life.

Allowing Christ Jesus to challenge us and to give us a different perspective is, in my opinion, a part of what it means to grow in our faith in him. He works in us to help us to see what he sees. ... continued page 2 ...

View from the top of Mount Wellington





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So my encouragement to you, as you begin life in a new year, is to take some time to think about your perspective on your life. And to challenge yourself to look beyond what you see in front of you, and to look to Christ Jesus. Doing this will give you a new perspective on life.

The Lord's blessings and peace be with us all this coming year.

Pastor Nich

Information from Wikipedia:

Maungarei / Mount Wellington is a 135 metre volcanic peak located in the Auckland volcanic field of Auckland, New Zealand. It is the youngest onshore volcano of the Auckland volcanic field, having been formed by an eruption around 10,000 years ago. The name Maungarei is translated as "the watchful mountain" or "the mountain of Reipae".



ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

26th February, 7.30 pm

@ Mountainside

All welcome!

We will have guest Pastor Matt Anker (Director of International Mission of LCA & LCNZ) preaching for our Ash Wednesday service this year.

We hope that you will join us!



SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

Most of our small groups are currently meeting, so we would like to encourage all members to be involved in a small group in their local area. Please make contact with Pastor William or the group leaders if you would like more information.

Location: **West Auckland, Te Atatu South**

Leaders: Jan & Ray Meharg

Ph: 09 835 2523

Location: 258B Te Atatu Road, Te Atatu South

Tuesdays, 7:30—9 pm (fortnightly)

Location: **Takapuna Ladies Group**

Leader: Eris Malcolm

Ph: 09 489 2433

Location: The Poynton (142 Shakespeare Road, Takapuna)

Fridays, have lunch together beginning at 11.30am (fortnightly starting Feb 14th)

Location: **Orewa, North Shore**

Leader: Annette Nielsen-Geese

Ph: 09 428 0366

Location: 399 Hibiscus Coast Highway, Orewa (Al & Fay's residence)

Tuesdays, 7pm beginning Feb 11th (fortnightly)



Location: **Mt Wellington**

Leader: Brent Samsom

Ph: 021 766 339

Location: Mountainside Lutheran Church, 1 Harris Road, Mt Wellington

Tuesdays, 7pm (fortnightly) beginning Feb 11th

Location: **Mt Wellington**

Leader: Pastor Nich

Ph: 020 4171 8791

Location: Mountainside Lutheran Church, 1 Harris Road, Mt Wellington

Wednesdays, 7pm—starting 12th Feb (fortnightly)



Neil & Jenny Lindstrom who celebrated 60 years of marriage on 30th January. Best wishes and congratulations to you both!

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2nd February I Do (Pastor Adrian Kitson)

Adrian Kitson looks at what it takes to keep an intimate relationship going.

9th February Love (Celia and Richard)

Celia and Richard talk about romance and love. Are they actually the same thing, or is there a difference?

16th February A Farmer's Life (Interview)

Many farmers around Australia are experiencing a tough time at the moment. Richard talks with Tim, a farmer from the Mallee of South Australia and how he finds hope to keep going when times are tough

23rd February After the Fires (Interview)

We hear from people who have lived through a major fire event, their stories and how they coped after the fires.

MARY'S CORNER

**UPDATE FOR
FEBRUARY—MARCH
2020**

TINY TOTS:

By God's grace, we had two blessed Christmas parties back in December 2019 (Tiny Tots & Supakidz). For Tiny Tots we had a singing time, Christmas story time, crafts, morning tea and 1st Birthday celebration. We started Tiny Tots Term 1 from the 30th Jan 2020. This term, for the first time, Tiny Tots are planning to go on a field trip with parent's assistance and permission.

I feel the innocence, excitement, honesty, and wonder of working with young children is one of the best jobs in the world.

SUPAKIDZ:

Restarting the SUPAKIDZ programme is challenging but by God's grace we had a blessed and great term in 2019. We finished the term with a Christmas party, at which the Stanhope Primary School Principal (Zane Wilson) joined us for and also shared a few words with us. He is happy to stay connected with Mountainside, and has opened the opportunity to use the playground in the school and publicize Mountainside events. Our SUPAKIDZ kids and Sunday School kids performed one item for the Christmas Eve 7pm service. It was nice to have SUPAKIDZ families with us for Christmas Eve. We started SUPAKIDZ Term 1 from 31st January 2020.

SUPAKIDZ, after school care program is designed to encourage children to think about the way they live and to help them explore values and beliefs from a Christian perspective.

SUNDAY SCHOOL:

In December 2019 we had blessed Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services with the kids performing. We have Sunday School for Term 1 from 2nd February 2020. Thanks to everyone who donated gifts to the Sunday School kids for Christmas last year.

Firstly I want to thank Jesus. What a fabulous year it has been at Mountainside. A huge thank you to all my fabulous people who helped me and supported me in Tiny Tots, SUPAKIDZ and Sunday School in 2019. Finally, thank you to all our wonderful kids,

parents and families, I'm looking forward to a fulfilling, fun, fantastic, blessed year ahead.

God Bless

Mary Jala



SUPAKIDZ Christmas - 2019

Mountainside Moments...

A huge thanks to all the kids, parents and helpers who were involved with all of our Christmas programmes in 2019!



TINY TOTS CHRISTMAS PARTY- 2019

BirthDay greetings

'Happy Birthday' and Best Wishes to the following people celebrating birthdays in February:

Terri McClintock (3rd)
 Ruth, Andrea & Grace Sutton (3rd)
 Kalikula Fifita (4th) Geeta Sharma (5th)
 Lalitha Doss (5th) Mary Jyothsna (6th)
 Nolla Lippelt (18th) Elizabeth Duncan (22nd)
 Funaki Ongoongo (22nd) Malcolm Wisker (23rd)
 Philip Rawson (25th)

Wedding Anniversary Congratulations to:

Jorgen and Martha Holgersen 7 years on the 1st
 Floyd and Marjon Gerson 15 years on the 9th
 Peter and Jacque Morris 37 years on the 12th
 Malcolm and Barbara Court 53 years on the 18th
 Lucien and Annette Jorna 26 years on the 19th
 David & Tanya Sutton 26 years on the 19th
 Hayden & Rhiannon Morris 5 years on 23rd

'Happy Birthday' and Best Wishes to the following people celebrating birthdays in March:

Jade Hewett (1st) Marianne Frederiksen (3rd)
 Ateliana Fifita (4th) Annette Jorna (5th)
 Luseanne Masima (5th) Betty Muirhead (6th)
 Marianne Kraack (7th) Kristen Lindstrom (9th)
 Inoke Masima (12th) Samuel Doss (13th)
 Sarah Kirtlan (17th) Kristina Brock (18th)
 Stephen Lindstrom (20th) Leon Lin (23rd)
 Benjamin Gerson (26th) Jens Meder (29th)
 Neil Lindstrom (30th)

Wedding Anniversary Congratulations to:

Kalikula & Mosiana Fifita 12 years on the 8th
 Ray and Jan Meharg 43 years on the 12th
 Brett & Marcia Thomson 10 years on the 31st

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

All members of Mountainside are invited to attend our AGM on Sunday 29th March 2020 after the worship service.

This is an excellent opportunity to review the year just gone, and to find out what's being planned for 2020.

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 email: williamchang.lcs@gmail.com
Family & Community Worker: Mary Jala ph 021 250 1398
 email: familycw.mside.lutheran@gmail.com
Office Administrator: Jenna Hewett (ph 027 467 0027)
 email: mside.lutheran@gmail.com

PRAYER POINTS

In your prayers this month, please pray for the following:



We pray ...

- ✦ For the Small Group leaders and all our ministry volunteers as they prepare for another year of service.
- ✦ For our Parish AGM which will be held in March. We give thanks for all who have faithfully served on Parish Council and other committees over the past year.
- ✦ For the members of our Parish Council, Elders and all who serve our parish through our various ministries.
- ✦ For the churches & volunteers involved with the Mt Wellington Foodbank and all who work with those in need.
- ✦ For all who are sick or suffering at this time—may God give them strength and his healing comfort.
- ✦ For the farmers and rural communities doing it tough in the unrelenting drought affected areas.
- ✦ For all schools, teachers, staff and students as they return to studies in February.
- ✦ For the victims and families of the devastating Australian bushfires and the aftermath which will have ongoing repercussions for communities.

Deadline for articles for the April/May 2020 issue of 'Mountainside Rumbings' is TUESDAY 24th MARCH 2020.

Don't forget that you have 3 options for receiving this newsletter—a printed copy available in the foyer of Mountainside Lutheran Church, we can post you a copy if you let us know your address, or we can email a copy in PDF format which you can enjoy in full colour!! Just contact the office and we will organise it for you. And please remember to let us know if your contact details change so we can alter our records accordingly.

Thanks very much.