

KAEO-KERIKERI UNION PARISH



**AGENDA and REPORTS
for the Parish
ANNUAL MEETING**

14 October 2018

**in the Wesleydale Memorial Church
Kaeo following the Service
at 10.30am**

All Parishioners and Interested Friends Welcome

In Memory Of

06.09.2017	Margaret Williams
21.11.2017	Syd Whitley
26.11.2017	Caroline Tweedy
04.12.2017	Tony Chinn Soilleux
10.03.2018	Ted Crawford
05.06.2018	Craig Ambler
31.08.2018	Wes Martin

We believe that God
does not leave us alone,
but breathes within our life
and walks within our way.

We believe that Jesus Christ
continues to turn his face
towards us all in costly love.

We believe that the Holy Spirit
is weeping within our tears
and touches our faces
with the warmth of hope.

Nō reira...

*Tukuna mai tōu Wairua Tapu
he hōmai hoki ki a mātou
te kaha ki te waiho i a rātou
i roto i o manaakitanga katoa.*

*Send your Holy Spirit
to give us strength
to leave these loved ones
in your care.*

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA

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Auditor: vote of thanks for Auditor and appointment of Auditor for 2018-2019.

Appointment of Parish Councillors

General Business

Close

MINUTES

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at the Cornerstone – Whare Karakia o Manako at 11.45 am on Sunday 15 October 2017.

PRESENT: Sandra Cowan, Michael Tearle, Alan Robinson, Mary Fenton, David Stringer, Bernadette D., Ian Wright, Elaine Wright, Helen Norman, Bev Tayler, Bob Tayler, Sheryl Webster, Brian Stewart, Lorraine Stewart, Wes Martin, Bill Wilson, Clyde Foster, Henry and Val Driver, Lynn Faithfull, Ian and Lorelei Hayes, Michelle Tupou, Neil Scott, Jessica Scott, John and Stella Leather, Christina Chong, Jan Gough, Sandy Champtaloup, Ellen Bosher, Allen A. Martin, Jean Andrewes, Akisi Renner (minute secretary), Robyn McPhail (chairperson).

APOLOGIES: Annette Black, Ted & Sandra Crawford, Diane Paterson, Jenny Phillips, Kato Akau'ola, Yvonne Robinson, Tony and Olive Shepherd, Doreen Grindley, Paula du Plooy, Sue Campbell.

Agenda and Reports for the annual general meeting had been circulated and additional copies were handed out, including the Draft Performance Report on the Kaeo/Kerikeri Union Parish for the year ended 30 June 2017.

AGENDA WAS APPROVED.

MINUTES OF THE LAST AGM held on Sunday 06/11/2016 were approved (N. Scott/M. Fenton). Robyn complimented Paula du Plooy for her sterling work as secretary of the Parish Council.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

REPORTS: It was agreed that all reports be received by the AGM. (N. Scott/M. Fenton). General Comments and Suggestions:

1. Parish Council
2. Worship: Allen Martin recounted when he first joined the music group. There were no funds made available to them, particularly for stationery. Jessica Scott pointed out that she was given a church business card to purchase folders for the singers. The pianist came on her own initiative to play, but may not be able to continue.

A motion was moved that an allocation of funds be made available to the singing group. (A. Martin/J. Andrewes) Agreed.

3. Wesleydale Women's Group: Accounts yet to be audited. Bank balance: \$240.43
4. Car Boot Sale: Mary was thanked for all the work she put into running the car boot sale.
5. Vote of thanks to auditors for comprehensive report. (B. Stewart/A. Robinson)
6. Appointment of Parish Councillors: The 10 members from Kerikeri and 5 from Kaeo were confirmed. (B. Stewart /B. Tayler)
7. Sheryl Webster moved a vote of thanks to Robyn and Sue for all the extra hard work they have had to put in for the Parish.

The meeting closed with a prayer. The next AGM will be held in Kaeo.

REPORTS

PARISH COUNCIL

Throughout the year Parish Council has received regular and informative reports from its committees, approving matters that need to come to Parish Council for approval and encouraging all the work that is being done.

The major focus for the year, however, has been Mission Planning. The workshop in August 2017 had defined our areas of focus – Families, Te Taha Māori, Pastoral, Hospitality, and Buildings – and continuing work considered likely projects and their goals and making them happen, that is, What, Who, When. For most we have stalled at “Who”. In relation to the Buildings – which are definitely a means of mission for us – Kaeo Property has made great progress and Cornerstone Management is operating well with a good forward focus as well as good stewardship.

On 17 December 2017 we celebrated the first birthday of Cornerstone – Whare Karakia o Manako and the brainstorm time during the service provided a number of valuable ideas to follow up on.

A new parish councillor came with enthusiasm and ideas and currently work is being done to get these into an effective planning framework and then get onto the research to find out what the community actually needs. We are getting much appreciated guidance from supportive people one who is in marketing and another in social media.

We have grabbed opportunities related to our areas of focus that have simply appeared before us, for example, our relationship with Hope Church which hires our space for their Sunday worship following ours. We are encouraging them in their life as a young church – pastor Tanerā loves to have a cuppa with our folks while his crew are getting set up with their music. A number of the Kerikeri congregation have shown their support by staying on for their service.

In the pastoral area, Friday Friends in Kaeo has picked up this focus for the Kaeo/Whangaroa area and Jessica’s Pastoral Team continues to develop as an effective group.

Our focus on relationship/whakawhanaungatanga with Māori church and local community continues quietly with involvement at Te Patunga Marae. This has included a blessing for refurbished wooden grave markers, the oldest in the ūrūpā (cemetery) on 3 June and celebrating Ada Heta’s 80th birthday on 7 July. The Wesley Historical Society of the Methodist Church is making preparations for the bicentennial of the arrival of the first Wesleyan missionaries (1822), keeping us informed of plans for a Seminar in Auckland next May. Conversations are also underway in the wider Whangaroa community and we as a parish have it in view as an important event to be actively involved in.

Remaining funds from the Presbyterian Foundation, which we had received for the Ambassador role, may be spent on projects related to the mission outlined in our application. Therefore we have been looking into two ideas – Cooking Classes and a Driver Licencing Course. A key aspect for these – besides getting the publicity out and signing up participants – is us as church providing a handful of volunteers simply to be present and have some kai with the people as part of the courses. If we cannot do that,

we will not be able to run the courses, even though we have the people to lead and organise and the funding.

This will be a good test also for ongoing Community Projects. Parish Council has committed to funding two such projects a year, the costs being primarily anything related to the course topic and food for hospitality. We provide the venue, namely Cornerstone.

At every meeting the agenda included any matters of health and safety that had arisen. This ensures we carry out our responsibilities under the Act and it means there is a regular forum for matters to be raised and responded to. This has been working well. Not all issues get resolved to our satisfaction, but always the message has been passed on and sometimes it is not in our jurisdiction to do anything (e.g. the narrow road into Cornerstone – PPG have done what they can at this point).

Three people attended the Uniting Congregations of Aotearoa New Zealand Forum in October with the theme “One More at the Table”.

Methodist Area Superintendent Rowan Smiley, and his wife Margaret, visited Parish Council in October.

A member of Parish Council raised a concern about us being involved in prayer with other faiths during the Week of Prayer for World Peace, which was held in October in Cornerstone, and that other faiths were leading prayer in our church building. Parish Council listened carefully and in turn members expressed their views. The councillor subsequently resigned and a special meeting in November responded to this resignation and made some decisions related to the issue. We re-affirmed as parish policy that our buildings are open for the use of all so long as users do not disrespect our Christian beliefs and values. We also encouraged an Inter-Faith group to be formed, handing responsibility for organising the Inter-Faith Week of Prayer and other Inter-Faith events to this group.

Development of the Peace Garden is on hold.

The Methodist Church appealed for funds to assist Tonga following Cyclone Gita in February this year. Parish Council asked the Finance Committee for \$1,000 for this appeal, which proved to be available and was forwarded. Parishioners were also invited on Sundays to add to our contribution.

We were very sad when Paula du Plooy announced she was shifting to Whangarei to be close to family. Her resignation was accepted with much regret and there is a noticeable gap of quiet wisdom since her departure. This has left the secretary position vacant and currently the minute secretary role is being shared. Most secretarial/administrative work for the parish is done by Suzanne Campbell our administrator and treasurer. We are required to have a designated person for signing our audit and other official documents and Ngaire Allwood has agreed to carrying out this role in the meantime.

Parish Councillors have participated in meetings that have resulted in changes to the regional structure we connect to as a parish. Northern Presbytery moved towards regionalisation and now Northland is a fully combined group again, with Churches Together in Northland Forum embracing the Presbyterian parishes as well as Methodist

and Co-operating/Union parishes.

Parish Council asked committees to present their planned projects and activities prior to the finance committee drawing up the budget. This enabled us to endorse committee plans prior to their forwarding likely costs (if any) to the finance committee.

Finally, as the Psalmist wrote, “the Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away.” The minister provides a written report to every meeting of Parish Council. A highlight for us was the request for the baptism of her grand-daughter Amelia Rose Chirnside.

The meeting in June however was a time of loss, as we expressed our sadness at the death of Craig Ambler following a heart attack and prayed for Cameron, Hamish, and Duncan, and for their mother, Fiona.

PARISH COUNCILLORS:

KAEO: Ian Hayes, Lorelei Hayes, Alan Robinson, Bill Wilson, (Michael Tearle resigned during the year).

KERIKERI: Ngaire Allwood, Mary Fenton, Akisi Renner, David Stringer, Bev Tayler, Bob Tayler, Michelle Tupou, Sheryl Webster, (Paula Du Plooy resigned during the year).

MINISTRY

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE



Girls' Brigade – 1st Kerikeri Company

2017 saw a lot of exciting things happen. This was started off with moving into Cornerstone and the changes this brought.

Term 2 we worked as a whole company and it was all about “Keeping Ourselves Safe”. We had Civil Defence come and talk to us and we visited the local emergency departments. These were Fire Brigade, Ambulance and Police Station. The girls really enjoyed this.

We finished the term off with a Feast and Famine Night and raised \$275 for World Vision. As people arrived they picked out a ticket that said “Feast” or “Famine”. For feast they were served a lovely roast chicken meal, for famine they received a bowl of rice with some goodies through it. We then split them into groups to make cardboard mansions. You may have seen some of these photos in the latest Newsrap.

Some of the other highlights for 2017 were:

Father's Day Family BBQ at Aranga Holiday Park where the fathers helped the girls put the nails in for the nail and string art.



On the weekend of the 28-29 October we held a company sleepover on the Saturday night. On Sunday morning we had our company Church Parade followed by a shared lunch with the church people. This weekend was finished off with a round of mini golf with the families. We have also been out exploring some of the local bush walking tracks.

We finished the year on 16 November. We walked the girls through another bush walk to the Stone Store basin where the families joined us for a BBQ dinner.

2018 started out well with 14 girls. Julie Jones, who had been a parent help in 2017, came on as a permanent helper and also took on the treasurer role and was quite happy to do our devotions at the end of each week. This was all very much appreciated as it left Sheryl, Jodie and Renee to focus on the program part of a night.

During term 1 we looked at God's Treasure. We focused on the different ways things can be God's Treasure. We looked at how we are God's Treasure and that we are all unique, God's creation as a treasure and the Easter story as a gift he gave to us. Things changed a bit in term 2 when Renee left due to going into full time employment. Julie and Jodie also announced that they would be extending their families in September and October.

We would like to thank all those who have supported us over the year and make themselves available when we ask for support in any way.

Sheryl Webster, Team Leader

God's Kids at Cornerstone

This group met rather haphazardly during 2017 owing to a shortage of people willing to take the class. This year, Easter, Mother's Day and soon Christmas will have been the only children involved sessions taken by Mary Fenton.

We are now at the point that despite a couple of very keen families, we have nothing organised to offer them and with regret, must put this activity into recess. We are of course ever hopeful for a change in the future and commend your prayers for these young people.

Mary Fenton

STUDY GROUPS

Kaeo Home Group

We started the year by looking at and discussing some of the Psalms, using Ray Harrison's 'Situation Psalms' with messages for where we live. Ray founded International Needs in 1974 and was its first president, and has ministered to people all over the world. He typically challenged us e.g. Psalm 34:8 'Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the man who takes refuge in him', asking whether we will 'taste and see'!!

Next we had a look at the book of James, which Martin Luther seemed to look down upon as an 'epistle of straw' because it did not witness to Christ in the Pauline manner. It was certainly easier to understand than some of Paul's writings as it is practical Christianity rather than profound theology. A main theme is that belief and faith in God

through Jesus on their own is not enough – appropriate actions must follow, or the faith is dead.

Most recently we embarked on a study of the booklet ‘A Better World – HOPE FOR ALL’ from a diverse group of Christian Churches throughout NZ. It highlights how the message of Jesus has profoundly influenced our world for the better and we are still working our way through it.

The group has shrunk somewhat during the year. Michael Tearle is finding fellowship elsewhere, and the Thompsons (Dwayne and Rebecca) have shifted to Whangarei to be closer to their son who moved there for work reasons. As well, Bill Wilson sold his place at Whangaroa Harbour, and shifted to Cooper’s Beach. Bill is still coming to the home group, but we now meet at the Hayes’ farmhouse rather than at Bill’s. Recent arrivals have been Owen and Jie Monds, but they have taken off to China at the moment, to be with Jie’s daughter who has had to have some surgery. Otherwise we are continuing to meet and have good interaction and food on the second and fourth Monday night of each month. Newcomers are welcome at any meeting.

Alan Robinson

Kerikeri Home Group

It is always a good feeling knowing that whatever we are struggling with in life, we are not alone. For me the task of nurturing this group, the practical things and its spiritual growth has been hard, especially while dealing with chronic pain and organising family can become challenging. We can be discouraged and even lose heart, but then believing and knowing that He is right there beside and willing to share the load (Matthew 11:28), amazingly we find ourselves revitalised and confident. For with this we look to our very main source of energy, courage, confidence, love, joy, and peace.

As Home Group, we acknowledge that we are very much connected with each other and our love and caring for one another is growing stronger and stronger.

Early this year we sadly received a 'farewell' from our dear friend and valued member of our home group, Paula du Plooy, due to relocating with her son for a better job in Whangarei. Paula is missed very much. Even though Paula is no longer with us she is very much involved with our prayer intercession. We appreciated all of Paula’s contributions to our home group: may the love of our Heavenly Father keep you safe and blessing to you always and the rest of your family

We continue our gathering every first Friday of each month, over a pot-luck dinner, some games and finishing with the sharing of the Good News, then blessing before we all head home. Not forgetting some whose health requirements have restricted their social contacts: they are very much in our hearts and prayers 'KIAKAHA' everyone.

We are looking forward to our Christmas Dinner on the last Friday of November as our closing up for year 2018.

Thank you, everyone for all your support and help throughout the year. May you all have a blessed Christmas and a prosperous New Year to come.

God bless, Michelle Tupou

Bible Study Group

These are the enthusiastic people who have turned up almost every Monday afternoon with a desire to learn more about the Bible: Bev Tayler, Diane Paterson, Imago Inocente, Jenny Phillips, Ros Simpson, Stella Leather, Jessica Scott, and others on occasions, as well as Robyn McPhail and myself, who make up this Bible study group. Thank you ladies.

We start with a cuppa as we sit around the table sharing some of the experiences on our daily journey, including the impact on ourselves and our families. Then we come to a stillness with Robyn leading us in prayer to help as we approach the texts. This is very helpful in terms of bringing up some ideas for Robyn in her preparation for our Sunday services. I hope it continues in years to come. All are welcome, men and women.

Michelle Tupou

WORSHIP

The Worship Committee consists of Robyn McPhail, Jenny Phillips, Jessica Scott, Sheryl Webster, Jan Gough and Clyde Foster. We meet at Cornerstone periodically. The spaces for taking the services when Robyn is away are addressed and suggestions taken for who can fill in. Our Communion Service is usually the second Sunday of the month at Kerikeri and Kaeo. The Kaeo church service is at 11.30am and the congregation share lunch together after the Communion Service on the second Sunday of the month. The Union Parish is rostered, along with other churches to take a service at the Retirement Village at the Ted Robinson Chapel each Sunday at 4.00pm. A Communion Service is held at Kauri Lodge in Kaeo once a month led by Robyn where she also provides a chaplaincy service. On occasions Kaeo church members attend whichever Anglican service is being held that week, All Saints Kaeo and St Paul's Whangaroa in particular. The Anglican congregations are invited to join Wesleydale on the fifth Sunday of the month.

Our Parish takes part in the World Day of Prayer, organises the Week Of Prayer For World Peace, and the Combined Churches ministers' meetings. Support for Girls' Brigade, and Sunday School (when possible) are also part of our Parish commitments.

We would like to record our thanks to Robyn, our minister, who serves us so well and is an inspiration to us all.

Jan Gough, Convener

Kerikeri Singers

The Singers are in recess for the time being. It is difficult for us all to meet up for practice after church now. Nevertheless we have enjoyed singing through the year. Our thanks to Bridget Clode and Joan Pasche who stepped in to help us with their musical knowledge.

Jessica Scott

Our thanks to Jessica for all her endeavours for the joy of singing together.

Kerikeri Rosters

Door and Tea: Thanks to the nine couples who take a turn on door and tea duty, greeting people and handing out bulletins etc.

Communion: Thanks to the seven couples who take a turn setting up communion each month.

Bible Reading: Thanks to all the bible readers, the hymns they choose, their symbols of God's presence and thoughts expressed each week.

Flowers: Thanks to all who volunteer to do the flowers each week.

Music: Thanks to Marie, Dave, Diane, Kato, Clyde and Robyn for their music for the services during the year.

PASTORAL – Kerikeri

The Kerikeri pastoral team have had a fairly busy year. We have had regular meetings and as well as visiting people in the congregation we have put on morning teas for the congregation and others who no longer come to church. Robyn is always there to give advice when we need it. We look for new ideas that will benefit the whole congregation. At present we are negotiating to have a pastoral workshop here at Cornerstone. The pastoral team also take Sunday Services from time-to-time and we have special meetings to formulate the service.

Your pastoral contacts are: Michelle Akau'ola, Ros Simpson, Bev Tayler, Kay Blunkell and myself. We miss Paula du Plooy who moved to Whangarei earlier this year. Please don't hesitate to speak with one of our pastoral team if you have a need to.

Jessica Scott

WOMEN'S GROUPS

Kerikeri Women's Fellowship

We continue to meet on the first Thursday of each month at 10am at different venues including Cornerstone. We begin with a cuppa and devotions. All are invited to contribute to a chosen theme. As our outreach project we continue to support a World Vision Child with prayers and financial donations. We appreciate the work of Akisi Renner who looks after our finances and also keeps in touch with our World Vision child. As our numbers are decreasing we sometimes have to run a stall at the Car Boot Sales to supplement our donations to the World Vision Child. Our next stall will be in November.

Jan Gough

FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR PERIOD 01/07/2017 – 30/06/2018

INCOME:		EXPENSES:	
Donations at meetings	\$474.00	World Vision	\$446.00
Bookshop	\$115.00	Floral Art Group	\$ 86.50
Carboot Sale	\$200.00	Bank Fee (AP)	\$ 5.00
TOTALS:	\$789.00		\$537.50
Excess of income over expenses:			\$251.50
TOTAL FUNDS:			
Balance brought forward			
from 30/06/ 2017	\$535.53		
Income	\$789.00		
Total Income	\$1324.53	Total Expenses	\$537.50
Excess of income over expenses			\$787.03
Bank balance at 30/06/2018			\$787.03

Kaeo Friday Friends

A group of nine or so of us meet on the fourth Friday of each month at 11am in the Wesleydale Union Church Hall at Kaeo.

Opening up to a more community based group of women has brought a greater dimension to our meetings with a new enthusiasm as well as an increase in numbers. One or two members are more restricted as far as getting out and find the hour or so spent together something they can look forward to. We take turns with everyone contributing sharing our stories over a cup of tea. Some have shown us their talents and brought along displays of their crafts. Snippets from Robyn's weekly church bulletins and inspirational readings or thoughts from other members with a prayer to close provide us with food for thought. On behalf of the Kaeo congregation our thanks to all the ladies on the church flower roster, and to Lynne for organising the communion each month. A special thank you to Clyde our very capable organist, not only for playing the organ each Sunday but also for opening up the church each week and setting up the tables for lunch once a month. Our thanks to the many who help take our services, especially to Robyn our Minister for all she does in helping to further the Good News of God's love to our community.

Lorelei Hayes

OUTREACH

CAR BOOT SALES

These continue twice a month, regardless of the weather, as we can use the Hall for our indoor stalls.

Naturally they are better supported in the Summer than the Winter, but it is always worth doing. The community spirit that is generated by these sales cannot be underestimated. For some sellers and buyers it is one of the few contacts they have with others in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere.

The \$5.00 per carpark fee will not be reviewed in the meantime as it is important that it is within everyone's reach. They do not pay at all if they don't make \$5.00. This is a real community outreach (with apologies to the accountants among us!).

Mary Fenton

FOOD BANK

Over the financial year of 2017-18 we were able to deliver 1088 emergency food parcels on request to community service agencies for their clients identified as experiencing hardship. We assisted about 740 families and individuals. Funding and donations are provided by various charitable trusts, service groups and individuals towards the cost of groceries to maintain the standard of a useful food parcel for families.

Our foodbank has been able to continue operating due to the generosity of a Cornerstone family who continue to provide us with shelter in their home.

We are grateful to the Women's Fellowship for their work in the re-packing of damaged and bulk goods received weekly from New World supermarket. They

certainly accomplish a great deal every Monday afternoon.

Thank you to all the Cornerstone's volunteers who assist with the packing and delivering of food parcels and to those who give of their time on the committee.

We are also most appreciative of the groceries donated regularly by the congregation and for the ongoing interest and support in the provision of this service in our area.

Sandra Cowan, for the Kerikeri/Kaeo Community Foodbank

PRISON MINISTRY

The men continue to enjoy our monthly visits to take worship with and for them in their units. The usual team on the first Sunday of each month has been Pam Harrison-Boyd (St. James, Kerikeri), Michael Tearle (Kaeo), and myself; along with 2 or 3 from Doubtless Bay and Kaitaia, led by Jim Beard. The themes for each month this year have been the Fruits of the Spirit, with special themes at times like Easter. We are an ecumenical bunch: the chaplain Gwen Tahana is Roman Catholic, the assistant part time volunteer chaplain Paul Saville is from Frontline, the people from Doubtless Bay are Baptist, as is Michael now, Pam is Anglican, and I am from this union parish. The important thing is that we are followers of Jesus, keen to share his message!

Just like any group of people, some of the men talk more than others. And some of them seem to know the Bible better than I do. Often two of the people from Doubtless Bay bring guitars so that we can be in two units at the same time singing along with the guitars. The men like that, and like to choose what to sing, having favorites.

The Department of Corrections continue to be unable to provide up to date swipe cards to all of us volunteers, which is surprising, as it is their own requirement. This has meant that some of us have been denied entry at the gatehouse. Pieces of paper have been issued after some delay to allow entry for a few months, as an interim measure, but the cards still don't seem to be arriving.

The efforts made to assist chaplaincy take services at NRCF are really worthwhile, and names of attendees are taken to be presented to people like the Parole Board, to show that they are interested in improving themselves so as not to reoffend. More can be done, I'm sure. Like supporting efforts to teach reading, writing and arithmetic; let alone parenting, social responsibility, etc., etc.

So if anyone reading this wants to get involved, there is plenty to do! In the meantime, ka kite ano!

Alan Robinson

MANAGEMENT

PROPERTY

Kaeo

Some things take a long time to happen, we are all so busy! Tiles with positive words/sayings on, to help beautify Kaeo, are to be put on the wall in front of the Kaeo church. Carpet from the old church at Kerikeri is yet to be cut to size, though some of it is in place already (down the aisle). The front doors of the church are to be refurbished,

and the builder selected for the job has yet to fit it in. The painters contracted to clean and paint the church have yet to start (there is now some scaffolding on site so it will soon happen!).

But some things have happened. There are now new curtains in the supper room, and hall; looking good too. Our grounds and church facilities were used to hold a Festival for Young People (Ngā Purapura) on April 7, arranged by Hannah and a 'committee' of keen young mums. Hoping to be repeated, it went well and was well supported.

Otherwise mundane things like general maintenance, investigating leaks in the roof of the hall, installing speakers, making the water in the shower hot again, a new (second) notice board for the hall, window cleaning, organ maintenance, etc., etc. are attended to (or not).

The adjacent playground has been added to, done by the Community Development Group, and there are plans to erect a flying fox across the back of the church grounds, which we have agreed to in principle. To allow pedestrian access to the whole playground area from the street a concrete path across our lawn has been suggested, at no cost to us. This will be safer than having children going across the car park area to the playground. And it will allow safer access to the front door of the church from the car park. A win/win situation.

Alan Robinson

Church House

Work has been minimal during the year. The connection to new wastewater scheme is now in place and a number of small electrical jobs attended to.

Ian Wright and John Latell

Cornerstone Management

The committee meets once a month and comprises of myself as Convenor and Robyn McPhail, Suzanne Campbell, Mary Fenton, Sheryl Webster and Paula Du Plooy with Jill Freeman as the User representative. I would like to thank all members for their efforts and Jill Freeman for providing a different perspective as a User. Regretfully Paula left the district this year and we also thank her for her input to the committee.

Some highlights of the year:

Celebration: Our first birthday was very successful.

Hosts: There have been a regular, small, dedicated group of hosts. Imago Inocente is now the Host Co-ordinator and Mentor. The recruitment of hosts is ongoing with more needed.

Bookings: Steady and only quieter during the school holidays with Cornerstone more than covering its expenses with room hire. Users have been assisted with guidance on clean up procedures after use and this is working well.

Cleaning: There were a few issues earlier in the year but these were resolved and the cleaning increased from once to twice a week which has had very good results. The annual outside window clean was also done and we are awaiting a quote for the annual inside window clean.

Maintenance: The exterior was sprayed for spiders, etc.

Health & Safety: A few small incidents were dealt with satisfactorily.

Improvements: Two heat pumps were installed in the Hall and have made a big difference. Covers for the piano and organ in the Worship area were made. Thanks to Mary for all her hard work. A piano that was in the Hall has been shifted to the Meeting Room and a cover made. A TV was loaned for the Tamariki Room until funds are available to purchase a fit for purpose Smart TV – thanks to those responsible. Shelves were also installed in the Utility Room. Cupboards for the Worship Area or Meeting Room are still being considered.

Overall a very successful year for Cornerstone which we will endeavour to continue and I look forward to working with you all in the coming year. May you all have a jolly Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Michelle Tupou Convener and Suzanne Campbell, Secretary

Kerikeri Garden Group

Our group of six have been meeting as needs arose through the past year.

We have established a planting to provide screening between Cornerstone and the Funeral Parlour and have had discussions about establishing suitable gardens around the Funeral Parlour as soon as the builders have completed their work.

I wish to thank all those who have donated time, plants, and money towards our projects. Without your input we would not have progressed as far.

We have especially appreciated the tremendous amount of work Brian Stewart has put into the garden and area around Cornerstone. Thank you, Brian.

Bev Tayler

Property Planning Group

We have met when we have needed to – in October, December, March, May, and then in July and August of the current financial year. The Funeral Parlour has been our main focus and we have been disappointed it has dragged on so long. We did not, because of extra cost, require a finish date, but in hindsight we perhaps should have looked into it at the time. ARCO, it seems to us, got the chance of another contract willing to pay the premium for a guaranteed finish date so our job had to fit in alongside.

We also had a problem with the fire walls, with Far North District Council having different rules from Whangarei Council, which ARCO weren't aware of. We therefore did the legalities for a no build zone on the Church side of the Funeral Parlour and added a fire wall up on the bottom side. ARCO only charged for the material to do this and did not charge of their time to do the work.

As this report is written the work is almost finished with only the landscaping to do, a task being undertaken by the Cornerstone Garden Group. The shift in should be in late September.

Also during the year the bond required by the District Council in relation to our paving of the reserve track was released (see the Finance report), the name "Fairy Pools Lane"

was submitted to Council and approved, and the address of 144a Kerikeri Road agreed to with the Funeral Parlour tenant. Work is currently in progress to upgrade the sign at the entrance to Fairy Pools Lane on the corner of the Old Land Claims site, costs to be shared with the Funeral Parlour tenant.

We also attended to some tasks requested by Cornerstone Management, some of it repairs to be attended to by ARCO, in one case the installing of heat pumps in the Hall which had been left out of the original design.

Our next move, after consulting re finance, is to have discussions about what to do on the two sections we have left. We look forward to the new year with all its challenges.

I would like to thank the committee for all their help during the year, and special thanks to Bill Fenton for his work as Project Manager.

Brian Stewart, Convener

FINANCE

Kerikeri Union Church Envelope Giving

After 12 years as Envelope Secretary for the Kerikeri part of the Parish it is heart-warming to see the level of commitment and constancy of those who have chosen this method of giving. There are 19 families using the facility.

Please feel free to talk to me at any time about the system and I will explain just how easy it is, how there is no pressure upon you in any way, and very importantly I emphasise that the system is strictly confidential. It gives you the giver an overview of the extent of your offering and each year you receive a tax rebate certificate for your total. Another alternative is to make regular donations by way of an automatic Bank payment for which you will also receive a tax rebate certificate.

From the Kerikeri part of the Parish the total received from Envelope Givers and those who give by way of automatic Bank Payment, for the year ending 31 March 2018 was \$14,573.00 – thank you for your continued support.

Please contact me (407 8123) if you need any further information.

Helen Norman, Envelope Secretary

Kaeo Union Church Envelope Giving

It is good to be able to extend our Parish's appreciation to those of the Kaeo congregation who support our envelope system and also those others who contribute with cash. Thanks to the Kaeo member who has recently joined our envelope system.

When I reflect on some of the issues that our Methodist Circuit and Presbyterian Parish have tackled in the past (new Parsonage needing to be built in Kaeo, Presbyterian Parsonage and Hall in Kerikeri) one thing stands out and that is the value that our people have put on having a trained Christian Leader in our communities. We see the Funeral Parlour reaching completion but delays and substantial over runs with both projects require a conservative approach to money issues as we move forward.

Our appreciation to Anthony Hayes, Clyde Foster, and Helen Norman whose continued help makes this system work.

Ian Hayes, Kaeo Envelope Steward

Finance Committee

The Finance committee welcomed David Stringer as a member and recently farewelled Bev Barke from the committee.

With interest payments coming in higher than budgeted due to the delays in the Funeral Parlour build and not paying out Host wages as budgeted we had more funds than expected. This will continue into 2018-2019 with an Operating Budget in the black with regular lease income from the Funeral Parlour and Cornerstone more than covering its expenses with hire of its facilities.

A final total of \$694,801 is remaining with the completion of the F/P build and this is invested with Presbyterian Investment Fund \$456,760 and Methodist Trust Association \$238,041 at good interest rates. The MTA consistently has higher rates and funds held with the ANZ as a bond with Far North District Council were transferred on release to MTA. The Finance committee will be looking at transferring more funds from PCANZ into it.

Robyn Terlesk (BDO) will continue her oversight role this year attending the Finance meeting in October to discuss/explain the Annual Financial Reports.

I would like to thank Robyn McPhail for her support throughout the year and also Michelle Tupou and Bev Barke who will continue as signatories/authorisers along with Helen Norman and Neil Scott. Thanks also to Brian Stewart and Bill Fenton for their advice and input regarding the F/P accounts and Lease.

Suzanne Campbell, Treasurer/Administrator

MINISTER'S POSTSCRIPT

The Funeral Parlour build coming to fruition is centre-stage as I reflect on the past church year. What we are feeling in getting to this point makes me realise what a big job it has been.

The other big matter has been Cornerstone: now that we have done a full cycle of a year, plus more, it is proving its worth and I also realise what a big job it will continue to be making sure it works well as community space for the years to come.

Understandably there is a tiredness that we are still recovering from. It was perhaps delayed by the excitement of opening Cornerstone – Whare Karakia o Manako. We'll need to go carefully to make sure we recover well and are then able to take on the new challenges ahead.

New challenges have always been part of this parish's life, since Union in the 1970s and before that with Methodist origins back in 1822 and the Presbyterian parish beginning in the 1950s. Some challenges are put on us by circumstances, like floods. Others we choose or rather they get chosen because we know God is calling us to the unique mission we have in our communities of Kaeo and Kerikeri. We are not your average church, you might say. We have a mission that means we are driven to give ourselves to our community, to do the Jesus thing of being there for others to heal and to help. In other words, to assist in individual and community well-being, and to do it in a distinctively open, inclusive, and non-judgmental way.

For me the year has had its joys – there have been weddings and a baptism – and sorrows – a number of funerals, many of people who are now old friends. (That’s the problem staying a while.)

I’ve journeyed with Whangaroa hapū through Tribunal hearings and events at our “home” marae Te Patunga, and other significant community events in Kaeo and the Whangaroa district. This year on Armistice Day the Whangaroa Armed Services Commemorations will come to a conclusion. That has been an amazing experience of remembrance and strengthening in community spirit. We also completed the mission involved with the Boyd Remembrance, at the end of last year reinstating in a suitably accessible place the plaque to the tragic events of 1809.

The responsibilities of contributing to regional church organisation continued, with satisfaction in the appointment of a new minister at Kaitaia. Changes in structure have happened yet again and I’ve been needed to be involved in some of that work.

In April this year rural churches gathered from around the world at Lincoln University and I certainly enjoyed welcoming all these good friends to our place. It was a great rounding off for the very rich experience of 25 years, working at rural ministry networking.

Study leave is centre stage at the moment. It was good to get church approval to do a higher level of ambulance qualification as official study leave. When retirement comes I would like to be involved in the community in this way which will be effectively a kind of ministry.

Yes, retirement is coming, 16 months from the time of writing.

The year ahead will therefore entail continuing this study (completion in August next year) and continuing our work together to prepare for change, hoping a new ministry will be able to be put in place. Different people have different gifts and it will be important to build on the gifts and skills that are available in future, be they among you as the team who are the church or with a new minister we hope will come and settle here.

So āta haere, go carefully, kia manawanui, be strong in heart, and me tūturu, be true to who you are – who we are as people of the Jesus way, living kingdom values, and offering acceptance and love to a world crying out for them.

Robyn McPhail

