



- Rejoice in the Lord always. Remember the mercy, love and grace He has lavished upon us.
- Pray for His grace to help us embrace the challenges and changes that 'Growing into the people of God' requires of us.
- Pray for Andrew and the leadership team, asking for protection, health, wisdom, and a clear vision of the direction God desires for His Church.
- Pray for all the new people who are coming to the services and midweek activities. Pray that we would reach out to welcome them and help them to feel a sense of belonging.
- Pray for one another. A suggested method is to use the directory and systematically pray for 5 or 6 families each day.
- Remember those who are featured on our Prayer Network and continue to cover them in prayer.
- Pray for our sister churches. Pray for God's blessing and favour and that we would demonstrate unity and love throughout the Body of Christ.
- Pray for our world, especially for those affected by the many and varied natural disasters, discrimination, and acts of inhumanity. Pray for those who risk their own safety to help others in need.
- Pray for one another, that we will all invite the Holy Spirit to do His work in us, reflect His nature, and have the courage to share the hope we have in Christ.

Service Teams	Duty Person	Door Greeter	Morning Tea Team	Clean Team	Communion
April 6	R Graham	V Jones	R Quinn & P Swinburn	I & J Beaven	H Dunnett, P Sosa & M Franco
April 13	R Quinn	R Thomas	M Stanton & W Braimoh	K & M Squires	
April 20	B Lucas	R Lucas	R & T Millet	A & S Mitchell	
April 27	M Hosken	E Hosken	J & C Bebarfald	L Leopard & M Smiles	
Communion Servers for April 2: B & R Lucas, R & T Millet, F Marshall, P Sosa					

Napier Baptist Church is a NZ registered charity: CC26965
A member church of the Baptist Union of New Zealand



36 Riverbend Road, Marewa, Napier 4110
(06) 843 7955 | office@napierbaptist.org.nz
www.napierbaptist.org.nz

10 am service every Sunday



Our values

Compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.
(Col 3:12)

CONTACTS

Pastor

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Prayer Net

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Community Worker

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Leadership Team

John Bebarfald 021 47 1952 Andrew Mitchell 027 625 8747
Pat Swinburn 021 125 4459 Graeme Brandt 021 0206 2111

Pastor's Pen

The title for our current series on Galatians is **“Challenge Means Change”**. The Galatians were faced with a clash of cultures. The Jewish culture was well-established in the early Church. Jesus had ministered almost exclusively to the Jews; all the Apostles were Jews; all the 120 saints in the upper room were Jews; all 3,000 of those saved on the day of Pentecost were Jews; and every person who became a Christian during the first 7 or 8 years of the early Church were Jews. All of this comes off the back of the Old Covenant which God established with the Jewish nation starting with Abraham some 2,000 years before Jesus. So, when Gentiles (non-Jews) started to become Christians, it was perfectly logical to ask, ‘Must the Gentiles become Jews before becoming Christian or does the Gospel allow for the Galatian church to be shaped by their own culture?’ The debate raged in the early Church and to some degree the same debate exists in our own church. We can become so attached to our preferred way of doing church that it has very little connection with the culture in which we live. The danger is that we revolve our church culture around those who currently attend rather than around those who we are trying to reach. Paul expresses it well in 1 Corinthians 9:19-23; to the Jews he became as a Jew, to those under the law he became as one under the law, to the weak he became weak etc. Paul becomes all things to all people, **that by all means he might save some**. Paul never compromised the Gospel message, and he never compromised the call to live a godly life but outside of this, he was very intentional about embracing the local culture.

In response to the 2023 NZ Church Life Survey, Mike Crudge - Communication Director for the Baptist Churches of NZ said, *‘...it is kind of desperate times for the church. If we do nothing, if we just continue what we are doing we are going to get older and older and smaller and smaller. For me, this church life survey is alarming if we do nothing. This is what I want church leaders to hear.’* Baptist Churches are growing older and older and smaller and smaller because we are failing to make the changes needed that allows us to become more relevant to the communities in which we live. While Napier Baptist is trending in the right direction, we still have a long way to go. To meet this challenge, we must be prepared to change. **‘Challenge means Change’**.

Andrew

Services for April

6 th April	Regular Service	Communion
13 th April	Regular Service	
20 th April	Regular Service	Easter Sunday
27 th April	Regular Service	

Offerings & Gifts

Tithes & offerings total for February '25: **\$12,825** Budget: **\$14,800**

For more information on ways to give and giving number, refer to flyers available.

Napier Baptist Church's bank account: BNZ - **Napier Branch 02 0700 0010779 00.**

Notices

Passover Seder

Join us for a special Passover meal on **Easter Friday, 18th of April**, from **5.00pm to around 7.00pm**, as an alternative to the Easter Friday service. This family-friendly and is open to all ages. There is a cost of \$10/adult, \$5/child (school age), or \$30/family of 2 adults and 2 or more children. Please RSVP to the office no later than 12.00nn on 15th of April.

We are looking for volunteers to assist with the Seder and are also seeking several items to use during the meal. Please refer to the email for more details on how you can help and the items we need. Thank you!

Apple Picking Schedule

NO Apple picking on the **5th and 19th April**. For other Saturdays, please contact Jason for confirmation.

Te Hahi – Duty week: 21-27th April

Giving

Thank you for your generous giving. Your support is vital in advancing God's work both locally and abroad. As you continue to give, please keep in your prayers our local missions with Colenso College, the surrounding community, and our overseas missions.

What's On This Month

Ladies Coffee Club & BOBs Men's Coffee – Monday, 7th April, at Mitre10 Café, at 10:00am.

BMF – Monday, 14th April at 2:00pm in the Engine Room.

Prayer Together – Tuesdays, 7:00 – 8:15-ish pm and Thursdays, 9:00 – 10:15-ish am in the Engine Room.

Shake, Rattle & Roll – Wednesdays, 10:00am in the Auditorium (School terms).

Care & Share – Thursdays at 9:30am in the Lounge (School terms).

Working Bee – Saturday, 12th April, 9:00 am – noon.

Men's Breakfast – Saturday, 26th April 8.30am, in the Hall.

Sunday Pre-service Prayer – 9:15 to 9:50 a.m. in the Engine Room.

Study & Fellowship

Super Group	Last Tuesday at 1:30 p.m.	Brian 0212797305
Tuesday Night Study	6:00 p.m.	Ven 021487373 / 068436302
Women's Bible Study	Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m.	Melanie 02040383482
Wednesday Afternoon	3:00 p.m.	Helen 0278422963
Young Adults' Bible Study	Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.	Sarah 021311418
Evergreens Study	2 nd Thursday at 2:00 p.m.	Eddie 068367363
Thursday Bible Study	7:30 p.m.	Andrew 0276258747 / Sonja 0277282840