

- Take time out of all the busy activities this month to enjoy God's amazing gift of love, freely given for all. Worship Him, the radiant King of life who calls us His own.
- Give thanks to God for answered prayers, for being our steady help in times of trouble; for comforting us in our sorrows; and for hope as we prepare for a new year of opportunities and challenges.
- Pray for all First Responders, Fire Brigade, Surf Life Savers, who sacrifice this special time with family to serve our communities.
- Pray for the Police as they face extra Family Harm incidents due to financial pressure, and alcohol and drug related incidents.
- Pray for those for whom this Christmas will be an isolated and lonely time. Be alert for any opportunities to become God's answer to our prayers for them.
- Continue to pray God's direction and guidance for our Leadership team and for people to respond to the need for more leaders and helpers as the ministries expand.
- Pray God's blessing over our sister Churches, for unity of purpose to make Christ known and support one another.
- Pray in our local and world conflicts. Remember that the challenges, while overwhelming for us, God is still sovereign, and He welcomes our prayers.

IF YOU ARE NOT YET ON THE PRAYER NETWORK AND WOULD LIKE TO BE INCLUDED.  
PLEASE LET HELEN KNOW, 027 8422963.

Service Teams	Duty Person	Door Greeter	Morning Tea Team	Clean Team	Communion
Dec 7	B Lucas	R Lucas	K & M Squires	K & M Squires	H Dunnett, P Sosa & M Franco
Dec 14	M Hosken	F Marshall	Green Family	I & J Beaven	
Dec 21	R Graham	I Blair	J Caban & P Swinburn	L Leopard & R Graham	
Dec 25	R Quinn				
Dec 28	M Hosken		J & C Bebarfald	J & C Bebarfald	
<b>Communion Servers for December 7:</b> G&J Pritchard, P Swinburn, M Hosken, F Marshall & R Graham					

36 Riverbend Road, Marewa, Napier 4110  
(06) 843 7955 | [office@napierbaptist.org.nz](mailto:office@napierbaptist.org.nz)  
[www.napierbaptist.org.nz](http://www.napierbaptist.org.nz)

**10 am service every Sunday**



## December & January 2025

### *Our values*

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

### CONTACTS

**Pastor**  
Andrew Mitchell  
027 625 8747  
[pastor@napierbaptist.org.nz](mailto:pastor@napierbaptist.org.nz)

**Prayer Net**  
Helen Dunnett  
[helenandivan@gmail.com](mailto:helenandivan@gmail.com)

**Community Worker**  
Sarah Mitchell  
021 311 418

**Office Administrator**  
Patricia Sosa  
022 175 0215

**Leadership Team**  
Andrew Mitchell 027 625 8747

Pat Swinburn 021 125 4459

Graeme Brandt 021 0206 2111

## Pastor's Pen

Recently Sonja, myself, and Sarah spent 3 full days at the National Baptist Hui in Palmerston North with 400ish other Baptist Pastors/elders/leaders from across the country. For us it is a time to connect, encourage and to learn from other Baptist leaders as well as to hear what is happening in the national Baptist setting. I have tried to summarise some of the main happenings over the 3 days.

1. This is the 4<sup>th</sup> National Hui that Sonja and I have been to and there seemed to be a greater sense of unity across the movement than what I have experienced at the last 3. There could be several explanations for this but overall, the event had a very positive vibe with many other attendees expressing this same thing.
2. After 7 years as National Baptist Leader Charles Hewlet was decommissioned, and Chris Chamberlain was appointed. Charles and his wife received a very long-standing ovation from all 400 delegates in appreciation for their years of dedicated service. I do not know Chris, but my initial impressions are positive as he shared parts of his own story over Hui.
3. The delegates were also introduced to Dr Paul Jones the new principal of Carey Bible College. Paul has been based in Brisbane, Australia for the past nine years where he worked at Trinity College Queensland. Initially, he was a lecturer and for the last six years he was Principal of the college. Paul took a couple of sessions, and I was particularly pleased when he quoted one of my favourites by Christopher Wright. "It is not so much the case that God has a mission for His Church in the world, as that God has a Church for His mission in the world. Mission was not made for the Church; the Church was made for mission – God's mission."
4. I also enjoyed the session lead by Luke Kaa-Morgan who is employed by the Baptist Support Centre to help guide the Baptist Union in Treaty matters. There is a lot happening in this space across the country. While we have no specific take homes from this Sonja, Sarah and I all felt a God that this was something that God was speaking to us about and I am very aware that Napier Baptist is situated in the Maraenui community where 58% of residents identify as Māori.

If anyone is interested in knowing more about the Hui, please do not hesitate to ask.

Andrew

## Services for December

7 <sup>th</sup> December	Regular Service		Communion
14 <sup>th</sup> December	Regular Service		Jayser Caban
21 <sup>st</sup> December	Regular Service		Baptism
23 <sup>rd</sup> December	Eve of Christmas Eve Service		
25 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Day Service		John Bebarfald
28 <sup>th</sup> December	Regular Service		

## Offerings & Gifts

Tithes & offerings total for October '25: **\$14,313** 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

**Te Hahi** – Duty week: 8<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> December and 19<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> January

### Baptism

Great news! **Jaydn Stoltz** is getting baptised on Sunday, **23<sup>rd</sup> of December**. If you're thinking about getting baptised too or have any questions, chat with Andrew.

### Office Holiday Schedule

The office will be **closed** from **22<sup>nd</sup> of December** and will **reopen** on **12<sup>th</sup> of January**.

### Prayer Meeting

Tuesday and Thursday prayer meetings will wrap up for the year on **18<sup>th</sup> of December** and start again on **6<sup>th</sup> of January**.

### Youth Hangout

Youth hangout is on **12<sup>th</sup> of December**. This will be a progressive dinner from **5.30–9. 00pm**. Thank you to everyone helping.

### Community Volleyball Day

Volleyball day is happening on **14<sup>th</sup> of December** at the **Colenso gym**. Practice and drills start at 3.00pm, and game kicks off at 3.30pm

### Napier Community Christmas Lunch

Weave Hawkes Bay is hosting a Christmas lunch on **25<sup>th</sup> of December at 12.00pm** at the **Marist Old Boys Clubrooms** for anyone finding the season tough. To book, contact Jill at 0211835069 by 17 December, or email [jill.f@weavehb.org.nz](mailto:jill.f@weavehb.org.nz) if you'd like to volunteer or reserve a spot.

### What's On This Month (December)

**Ladies Coffee Club & BOBs Men's Coffee** – **Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> December**, at Mitre10 Café, at 10:00am.

**BMF** – **Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> December** at 2:00pm. Contact Faith Marshall for meeting place.

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

**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, 13<sup>th</sup> December**, 9:00 am – noon.

**Men's Breakfast** – none for December.

**F5** – **Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> December**, after Sunday Service in the Lounge.

**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 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday at 2:00 p.m.	Eddie 068367363
Thursday Bible Study	7:30 p.m.	Andrew 0276258747 / Sonja 0277282840