



AGM REPORT 2026

ST PETERS IN THE CITY

130 Spring Street

Tauranga 3110



- *One generation shall commend your works to another and shall declare your mighty acts.* Psalm 145:4 (ESV)
- *‘See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up: do you not perceive it?’* Isaiah 43:19a (NIV)



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St Peters Church in the City 2025 Agenda

Sunday 13th September 2026

Apologies

Motion1: That apologies as recorded on the attendance sheet, be received.

St Peters House AGM

St Peters Church AGM

Minutes of last meeting are received.

Motion 2: That the minutes of the 2025 Annual General Meeting as printed be confirmed.

Matters Arising from the minutes

Adoption of Annual Report

Motion 3: That the 2026 Annual Reports be received.

Election/re-election to Board of Managers

Motion 4: That the following nominees be elected or re-elected to the Board of Managers for a term of 3 years.

Ray Reynolds

NOTE: The following Managers continue in Office, and are due to retire as shown:

Darleen Bailey **(2027)**

Neville Watkins **(2027)**

Maria Carter **(2027)**

Keith Campbell **(2028)**

Peter Carter **(Session Rep)**

Dennis Kumar **(2028)**

Roberto Mattas **(2028)**

Vote of thanks to workers:

- Staff
- Session
- Managers
- Financial Report (Neville Watkins)

Motions 5: For Approval and Adoption

(a) That the reviewed financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026 be received and approved.

(b) That William Buck Audit (NZ) Limited only be re-appointed as auditors as necessary for any future years.

(i.e. when expenditure exceeds \$550,000 per Charities Commission requirements)

General Business

Closing Prayer

St Peters Church in the City AGM Minutes 2025

St Peters Church AGM Held on Sunday 14th September 2025 at 11.40 am

Keith welcomed all members in attendance (see end of Minutes)

The St Peters House meeting opened in prayer by Vicky Roberts from St Peters House

St Peters House AGM followed

Apologies – J Duncanson, R Bailey, R Chin, A & M Sweetman, J Buxton, A & P Chancellor.

Motion 1: That apologies as recorded on the attendance sheet, be received.

Moved: Irene Mainland Seconded: Marion Saunders Agreed

St Peters Church AGM

Previous Minutes

Motion 2: That the minutes of the 2024 Annual General Meeting as printed be confirmed.

Moved: Keith Campbell Seconded: Felicity A'avua Agreed

There were no matters arising from the 2024 AGM minutes.

Questions: none

Adoption of the Annual Report

Motion 3: That the 2025 Annual Reports be received.

Moved: Judy Clark Seconded: Dawn Buxton Agreed

2025 Annual Report by Keith, copies available at the door and online.

Comments: There is a lot happening in the church

Questions: none

New Board of Managers appointments: Dennis Kumar, Roberto Mattas; re-appointed Keith Campbell.

Motion 4: That Dennis Kumar, Roberto Mattas and Keith Campbell be appointed to Board of Managers for a term of 3 years.

Moved: Ray Reynolds Seconded: Jon Clark Agreed

Keith acknowledged and thanked the current people on the board, session, staff and ministry teams. It's been a challenging year. We started with not much support in the office and employed Corlia and Maria who have done a superb job. Unfortunately, Corlia has had to resign. Maria is willing to do an extra day a week as we look for someone new to fill this position. We are also looking for volunteer help.

Treasurer's Financial Report

Motion 5a: That the reviewed financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025 be received and approved.

Moved: Neville Watkins Seconded: Andrew Agreed

Motion 5b: That William Buck Audit (NZ) Limited only be re-appointed as auditors as necessary for any future years. (i.e. when expenditures exceed \$550,000 per Charities Commission requirements)

Moved: Neville Watkins Seconded: Maria Carter Agreed

Neville Watkins presented the performance report for 2024/2025 year.

Neville talked about the budget and finances being tight and the difference that other revenue streams are having on our income. We ended with a small Deficit of \$15.00. The cash moved positively by \$60,000.00 during the year, but most of this has been spent.

Keith talked about all the different people renting our facilities to provide income. The more people who use our facility the more we are recognised as a great place to hire. Questions:

Felicity- when are the blue door in the front being painted. Answer - in Nov a contractor has been signed with.

Peter – good to see the church is being used, remember the church needs to be used still by music groups who practice during the week. Answer – the use of the church by church groups comes first.

Are we meeting IRD requirements? – Answer yes

Minutes of Special Congregational Meeting on Election of Karen Caldwell

Special Congregational Meeting of St Peter's Presbyterian Church (3rd August 2025)

Purpose: The election of Karen Caldwell as an elder of St Peter's Church.

The meeting followed the regular morning worship service and was supported by the worshippers at the service.

Motion: 'That Karen Caldwell be ordained and inducted as an elder of St Peter's Presbyterian Church Tauranga'.

Moved: Rose Chin Seconded: Keith Hooker Agreed

Meeting was closed with the benediction

Many thanks

Rose Phan

Session Clerk

Motion 6: That the minutes of the Special Congregational Meeting of St Peter's Presbyterian Church (3rd August 2025) printed be confirmed.

Moved: Keith Campbell Seconded: Irene Mainland Agreed

General Business

Enosa thanked on behalf of himself and Felicity, the elder and managers and office staff for their support. David has created a great space for children and there are expectations now for a great children's programme. We are very grateful.

There being no further business, Enosa closed with everyone saying the benediction together at 12.25pm.

Attendees (as recorded on the attendance sheet),

I Mainland, K Caldwell, D Bailey, D Sweetman, D Kumar, R Barahona, R Harris, P Chin, L & M Saunders, C Kruger, R Reynolds, N & J Ryder, M Duncanson, E & J Clark, K Street, J & R Bridgeman, V Grant, B McLean, J & C Potgieter, N & C Page, N & L Watkins, J & J Clark, L & A Taylor, D Buxton, R & J Hulbert, T Shum, P & M Carter, E & F Auva'a, B Guy, D Duncanson, V Roberts.

Senior Ministers Annual Report 2026

August 31, 2025 TO July 31, 2026

Introduction

As I look back over the past year, I am reminded of the beautiful image in Psalm 23 of God as my Shepherd on our journey:

Psalm 23:1-4

1 The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures,
he leads me beside quiet waters,

3 he refreshes my soul.

He guides me along the right paths
for his name's sake.

4 Even though I walk
through the darkest valley,
I will fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.

This Annual Report is a testimony to God's faithfulness. Throughout the year, we have continued to worship together, grow as disciples of Jesus, care for one another, serve our community, and share the hope of Christ with those around us.

I have been continually encouraged by the willingness of our congregation to serve. Across every area of church life, people have generously offered their gifts, time, and experience. Whether welcoming visitors, leading worship, teaching children, preparing meals, praying faithfully behind the scenes, providing pastoral care, maintaining our property, or serving through governance, our volunteers continue to demonstrate the love of Christ in practical and meaningful ways. As a church, we give thanks for all that God has accomplished through us by His grace.

We also look forward with hope to what He has planned for us. As we move toward the completion of our current Strategic Development Plan in July 2027, we are entering a season of prayerful discernment, seeking the leading of the Holy Spirit as we consider the next steps for the ministry of St Peter's. We do so with confidence, knowing that the Good Shepherd, who has faithfully led us in the past, will continue to guide us into His future.

Above all, we give thanks to the Lord, our Shepherd, whose faithful presence has led, provided for, and sustained us every step of the way. Through seasons of joy and challenge, He has walked beside us, restored our strength, and guided us in His

ways, enabling the ministry of St Peter's to continue flourishing in the heart of our city.

Fa'afetai lava. Thank you, church family, for faithfully reflecting the Shepherd's love through your care, encouragement, generosity, and partnership in the gospel. Felicity and I are deeply grateful for your love and support, and we pray that the Good Shepherd will continue to lead us all as we follow Him with faith, hope, and joy in the year ahead.

This report covers the period August 2025 to July 2026.

Report Structure

Introduction

A. Vision and Mission

- Vision Statement
- Four Strategic Direction

B. Worship and Discipleship “*My sheep...*” (John 10:27)

Sermons and preaching.

- Special Services
 - Baptism: Adult 28 December 2025
 - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service-24 December 11:15pm
 - Mission
 - Easter
 - University
 - Session clerk transition
- Worship Team – Leading the Church in Sung Worship and Praise
 - Current Team members
 - Technical Updates
 - Music selection
 - Livestream Ministry

C. Mission and Pastoral Care

- Mission
- Pastoral Care
- Serving Together
 - Current Ministry Participation
 - Weekly Pastoral Message
 - Telephone Calling and Visitation Ministry

- Mid-Day Prayer
- Small Groups
- Dinners for 8

D. Partnerships Beyond St Peter's 23-31

- Kaimai Presbytery
- National Church Leadership and Service pp24
 - Presbyterian Church Property Trustees
- Leadership in the Wider Church p25
- Tauranga Presbyterian Ministers' Fellowship p26
- Tauranga Ethnic Association of Ministers (TEAM) p26

E. Prayer Points for 2027 – Opportunities for Involvement

1. Children's Leaders for Kids in Christ (KIC)
2. Children's Ministry Helpers
3. Musicians and Worship Team Volunteers
4. Drivers for Elderly Transport
5. Sustainable Property Income
6. Prayer Warriors for Our City
7. Small Group Leaders
8. Young Adult Ministry (Ages 19–30)

F. Closing Words from the Minister

A. Vision and Mission

Vision Statement

To be Christ to the City, the City to Christ, and to help people find, follow, and know Jesus.

The vision of St Peter's continues to guide our life and ministry. Over the past twelve months, we have sought to follow the Good Shepherd's leading as He has gathered us in worship, strengthened our faith, deepened our fellowship, and sent us into our community to be witnesses of the hope we have in Jesus Christ.

Four Strategic Direction

Our four-year Strategic Development Plan has continued to provide focus and direction for our ministry. Throughout this season, we have seen encouraging progress in strengthening discipleship, expanding our engagement with the University community, deepening relationships through our Community Lunch ministry, and nurturing a culture of prayer. These priorities have helped us remain attentive to where God is already at work and have encouraged us to join Him in His mission with faith and purpose.

In October 2022, the elders met to discern a strategic direction for the church. From that meeting, four priority areas were identified to guide church actions and activities over a five-year period (2023-2027). These areas reflect the vision of a vibrant, Christ-centred, Spirit-led community.

1. A Faith That Is Foundational (2023–2024 Focus Continues)

We aim to nurture faith in all generations, children, families, youth, and adults. This faith is:

- Rooted in Scripture

“All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.” (2 Timothy 3:16–17).

- Focused on prayer, following Jesus' model (Luke 11)
- Led by the Holy Spirit, just as the early Church experienced at Pentecost (Acts 1:4–8)

2. A Community That Is Connected (2024–2025 Focus Continues)

We strive to be an intergenerational whānau—a family that is:

- Worshipping together
- Deeply connected
- Inviting and welcoming
- Serving one another and the wider community
- Practicing love and hospitality

Community outreach includes:

- St. Peter's House - Counselling services
- Annual Christmas Dinner
- Tuesday Community Lunch
- University chaplaincy & Host families

We continue to grow as a bicultural church in a multicultural context.

3. A Life That Is Authentic (2025–2026 Focus)

We pursue lives shaped by authenticity and transformation in Christ. This includes:

- Worshipping in spirit and truth
- Finding our identity in Christ
- Sharing our joys and struggles honestly
- Praying for one another
- Living out manaakitanga—a lifestyle of care, sharing, and hospitality
- Being people of both grace and truth, speaking the truth in love

4. A Voice That Is Prophetic (2026–2027 Focus)

We seek to be:

- Actively engaged in local and global mission
- A voice for the voiceless
- A people who speaks the Gospel of the Kingdom
- Witnesses who testify to what God in Christ has done
- Committed to Christ-centred service in our communities

As we seek to follow the voice of the Good Shepherd, the Holy Spirit continues to shape us into a community that is growing in Christ. At St Peter's, we see this spiritual formation taking place through **worship, prayer, mission, pastoral care, and discipleship**. Together, we are learning to listen to the Shepherd's voice, trust His leading, and walk faithfully in the paths He sets before us.

We continue to experience the joy of worshipping together as one church family across the generations, from babies to those in their nineties. Week by week, we gather to sing God's praises, read His Word, pray together, encourage one another, and share life as a community of faith.

We are especially thankful for the many members who faithfully use their God-given gifts in the service of Christ. Some serve in visible ministries, while many faithfully serve "under the radar," reflecting the love, humility, and compassion of Jesus through countless acts of kindness and service. Every contribution, whether seen or unseen, plays an important part in the life and witness of our church.

The psalmist reminds us, "Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labour in vain" (Psalm 127:1). We recognise that every blessing and every fruit of ministry comes from the Lord. Under the care of the Good Shepherd and through the empowering presence of the Holy Spirit, we continue to grow in faith, unity, and witness.

As Scripture encourages us, "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms" (1 Peter 4:10–11). It is our prayer that everything we do will bring glory to Jesus Christ,

strengthen His Church, and help others come to know, trust, and follow Him.

Moving Forward

As we continue to follow the leading of the Good Shepherd, we remain prayerfully dependent on the guidance and empowering presence of the Holy Spirit. Spiritual formation is not confined to one ministry or programme; it is woven into the life of our church as we worship together, pray together, serve together, and grow together in Christ. Through these shared experiences, God continues to shape us into a people who reflect the character of Jesus in our homes, our workplaces, and our community.

The following ministry areas reflect our shared commitment to becoming a church that is rooted in God's Word, responsive to His Spirit, and faithful to His mission. They also demonstrate how we seek to live out our vision of being "*Christ to the city, the city to Christ, and helping people find, follow, and know Jesus*".

Throughout this report, you will see how God has been at work through these key areas of ministry:

Worship – "*My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.*" (John 10:27)

Prayer – "*Be still and know that I am God.*" (Psalm 46:10)

Mission – "*As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.*" (John 20:21)

Pastoral Care – "*Carry each other's burdens.*" (Galatians 6:2)

Discipleship – "*Follow me.*" (Matthew 4:19)

Fellowship – "*They devoted themselves... to the fellowship.*" (Acts 2:42)

Children's Ministry (Years 1–13) – "*Let the little children come to me.*" (Mark 10:14)

Finance – "*God loves a cheerful giver.*" (2 Corinthians 9:7)

Property – "*The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it.*" (Psalm 24:1)

Together, these ministries express our shared calling to worship Christ, care for one another, and serve our city in His name. As we look to the future, we do so with confidence and hope, trusting that the Good Shepherd, who has faithfully led us thus far, will continue to guide us by His Spirit into the next season of ministry. May all that we do bring glory to God and draw more people into the life and love of Jesus Christ.

B. Worship and Discipleship “My sheep listen to my voice...” (John 10:27)
Sermons and preaching.

2025		Sermon titles		Text	Preacher
CREATION	September	7/9	Father's Day. Guest Speaker	"The Bible: Both Ancient Text and Living Word"	Rev Onosa'i
		14/9	A grateful heart AGM.	Lost Sheep (15:4-7), Lost coin (15:8-10), Lost sons(15:11-32)	Enosa
		21/9	Elder		Marion
		28/9	Life after death-Crossing the Chasm	Luke 16:19-31	Enosa
PENTECOST	October	5/10	Church with a Difference- Messy Church. The greatest commandment	Matthew 22:37-38, Mark 12:30-31, Luke: 10:27	Enosa
		12/10	Elder	Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7, Psalm 66:1-12, 2 Timothy 2: 8-15	Marion
		19/10	Have courage. Boys and Girls Brigade leaders	2 Timothy 1: 6-8	Enosa
		26/10	Elder-Mission Committee		Ian D
PENTECOST	November	2/11	Jesus Came to Seek and Save the Lost	Luke 19:1-10	Enosa
		9/11	The ever-Present God	Haggai 2:1–9	
		16/11	Guest Speaker-Anglican Minister- Chaplaincy of The University of Waikato	Matthew 10:5-13	The Rev Brother Andre Mckean
		23/11	Are you losing confidence in the Good News? Communion	Luke 1:67-80	Enosa
		30/11			David
ADVENT	December	7/12	Peace that is out in the world Membership service	John 14:27–31	Enosa
		14/12	Joy		David
		21/12	Love. The world waits Advent Completed: Love That Never Let's Go		Enosa
		24/12	Christmas eve candle service	Christmas story	Enosa
		28/12	Adult Baptism service. (D, A,M). Communion	Matthew 28:19–20	Enosa
		29/12			Enosa
2026		Sermon titles		Text	Preacher
Jan		4/1			Marion
		11/1			Glen
		18/1			David
		25/1	Series: Bearing Fruit in Christ	John 15:1–8	Enosa
Feb		1/2	Bearing Fruit: Stay Connected to the Vine-Spirit lifestyle	Galatians 5, John 10:10, Romans 8:5-8,John 14:17	Enosa
		8/2	Bearing Fruit: Eternal life	Acts 1:4–11, John 11:20–27, Luke 16:19–31, John 11:20–27	Enosa
		15/2	Daniel		David
		22/2	Testimony Sharing Service: Communion Eoin, Alfred, Aaron, Marion		Enosa
		27/2	Blessing service for the University		
Mar		1/3	Perseverance in the Wildness	James 1:2-4, Exodus 16,1 Kings 19,Mathew 4	Enosa
		8/3	Way of the Kingdom	Micah 6:6-8, Ge 1:26-28, 21:1-5, Mathew 4:17, Acts 1:8, Revelation 11:15, John 5:17,	Enosa
		15/3	Daniel		David
		22/3	Gethsemane Experience Communion	Mathew 26:36-46	Enosa
		29/3	Palm Sunday: Waiting in Hope: Many Hearts. One Cross	Mathew 21:1-1, 26:26-30	

Apr		3/4	Good Friday	Enosa Annual	Marion
		5/4	Easter Sunday	Enosa Annual	Glen
		12/4	Easter	Enosa Annual	Ian Donaldson
		19/4		Enosa Annual	David
		26/4	Communion	Enosa Annual	Keith
May		10/5	Part 1 Holy Spirit Lead Us-Looking Ahead-Who is the Holy Spirit	John 14:15-17,25-26 & John 16:12-15	Enosa
		17/5	Part 2: Holy Spirit, Lead Us	John 14:15-17,25-26 & John 16:12-15	Enosa
		24 /5	Pentecost The Holy Spirit Has Landed."	Acts 2:1-13	Enosa
		31/5			Ian Donaldson
June		7/6	Part 1 The Holy Spirit and the Character of God	John 11:1-7,17-44, Hebrew 11:1,6,8-12.17-18	Enosa
		14/6	Part 2 of the Character of God. Maturing in Christ: The Deep-Rooted Life	Genesis 37:3-5, v17-18 v23-24, 28, 36; 42:6-745:4-6. 47:27-28 Daniel 6:7-13 v16-222 Timothy 4:2-7	Enosa
		21/6	The apple of His eye Communion	Deuteronomy 32:10 Psalm 17:8 Zechariah 2:8	Enosa
		28/6	Prayer Defeats Conspiracy	Psalm 85 I Peter 5 :1-11 Daniel 62 Tim 3:1-7	David
July		5/7	Listening to the Voice of the Beloved	Song of Solomon 2:1-17	Enosa
		12/7	"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."	Psalm 119:105-112 Genesis 25:19-34 John 1:1-4	Enosa
		19/7		Luke 7:1-10, 22:14-20	David
		23/7	Blessing service for the university Finding Peace in the Midst of Pressure	Philippians 4:6-7,13	
		26/7	The Treasure Worth Everything	Mathew 13:42-46 Romans 8	Enosa

Worship

Worship remains at the heart of the life of St Peter's, where the ministry of God's Word continues to shape, encourage, and strengthen our faith. Throughout the year, our preaching has centred on God's redemptive story, inviting the congregation to deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ and respond faithfully to His call.

A number of sermon series guided us through key biblical themes, including Bearing Fruit in Christ, The Holy Spirit: Lead Us, The Character of God, and Listening to the Voice of the Beloved. Seasonal messages during Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, Pentecost, and Communion also helped us journey together through the Christian year, reminding us of God's unfolding plan of salvation. Other sermons explored

themes such as discipleship, courage, gratitude, hope, mission, eternal life, prayer, and the transforming power of God's Word.

Our worship has been further enriched by the faithful ministry of our elders, guest preachers, and visiting ministers. Their willingness to share God's Word reflects the shared ministry of the Church and the rich diversity of gifts that God has given His people.

Throughout the year, we also celebrated a number of special services, including Father's Day, Membership and Baptism services, University Blessing Services, Boys' and Girls' Brigade recognition services, and our regular celebrations of Holy Communion. Each of these occasions has strengthened our life together as God's people and reminded us of His faithfulness.

As we gather each week, we continue to hear the voice of the Good Shepherd calling us to Himself. Through the faithful proclamation of Scripture, heartfelt worship, the celebration of the sacraments, and the work of the Holy Spirit, God is forming us into a people who love Him more deeply, love one another more faithfully, and are equipped to serve His world with the hope of the gospel.

Moving Forward

As we continue to follow Jesus, the Good Shepherd, and grow in the truth of His Word, our preaching ministry will remain firmly grounded in Scripture, guided by the Holy Spirit, and responsive to the spiritual needs of our congregation. We are committed to proclaiming God's Word in ways that encourage spiritual maturity, deepen biblical understanding, and equip people to live faithfully as disciples of Jesus Christ.

To support this commitment, we will:

- Continue to use the Lectionary as a primary guide for preaching throughout the Christian Year.
- Develop sermon themes that respond to the needs of the congregation while remaining attentive to the leading of the Holy Spirit.
- Prepare focused sermon series that explore key areas of Christian living, discipleship, and biblical doctrine.
- Use a variety of preaching approaches, including expository, inductive, doctrinal, and topical methods, to communicate God's Word with clarity, faithfulness, and relevance.
- Continue to invite Session Elders, overseas missionaries, guest speakers, and ministry colleagues to share in the preaching ministry, celebrating the richness and diversity of God's gifts within the wider Church.

Through these priorities, we pray that the ministry of the Word will continue to nourish God's people, strengthen their faith, deepen their love for Christ, and equip them to follow the Good Shepherd with confidence, wisdom, and hope.

As we look beyond the completion of our current Strategic Development Plan in July 2027, we envision worship continuing to be the heartbeat of St Peter's. We pray that our worship will increasingly reflect the richness of God's kingdom, bringing together people of every generation, culture, and background to glorify Jesus Christ with one heart and one voice.

Above all, we long for St Peter's to be a church where people encounter the living Christ through the faithful preaching of His Word, the presence of the Holy Spirit, and the joyful worship of God's people. As we continue to listen to the voice of the Good Shepherd, may our worship shape us into faithful disciples who love God wholeheartedly, serve our neighbours generously, and proclaim the hope of the gospel with courage and grace.

Special Services

Baptism: Adult 28 December 2025

We were blessed to celebrate the baptism of Dennis, Anna, and Matthew on 28 December 2025. It was a joyful and significant occasion, shared with their families, friends, and our wider church family. Together, we witnessed their public profession of faith and commitment to follow Jesus Christ, rejoicing as they took this important step in their journey of discipleship.

Baptism is a visible sign of God's grace and a reminder that we are welcomed into the family of God through Jesus Christ. As a congregation, we give thanks for God's continuing work of drawing people to Himself and for the privilege of celebrating new life in Christ.

Moving Forward

We remain committed to nurturing people as they explore and respond to God's call in their lives. In the coming year, we plan to offer baptism and membership classes to help those seeking baptism or church membership deepen their understanding of the Christian faith, the meaning of baptism, and the responsibilities and joys of belonging to the body of Christ.

We also look forward to future baptism services as opportunities to celebrate God's transforming grace, publicly affirm the faith of new believers, and warmly welcome them into the life and fellowship of St Peter's. As the Good Shepherd continues to call people by name, our prayer is that many more will hear His voice, respond in faith, and find their place within His flock.

Membership

We were delighted to welcome Barry into the membership of St Peter's through a special Membership Service. It was a joyful occasion as Barry publicly affirmed his faith in Jesus Christ and his commitment to the life and ministry of our church. As a congregation, we rejoiced in welcoming him as a member of the St Peter's family.

Church membership is an important expression of discipleship. It reflects our shared identity in Christ and our commitment to worship God, grow together in faith, care for one another, and participate in God's mission. Membership is more than having our names on a roll; it is a covenant commitment to journey together as followers of Jesus, using our gifts to build up His Church and serve His world.

Moving Forward

We remain committed to teaching the biblical understanding of church membership, drawing inspiration from the life of the early Church (Acts 2:42–47), Christ's Great Commission (Matthew 28:16–20), and the Great Commandment (Matthew 22:34–40). We will also continue to help people understand the meaning, privileges, and responsibilities of membership as outlined in the Presbyterian Church's *Book of Order* (Section 4).

It is our intention to hold an annual Membership Service, providing opportunities for those who have come to faith in Christ or have made St Peter's their church home to publicly affirm their commitment and participate more fully in the worship, fellowship, mission, and ministry of our church.

As the Good Shepherd continues to gather His flock, we pray that more people will find a place of belonging at St Peter's, a community where they are welcomed, nurtured in faith, equipped for service, and encouraged to grow as lifelong disciples of Jesus Christ.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service-24 December 11:15pm

Our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, *A Light in the Night*, once again provided a meaningful and memorable way to celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. Gathering at 11:15 p.m., we shared in an hour of worship, Scripture, prayer, and candlelight as we reflected on the wonder of the Incarnation. The gentle glow of the candles reminded us that Jesus Christ is the Light of the World, bringing hope, peace, joy, and love into the darkness.

It was a sacred time of quiet reflection, joyful celebration, and expectant hope as we welcomed Christmas Day together. For many, it was a special opportunity to pause amid the busyness of the season and fix our eyes on the One who came to dwell among us, full of grace and truth.

Moving Forward

The Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will continue as a cherished annual tradition at St Peter's, providing a welcoming space for our church family and the wider community to celebrate the birth of Christ. We pray that this service will continue to draw people to Jesus, the Light of the World, offering hope, peace, and the opportunity to hear afresh the good news of Emmanuel, God with us.

As we gather each Christmas Eve, our desire is that the light of Christ will shine brightly in every heart and home, leading people to worship the Saviour, renew their faith, and experience the joy of His presence. Just as the shepherds were drawn to the Christ child on that first Christmas night, may all who gather with us be drawn to the Good Shepherd, who came that we might have life, and have it abundantly.

Mission

We give thanks to God for the faithful leadership of our Mission Committee, chaired by Ian Donaldson, whose dedication continues to strengthen St Peter's partnership in God's global mission. Throughout the year, the committee has faithfully encouraged the congregation to look beyond our own community and engage with the wider work of God's Kingdom.

During the year, the committee supported several significant mission initiatives, including the Elephant Fence Campaign through International Needs in Sri Lanka, Marion's Early Childhood Programme in Papua New Guinea, and the ministry of Glen Morris with Navigators. These partnerships remind us that Christ's mission knows no borders. As we pray, give, and encourage those serving overseas, we share in God's work of bringing hope and the gospel to people and communities around the world.

We also express our sincere appreciation to Ian Donaldson and Glen Morris for faithfully preaching God's Word when invited. Glen's extensive international experience with Navigators brought a valuable global perspective, helping us to see God's mission through a wider lens and encouraging us to recognise that every follower of Jesus has a part to play in making Christ known among the nations.

Moving Forward

As we look ahead, we remain committed to growing as a mission-hearted church. We will continue to strengthen our partnerships with overseas missionaries and mission organisations through prayer, financial support, regular communication, and opportunities for the congregation to hear firsthand how God is at work around the world.

We also hope to create more opportunities for people of all ages to engage with

God's global mission through mission updates, visiting speakers, and practical ways to support those serving in cross-cultural ministry. As we deepen our understanding of God's heart for the nations, we pray that every member of St Peter's will see mission not as the responsibility of a few, but as the calling of the whole Church.

As Jesus, the Good Shepherd, calls people from every nation, tribe, people, and language into His flock, may we continue to play our part with generous hearts, faithful prayers, and willing hands. Together, we seek to be Christ to the city, the city to Christ, while never losing sight of God's mission to the ends of the earth.

Easter

Our Easter services provided a meaningful opportunity to journey together through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Throughout Holy Week, we gathered to remember Christ's sacrificial love and to rejoice in the hope and victory of His resurrection.

We extend our sincere thanks to Alfred and our church family for creating the three-cross display on the front lawn. It served as a powerful public witness to the Easter story, reminding all who passed by of the hope found in the cross of Christ.

Although the weather prevented us from gathering outdoors for our planned Good Friday service, we were grateful to adapt by worshipping around the church cross in the foyer. Our sincere thanks to Marion for thoughtfully preparing this sacred worship space, creating a place where we could quietly reflect on Christ's sacrifice with reverence and gratitude.

A heartfelt thank you goes to everyone who contributed their time, creativity, leadership, music, hospitality, and practical support throughout the Easter season. Your faithful service enabled our church family to experience worship that was both meaningful and Christ-centred. Together, we proclaimed the hope of the risen Lord and celebrated the victory of life over sin and death.

Moving Forward

The Easter season will continue to be at the heart of our worship life as we gather each year to remember Christ's sacrificial death and celebrate the joy of His resurrection. We look forward to building on meaningful expressions of worship, both indoors and outdoors where possible, creating opportunities for our church family and the wider community to encounter the hope of the gospel.

As we move forward, we also hope to continue using creative visual displays, reflective worship experiences, and community engagement to communicate the Easter message in fresh and accessible ways. Our prayer is that each Easter will deepen our love for Christ, strengthen our faith, renew our hope, and inspire us to

live as resurrection people, bearing witness to the transforming power of the risen Lord.

As we follow Jesus, the Good Shepherd, who laid down His life for His sheep and took it up again in victory, may the message of Easter continue to shape our lives and our witness, drawing many more people to the saving grace, hope, and new life found in Him.

University Blessing Services

During the year, St Peter's held two University Blessing Services—one at the beginning of the academic year and another at the start of the second trimester. These services reflected our ongoing commitment to walking alongside the University of Waikato community with prayer, encouragement, and practical support.

Together, we gathered to give thanks to God, seek His wisdom and guidance, and commit students, staff, lecturers, chaplaincy, and the wider university whānau into His loving care. Representatives from Collective Uni, the Tertiary Students Christian Fellowship (TSCF), and the Waikato University Ethnic Peoples Association (WUEPA) shared about their ministries and studies and led us in prayer. Their participation was a wonderful expression of the unity of Christians serving together across the university campus.

The Trimester Blessing Service was especially encouraging, with around 60 people gathering for worship, prayer, and fellowship. It was a visible reminder that our university community is supported by a church family that cares deeply for their wellbeing, celebrates their achievements, and walks alongside them throughout their academic and spiritual journey.

Moving Forward

Supporting the university community remains a significant and growing priority for the mission of St Peter's. We will continue to hold University Blessing Services at key points during the academic year, strengthen our partnerships with campus Christian groups and the university chaplaincy, and encourage the congregation to pray regularly for students, staff, and university leadership.

As we seek to be a church that walks alongside the university community, we trust that God will continue to open doors for friendship, discipleship, pastoral care, and the sharing of the gospel, helping students and staff find, follow, and know Jesus Christ.

Building on the relationships established with the University residential community, we also look forward to strengthening our partnership with the new Residential Life staff member responsible for supporting students in the halls of residence. As trust

and collaboration continue to grow, we hope to make space available at St Peter's where residents can gather for friendship, conversation, study, shared meals, and community-building activities.

Our vision is for St Peter's to become a true "home away from home" for university students—a place of welcome, belonging, and genuine Christian hospitality. We hope students will discover a community where they are known, valued, encouraged, and cared for as they navigate the opportunities and challenges of university life. Through authentic relationships, we pray that many will also encounter the love of Christ, explore the Christian faith, and grow as disciples of Jesus.

As Jesus, the Good Shepherd, welcomed people with compassion and called them by name, may St Peter's continue to be a place where students experience His love through our friendship, hospitality, and care. May God use this ministry to raise up a new generation of disciples who will serve Christ faithfully on campus, in their professions, and throughout the world.

Session Clerk Transition

The Session gives thanks to God for the faithful leadership and service of Mrs Rose Chin (Phan), who has served as Session Clerk with wisdom, diligence, humility, and a deep commitment to Christ and the ministry of St Peter's. Through her thoughtful leadership, careful administration, and steadfast support of the Session, Rose has made a significant and lasting contribution to the life of our church. Her faithful stewardship, attention to detail, and servant-hearted leadership have been a blessing to both the Session and the wider congregation.

After much prayer and reflection, Rose has discerned that this is the right time to step down from the role of Session Clerk while continuing to serve as a valued member of the Session. We honour her decision with gratitude and give heartfelt thanks for the many years she has faithfully carried this important responsibility. Her legacy of faithful service will continue to bless the life of St Peter's for years to come.

The Session is delighted to welcome Mrs Marion Sanders as our new Session Clerk. We are grateful for Marion's willingness to accept this responsibility and her desire to serve Christ and His Church in this important ministry. We pray that the Holy Spirit will grant her wisdom, discernment, strength, and grace as she begins this new chapter of leadership.

We also give thanks that Rose and Marion will continue to serve together within the Session. Their combined experience, gifts, and commitment will provide continuity, stability, and wise leadership as we continue to follow the Good Shepherd in the life and mission of St Peter's.

We invite the whole congregation to join us in giving thanks to God for Rose's faithful

service and to uphold both Rose and Marion in prayer. May God continue to bless them, strengthen them, and use their gifts for His glory as together we seek to serve Jesus Christ and build His Church.

Worship Team – Leading the Church in Sung Worship and Praise

Our Worship Team plays a vital role in leading the congregation into the presence of God each week through music, prayer, and the creative use of technology. We are especially grateful to Felicity for her faithful coordination of the worship ministry, preparing the worship roster each quarter and ensuring that worship themes align with the preaching programme, guest speakers, and the rhythm of the church calendar.

The worship ministry is supported by a dedicated team of more than 30 volunteers serving as worship leaders, musicians, singers, sound engineers, and data operators. We give thanks for the leadership of Felicity, Peter, and our newer worship leaders Larnie, Eoin, and David, whose gifts have strengthened and enriched our worship ministry. It has also been encouraging to welcome new volunteers, the return of former team members, and supporting young people who rejoin the team during university breaks.

Current Team Members

Our worship ministry is made possible through the faithful service of many gifted volunteers.

Musicians: Felicity Auva'a, Graham Beswick, Peter Carter, Peter Chin, David Duncanson, Eoin Crosbie, Franz Ferguson, Gary Hoekstra, Peti Keni, and Emma Wallace.

Singers: Karen Brodie, Keith Campbell, Jon Clark, Jen Duncanson, Franz Ferguson, Nick Page, Larnie Peters and Larissa

Data Team: Penny Adams, Karen Street, Cath Page, and our newest volunteer, Kate Weir, supported by her husband, Nick.

Sound Team: Rosamond Bridgman, Trevor Shum, Franz Ferguson, and our newest team members, Larnie Peters and Aaron Wallace.

We praise God for the willingness, commitment, and servant-hearted spirit of every member who contributes to leading the congregation in worship.

We also acknowledge with gratitude those who served faithfully during the past year and have since moved on to other commitments or are taking a break: Jaco Potgieter, Bridget McLean, Patricia Chancellor, Vinnie Grant, and Mark Thompson. We thank them for their valued contribution to the worship ministry

Technical Updates

We express our sincere appreciation to the Board of Managers for supporting significant upgrades to our sound system, auditorium computer, and Easy Worship software. These improvements have strengthened both our in-person worship and our online ministry.

Looking ahead, we are exploring the introduction of Planning Center to streamline service planning, music management, and team communication, giving all worship team members easier access to schedules and music resources. We are also investigating a transition from printed music to iPads for our musicians. This will simplify music management, reduce paper use, and enable team members to organise and access their assigned music more efficiently.

We especially thank our sound team, data team, and musicians for their patience, flexibility, and willingness to learn as we continue to introduce and adapt to new technology, and also Karen Caldwell who regularly sorts all the sheet music into files after the services.

Music Selection

Our worship leaders continue to thoughtfully blend timeless hymns with contemporary worship songs, creating a worship experience that connects with every generation. Care is taken to select songs that are biblically faithful, Christ-centred, and theologically rich, balancing personal expressions of faith with songs of praise, thanksgiving, and corporate worship. Drawing from both traditional hymnody and the music of contemporary writers such as Brooke Ligertwood, Chris Tomlin, Michael W. Smith, Brandon Lake, CeCe Winans, Phil Wickham, and Matt Redman, our desire is to lead the congregation into authentic worship that honours God and encourages spiritual growth.

Livestream Ministry

Our weekly livestream ministry continues to provide an important connection for those unable to attend worship in person, with between three and ten households regularly joining our services online. Recent technical improvements have enhanced the quality of both spoken word and music, and we continue to refine our audio and visual systems. As we develop this ministry, our aim is to create an online worship experience that reflects the authentic voice of the congregation and extends the reach of St Peter's ministry beyond our church walls.

Moving Forward

Looking ahead, we are committed to welcoming new and returning volunteers,

mentoring emerging worship leaders, and providing opportunities for spiritual and musical development through conferences, workshops, and training. Our priorities include introducing Planning Center to improve service planning, team communication, and music management, while also transitioning our musicians from printed music to iPads. These initiatives will simplify administration, enhance preparation, and allow our teams to focus more fully on leading worship.

Throughout the year, we look forward to enriching our worship through special musical presentations, including choirs, guest musicians, instrumental ensembles, and seasonal services that celebrate the life of our church and the Christian calendar.

Above all, we recognise that worship leadership is first a matter of the heart. Therefore, our priority is not only musical excellence but also the ongoing spiritual formation of every member of the Worship Team, so that together we may lead God's people in worship that honours the Good Shepherd and brings glory to His name.

C. MISSION & PASTORAL CARE

Mission

"As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." (John 20:21)

Over the past twelve months, our mission has taken many forms. Through our Community Lunch ministry, outreach to those experiencing hardship, engagement with the University community, partnerships with local and global mission organisations, and the everyday witness of our congregation, we have sought to join God in His work within our city and beyond.

We have been encouraged by opportunities to welcome newcomers into the life of the church, build genuine friendships, and create spaces where conversations about faith can naturally take place. Whether serving a meal, offering hospitality, praying with someone, supporting a community initiative, or simply sharing the hope we have in Christ, we have seen that mission often begins with small acts of love and faithfulness.

Mission at St Peter's is expressed not only through what we do beyond our walls but also through the way we live together as the body of Christ. Following the example of the Good Shepherd, we seek to be a church where every person is valued, encouraged, equipped, and invited to use their God-given gifts in serving God and others.

Moving Forward

As we continue to follow Jesus, we pray that mission will become even more deeply woven into the everyday life of our church. We will continue to strengthen ministries that build bridges into our community, particularly through our University Ministry, Community Lunch, discipleship initiatives, and partnerships with local organisations and global mission agencies.

We also want to encourage every member of St Peter's to see themselves as a missionary in their own neighbourhood, workplace, school, and community. Mission is not simply something the church does; it is who we are as God's people, sent into the world to reflect His love and proclaim the hope of the gospel.

Looking beyond the completion of our current Strategic Development Plan in July 2027, we envision St Peter's becoming increasingly recognised as a church where mission is a natural expression of everyday discipleship. As we follow the Good Shepherd, may we continue to join Him in seeking, welcoming, restoring, and discipling people into a life-changing relationship with Jesus Christ.

Pastoral Care

"Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfil the law of Christ."
(Galatians 6:2)

Over the past twelve months, pastoral care has remained a vital expression of our life together as God's family. Elders, pastoral carers, ministry leaders, and members of the congregation have faithfully visited those who were unwell, supported families through bereavement, celebrated significant milestones, prayed with those facing difficult decisions, and extended practical care to people experiencing hardship.

Many of these acts of kindness have taken place quietly and without recognition, yet they have made a lasting difference in the lives of individuals and families. They remind us that pastoral care is not confined to a particular ministry team but is a shared calling of the whole church. Every visit, phone call, meal, prayer, and word of encouragement reflects the compassionate heart of Christ and helps strengthen the bonds of our church family.

Moving Forward

As our congregation continues to grow and change, we are committed to strengthening our pastoral networks so that every person feels known, connected, and cared for. We also hope to encourage more people to discover and use their gifts of encouragement, hospitality, listening, prayer, and compassionate care, recognising that pastoral ministry belongs to the whole body of Christ.

In the coming years, we look forward to strengthening the connection between pastoral care, prayer, discipleship, and small-group life, ensuring that people receive not only practical support but also spiritual encouragement as they journey through life's changing seasons.

Looking beyond the completion of our current Strategic Development Plan in July 2027, we envision St Peter's continuing to grow as a church where authentic relationships flourish, people are known by name, and no one walks alone through life's joys or challenges.

In a world where many experience loneliness, uncertainty, and isolation, we pray that St Peter's will continue to reflect the compassionate heart of Jesus, the Good Shepherd, by being a place of belonging, hope, healing, and genuine Christian community. As He knows His sheep by name and lovingly cares for them, may we also care deeply for one another, bearing each other's burdens and sharing the grace and peace of Christ with all who come among us.

Serving Together

One of the great strengths of St Peter's is the willingness of our congregation to serve. We estimate that between **85–90%** of our church family is actively involved in one or more ministry areas, reflecting a vibrant culture of service, generosity, and shared responsibility. This high level of participation is a wonderful testimony to the many people who willingly offer their time, gifts, and experience in response to God's call.

Volunteers faithfully serve across a wide range of ministries, including worship and music, children's ministry, hospitality, pastoral care, prayer, Bible reading, community outreach, gardening, property maintenance, administration, home groups, mission, Boys' and Girls' Brigade, St Peter's House, host families, and many other behind-the-scenes roles. Some ministries are highly visible, while others take place quietly and faithfully without recognition. Together, they remind us that every act of service, no matter how large or small, contributes to the life and witness of our church.

We also continue to care for our church family through pastoral visiting, support for those who are unwell, regular visits to rest homes and care facilities, prayer ministry, and practical assistance for families experiencing illness, bereavement, or other life challenges. These expressions of care reflect the compassion of Christ and remind us that pastoral ministry belongs to the whole church, not simply to a few individuals.

Current Ministry Participation

The breadth of ministry involvement across St Peter's includes:

- Door Welcomers 27 (2026)

- Morning Tea 36 (2026)
- Kids in Christ 17 (2026)
- Event Planning 10 (2026)
- Mission 5 (2026)
- Gardening 9 (2025)
- Community Lunch 39 (6 of which are Community Volunteers) (2026)
- Bible Readers 27 (2025)
- Service Prayer 12 (2025)
- Service Leaders 5 (2025)
- Pre-Service Prayer 4 (2025)
- Pastoral Care 10 (2026)
- Elderly Care and Visiting 7 (2025)
- Prayer Chain 13 (2026)
- Board of Managers 8 (2026)
- Home Groups 11 Groups (202)
- Office Volunteers 2 (2025)
- Laundry 11 (2026)
- Boys' Brigade 3 (2025)
- Girls' Brigade 2 (2025)
- St Peters House 5 (2025)
- Working Bee 16 (2025)
- Interest Groups 6 (2025)
- Worship and Music 25 (2026)
- Skills List 5 (2025)
- Host Families 8 (2025)

We give thanks to God for every volunteer whose faithful service enables the ministry of St Peter's to flourish. Your willingness to serve reflects the generosity of Christ and enriches the life of our church in countless ways.

Moving Forward

With a comprehensive ministry database now in place, we are better equipped to understand where people are serving, identify areas of need, and strengthen pastoral support across the church. This will also help us welcome new people into ministry, recognise emerging leaders, and ensure that volunteers are well supported and encouraged in their service.

Looking ahead, we will continue encouraging every member to discover and use their God-given gifts while fostering deeper relationships through worship, home groups, fellowship, and shared ministry. We also remain committed to intentionally caring for those who may need additional support, particularly our elderly members, single parents, young families, and others experiencing seasons of challenge.

As we continue to follow Jesus, the Good Shepherd, we pray that St Peter's will be known as a church where every person is welcomed, every gift is valued, every generation has a place to serve, and everyone is encouraged to grow as a disciple of Christ. Together, may we continue to build a church that reflects the love of Jesus—a community where people are deeply loved, faithfully cared for, joyfully equipped for service, and sent into the world to share the hope of the gospel.

Weekly Pastoral Message

Throughout the year, 51 weekly pastoral messages were shared with the congregation, providing biblical encouragement, spiritual reflection, and pastoral guidance as we journeyed together in faith. Drawing on Scripture and the rhythms of everyday life, these messages sought to remind us of God's faithful presence in every season, encourage us to place our trust in Him, and inspire us to live as faithful followers of Jesus Christ.

Many of the reflections also encouraged meaningful conversations within families, home groups, and the wider church community, helping to keep God's Word at the centre of our shared life together.

A special thank you goes to our office team for faithfully preparing and publishing these messages on the St Peter's website each week. Their quiet and consistent work has ensured that members of our congregation, including those unable to attend worship regularly, have continued access to biblical encouragement and pastoral care throughout the week.

Moving Forward

We remain committed to this weekly ministry of encouragement, recognising that God's Word continues to nourish, strengthen, and guide His people beyond Sunday worship. We will continue to use these pastoral messages to encourage faith, inspire prayer, support discipleship, and help keep our church family connected throughout the week.

Looking ahead, we also hope to explore additional ways of sharing these reflections through digital platforms, enabling members and friends of St Peter's to engage more easily with biblical teaching wherever they may be. As communication continues to evolve, we want to use every appropriate opportunity to share the hope of the gospel with both our church family and the wider community.

Our prayer is that these weekly reflections will continue to point people to Jesus Christ, deepen their relationship with the Good Shepherd, and encourage the faithful application of God's Word in everyday life. May they strengthen our congregation, inspire hope in times of challenge, and remind us that the Shepherd who speaks through His Word continues to walk with us each day.

Telephone Calling and Visitation Ministry

Our telephone calling and visitation ministry continues to be a valuable expression of Christ's pastoral care within our church family. We are deeply grateful to Karen Caldwell and John Buxton, who faithfully reach out each week to connect with members, particularly those who are unable to attend worship regularly or who may be experiencing illness, loneliness, or other life challenges.

Through their caring conversations, they offer encouragement, listen with compassion, identify pastoral needs, and help coordinate opportunities for the minister and pastoral team to visit, pray, and provide practical and spiritual support. Their ministry reminds us that a simple phone call, a listening ear, or a personal visit can make a profound difference in someone's life.

Prayer requests shared during these conversations are also brought, where appropriate, to our weekday midday prayer gatherings (Wednesday to Friday). In this way, those facing difficult circumstances are supported not only through personal contact but also through the faithful prayers of the wider church family.

We give thanks to Karen and John for their quiet, consistent, and compassionate ministry. Their willingness to care for others reflects the heart of the Good Shepherd, who knows His sheep by name and faithfully watches over them.

Moving Forward

We remain committed to strengthening this important pastoral ministry through regular telephone contact, visitation, and prayer. As our congregation continues to grow, we hope to broaden our network of pastoral carers so that every person feels connected, valued, and supported within the life of St Peter's.

We also recognise that pastoral care is a shared ministry of the whole church. We encourage every member to be attentive to those around them through a phone call, a visit, a message of encouragement, or a simple act of kindness. These everyday expressions of love help build a caring community where no one is forgotten and everyone knows they belong.

As we continue to follow Jesus, the Good Shepherd, may we reflect His compassion by caring for one another with grace, patience, and love. We pray that every member of our church family will know they are valued, remembered, prayed for, and lovingly supported, especially during times of illness, grief, or personal challenge.

Mid-Day Prayer

Mid-Day Prayer continues to be a valued rhythm in the life of St Peter's, as ministry staff and members of the congregation gather each Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday in the staff lounge to seek God together in prayer. Attendance generally ranges from three to ten people, creating a quiet and welcoming space where we can pause, listen, and bring the needs of our church and community before the Lord.

Prayer requests arise from pastoral visits, telephone conversations, ministry activities, and the everyday experiences of our congregation and the wider community. Together, we pray for those who are unwell, those facing difficult circumstances, the ministries of St Peter's, our leaders, the University community, mission partners, and the many opportunities God places before us to serve others.

These gatherings remind us that prayer is not simply something we do before ministry — it is the foundation from which all ministry flows. As we seek God's presence together, we are encouraged, strengthened, and reminded that the Good Shepherd continues to lead His people by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Moving Forward

We remain committed to this regular rhythm of prayer as a cornerstone of our life and ministry together. Before we plan, serve, or make decisions, we want to continue seeking God's wisdom, guidance, and strength. We recognise that every ministry at St Peter's depends not on our own efforts but on the grace, power, and leading of the Holy Spirit.

Looking ahead, we hope to encourage even more members of our church family to join us whenever they are able, recognising that prayer is a shared privilege and responsibility for the whole church. Together, we want to cultivate a culture in which prayer naturally undergirds our worship, mission, discipleship, pastoral care, leadership, and service.

As we continue to follow Jesus, the Good Shepherd, may we remain a praying church that listens attentively to His voice, depends wholeheartedly on His Spirit, and faithfully joins Him in His mission. We pray that every ministry of St Peter's will continue to be shaped by prayer, sustained by God's grace, and directed by His loving hand.

Small Groups

Small Groups continue to play a vital role in the spiritual life of St Peter's, with ten active groups meeting regularly throughout the year. The Session recognises these groups as an essential expression of discipleship, providing opportunities for Bible study, prayer, fellowship, mutual encouragement, and pastoral care.

More than simply meeting together, our small groups provide welcoming communities where people can build meaningful friendships, grow in their faith, ask honest questions, and support one another through the joys and challenges of life. They are places where God's Word is explored together, prayers are shared, burdens are carried, and faith is nurtured in the context of authentic Christian relationships.

Moving Forward

We remain committed to strengthening our small group ministry by encouraging more people to join existing groups and by supporting the development of new groups as our church family continues to grow. We see small groups as one of the primary pathways for spiritual formation, pastoral care, and deeper Christian fellowship, helping people move from simply attending church to becoming actively connected in the life of God's family.

A natural extension of this ministry has been the introduction of monthly fellowship lunches hosted by our small groups following Sunday worship. This initiative has been an outstanding success, providing a relaxed and welcoming environment where members, newcomers, and visitors can build relationships across the congregation.

These shared meals have strengthened our sense of belonging, created opportunities to welcome new people, and provided a natural pathway for those interested in joining a small group. Around the table, friendships have deepened, conversations have flourished, and many have experienced the warmth and generosity of Christian hospitality.

As we look to the future, we are excited to continue developing this ministry of hospitality, recognising that some of the most meaningful conversations, lasting friendships, and opportunities for discipleship are often formed around a shared meal. We pray that these gatherings will continue to strengthen our church family, foster intergenerational relationships, and create welcoming spaces where people feel safe to ask questions, grow in faith, and discover their place within the life of St Peter's.

As we continue to follow Jesus, the Good Shepherd, may our small groups be places where people are known by name, encouraged in their faith, cared for with compassion, and equipped to serve others. May they continue to reflect the love of Christ, helping people find community, grow as disciples, and joyfully participate in God's mission together.

Dinners for 8

Our Dinners for 8 evenings continue to be a wonderful expression of Christian fellowship and hospitality within the life of St Peter's. Throughout the year, around 45–50 people participated as hosts or guests, gathering around the table to share meals, conversation, laughter, and friendship.

These evenings have provided opportunities for people who might not normally spend time together to build new relationships, deepen existing friendships, and strengthen the sense of belonging within our church family. They remind us that some of the richest moments of fellowship happen not only in the church building but also around the dinner table, where people are welcomed, listened to, and encouraged.

We extend our sincere thanks to everyone who generously opened their homes, prepared meals, and welcomed others with such warmth and hospitality. Your willingness to serve has helped create a ministry that continues to strengthen the life of our congregation.

Moving Forward

We look forward to building on the success of this ministry by encouraging even greater participation in the coming year. As our church family continues to grow, Dinners for 8 will remain an important opportunity to deepen fellowship, welcome newer members, and strengthen the relationships that help us grow together as the body of Christ.

We also hope these gatherings will continue to connect people across generations, cultures, and life experiences, reflecting the richness and diversity of God's family. Around a shared table, barriers are often removed, friendships are formed, and faith is naturally encouraged through conversation, prayer, and shared life.

As we continue to follow Jesus, the Good Shepherd, may our homes be places of welcome, generosity, and grace. We pray that this ministry will continue to strengthen our church family, nurture authentic relationships, and reflect the hospitality of Christ, who welcomes each of us to His table and calls us to welcome one another in His name.

D. Partnerships Beyond St Peter's

Building and maintaining strong relationships—locally, nationally, and across cultures—is an important part of the mission and unity of the Church. As followers of Jesus Christ, we recognise that we are part of something much larger than our own congregation. We are called to work alongside others in the body of Christ,

encouraging one another, sharing resources and experience, and joining together in God's mission.

Kaimai Presbytery

St Peter's continues to value its active partnership within the Kaimai Presbytery, recognising the importance of serving alongside neighbouring congregations in the shared mission of Christ. Throughout the year, representatives from St Peter's participated in a number of significant Presbytery events, including the Preaching Induction Service in Morrinsville, the Kaimai Leaders' Retreat, the Kaimai Gathering hosted in Tauranga, and a Leadership Workshop.

These gatherings provided valuable opportunities for worship, learning, prayer, fellowship, and the sharing of ministry experiences. They also strengthened relationships between congregations, encouraged mutual support, and reminded us that we are part of a wider Presbyterian family seeking to serve Christ throughout the Kaimai region.

The minister continues to serve on the Kaimai Presbytery Council, participating in its monthly meetings and contributing to the leadership, governance, strategic planning, and mission of the wider Presbyterian Church. This involvement enables St Peter's to contribute to the life of the Presbytery while also bringing back encouragement, insights, and opportunities that benefit our own congregation.

Moving Forward

We remain committed to actively participating in the life and ministry of the Kaimai Presbytery by strengthening partnerships with neighbouring congregations, supporting Presbytery initiatives, encouraging collaborative ministry, and contributing to the leadership and mission of the wider Church.

As we look to the future, we also hope to identify new opportunities to work alongside other churches in areas such as leadership development, mission, discipleship, youth and university ministry, and community engagement. We believe that by serving together we can accomplish far more than we could alone, bearing witness to the unity of Christ's Church and strengthening our shared mission across the region.

As we continue to follow Jesus, the Good Shepherd, we give thanks for the fellowship, wisdom, encouragement, and accountability that come through our partnership with the Kaimai Presbytery. May God continue to unite us in faith, strengthen our shared witness, and use our churches together to bring the hope of the gospel to our communities.

National Church Leadership and Service

Presbyterian Church Property Trustees

St Peter's continues to contribute to the wider ministry of the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand through the minister's involvement with the Presbyterian Church Property Trustees (PCPT). During the year, the minister participated in four online meetings, contributing to discussions on church property stewardship, governance, and portfolio management.

This involvement has provided valuable opportunities to participate in the national life of the Church, share in strategic decision-making, and gain insights that support the stewardship and long-term ministry of St Peter's. It also reflects our commitment to serving not only our own congregation but the wider mission of the Presbyterian Church throughout Aotearoa New Zealand.

Moving Forward

We remain committed to supporting and participating in the wider ministry of the national Church whenever opportunities arise. By engaging in national conversations and contributing to the work of the Presbyterian Church, we seek to strengthen our partnership in God's mission and faithfully steward the resources entrusted to His Church for the benefit of future generations.

Leadership in the Wider Church

Reflection

We give thanks that God continues to provide opportunities for members of St Peter's to serve beyond the life of our local congregation. These appointments reflect not only the gifts, experience, and faithfulness of those who serve, but also the confidence placed in St Peter's as a church that contributes to the wider leadership and mission of the Presbyterian Church.

We are especially grateful that one of our Session Elders currently serves on the Council of Assembly, contributing to the governance, discernment, and mission of our national Church. We also acknowledge with thanksgiving that one of our members is serving as the Interim Moderator of the Kaimai Presbytery Council, providing leadership, pastoral oversight, and encouragement during an important season in the life of the Presbytery.

These leadership appointments strengthen the connection between St Peter's and the wider Church and remind us that our ministry extends well beyond the boundaries of our own congregation. We rejoice that the gifts, wisdom, and experience of our members are being used by God to serve His Church at both

presbytery and national levels.

They also provide valuable opportunities for ideas, learning, and experience to be shared between St Peter's and the wider Church, enriching our ministry and strengthening our partnership in the gospel.

Moving Forward

We will continue to encourage and support those whom God calls to serve in leadership beyond the local congregation, recognising that such service strengthens both St Peter's and the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand.

We also hope to nurture emerging leaders within our own church family by encouraging people to discover their gifts, grow in confidence, and respond to opportunities for service at local, presbytery, and national levels. As we invest in leadership development, we pray that God will continue to raise up women and men who will serve with wisdom, humility, integrity, and faithfulness.

As we continue to follow Jesus, the Good Shepherd, may our leadership always reflect His servant heart. May those who serve within St Peter's, throughout the Kaimai Presbytery, and across the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand lead with courage, grace, and a deep commitment to God's mission, so that Christ may be honoured and His Church strengthened for generations to come.

Tauranga Presbyterian Ministers' Fellowship

St Peter's continues to participate in the monthly gathering of Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand (PCANZ) ministers in Tauranga and has been pleased to host several of these meetings during the year. These regular gatherings provide valuable opportunities for prayer, mutual encouragement, theological reflection, and the sharing of ministry experiences.

The fellowship of local ministers strengthens collegial relationships, encourages mutual support, and provides a trusted space to share both the joys and challenges of ministry. As we worship, pray, and learn together, we are reminded that we are partners in the gospel, serving one Lord with a shared desire to see His Kingdom grow throughout the Tauranga region.

Moving Forward

We deeply value these relationships and remain committed to actively participating in this local network of Presbyterian ministers. We will continue to support one another through prayer, encouragement, and the sharing of ideas and resources, recognising that healthy ministry is strengthened through genuine Christian fellowship and accountability.

As opportunities arise, we also look forward to exploring ways we can collaborate more intentionally in areas of shared mission, leadership development, community engagement, and prayer, demonstrating the unity we have in Christ while respecting the unique calling of each congregation.

As we continue to follow Jesus, the Good Shepherd, we pray that these partnerships will strengthen our ministries, deepen our friendships, and contribute to a faithful and united witness throughout Tauranga. May our shared commitment to Christ encourage one another in ministry and help more people across our city come to find, follow, and know Jesus.

Tauranga Ethnic Association of Ministers (TEAM)

St Peter's continues to maintain its connection with the Tauranga Ethnic Association of Ministers (TEAM) through the minister's participation in gatherings as ministry commitments allow. These meetings provide valuable opportunities to build relationships with Christian leaders from a wide range of cultural backgrounds, to pray together, share ministry experiences, and encourage one another in the mission of the gospel across our multicultural city.

These gatherings also remind us that the Church is enriched by the diversity of God's people. As we listen to one another's stories and learn from different cultural perspectives, we gain a deeper appreciation of the many ways God is at work among the nations represented in Tauranga. Together, we celebrate our unity in Christ while valuing the unique gifts, traditions, and experiences that each culture brings to the life of the Church.

Moving Forward

We remain committed to participating in the ministry of TEAM whenever opportunities arise. As a multicultural church, we recognise the importance of serving alongside believers from every nation, language, and culture in proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ.

Looking ahead, we hope these relationships will continue to strengthen mutual understanding, deepen friendships, and create opportunities for shared prayer, worship, and collaborative ministry across our city. We believe that as churches work together across cultural and denominational boundaries, we provide a powerful witness to the reconciling love of Christ.

As we continue to follow Jesus, the Good Shepherd, who calls people from every tribe, language, people, and nation into one flock, may these partnerships continue to reflect the unity and diversity of God's Kingdom. We pray that, together, we will bear faithful witness to the gospel, celebrate the richness of our multicultural

community, and bring glory to God through our shared mission in Tauranga.

Praying Pastors of Tauranga & Western Bay of Plenty

The minister continues to participate in the Praying Pastors of Tauranga & Western Bay of Plenty, meeting each Wednesday morning from 7:30–9:00 a.m. at St Luke's Church. These weekly gatherings provide a significant opportunity for pastors and Christian leaders from across the city to unite in prayer, seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and intercede for our churches, communities, and the wider region.

These gatherings have become a deeply encouraging rhythm of ministry, providing space to listen to God, pray for one another, and discern His leading for the Church in Tauranga. They also remind us that, while our congregations may worship in different places, we share one Lord, one gospel, and one mission.

Moving Forward

We remain committed to participating in these city-wide prayer gatherings and to strengthening relationships with Christian leaders throughout Tauranga and the Western Bay of Plenty. We believe that when God's people pray together, He unites His Church, opens new doors for the gospel, and prepares His people for the work He is already doing in our city.

Looking ahead, we pray that these gatherings will continue to deepen unity among churches, encourage collaborative mission, and inspire fresh dependence on the Holy Spirit. As we seek God's heart together, may He continue to lead His Church with wisdom, courage, humility, and hope.

Prayer

Holy Spirit, the harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Continue to prepare and strengthen Your servants across Tauranga and the Western Bay of Plenty. Unite Your Church in prayer, raise up faithful leaders and labourers for the harvest, and guide us as together we proclaim the hope of Jesus Christ throughout our city. Amen.

Community Engagement

St Peter's continues to be actively engaged in the wider community, seeking opportunities to build relationships, serve others, and represent Christ beyond the walls of the church. Throughout the year, we have been privileged to participate in a wide range of community initiatives and events that reflect our commitment to serving our city with humility, compassion, and hope.

These opportunities have included contributions to Samoan Language Week and

other cultural celebrations, engagement with the University of Waikato Tauranga campus, involvement with the Pacific business community, partnerships with Pacific and non-Pacific community organisations, pastoral support for families through funeral services, participation in local body election forums, and service on Boards of Trustees within the education sector.

Each of these opportunities has enabled St Peter's to be a visible and active presence within the life of our city. They have also opened doors for meaningful conversations, strengthened relationships across diverse communities, and demonstrated that the love of Christ is expressed not only through our words but also through our presence, service, and genuine care for others.

Moving Forward

We remain committed to strengthening our relationships throughout the wider community and to seeking opportunities to serve with humility, compassion, and integrity. As we seek to live out our vision of being *Christ to the city, the city to Christ*, we will continue to engage with educational institutions, community organisations, cultural groups, civic leaders, and those seeking pastoral care, trusting that God will use these relationships to advance His Kingdom and bear witness to the hope of the gospel.

Looking ahead, we also hope to build new partnerships that enable St Peter's to contribute to the wellbeing of our city through practical service, community collaboration, and authentic Christian witness. We believe that as we listen well, serve generously, and walk alongside our neighbours, God creates opportunities for the love of Christ to be seen and experienced in tangible ways.

As we continue to follow Jesus, the Good Shepherd, may we be known as a church that is present in the life of our community, generous in service, gracious in spirit, and faithful in proclaiming the hope of the gospel. May God continue to use St Peter's as a place of welcome, healing, reconciliation, and hope, where people from every background can encounter the love and transforming grace of Jesus Christ.

Prayer

Holy Spirit, thank You for every opportunity to serve and witness beyond the walls of the church. Empower us to represent Christ with humility, wisdom, and grace in every conversation, relationship, and community setting. May our lives reflect Your love and draw others to the hope found in Jesus Christ. Amen.

Church Fellowship Events

Church events continue to play an important role in building fellowship, strengthening relationships, and welcoming people into the life of St Peter's. Throughout the year,

these gatherings have provided opportunities for people of all ages to connect, enjoy one another's company, and grow together as a church family.

Our Church Picnic, held following Sunday worship, was a joyful occasion that brought together church members, new families, young people, and children for a relaxed afternoon of shared food, conversation, games, and fun. It was wonderful to see friendships strengthened and new relationships formed in such a welcoming atmosphere.

Our Quiz Night was another highlight of the year, attracting an excellent turnout, including many visitors from outside our church community. The evening was filled with laughter, friendly competition, and genuine hospitality, providing a relaxed setting where people could connect and experience the warmth of our church family.

We extend our sincere thanks to everyone who contributed their time, creativity, and energy to the planning and organisation of these events. Your willingness to serve helped create occasions that strengthened our community and reflected the generous hospitality of Christ.

Moving Forward

We remain committed to creating opportunities for church-wide fellowship and meaningful engagement with our wider community through welcoming and inclusive events. As our church family continues to grow, we hope these gatherings will strengthen relationships across generations, help newcomers feel at home, and provide natural opportunities for people to become more connected in the life of St Peter's.

Looking ahead, we also hope to explore new opportunities for social gatherings, seasonal celebrations, family activities, and community events that reflect the warmth and hospitality of our congregation. We recognise that friendships often begin in relaxed and informal settings, and these relationships can become important pathways into deeper fellowship, discipleship, and participation in the life of the church.

As we continue to follow Jesus, the Good Shepherd, may our fellowship reflect His welcoming heart. We pray that every event will be more than simply a gathering, but an opportunity for people to experience genuine Christian community, discover a sense of belonging, and encounter the love, joy, and hope that are found in Jesus Christ.

Staff and Volunteers

We give thanks to God for the faithful service of our staff and volunteers, whose dedication, generosity, and commitment contribute significantly to the ministry and

daily life of St Peter's. Through their varied gifts and faithful service, they help create a welcoming, well-organised, and Christ-centred church where people are cared for and encouraged in their faith.

During the year, we were delighted to welcome Nicola as our Office Manager. Her warm and friendly manner, organisational skills, and commitment to the ministry of St Peter's have strengthened our office team and enhanced the day-to-day operations of the church. We are grateful for the care and professionalism she brings to this important role.

We also express our sincere appreciation to David Duncanson for his growing ministry among our children, particularly in supporting their transition into Kids in Christ (KIC), and for his valuable contributions to preaching, worship, and pastoral care. His willingness to serve in a variety of ways has been a great blessing to our church family.

Our heartfelt thanks also go to Keith Campbell, Chair of the Board of Managers, for his wise leadership, thoughtful oversight of staffing matters, and faithful stewardship of the operational life of St Peter's. We are deeply grateful for his steady leadership and commitment to the wellbeing of our church.

We also acknowledge with appreciation the faithful volunteer ministry of John Buxton and Karen Caldwell, whose ongoing service in the church office provides invaluable administrative and pastoral support. Their quiet, consistent, and dependable contribution strengthens the ministry of St Peter's in countless ways.

Together, our staff and volunteers reflect a spirit of humility, generosity, resilience, and servant-hearted leadership. Whether serving in highly visible roles or faithfully working behind the scenes, each person makes an important contribution to the mission and ministry of St Peter's. We give thanks to God for every member of our team and for the many ways they faithfully serve Christ and His Church.

Moving Forward

We remain committed to fostering a church office and ministry environment that is welcoming, well organised, and centred on Christ, a place where members, families, visitors, volunteers, and staff experience genuine warmth, hospitality, and care.

Looking ahead, we will continue to support, encourage, and invest in those who serve by providing opportunities for collaboration, training, spiritual encouragement, and mutual support. We recognise that healthy ministry flourishes when people are valued, equipped, and encouraged to use their gifts in service to God and others.

As we continue to follow Jesus, the Good Shepherd, we pray that the Holy Spirit will strengthen, encourage, and sustain every member of our staff and volunteer team.

May they serve with joy, wisdom, humility, and faithfulness, knowing that their labour in the Lord is never in vain. Together, may we continue to build a church that reflects Christ's love, serves our community with compassion, and brings glory to God in all that we do.

Prayer

Holy Spirit, thank You for the faithful service of our staff and volunteers. Fill them with wisdom, joy, and renewed strength as they serve Your people. May all who enter St Peter's encounter the love of Christ through their hospitality, kindness, and faithful witness. Amen.

E. Prayer Points for 2027 – Opportunities for Involvement

As we look ahead to 2027, we recognise the importance of remaining anchored in prayer and continually seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit in every aspect of our church life. We believe that every ministry begins with prayer and that, as we seek first God's Kingdom, He will faithfully provide, equip, and lead us according to His purposes.

We invite every member of our church family to join us in praying for the following areas of ministry and, where God leads, to consider becoming part of the answer to these prayers.

1. Children's Leaders for Kids in Christ (KIC)

Over the past year we have seen leaders come and go, and we give thanks for everyone who has faithfully served. We continue to pray that God will raise up faithful women and men with a heart to disciple and nurture our children in the knowledge and love of Jesus Christ.

2. Children's Ministry Helpers

As our children's ministry continues to grow, we need additional volunteers to support and strengthen this important work. Please pray that God will call, equip, and encourage more people to serve our children and young families with joy and compassion.

3. Musicians and Worship Team Volunteers

While we have welcomed new volunteers, others have stepped back from ministry. Pray that God will continue to provide instrumentalists, singers, worship leaders, and volunteers for our sound and data teams so that our worship ministry continues to flourish.

4. Drivers for Elderly Transport

Many of our older members rely on transport to attend Sunday worship and midweek activities. At present, we do not have a dedicated transport ministry. Pray that God will raise up compassionate volunteers so that no one misses the opportunity to gather for worship, fellowship, and encouragement because of transport difficulties.

5. Sustainable Property Income

Pray for wisdom, creativity, and discernment as we continue to explore ways our property can both serve our community and provide sustainable income to support the ongoing mission and ministry of St Peter's.

6. Prayer Warriors for Our City

We long to see a committed team of intercessors praying regularly for the people and institutions of Tauranga, including our university, schools, police, courts, businesses, health services, community organisations, and local government. Pray that God will raise up people with a passion for prayer and a heart for our city.

7. Small Group Leaders

Small groups remain central to discipleship, pastoral care, and spiritual growth. Pray that God will call and equip new leaders who will provide welcoming spaces where people can study God's Word, pray together, and encourage one another in faith.

8. Young Adult Ministry (Ages 19–30)

Please pray that God will raise up the right leaders, particularly a younger couple with a heart for mentoring and discipling young adults as they navigate study, work, relationships, and their walk with Christ.

Looking Ahead Together

As we pray for these opportunities, we also pray that God will continue to deepen our love for Him and for one another. We believe that every member of St Peter's has a part to play in the life and mission of our church, and we trust that the Holy Spirit will continue to call, equip, and empower His people for service.

As we continue to follow Jesus, the Good Shepherd, may He lead us beside still waters, restore our souls, and guide us in the paths He has prepared for us. May He give us the courage to step forward in faith, the wisdom to recognise His leading, and the joy of serving together as one church family.

F. Closing Words from the Minister

As I come to the close of my Annual Report, I do so with a heart full of gratitude for God's unfailing faithfulness and with great anticipation for where He is leading St Peter's in the years ahead. Looking back over the past year, we have every reason to give thanks. We have witnessed God's provision, experienced His grace, welcomed new people into our church family, strengthened one another in faith, and continued to serve our city in the name of Jesus Christ.

As our current four-year Strategic Development Plan moves toward its completion in July 2027, we now begin the important task of prayerfully discerning God's vision for the next three to five years of ministry. We do so with confidence, trusting that the Good Shepherd, who has faithfully led us thus far, will continue to guide us into the future He has prepared.

Throughout this journey, three priorities have emerged with increasing clarity: **University Ministry, Community Lunch, and Discipleship**. I believe these are significant opportunities through which God is calling St Peter's to live out our vision of being *Christ to the city, the city to Christ, and helping people find, follow, and know Jesus*. Together with my wife Felicity we look forward to walking this journey with you as together we listen for the voice of the Holy Spirit, discern God's direction, and faithfully respond to His call.

St Peter's continues to be a church shaped by the Holy Spirit, grounded in God's Word, and committed to living out the Great Commission in the heart of our city. Throughout this report, we have celebrated the many ways God has been at work through worship, prayer, discipleship, fellowship, pastoral care, mission, hospitality, and the faithful service of so many people. Every ministry, every act of kindness, every prayer offered, and every life touched is ultimately a testimony to God's grace. To Him alone be all the glory.

I would also like to express my thanks to the members of **Session and the Board of Managers** for your faithful service and leadership throughout the year. Felicity and I are deeply grateful for the way you have supported us in our ministry at St Peter's, not only through your work and responsibilities, but also through your prayers, encouragement, wisdom, and care. Your support has meant a great deal to us and to our family.

We are very grateful to our St Peters Church family. Thank you for standing with us, praying with us, and sharing in the joys and challenges of ministry. We do not take your support for granted, and we thank God for each one of you

As we move into a new season, may we remain faithful in prayer, generous in service, courageous in mission, and united in love. May we continue to trust God's leading, depend on His provision, and use the gifts He has entrusted to each of us to build His Kingdom and serve our community with humility, compassion, and hope.

Above all, may we keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the Good Shepherd, listening for His voice and following wherever He leads. For He is the One who gathers His people, restores the weary, equips His Church, and sends us into the world as witnesses to His grace. Our confidence for the future rests not in our own plans or abilities, but in His faithful promises.

"Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen."

Ephesians 3:20–21

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all as we continue to serve Him together.

Thank you for the privilege of serving alongside you.

May the Lord bless you, keep you, and continue to guide us as we faithfully follow Him together.

Rev. Enosa Auva'a

Minister

St Peter's Presbyterian Church

August 2026

Session Report 2026

Our Vision

“To know Jesus Christ and help others find and follow Him.”

It has been my privilege to serve as Session Clerk since mid-2023, and I will continue in this role until end of July 2026. I am pleased that Marion Sanders has accepted the appointment as the next Session Clerk and will take over the role at that time. I look forward to continuing to serve St Peters Church as an elder.

As I reflect on the past three years, I am grateful for God’s faithfulness and for the many ways He has been at work in our church family. It has been a privilege to witness the growth, unity and commitment of our congregation as together we seek to fulfil our vision of knowing Jesus Christ and helping others find and follow Him.

Some of the highlights have been:

- **A warm and welcoming church family.** St Peters Church continues to be known as a friendly and caring church where visitors feel genuinely welcomed and many have chosen to make this their church home.
- **New families becoming part of our congregation.** It has been encouraging to see new families not only attend but become actively involved in the life of the church through worship, fellowship and service.
- **Growing fellowship and community.** Our morning teas, shared lunches, small groups and other fellowship opportunities have strengthened relationships and helped build a strong sense of belonging within our church family.
- **A beautifully diverse congregation.** We are richly blessed to be a multicultural church, with people from Māori, European, Pacific Island, Asian and many other backgrounds worshipping together. It is wonderful to see people from different cultures finding their spiritual home and family at St Peter’s.
- **Lives being transformed.** We have been encouraged by hearing personal testimonies of God’s faithfulness, celebrating baptisms and child dedications, and watching our children’s ministry continue to grow over recent years. These remind us that God is continuing to work in and through His people.
- **Faithful and committed volunteers.** Our church is blessed with many people who faithfully serve behind the scenes and in visible ministries. Whether through the Drop-in Lunch, St Peters House, morning teas/lunches, Kids’ Church, music ministry, pastoral care, the church office, property maintenance, small group leaders, hospitality, annual free Christmas Dinner or many other areas, these volunteers are truly the hands and feet of Jesus. Their faithful service is a tremendous blessing to our church and community.

- **Growing partnerships in ministry.** It has also been encouraging to see the strengthening relationship between St Peters Church, St Peters House and the Mission Committee as we work together in serving both our congregation and the wider community.

Serving as Session Clerk has given me the opportunity to see the quiet faithfulness of so many people. Much of what happens in the life of our church is made possible through the generosity, prayers and servant-hearted commitment of our members. For this, I give thanks to God.

St Peters Church is our spiritual family. My encouragement to all of us is to continue meeting together, supporting one another, serving alongside one another, and **keeping Christ** at the centre of everything we do.

Hebrew 10:25

****“**And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another and all the more as the see the Day approaching.

Blessings

Rose Phan/ Chin

Board of Managers Report 2026

The Board meet monthly to manage the finances of the church, ensure the property is appropriately maintained, and that we have good, qualified administration staff to run the day-to-day duties of the church.

We had another change in our Administration staff this year. Corlia Knipe resigned as Office Manager to take on a full-time management position in a Tauranga processing business. While her stay was short, her contribution was really appreciated by the Board.

We were fortunate to have Nicola Fraser join us as Office Manager in November 2025. Her previous experience in Church Management has been highlighted by the operational changes happening in the office.

Maria Carter's knowledge of the congregation complements Nicola's skills very well and the Board is delighted to see a well-functioning team in the office. – See separate Office report.

Our Finances have been tight again this year with congregational giving less than budgeted. However, the increased effort by the office staff in promoting our facilities has resulted in increased revenue through hiring the facilities. This has resulted in a small surplus in funds again this year.

We are also thankful to the Chell Family for the legacy bequeathed to the church during the year.

I think if we are faithful in prayer, God supplies all we need when we need it and our finances are a good example of God's goodness.

See more information in financial report.

It is really pleasing to see the facilities being well used by church activities and outside hireages. A reminder that members need to ensure they book any planned activities at the office well in advance of their need.

Despite the downturn in income, we were able to successfully complete the canopy repairs and repaint the timber framings outside the church.

With Support from TECT, we upgraded some musical equipment and replaced the chiller in the kitchen

Above and Beyond childcare centre has renewed their lease on our Selwyn st property for another 8 years.

As St Peters House 12-year Lease ended in June, we have agreed on a new 6yr+ 6yr lease which gives them surety of tenure for the future.

The Board has been appreciative of the incredible number of volunteers that are involved in making the church a vibrant and supportive place. Planned working bees have been very well supported by the congregation.

Also, a big thank you to our ministry team for your support and inspiration to St Peters Church.

I am grateful for the dedication of the Board members who work quietly behind the scenes ensuring the running of the building and finances run smoothly.

Board Members are:

Darleen Bailey	Minute Secretary
Neville Watkins	Treasurer
Maria Carter	
Ray Reynolds	
Dennis Kumar	
Roberto Mattas	
Peter Carter	Session Rep
Enosa Auvaa	

Blessings to you all.

Keith Campbell
Chairman
Board of Managers.

Directory 2026

Staff	
Rev Enosa AUVA'A - Senior Minister	David DUNCANSON – Family, Youth & Children's Minister
Felicity AUVA'A – Music Director	Maria CARTER – Office Assistant
Nicola FRASER – Office Manager	
Session	
Rose CHIN	Anna SWETMAN
Karen CALDWELL	Peter CARTER
Marion SANDERS - Session Clerk	
Board of Managers	
Enosa AUVA'A - Minister	Peter CARTER – Session Rep
Keith CAMPBELL – Chair	Darleen BAILEY- Secretary
Neville WATKINS –Treasurer	Maria CARTER
Ray REYNOLDS	Dennis KUMAR
Roberto BARAHONA MATTAS	
Missions Committee	
Ian DONALDSON - Chair	Neil RYDER
Angela ROBINSON	Glenda BARNETT
Marion SANDERS	
Events Committee	
Felicity AUVA'A	Patricia CHANCELLOR
Margaret SIEVWRIGHT	Judy CLARK
Lyn TAYLOR	Karen STREET
Eleanor CLARK	Dawn BUXTON
Pam ALLIS	Judy BIRCHENOUGH

Family, Youth and Children's Ministry Report 2026

This Year most of the teaching has been based around the gospel of Jesus Christ according to the book of Matthew. Topics have ranged – Good attitudes, letting your light shine, Declining Temptation, Jesus' Return, Defeating Doubt, the Holy Spirit our Comforter, Following Christ, Kindness ...

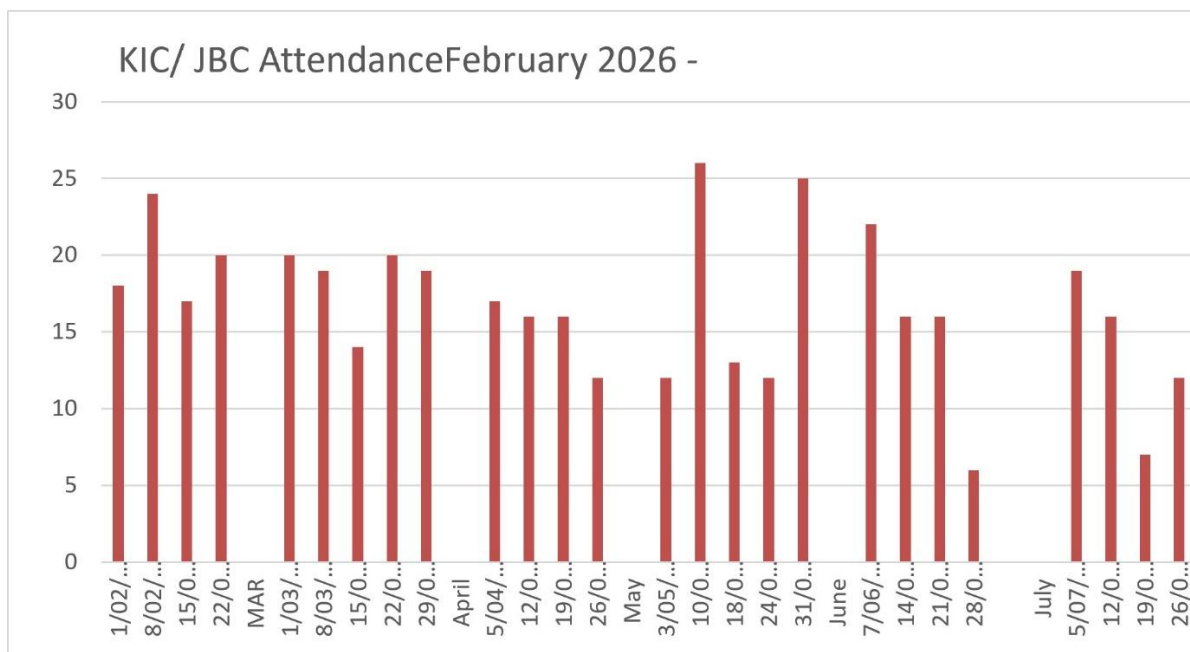


The numbers of young folk coupled with the number of leaders available, has practically dictated combining the preschool children and junior youth together for the most part. The high school youth at their own choice some weeks joining as leader/ participants. All children

are welcome at KIC, preschoolers are to be supervised, teenagers are expected to behave responsibly.



The office have done a good job, organising "Police Checks" and we are confident our young ones are able to enjoy fellowship & worship safely.



With sports, sickness, travel, school commitments, birthdays and busy circumstances, numbers tend to fluctuate, from a potential roll of 40 we average about 15 children.



Leadership has grown this year thanks to solid commitments from Isabella Stewart, Rose Chin, Maria & Peter Carter & the other leaders than complete the teams. Their efforts release me to preach some weeks & occasionally lead the music team. Special thanks to the parents & grandparents doing the work to get children here, this enables us to encourage children to find, follow & serve Christ.

The Board of Managers' support, & your continued prayer for this ministry is appreciated.



David Duncanson

Ministry Assistant, Family, Youth & Children

Office Admin Report 2026

This year has seen a change of personnel with Corlia Knipe finishing as Office Administrator in October 2025 and Nicola Fraser starting in November 2025.

Thanks to Maria Carter, Office Receptionist, and others who helped cover the staffing gap. This year has been one of updating, tidying and implementing new processes.

Here are some of tasks we have been working on over the last 7 months.

Digital Files – a massive tidy up of the digital storage system, checking and updating many documents, collating and moving documents into fewer digital folders that make finding things much easier.

Website Updating – updating information on the church website, ensuring that links within the website are working correctly and that images are relevant. This area has been a new learning for both Maria and Nicola and is giving us confidence to manage more of this work ourselves.

Infoodle Database

Much work has been done on ensuring that we hold appropriate and accurate information to allow us to better understand our church demographic. This information allows us to produce better reports which makes planning and providing annual statistics much more accurate.

We have updated the following information for most people (of course most of this is visible only to staff): Dates of birth, addresses, school year for children, groups people are part of within our church, who are members and associates, children's attendance etc.

Automated roster reminders have been set up, so that weekly email reminders automatically go to those who are on serving teams each Sunday. This was previously done manually each week from the office and not at all during the Christmas holiday break when the office was closed.

Phone App – this is now available and is being used primarily by those on serving teams at this stage. It allows them to see the church directory (same as the information in the paper version) and contact people, phone, send a text and find addresses easily on their phone. It has a direct link to our church website. For those serving teams it shows their rostered dates and who else from their team is on with them. This makes it easy for people to keep track of when they are serving here at church.

Finances – we have linked our accounting system, Xero, to our Infoodle database. This means that as donations are processed in Xero, they also go into Infoodle and are recorded against the donors giving number (note: only the office administrator

can view this information). This makes sending annual donation receipts a simple process via an emailed link.

There are, of course, many tasks involved in running the church office such as producing the weekly pastoral message and newsletter, managing venue hire bookings, paying accounts, assisting other staff and visitors to the office, ensuring health and safety requirements are maintained, answering emails and phone calls, providing admin support as needed to other groups within the church, maintaining the database, ensuring that everything is ready for Sunday services etc.

Thanks to Maria Carter, Office Receptionist, for her support during the change of staff, her efficient organisation of the Community Christmas Dinner and her willingness to both share her knowledge and learn new things in her supporting office role. Her efficiency means that tasks are being completed thoroughly and quickly, which means better productivity and efficiency within the office.

Thank you to the church family and the staff, Keith Campbell and Neville Watkins for your support and encouragement as I have settled into this role.

Nicola Fraser
Office Administrator

Boys Brigade Report 2026



Tauranga City Iconz has grown in 2026 (with nearly 60 lads each week) so we had to move many of the boys up an age group to manage. Praise God, we have been blessed with enough leaders to run 4 distinct age groups:



10 x Anchor boys LDRS: Julie Green, Jess Miller, Mark Williams	21 x Adventure lads LDRS: Matt Sabas, Tom Anselmi, Brett Allen, Jason Strong, Richard Harkness	22 x Delta Juniors LDRS: Mark Swetman, Andrew Hennessey, James Fredericks, Mark Brown	6 x Delta Seniors LDRS: Isaac Thompson, Nathan Bailey, Dom Absalom
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Amazing happens here at BB Iconz! We are so blessed. Three of our senior lads, Dom Absalom, Josh Brown and Elijah Keam earned the **KING'S BADGE – THE HIGHEST AWARD POSSIBLE IN BB INTERNATIONAL!!!** They received this prestigious Award at Government House, presented by the Governor General – the Right Honorable Dame Cindy Kiro on behalf of **HIS MAJESTY KING CHARLES!** What an honour! But wait, there's more, **HIS WORSHIP MAYOR MAHE DRYSDALE** hosted the **Three King's Men** for a Mayoral Reception, and hearty afternoon tea! What a privilege to see these young lads advance through the ranks over many years at BB Iconz, demonstrating great qualities of tenacity, integrity, and all that tends towards a true Christian manliness.



We also had the **NATIONAL BBNZ PRESIDENT, MR TODD HARPER** speak at our (final) 2025 Awards night, and present trophies and top awards.





We had a great camp at Lake Rotoma this year (2026), as well as marching in the **ANZAC MEMORIAL PARADE** (big turnout for our lads looking very smart), and many fun events with



trips for fishing, beach fun, a bon fire, fire extinguisher demonstrations, woodcraft with the **EDGE TRAILER** (big thanks to Stu Thompson), welding, soldering, and more: Animal Survivor, Civil Defence, Search and Rescue, cooking/baking,

skateboarding at The Mt, Poripori swim, and a crazy **CAR RALLY** (thank you Mark Swetman).



We also won the Bay of Plenty **MUDWARZ TROPHY** this year – a massive team effort at low tide mud – Kulim Park! Well done lads!!!

Now, lest we forget, we have a few unsung heroes to mention, thank and applaud too... Rodger Simmonds tirelessly looks after admin, records, finances and everything behind the scenes for us, while Vinnie Grant has year after year organized all uniform orders and kit for the lads/leaders. And then there is the **St Peter's Church Office Team** – forever doing printing and organizing for us! Awesome job – and always with a smile. And then we have David Duncanson and Ian Donaldson supporting us, taking devotions and praying for us. And most of all, we want to acknowledge everyone who encourages, supports and prays for us.

God bless you richly.

Richard Harkness: BB Captain – Tauranga City Iconz



Tauranga City ICONZ 4 Girlz Report 2026

Tauranga City Iconz 4 Girlz or Igirlz as we usually call it, continues to be a strong ministry at St Peters. We had several new enrolments this year bringing our numbers up to around 38 girls. The leaders team expanded from 5 to 8 but is currently at 6 with a couple ladies leaving and going back to study. David Duncanson comes and helps with devotions on some nights which we greatly appreciate.

The first term was packed full of adventure with a combined BB Iconz and Igirlz camp at Lake Rotoma which was a lot of fun with marshmallow smores on camp fires, epic raft water battles and sea-biscuiting. We invited Bethlehem Igirlz and Omokoroa to join in our sand warz competition, a great time for the girls to meet others and have fun together. We also focused on an Easter Badge, engaging the girls with creating story board art, making hot cross buns and games.



We continued into Term 2 with a Pet badge and the girls absolutely loved bringing their pets in one night and telling everyone about them. We had a lady come to talk about dog safety and another girl came in with her trained dog to show us some tricks. The BB Iconz boys organised a car rally night and beach fire show night which we joined them for.



You may have been invited to our great fundraiser for the year –

Market Day (Night) which the girls worked hard to make bath bombs, keychains, playdough, biscuits, muffins and top hats for. The boys were selling things too and we had a BBQ sausage sizzle. It was a fantastic, exciting night. If you didn't go, you definitely missed out!



Term 3 is just starting and it's always a fun term with the annual Igirlz church sleepover happening. We will be working with Stu making wooden creations in his Edge workshop trailer, performing dramas, having a bonfire, learning circus tricks and enjoying combined events at Baywave with BB Iconz and games night with Bethlehem Igirlz.

The older girls continue to work towards their Duke of Edinburgh Awards, with 2 Silvers and 1 Gold completed to celebrate at the end of the year!

Thanks always to St Peters Church for their generosity and support for this great ministry.

Feel free to come by on a Tuesday night and see what we are up to...

Darleen Bailey

TAURANGA CITY ICONZ 4 GIRLZ LEADER

Community Lunch Report 2026

"I tell you the truth, whatever you have done for one of the least of my sisters or brothers, you have done it for me." Matthew 24:40 In this passage, Jesus explains that whenever you serve the vulnerable, marginalized, or those in need, you are serving Him directly.

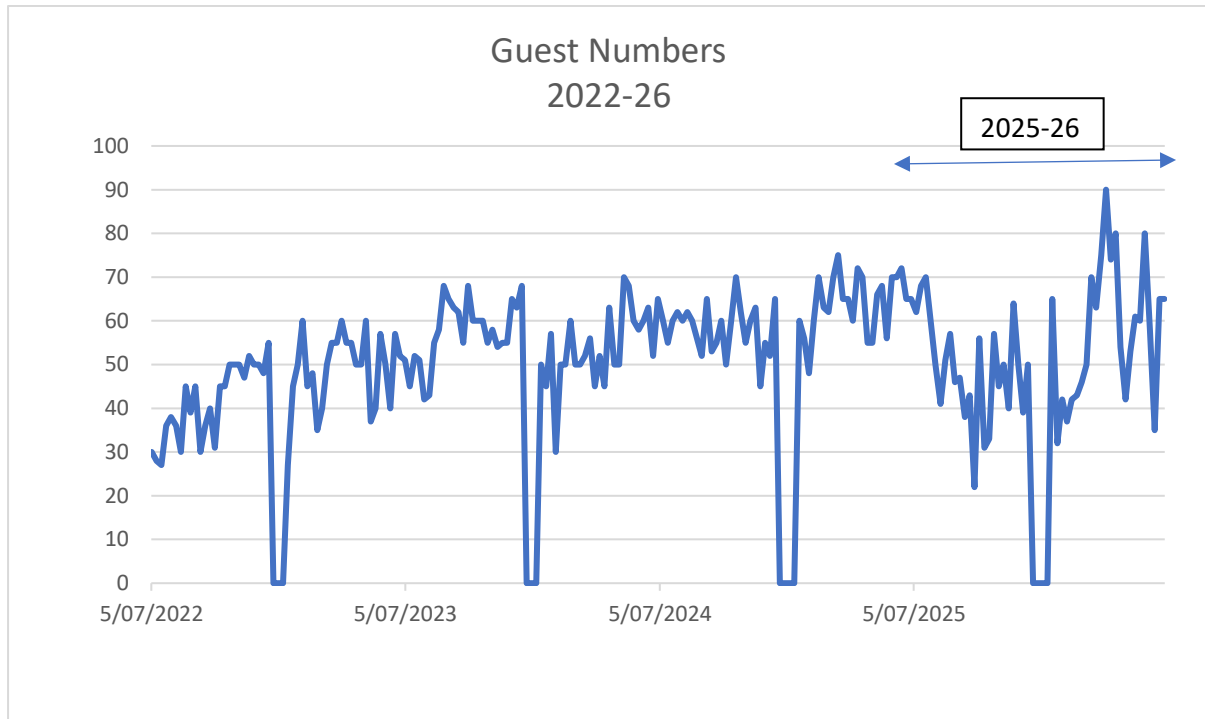
Our Community Lunch is a wonderful ministry and outreach into our local community. It is local mission serving our Lord. We are very blessed in many ways. Our dedicated, fun group of volunteers, a wonderful facility with our welcoming foyer, plenty of space and a very workable kitchen. It is even a greater blessing being able to harness all this to help those in need.

Our Community Lunch operates from St Peters Church every Tuesday (except Christmas break). It is open to anyone, but our target group are the homeless, challenged, lonely, financially stretched and those needing support. The themes present in the verses from Matthew are rooted in the concept of mercy, compassion, and love for one's neighbour. Jesus stresses the significance of showing kindness and generosity towards those who are less fortunate and vulnerable. Our congregational support is essential with the majority of volunteers coming from St Peters. Thank you sincerely for everyone who supports this work. We offer a safe haven in the church for 35-80 people each week and offer a hot drink, a nutritious meal with meat and vegetables, or salad, and a sweet treat.

The gathering point is on our Cameron Road grass and church entrance. The picnic tables are well used, and this has resulted in a far more relaxed and happy group coming for lunch. Start time is earlier, around 10.30am, so there is no rush. The hall is used on wet days. Maori Wardens attend each week which brings a sense of security and calm. Lunch itself starts at 11.30am. Being inside God's house affords us an opportunity to share God's word. Enosa, Keith Hooker, David and others attend and offer a short homily or verse to encourage everyone, before grace/karakia and the meal.

Numbers: Over the past 12 months we have fed 2,112 people and cooked around 2,323 meals. That is a lot of food and many people to make it happen. This is lower than the previous year, but it is far more variable with up to 90 people attending the lunch. We are now averaging about 70 meals per week, up from 61 the previous year. The graph below shows the general steady increase in meals made each week from 2022 to the end of June 2026. We also offer food to the Maori Wardens and our own volunteers. St Peters is reaching out to many to offer hospitality and showing Christ's love in action.

The pattern of attendance is changing. Over the last 6 months, 38% of guests only came once and 16% came twice. So, we see many, many new faces. At the other end of this spectrum we have our regular guests. 16% of lunch guests came more than 20 times. So the people needing support are a very mobile group. Our milder winter attracts people and this is reflected in the graph.



Volunteers: This year we are blessed with a dedicated team of 33 volunteers who collect food, buy food, determine the menu each week, pray together, prepare and cook the food, serve the hot meals, clean up and have fun together. The team includes Ros and JB who source all our food, 12 kitchen workers (down from 30) including 3 couples who lead the kitchen team, 6 greeters and 9 relievers. This generally means people are rostered on just once a month, so it is not too onerous. Thank you all for your faithfulness to this ministry. A special mention to our wonderful leaders John and Dawn Buxton, Julie and Russ Hulbert, Barbara Johnson. Thanks to Dennis Kumar who stepped in to lead when he had available time. Please continue to prayer for this ministry, for new people willing to help, for safety, for more greeters. We have 7 volunteers from our community and local churches so thank you too.

We always welcome new people to help.

Food: We acknowledge continued support from Good Neighbour Trust to our own church members who bring baking and fruit. Thank you, Judy B., This provides roughly 80% of our needs. We also acknowledge the support and presence every week from the Māori Wardens who bring calm and keep order.

Thanks also to Rev. Enosa, supported by Keith Hooker and David, for your weekly presence, homily and prayer.

Please prayer for this mission, our guests and give thanks for our wonderful leaders and volunteers.



Volunteers from Craigs Investment Partners helping at our lunch.



Tony and JB on behalf of the volunteers

Events Committee Report 2026

The Events Committee has met regularly over the past year to coordinate church events that bring our church family together to enjoy fellowship, promote connection with each other and provide opportunity to extend care and support to one another. Each Sunday, we have enjoyed tea and coffee and nibbles together in the foyer after the service. We have celebrated the seasons of Christmas, Easter, Anzac, Mothers' and Fathers' Days with special morning teas.

Highlights have been the Home Group lunches spread throughout the year. A big thank you to the generous, hospitable small groups who have catered and hosted these events for us all. Our "Dinners of 8" night was another opportunity for those who attended to meet new church members and get to know others a bit better.



The church Quiz night was a time of fun and laughter in a relaxed atmosphere and a chance to reach out into the community. Thanks to the Carters and Karen Street for their hard work organising this. Also



enjoyed were the Women's Fellowship events with Penny Merton speaking about her journey as an author and Kate Weir stretching us all with her beautiful Praise Moves class.



We are looking forward to another church picnic once the weather warms up and are always happy to hear suggestions from the congregation about events you might be interested in attending.

Lyn Taylor
The Events Committee

Community Christmas Dinner Report 2026

The free Community Christmas Dinner 2025 was another successful event, hosting 154 guests. They enjoyed a delicious dinner and dessert while enjoying fellowship, Christmas carols and a message from Enosa.

The guests displayed sounds of joy, their faces happy, they were full... It was a special day for them, they were served, respected and loved!

Planning began early October, organising our fundraising, suppliers and our key volunteers. We were very grateful to Tim Arrowstone, who agreed to be the 'Head Chef'. He helped with the 2024 dinner and was keen to take a more leading role in the kitchen.

Larnie Peters took the role of 'Coordinator' and did a brilliant job of organising and overseeing the volunteer team on the day. Her energy and love for the people shone through as she 'flitted' between stations. Also, a big thank you to her husband Roberto for all his help.

As usual, we had a great response from people in the community willing to help on the day. Several of them sign up year after year because they enjoy the opportunity to serve in this way.



We were truly blessed with our fundraising and sponsors. In particular, Tauranga City Council with their Match fund donation of \$3000. Craigs Investment Partners were extremely generous in their staff fundraising amount of \$1752. Other regular givers include Ingham Mora and St Andrews church at the Mount. And of course, many of our St Peters church family and people in the Tauranga community who donated amounts towards our event. Because of the generosity of these people, we were able to easily meet our expenses for the 2025 dinner. Because of your support, our community experienced the true spirit of Christmas – one of generosity, compassion and togetherness.

Thank you

City of Joy Report 2026

The City of Joy loan facility continues to benefit our church community. We lend money to church members, but it is more than just lending money. A loan can include prayer, advice, friendship, a guiding hand in times of stress, and honour always to the Lord.

One aim of the fund is to be good stewards and increase the use of the fund by recycling it for future borrowers. The COJ fund was built up by the generosity of church members, for church members and is to be used in the service of God to help others. There may be risk that a loan will not be repaid, but there is also blessing by trusting a borrower and helping in a difficult time. The COJ fund is underutilised.

Our small team is Ros Bridgman, Jaco Potgieter and Ian Donaldson. Each request for a loan comes to the coordinator, and I seek advice/ approval from the team before proceeding or declining a loan.

In summary, for 2025-26 to 30th June 2026

- 2 on-going loans at the start of the period totalling \$4.470
- 2 new loans to individuals \$1,518
- 3 loans paid off
- 1 current loan totalling \$518
- Bank balance at 30/6/2026 was \$18,809
- Interest rate 0%
- Repayment terms – flexible
- Maximum loan - \$2,000

The fund is not being fully used so we have capacity to help others. Repayment amounts are flexible and agreed with the borrower to suit their ability to repay. Can I encourage you to seek people who may need help, mention the City of Joy loan fund, and direct them to one of our subcommittees.

Tony Johnson, convenor on behalf of the COJ team.

Pastoral and Prayer Support Report 2026

Pastoral support:

We have a pastoral group on WhatsApp where we share pastoral needs.

Some of the needs that comes to the group will be passed on to other groups, such as the meal train support for families with new babies.

Visits or practical help are given when possible.

Prayer needs from the prayer support are also shared on this group.

Birthdays are shared when appropriate so the group may choose to message or phone to wish happy birthday.

Pastoral needs are treated confidentially and will only being shared after the person/s have agreed to it. Caring for each other through connection is a way of sharing Christ's love with each other.

Anyone that has a pastoral need or feel called to share in this ministry are welcome to contact the office, Enosa, David, elders or Corné Potgieter.

Prayer support:

During the last year me and my family have personally experience the amazing support through the prayers of St Peters Church.

Our congregation has several prayer ministries, such as prayer on a Sunday before the service, elder prayer meetings, midday prayer meetings and the Healing Rooms. We also have a prayer support group where we pray for the specific needs of people from our congregation (also including the friends and family of our SPC).

Prayer requests are shared with the Pastoral support group, especially where practical help or visiting is needed.

If you have a prayer need, or if you would like to pray with us, please contact the office, elders, David, Enosa, Corné or Margaret Sievwright.

Prayers are confidential and can be anonymous.

Galatians 6:2 (NLT): "Share each other's burdens, and in this way obey the law of Christ"

1Thess 5:17 (NLT): "Never stop praying"; Ephesians 6:18 -20:" Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere. And pray for me, too ... So pray that I will keep on speaking boldly for him, as I should".

Corné Potgieter

Convener: Pastoral and prayer support groups

Pastoral & Membership Statistics 2026

	Member	Associate	Youth	Child	TOTAL
<13				28	28
13 to 17 years			15		15
Up to 25 years	1	3			3
26 to 45 years	5	10			15
46 to 65 years	32	19			51
Over 65 years	59	15			74
TOTAL	97	47			186

Added		3
Removed	Death	2
	Transfer to another Church	6

	Children (under 13)	Adult
Baptisms	1	2
Dedications	1	0
Confirmations/Professions of Faith	0	1

Missions Report 2026

Committee members include-

- Glenda Barnett
- Angela Robinson
- Neil Ryder
- Susan Donaldson- secretary
- Ian Donaldson

The past year has been a continuation of encouragement, prayer, and financial support committee members have provided to overseas missionaries that St Peters has engaged with over a number of years.

The committee prayerfully seeks to responsibly distribute finance received from the St Peters congregation to various overseas missionary workers. In the past year this has included-

Danny and Lily Besoro- Philippines

- Arpana and Prasanna Khaling- India
- River of God Church- Balut Philippines
- Glen Morris- Navigators- Asia/Pacific
- Marion Sanders- Papua New Guinea
- 2025 Christmas appeal- Elephant fencing Sri Lanka

Alongside regular finance provided to support mission workers, additional money has been forwarded as necessary to individuals and for mission activities when specific needs are identified. For instance, extra finance was provided to the Besoro's to repair the roof of a house used for children they minister to. Goats and chickens for them were also purchased from the committee's budget. Finance was directed via Glen Morris to support/bless the work of a ministry home in Cambodia.



During August 2025 Neil Ryder was a member of an organised tour group to Sri Lanka. During that time, he devoted time to also meet with Sri Lanka's International Needs staff. This resulted in him visiting families in small villages whose primary food source was reliant on crops planted around their homes. However, an ongoing threat to their food supply was the impact of roaming elephants destroying the crops and damaging the fields.

In conjunction with staff from 'International Needs' in Sri Lanka and New Zealand, Neil promoted a plan to have electric fences built that deterred elephants from entering village fields. A portion of this cost was financed from offerings received from the 2025 St Peter's Christmas Appeal.



During September 2026 Neil plans to return to Sri Lanka and view the completed elephant fencing that enclose approximately twenty three acres of village fields. Neil has indicated his willingness to report back to the St Peter's congregation concerning how this project has impacted the wellbeing of the people living in this community.

Each committee member takes responsibility to maintain regular ongoing communication with a specific mission worker. These contacts enable prayer requests to be shared and ensures the relationship between those financially supported by St Peters remains active and fully informed.

A highlight of the year was having St Peters member Roger Simmonds share with the committee concerning his volunteer role for the past twenty-five years as treasurer with 'The United Seafarers Mission'. This Mission is based at the port at Mount Maunganui and offers seafarers on shore leave with practical and emotional support. Transport as necessary, reading material, tea and coffee, free internet, and a dedicated place for rest and recreation, including a small chapel, are provided to seafarers. Roger's commitment has involved him being actively available as a seafarer volunteer for up to three times a week.

Committee members are appreciative of 'Session' support for the role the Missions committee has within the St Peters family. As she is able, Session member Rose Chin attends mission meetings. Her presence and participation during meetings is highly valued.

Please feel free to make personal contact with any mission committee member should you have further questions concerning the role the committee has within the St Peters community.

Ian Donaldson

Treasurer's Report 2026

Treasurer's Report (Annual)

St Peter's Presbyterian Church
For the year ended 30 June 2026

	2026	2025
1. Performance and Cashflows		
Net cash flow - in/(out)		
Cash Surplus/(Deficit)		
Current Year Earnings	(5,341)	3,049,985
Non-cash items		
Unrealised gain on property revaluation	-	(3,050,000)
Depreciation	18,769	25,269
Other (various)	(6,458)	35,595
Total Non-cash items	12,311	(2,989,136)
Total Cash Surplus/(Deficit)	6,970	60,849
Cash Expenditures		
Capital Expenditure	(20,092)	(17,648)
St Peter's House	-	(20,000)
City of Joy Loans - Net Advances	4,512	6,377
Total Cash Expenditures	(15,580)	(31,271)
Total Net cash flow - in/(out)	(8,610)	29,578
	2026	2025
Cash balance on hand		
General Account	37,726	45,262
City of Joy	18,809	14,248
Other Accounts	2,099	7,734
Total Cash balance on hand	58,634	67,244

2. Main Variances to the Previous Year:

Income		\$29,486
	TECT Grant	12,062
	Property - Rents	42,266
	Other Income (Xmas Dinner)	(8,004)
	Giving	(25,078)
	Bequests	10,000
	Other	(1,760)

Expenditure		\$34,811
	Church Office	21,018
	Christmas Dinner	(8,205)
	Electricity & Gas	5,520
	Computer Expenses	3,631
	Property - General	(7,742)
	Repairs & Maintenance	14,374
	Outreach & Missions	9,945
	Depreciation	(5,538)
	Other	1,806

3. Thank You's and Questions.

A big thank you to our Office Staff (Nicola & Maria) and to the Volunteers who assist with many, many other tasks. Also, a personal thanks to all the Board of Managers for their confidence and on-going support for me in this role.

If you have any questions, then please raise them prior to the Congregational Meeting (scheduled for **Sunday 13 September 2026**) by either:

- emailing me at **accts.at.crest@gmail.com**; or,
- calling me on (027) 277-1075.

I will endeavour to answer them prior to the meeting or cover them in my comments at the meeting.

Neville C. Watkins

TREASURER

Dated: 31 July 2026

St Peters Care and Counselling Charitable Trust

2026 Agenda

St Peters Church, Sunday 13th September 2026

AGENDA for ST PETERS CARE & COUNSELLING CHARITABLE TRUST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2026

1. Opening Prayer
2. Present / Apologies
3. Minutes of 2025 AGM to be confirmed

Motion 1: "That the minutes of the 2025 AGM, as circulated, be confirmed"

4. Conflict of Interest
5. Chairperson's Report
6. Manager's Report
7. Financial Report
8. Any Other Business
9. Meeting Closed (after church AGM)

St Peters Care & Counselling Charitable Trust

AGM Minutes 2025

ST PETERS CARE & COUNSELLING CHARITABLE TRUST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2025

Held at St Peters Church, Sunday 14 September 2025

1. Opened - welcome by Rev. Enosa Auva'a and prayer by Vicki Roberts
2. Present - Vicki Roberts, Jaco Potgieter (Trustees)
Cath Page, Lee Watkins (staff). Neville Watkins (treasurer)
Apologies: Tony Johnson, Kate Weir, Nikki Kiyimba

3. Minutes of AGM held 15 September 2024

Motion 1: That the minutes of the 2024 AGM, as circulated, be confirmed

Moved – Jaco

Seconded – Vicki

Carried

4. Conflict of interest - None

5. Chairman's Report

Jaco delivered the report on behalf of Tony starting with information on the aim of St Peters House and key outcomes. He thanked the Trustees and staff. Gary Allis was acknowledged for his 9 years of service on the board prior to his retirement. Shirley-Ann was thanked for her work as secretary; she is unfortunately no longer available, so the Trust are actively looking for a replacement. Financial position and key funding sources were explained with detail on the SPH Endowment Fund and a request to consider donating or giving via a will. Jaco finished with a reminder that SPH services are available to church members and a request for continued prayer for the ministry.

Motion 2: That the Chairman's Reports be received

Moved – Jaco

Seconded – Vicki

Carried

6. Manager's Report

Cath delivered her report with a summary of counselling and course client numbers and graphs showing the demographic breakdown of clients. Client feedback was shared. She thanked the church and volunteers for their support.

Motion 3: That the Manager's Reports be received.

Moved – Jaco

Seconded – Vicki

Carried

7. Financial Report 1 July 2024 – 30 June 2025

Neville presented the financial report with a comparison to previous year. He

noted that SPH remained in a reasonably sound financial position while there have been cashflow constraints after recent government changes to funding. Budget for 2026 will require use of reserve funds and new funding to balance projected needs with income.

Motion 4: That the Financial Report be received

Moved – Jaco

Seconded – Vicki

Carried

8. Any Other Business

Keith explained that St Peters House receive funding from the church as an outreach ministry. He commended the Trust and staff for a well-managed operation delivering excellent results despite funding challenges.

9. Keith closed the meeting.

St Peters House Chairman's Report 2026

Our History and Purpose:

- We were established in 1988 with the objective of offering needed & appropriate social services to the community.
- In 1994 the old manse started to be used for counselling.
- In July 2009 we became an independent Charitable Trust with the purpose of delivering free or low-cost care and counselling services to the community that reflect the love of Jesus Christ. These services were defined as being:
 - o Provide courses to the community in parenting, life skills and general personal and community wellbeing;
 - o Generally meeting the psychological, emotional and physical needs of disadvantaged members of the community.

Where we fit in:

- St Peters Church: We were established by members of St Peters Church and are part of the community outreach of St Peters Church. We are receiving valued support from the church in the form of volunteering, prayer, financial support, provision of the buildings, prayer and guidance by Session and the Board of Managers.
- The community: There are many Christian counsellors available charging commercial counselling rates, but we are the only low-cost Christian Counselling service in Tauranga. For individual counselling the first six sessions are provided at no cost to the client, and further sessions are offered on a low, income-based fee. Couples counselling is offered at a fraction of private cost. The income from counselling forms about 5% of our operational budget.

How we operate:

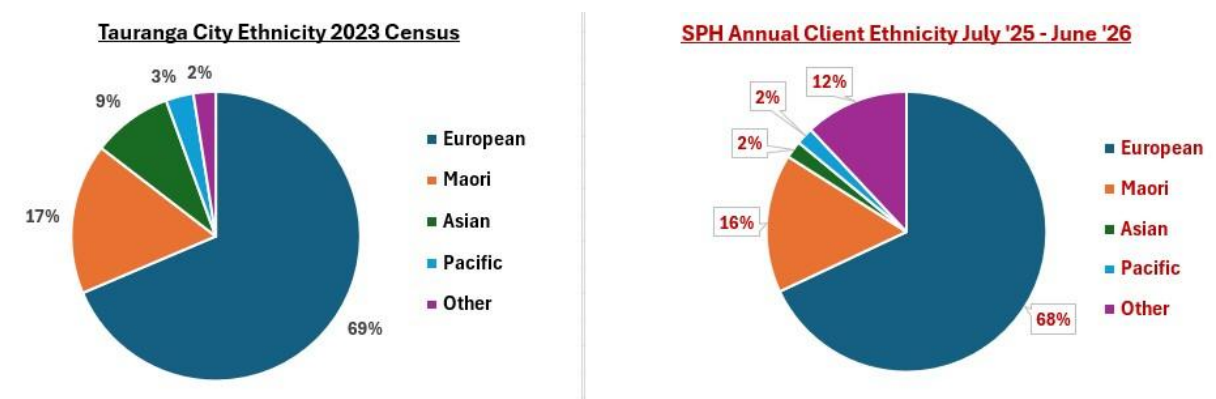
- We are organisationally & operationally separate to the church and operate as an independent charitable trust overseen by a board of 5 trustees of whom 3 are members of St Peters church. We are subject to audit and are procedurally responsible to the Charities Commission (although we do not report to them). We have 5 Counsellors and 3 Student Counsellors, 2 Course Facilitators (Lee; Suzanne) and 1 Reception/Administration person. Denise is our 6th counsellor and team leader, and the team is managed by Cath. They are doing an excellent job and are truly our hands and feet in serving our community with compassion. I commend Cath for her operational management which is of the highest standard.
- Trustees: I wish to acknowledge our dedicated trustees and the work they do. Vicky Roberts and Kate Weir have stayed on from previous years. I would like to welcome Mike Donovan and Namouta Poutasi who have joined us during the past year and are already making notable contributions. We are a diverse group, and we all contribute in different ways towards the healthy governance of the Trust. I would like to recognise two trustees who has left us during the last year. Nikki

Kiyimba has moved out of the district and has taken up some new challenges. I would like to thank her for her dedication and professionalism over the years. Her contribution, particularly in leading 2 training courses was truly valuable and will be missed. Tony Johnson retired after reaching the statutory limit of nine years as a trustee (although I'm sure he would have served forever if there was no statutory limit). Tony's leadership, enthusiasm and calmness as chairperson will be sorely missed. Tony was always ready to offer help or advice, and we are lucky (and thankful) that he is just a phone call away.

- **Trust Secretary and Treasurer:** I wish to welcome Susan Donaldson as our new secretary and at the same time acknowledge and thank our previous secretary Shirley-Ann Clark, and our Treasurer Neville Watkins. The work you do is essential for the effective running of the Trust.

- **Who we are serving:**

- Who our clients are in relation to the wider community is represented by the following graphs:



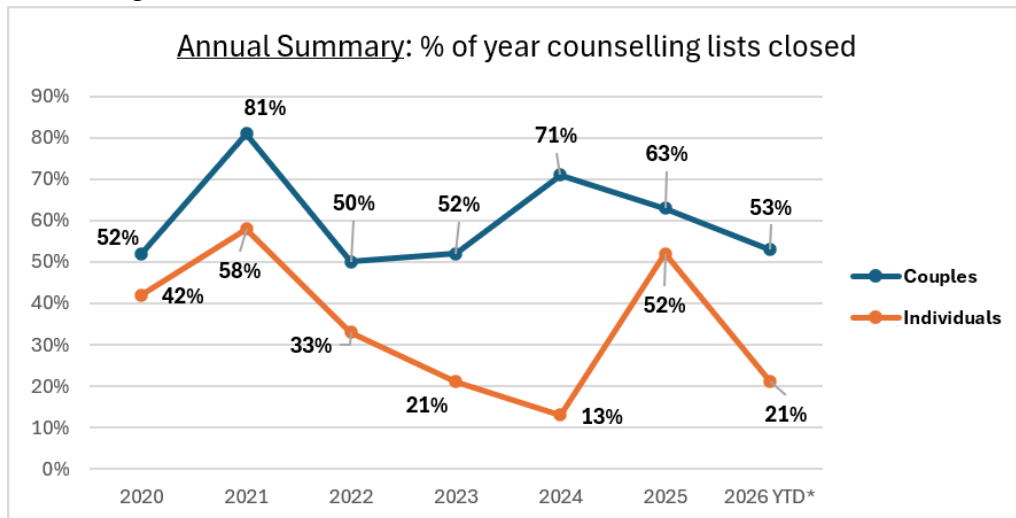
- With the client graph showing large similarities to our community composition, it is a good indication that our services are used almost equally by all people in our community. St Peters House is not focused on providing services to a specific ethnic group but is available to anyone, regardless of their background.
- With regards to gender, 69.4% of clients are women, 30.1% are men and 0.5% are gender diverse.

The services we provide:

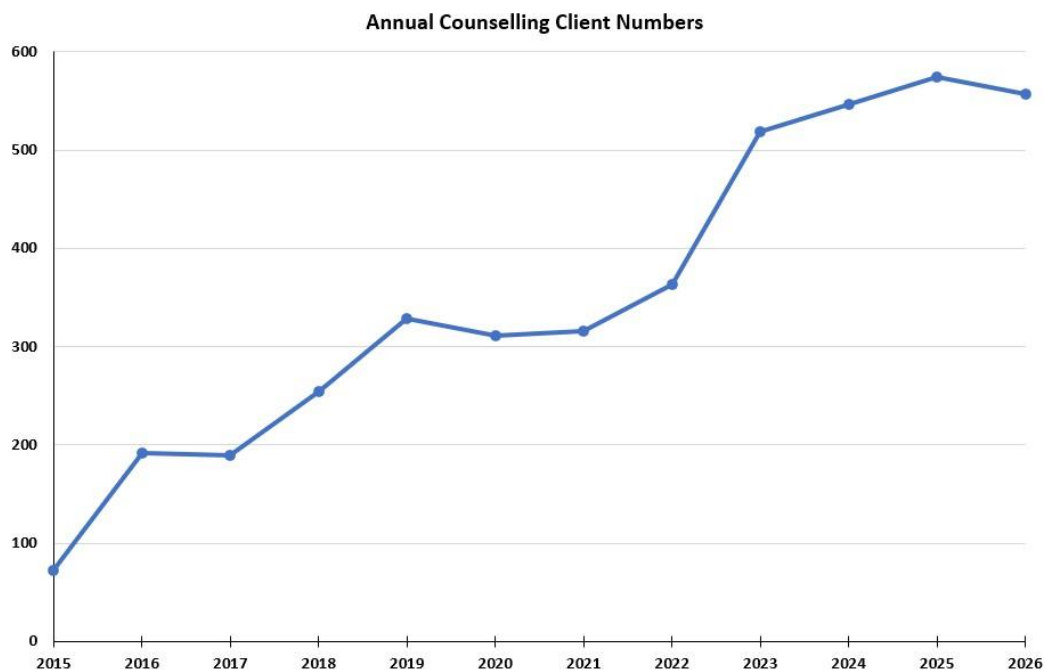
- Affordable professional counselling for individuals and couples.
- Courses for women's personal development, a parenting program, and a practical budgeting course o Your True Worth o Boundaries o The Incredible Years o GET CONTROL with CAP Money

Are we still relevant after 17years?

- One way to estimate the size of the need is to look at how fast our counselling lists fill up after they are opened. The statistics from the last 6½ years are showing that the need is much greater than what we can hope to satisfy with our available resources. Being able to help people when they need it by keeping our waiting lists open is a large focus for us.

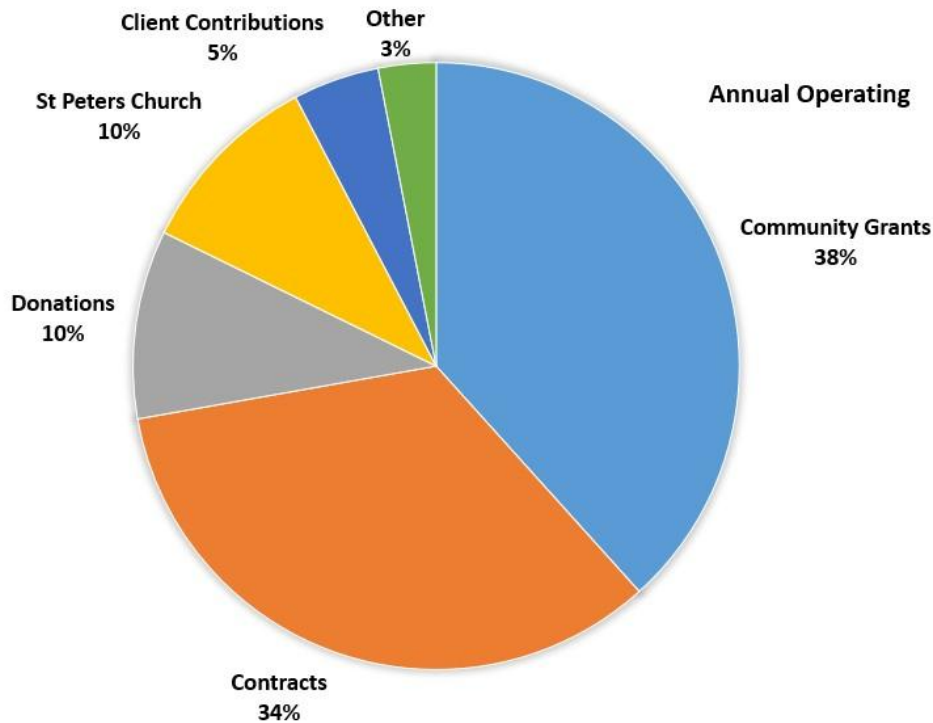


- Over the last ten years we have experienced a massive growth in counselling clients (from less than 100 in 2015 to 577 in 2025), so the need is continuing to grow faster than what we can provide.



Who is funding us?

Our main income sources are community grants and government contracts



- Community grants: TECT, Bay Trust, Lotteries, Acorn/Tindal Foundation, Lion Foundation and COGS.
- Government and counselling contracts: Oranga Tamariki, Ministry of Education, Aoake Te Rā, WBOPPHO.
- We are grateful for the substantial contribution from St Peters Church and private donations. These are lean financial times, and we realise that no contribution comes without sacrifice.

How are we perceived by the community we live in?

- By clients: Over the past three years, several local social services providers have closed their doors due to the loss of funding. Of the most prominent providers which no longer exist are Te Tuinga Whanau Support Services Trust (30 years), Families Achieving Balance (24 years if the 10 years that they operated as Tough Love are counted), Papamoa Family Services (30 years). For many of our clients, we are the only option remaining.
- By community funding organisations: A good example is the following email received by Cath at the end of June:

*Kia ora Cath,
 I trust you, your whānau, and your wider team are doing well.
 Mercury would like to acknowledge the dedication and hard mahi you bring to
 the vital work you do for your community.
 Your efforts and impact are genuinely valued.
 In recognition of this dedication and the vital role you play, Mercury would like
 to support your efforts with a one-off contribution funding to assist your
 ongoing work in the community.
 You're doing an amazing job, and we'd like to recognise this with a one-off gift
 of \$20,000.*

Current Constraints:

- With our four counselling rooms fully occupied for four days a week we are able to offer 68 counselling sessions per week
- The only way to increase the number of people we can help is to open on Mondays, which is currently not possible due to (mainly) budget constraints. It will require a significant increase in our funding to enable us to open our doors for an additional day.

Challenges for the future:

- Continued funding is the biggest issue we are facing as there is more competition in a shrinking pool of money. Our draft budget for 2026-2027 initially included a deficit of \$30,500. We have recently been blessed with unexpected donations, which have been an answer to prayer and a confirmation of God's provision. Our budget which is presented today contains no deficit.
- Independent fundraising will become increasingly more important.
- We would dearly like to expand our services to help more people, but the resources required for that has so far proved to be just out of reach. We will continue to strive towards that goal and trust that it will happen when the time is right.

Jaco Potgieter, Chairperson

St Peters House Manager's Report 2026



Every day across Tauranga individuals, couples and families are quietly struggling. Many are facing anxiety, depression, grief, relationship breakdown, parenting stress, or the ongoing impacts of family violence. For those without the means to pay for private support, help can feel out of reach. St Peters House exists to change that; for many of our clients we are the only service they can access.

Our purpose is simple: to help build a healthier, safer and more resilient community through our professional counselling and educational courses.

As one of the few agencies in Tauranga offering affordable counselling, demand for our services is extremely high, substantially exceeding our available capacity. Over the last year our couples counselling intake was closed for 35 weeks (67% of the year) and our individual intake for 24 weeks (46% of the year). On average, eight people attempt to access our online application form each week.

Client Numbers Over the last year:

- Our counsellors worked with 557 people using a strengths-based approach to support clients to reduce harm, strengthen relationships, improve mental wellbeing and create safer futures for themselves and their whānau.
- 56 women attended one of our personal development courses - Boundaries and Your True Worth. These groups provide safe, supportive spaces to explore self-worth, values, boundaries, grief, forgiveness, and self-care.
- 16 people attended one of our practical Get Control courses focusing on helping people create and live well on a budget.
- 32 parents attended an Incredible Years parenting course which helps encourage positive behaviour and address challenging behaviour to support happier, healthier families.

Client Feedback

The impact of our service and the outcomes achieved - for our immediate clients and their whanau - can be seen in the client feedback we received:

Personal Development Courses:

- *Before the course I lost all my confidence and developed fear and anxiety. I had begun alienating myself from the world and lost a part of myself. Now I am no longer reacting to stressful situations. I have a stronger sense of belonging and am dedicated to building myself back up.*
- *St Peters House is the best service I have used to help me with my mental health*

Incredible Years Parenting:

- *It really improved my whole family's lives. The bonds are stronger, the vibes are calmer, there is more positivity, love and understanding. Life changing!*

Get Control (budgeting) Course:

- *From this course I learnt how to prioritise my money, how to have a more effective budget plan, to think more wisely before spending and how important goals and savings are.*

Counselling:

- *My counsellor helped me with my spiritual faith, which helped to overcome my stress levels*
- *My increased confidence has allowed me to be more social, happier for my family, and gave me the boost I needed to get a new job.*
- *When I first came here, I didn't think my marriage had a chance. Now I have great hope that it will.*
- *I feel stronger and now know strategies to deal with things in the future. My daughter is so happy I've been to see you and the change in me has already had a chain effect on the family.*
- *Thanks St Peter's House! You offer an amazing service, and the Tauranga community is very fortunate to have you guys. I also really appreciated having a Christian as our counsellor!*

Staffing

This year has been one of change for the St Peters House team. We recently bid farewell to Rosanne Rea and Chris North who have left to pursue new challenges but are delighted to have welcomed Melanie Hawke and Maria Sowter to the counselling team. We also welcome Claire Snape who is joining our course facilitation team.



Mel



Maria



Claire

Thanks!

First and foremost, we give thanks and praise to God who continues to provide for us and our clients. St Peters House is filled with the Holy Spirit in a tangible and real way.

St Peters House continues to be a vital outreach from St Peters church into our community, and we greatly appreciate the practical and financial support that we receive from the congregation. We acknowledge those who give their time to serve on our Trust, volunteer with our courses, provide baking for our clients, collect food, and generously donate.

Above all we appreciate the ongoing prayer support of the congregation for our Christ centred and dedicated team, and the work they are doing. This work has many challenges, but it is essential and life changing.

O people, the Lord has told you what is good, and this is what he requires of you: to do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8

Cath Page
Manager, St Peters House

Notes

