



ST MARGARET'S

ANNUAL REPORT 2025

MAKING JESUS KNOWN – SEEING LIVES TRANSFORMED

Last year, we sensed the Lord inviting us into a season of stretching. Stretching our faith, our structures and our capacity as a church. In many ways, 2025 has been a year of lengthening cords and strengthening stakes. Some of that stretch has been visible; much of it has taken place beneath the surface through restructuring, discernment, prayer and preparation. As we reflect on the year, we do so with gratitude for the faithfulness of God who continues to widen our space and steady our foundations. What follows in this Annual Report is both a testimony to His grace among us and an expression of our shared commitment to step forward together in obedient faith..

Enlarge the place of your tent, stretch your tent curtains wide, do not hold back... For you will spread out to the right and to the left.
Isaiah 54:2-3

Blessings

Fraser

A handwritten signature in white ink, appearing to read 'Fraser', enclosed within a circular scribble. The signature is stylized and fluid.

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A VICAR'S VIEW

Rev Fraser McDermott

STRETCH OUT. STEP OUT.

Moses answered the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the Lord will bring you today. ... The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still." Then the Lord said to Moses, "Why are you crying out to me? Tell the Israelites to move on. Raise your staff and stretch out your hand over the sea to divide the water so that the Israelites can go through the sea on dry ground."

Exodus 14:13–16

But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid." "Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water." "Come," he said. So Peter got down out of the boat and walked on the water and came towards Jesus."

Matthew 14:27–29

There are moments in Scripture when the people of God stand on the threshold of a new era.

Israel stood between Pharaoh's army and the Red Sea. Behind them lay slavery. Before them lay promise. Around them lay uncertainty. The disciples sat in a boat on a storm-tossed lake. The wind was against them. The waves were rising. And then they saw Jesus walking toward them on the water.



In both moments, God spoke. To Moses, the Lord said: "Why are you crying out to me? Tell the Israelites to move on. Raise your staff and stretch out your hand over the sea..." (Ex 14:15–16). To Peter, Jesus said simply: "Come." (Matthew 14:29) Because God spoke, Moses stretched out his hand, and God parted the sea. Because God spoke, Peter stepped out of the boat, and God held him above the waves.

Here we find the spiritual discipleship dynamic: The power was God's. The obedience was theirs. God delights to act in power, yet He often chooses to do so through the obedience of His people. So often we wait for the Lord to move, but it is the LORD who is waiting for us to respond to what He has already said. He invites us into partnership, not because He lacks strength, but because He seeks our trust. The sea parted when Moses obeyed. The water held when Peter stepped out. In the life of discipleship, trust is expressed through action.

As I reflect on 2025, I believe we are standing in such a moment as a church.

STRENGTHENING THE TEAM – SHARING THE WORK

As we move into this next season, we will begin to see more visible expansion. As we said last year, we are to stretch our tent curtains wide, expand to the left and to the right, and not hold back (Isaiah 54). The Lord is leading us into a wider space.

But expansion requires flexibility. Like Moses and the people in the wilderness, we must remain ready to move when the Lord says move. We cannot be bound by past patterns or comfortable routines. The God who leads us is the God who knows the way. We cannot expect different fruit if we are unwilling to embrace faithful change. That is the stretch that we will continue to experience.

As this growth unfolds, we will need to continue shaping our staff team to meet developing needs. I am deeply thankful for the dedicated team the Lord has drawn to us. Yet we must resist the assumption that growth is sustained simply by employing more staff or by repeating what we have always done.

The New Testament vision of church is body-wide participation. Leaders equip the saints for the work of ministry (Ephesians 4:12). Staff exist to enable and release the body, not replace it.

We may strengthen the internal team slightly, but we will not outsource the mission. We are all on the team. We are all disciples on God's mission. We are in this together.

EVERYONE IN THE WAKA

We used the analogy of the church as a waka. We are not passengers. We are paddlers. If we are to move into the purposes of God for St Margaret's, every member has a part to play.

The harvest fields are before us:

- The 8am congregation and the communities with which we are connected
- The 10.30am congregation and the communities with which we are connected
- The emerging congregation at Lynfield and the communities with which we are connected

We will prepare the harvest field, praying over it, walking into it and identifying workers.

Last year I had the privilege of walking with two people as they gave their lives to Jesus. We thank God for that grace. Yet we believe the harvest is plentiful. As we pray, invite and engage more intentionally with our friends, families and the communities in which God has placed us, we long to see many more come to faith and be integrated into the life of the church. We do not create new life, that is the work of the Spirit, but we are responsible for obedient invitation.



A PEOPLE OF PRAYER

I want to invite you not simply to pray for the church, but to pray with the church. Prayer is not the work of a few on behalf of many. It is the shared work of the Body of Christ.

If we are to step forward into what God is calling us to, we must do so as a praying church. Vision without prayer becomes ambition. Mission without prayer becomes effort in our own strength.

Without concerted prayer, we risk attempting God's mission in our own strength — and like Peter, we will begin to sink when we fix our eyes on the waves rather than the Lord.

This year we will therefore develop more ways for us to gather together to pray together. We will create spaces where we seek the Lord before we act for Him, where we listen before we move, and where we align our hearts with His purposes. We also hope to have another 24/7 prayer week as we prepare to plant.

If 2026 is to be a year of multiplication, it must first be a year of deeper prayer.

Let us stretch out our hands in obedience, but first let us lift them together in prayer.

GROWING LARGER, STAYING SMALLER

We are moving into a healthy and confident medium-sized church. That brings joy and complexity. As we grow larger, we must become more intentional about growing deeper.

As the gathered body expands, our commitment to personal discipleship must strengthen. We will therefore give renewed attention to our Life Groups, to prayer partnerships and to the smaller expressions of fellowship where faith is formed, character is shaped and leaders are raised.

As we multiply small groups and congregational expressions, we will need more people willing to begin the journey of leadership. Leadership in the Kingdom is not about status but about service. If we are to see healthy multiplication, we must be intentional about identifying, equipping and releasing new leaders at every level of church life.

Large and small. Gathered and scattered. Sunday worship and midweek discipleship.

Growth without depth becomes noise. Depth without growth becomes stagnation. If we are to see multiplication, it must be rooted in maturity. If we are to plant congregations, we must also cultivate disciples which is a core part of our Growing Goals within the 2029 vision.

Church is not something we attend. Church is something we are. We are the Body of Christ, displaying His splendour and offering hope in uncertain times.



GROWING YOUNGER – STRENGTHENING THE NEXT GENERATION

As we have built a strong youth ministry, we are seeing encouraging fruit, with over 30 young people attending regularly on Friday nights and some of those being disciplined on Sunday mornings. We now want to deepen our discipleship among our 15–18 year olds in a way that does not add to their burden but equips them for future adult life firm in the faith of Jesus.

We are now seeing our youth become young adults. That is both a joy and a responsibility. As they transition into a new season of life, we must intentionally build a growing and sustainable work among our young adults, ensuring they are not only present in the life of the church, but formed, supported and released within it.

We also want to continue to intentionally develop leadership pathways for our young people — from discipling younger ones, leading music, serving in worship and production teams, assisting in children’s ministry, and growing in confidence to lead prayer, discussion and outreach. Leadership is not something they graduate into later; it is something we cultivate in them now.

We also recognise that forming the next generation is not the responsibility of a few leaders, but of the whole church. As a community, we must own the privilege and responsibility of bringing our young people into spaces where they can be shaped, disciplined and strengthened in Christ. The future health of the church is not accidental; it is cultivated.

BECOMING ONE CHURCH ON TWO SITES

We often work in addition. But God works in multiplication. As we offer obedience, He multiplies fruit. We believe that as we plant another congregation in faith, the whole church will grow stronger. We make room in the waka for others to join us, to belong among us and to paddle with us in the purposes of God.

Congregation planting at Lynfield strengthens the whole church. Becoming one church on two sites is not subtraction, it is multiplication. It is not fragmentation, it is maturation.

Within our unity, some will hear the Lord’s call to step out in faith into one of the congregational expressions of our shared life: strengthening 8am, deepening 10.30am, or helping establish Lynfield.

This calling is not a leaving. It is a serving on a united intentional Kingdom mission. We all serve with everything we have to see His Kingdom come on earth as in heaven.

We do what we can do. God does what only He can do.

GRATITUDE FOR THE FAITHFUL SERVICE OF MANY

Before concluding, I want to express my deep gratitude to the many people who give so generously of their time, energy, prayer and financial resources to the life and mission of St Margaret’s. Much of what happens in the life of the church takes place quietly and faithfully week by week — in worship teams, children and youth ministries, hospitality, administration, prayer gatherings, Life Groups, practical service and countless unseen acts of care for one another. Your generosity and sacrificial commitment are a testimony to the work of the Holy Spirit among us. Humanly speaking, what God has done through our life together would not have been possible without the faithful service and stewardship of so many. Thank you for the part each of you plays in the work of God’s Kingdom through this church.

CONCLUSION – PERSONAL OBEDIENCE, CORPORATE UNITY

Peter stepped out individually yet remained part of the boat full of disciples. Israel crossed as one people. Each of us is called to step out in faith but remember this, all of us remain together in the waka.

As we stretch out our hands in obedience, He will multiply fruit. As we step forward in faith, He will make dry ground appear.

As we step into 2026, we do so with deeper God-confidence than ever before. Not confidence in our plans or strength, but in the Lord who never fails, never leaves and never forsakes His people. The One who parted the sea and upheld Peter is the same Lord who goes before us and remains with us to the very end of the age. Therefore, we move forward with courage and with trust.

It is the Lord who parted the sea and who steadies our feet on the water.

With Him, all things are possible.

Blessings

Fraser



VESTRY SECRETARY

Yolanda Titus

“This is my command - be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.”

Joshua 1:19

As we gather for our Annual General Meeting, I reflect on a year marked by change, growth, and resilience within our church family. It has been a year of challenge and heartfelt conversation, yet also one of renewed commitment to our mission.

By 2029, St Margaret's will be one church, two sites, and multiple congregations made up of people across diverse demographics and cultures who love Jesus and have an authentic and deepening faith. Through a rich understanding of Scripture, the leading of the Holy Spirit, and obedience to His call, we will be sent out to make and grow disciples, seeing people come to faith, be baptised, and learn to obey the commands of Jesus. We will have a flourishing ministry to young people and a clear pathway for discipleship that develops sustainable leadership into the future.

In the midst of financial adjustments and congregational shifts, we have witnessed faithfulness from both clergy and laity. Through prayerful discernment and careful stewardship, we have strengthened our governance structures and aligned more closely with our vision. Though some discussions were difficult, they have ultimately deepened unity, clarified direction, and strengthened our shared purpose.

As Vestry Secretary, I remain deeply grateful for our staff and congregation. Together, we continue forward with faith, hope, love, and prayer as we seek to grow God's Kingdom.

SERVICE AND STEWARDSHIP

“Only fear the Lord and serve Him faithfully with all your heart.” — 1 Samuel 12:24

The 2025 Vestry began with three new members joining seven continuing members, all committed to faithful governance.

Our Churchwardens, Andrew Scott and Julie Arnold, have served with dedication. Andrew joined Vestry this year, and Julie continues her longstanding commitment.

Together with our Vicar, Fraser McDermott, and ably supported by the clergy team and staff, they have continued to guide our church toward our 2029 Vision through prayerful discernment and careful stewardship of time and resources.

At our first Vestry meeting in May, Andrew Durrans was appointed Vestry Treasurer, and I was appointed Vestry Secretary. We are grateful for Andrew's diligence in strengthening financial reporting and ensuring Vestry receives clear and comprehensive monthly accounts. We also give thanks to those who serve beyond Vestry, whose quiet faithfulness ensures the daily life of our church runs smoothly.

Significant property maintenance and improvements were undertaken across both Hillsborough and Lynfield. We remain thankful to those who volunteer their time and expertise to care for our buildings.

FAITH AND FUTURE

“Be strong and courageous... for the LORD your God is with you.” — Joshua 1:9

ReVision has shaped our planning and decision-making this year. We are grateful for the ReVision Leadership Team, co-led by Chris Bunce and Andrew Durrans, who continue to guide us toward our quarterly goals.

The Leadership Planning Day in August brought together clergy, ministry leaders, staff, Vestry, and the ReVision Team. Under the guidance of City to City's Rev Dr Andrew Katay, we were challenged to consider how we will faithfully achieve our 2029 Vision.

A recurring theme throughout the year has been the need for sustained prayer. We encourage everyone to remain steadfast in personal prayer, Life Groups, and our Thursday evening LIFT prayer gatherings.

We are currently discerning the launch of a congregation at the Lynfield site and preparing for a new leadership structure following this AGM.

UNITY AND COMMUNITY

"How good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!" — Psalm 133:1

ReVision has shaped our planning and decision-making this year. We are grateful for the ReVision Leadership Team, co-led by Chris Bunce and Andrew Durrans, who continue to guide us toward our quarterly goals.

We experienced two powerful weeks of 24/7 prayer during Holy Week and participated in the International Global Prayer Initiative.

The Alpha Course, led by John and Sharon Eccles, provided opportunities for people to explore faith and encounter the Lord.

Tikanga lunches have strengthened fellowship and increased attendance. The Women's Bible Study completed an in-depth study on the Fruit of the Spirit.



ACHIEVEMENTS 2025

- Financial achievements will be reported by the Vicar and Vestry Treasurer.
- A Special General Meeting was held to present the Lynfield Charity end-of-year accounts.
- New Officers have been appointed to the charity known as Lynfield Community Church (CC25117): Miss Shami Chand, Mr Craig Conner, Mr Ian Goodwin, Rev Fraser McDermott and Mr Chris Robinson.
- Lay Licences were presented to Ms Linda Duncan, Ms Punitha Luther, and Mr Alfred Luther to join Kay Durrans and Karen Newton.
- We farewelled Music Director Mr Warren Duncan and welcomed Mr Anesu Maforimbo.
- Staff reviews were completed.
- Work will soon begin on the Lynfield roof replacement and heating installation.
- An application to the faculty to box-in and light the Hillsborough sanctuary stained glass windows is in progress.
- The Diocesan Health and Safety audit was successfully completed.
- Miss Shami Chand has been elected Health and Safety Representative.
- Vestry Working Groups were changed to better align governance and ministry operations.
- Ms Lorna Price joined the staff in a fixed-term, part-time administrative support role assisting the Operations and Administration Manager. This role has now been extended for a further 12 months.
- City to City continued partnering with staff and leadership, including a Church Leadership Day at Holy Trinity Devonport.
- CAP Debt Centre approval was granted, and a refreshed Church Partnership Agreement was signed.
- The Pioneer rental contract was finalised.
- The OpShop's future direction is under prayerful discernment.
- Two successful Holiday Club programmes were led by Miss Juliette Porter and her team.

Thank you for your continued commitment, faithful prayer, and steadfast support as we reflect on the year past and look ahead with confidence in the Lord's leading.

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

Joshua 1:9

CHURCHWARDENS

Andrew Scott, Julie Arnold & Muriel McIntyre

“Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.”

1 Corinthians 12:27

We present this report with gratitude for God’s faithfulness and for the many people who contribute to the life of St Margaret’s. The past year has been one of steady engagement, service, and prayer, supported by the quiet faithfulness of volunteers, staff, and parishioners.

WORSHIP, PRAYER, AND PARISH LIFE

Holy Week and Easter were significant moments in the life of the parish. The 24/7 Prayer for Holy Week created a strong rhythm of prayer across the congregation and was deeply valued. This was complemented by the Maundy Thursday meal, the Good Friday three-hour contemplative service, and joyful Easter celebrations, including the Easter egg basket descending from the ceiling, and Hot Cross Bun morning tea.

The LIFT Prayer gathering on Thursday nights has continued to grow, with an increase in regular numbers over the year. This has become an important expression of corporate prayer and spiritual encouragement within the parish.

We coordinated the hosted regional and Diocesan gatherings — including the ACM Regen Conference, the Venn Winter Evening School series, and the Diocesan Ministry Conference — welcoming participants from across our parish, the wider city, and throughout New Zealand. Our facilities serve gatherings of this scale with ease, and it is encouraging to see St Margaret’s Hillsborough increasingly recognised as a hub for teaching, formation, and wider ministry engagement.

LEADERSHIP, PLANNING, AND DIRECTION

A Vestry and Leaders Away Day was held at Holy Trinity Devonport, providing space for reflection, prayer, and shared conversation. We were grateful for the input of Rev Andrew Katay, from City to City (CTC) Australia, an experienced church leader and facilitator with a background in mission and organisational development, who supported us in further thinking about vision, and leadership and the next steps needed in our revision journey.

The parish has continued work on the City to City (CTC) ReVision process, with 90-day and 12-month goals completed during the year. Further detail is contained in the CTC ReVision report, and as Churchwardens, we note this work as an important part of strengthening clarity and focus across parish life.

COMMUNITY, HOSPITALITY, AND OUTREACH

Our Newcomers Welcome Lunch was held, with 34 people attending, providing an important opportunity for connection and inclusion.

The Op shop continues to be a vital part of the parish’s presence in the community. We particularly acknowledge Sarah McDermott’s leadership, ably supported by Taiana Filimone, along with a regular team of volunteers in the shop, along with the Thursday morning sorting team, a close-knit and committed group who serve faithfully each week. This ministry has faced challenges during the year due to significant building works, including the carpark being closed and access limited, yet the team has shown resilience, adaptability, and good humour throughout. In response to these challenges, a Garage sale will be held at the Church where there will be opportunity for involvement from the wider church.

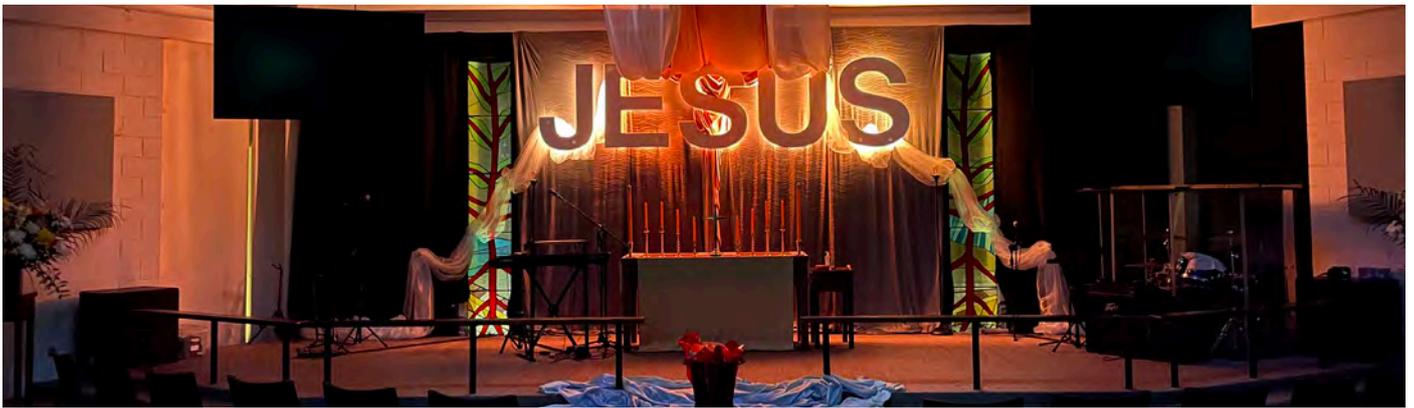
The Women’s and Men’s fellowship groups have continued to grow, with a Women’s ten-week study series as well as a variety of regular fellowship gatherings. Also, the weekly men’s breakfasts at the Church, each of these activities providing invitational opportunities.

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES

Children’s and youth ministries have remained strong, with good engagement across regular programmes. Holiday programmes run in Terms 2 and 3 were successful, and continues to be an important way of serving families and nurturing faith in younger generations.

PARISH DEVELOPMENT

Progress has continued toward the establishment of a new Lynfield congregation. Practical work continues with significant progress this year, including painting of both the Hall and Church, and a successful funding bid obtained from the Methodist Property Committee to address roof issues, along with renewed heating. This work reflects careful stewardship and a commitment to future mission. We are grateful for the countless hours volunteers have given to make this possible.



STAFF, VOLUNTEERS, AND SERVICE

We give thanks for our staff and their faithful service and for the many moments when they have stepped beyond what is expected in order to help our shared ministry flourish.

Lorna Price has joined the team and is employed for 20 hours per week in an administrative role, has provided valuable support and stability across parish operations.

It was with sadness that we farewelled our worship leader, Warren Duncan, who over these three years has led and grown our worship team, notably across all ages. Warren established Worship evenings and had a particular focus on encouraging and developing the musical and technical abilities of young people. He leaves the team increased in numbers and well-equipped to continue facilitating worship at St Margaret's.

We also wish to express our sincere gratitude to the many volunteers who give their time and energy in worship, hospitality, pastoral care, administration, youth and children's ministry, the Opshop, prayer ministries, and behind-the-scenes tasks. The life of the parish depends on this generosity, and we are deeply thankful to everyone who is engaged in serving.

CHURCHWARDENS

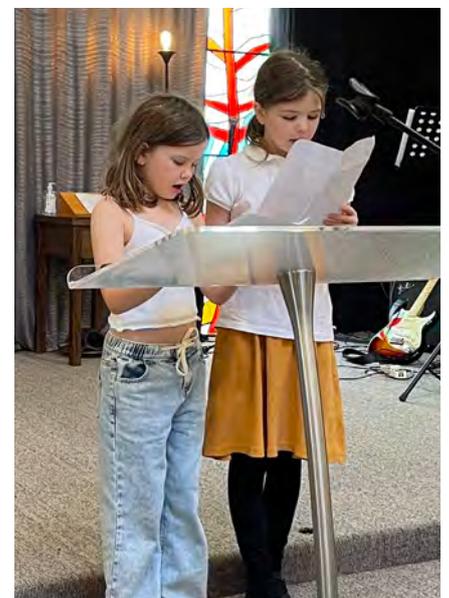
During the year, Julie needed to take a period of time away. We are grateful for the understanding and support shown during this time. We particularly thank Muriel McIntyre, a former Churchwarden, who generously stepped in and provided wisdom, continuity, and support.

CONCLUSION

As Churchwardens, we are encouraged by the faithfulness of this parish and by the many ways people continue to serve God and one another. We look ahead with hope, trusting God's guidance as we continue together.

"Let all that you do be done in love."

1 Corinthians 16:14



STAFF

Rev Fraser McDermott

We are deeply thankful to the Lord for the staff team He has gathered at St Margaret's. What a gift they are to this church.

Many of them serve far beyond what is seen, and often beyond what is formally required. Across worship, children, youth, administration, hospitality, pastoral care, and outreach, our staff continue to serve with faithfulness and generosity. In a year that has required strengthening and careful alignment as we move toward our ReVision 2029 vision of one church, two sites and multiple congregations, they have shown resilience, humility, and commitment.

Shami Chand (Operations & Admin Manager) - continues to be the steady backbone of our administration, holding together the growing complexity of two sites with grace, creativity, and remarkable patience, especially during a year of significant structural strengthening. Her wisdom and foresight have helped us navigate this season.

Warren Duncan (Director of Worship) - In early January 2026, we farewelled Warren Duncan. We thank him warmly for his faithful leadership of our worship teams, the development of Worship Nights, and for the significant technical and graphic work he carried behind the scenes, often unseen by many. His investment in raising musicians and strengthening our worship culture has left a lasting contribution, and we bless him in his next season.

Taiana Filimone (Assistant Manager - Op Shop) - continues to support the Op Shop faithfully, contributing far beyond her paid hours and strengthening our outreach presence in Onehunga.

Losana Fonua (Youth Club) - remains a committed leader among our young people, investing deeply in Friday night youth and mentoring emerging leaders and creating a positive environment for our Youth Club to grow numerically and spiritually, with much fun and laughter along the way.

Alfred and Punitha Luther (Hospitality) - continue to model generous hospitality and pastoral care. Catering for many church events, Alfred faithfully cooks over 50 meals a week to be given away through various outreach programmes, a remarkable expression of practical gospel love in action.

Sarah McDermott (Op Shop Manager) - her leadership of the Op Shop remains an extraordinary expression of gospel presence in the community, where practical care and prayer ministry go hand in hand. In addition, she faithfully led the weekly intercessory prayer meeting as a volunteer throughout the year, strengthening the spiritual foundations of our church's life and mission.

Rev Nathan McLellan (Priest Assistant) - We also welcomed Rev Nathan McLellan as Priest Assistant. Nathan has overseen our preaching programme and training rhythms and has contributed significantly to the structuring and strengthening of our ReVision leadership processes. His theological clarity and calm, thoughtful leadership insight have been a great gift to us.

Karen Newton (Youth Discipleship & Teaching) - has brought great depth and thoughtful teaching to our younger youth on Sunday mornings, helping them grow in confidence in the Bible and in understanding its great themes.

Rev Emily Paterson (Priest Assistant) - has continued to exercise wise and gracious priestly leadership, carrying significant responsibility in preaching, discipleship, and pastoral oversight during a demanding year.

Juliette Porter (Children's Ministry Leader) - has continued to invest faithfully in our children's ministry, nurturing both spiritual depth and joy among our younger members, and we have seen especially encouraging growth and momentum in our School Holiday Club programme this year.

Lorna Price (Admin Assistant) - We said hello to Lorna Price this year as she joined the administration team, supporting Shami and giving oversight to key operational matters at the Lynfield site. Her careful and diligent work has brought welcome strengthening to our systems across two sites.



Rev George & Janet Stonehouse (Pastoral Care)
- remain treasured sources of pastoral wisdom and encouragement to many. They have faithfully prayed for and connected with many people throughout the year.

Churchwardens (Julie Arnold, Muriel McIntyre, Andrew Scott) – I want to especially acknowledge our Churchwardens who serve in voluntary capacities, meeting with me and helping to oversee complex staff and leadership matters. Their steady thinking has assisted me in complex governance and significant leadership decisions, and their sacrificial service quietly underpins much of what happens week by week. Through the year, we moved to three Wardens, as Julie Arnold needed to take a period of medical leave, and we are grateful for the shared strength this provided.

Our staff consistently give more than their roles require, often serving quietly and sacrificially. As we look ahead, we remain committed to ensuring healthy rhythms of work and rest, and raising up and facilitating new leaders who will share in the work of the gospel.

Thank you, each and every one. We thank God for you.



PROPERTY REPORT

Rev Fraser McDermott

St Margaret's property portfolio includes a substantial church complex and two residential properties on site, for which we are entirely responsible for upkeep and maintenance from our own resources. There are no grants or external assistance for the ongoing care of these facilities.

These buildings range from 1960s construction through to additions completed in 2014. Their age profile presents ongoing compliance demands, deterioration pressures, and preventative maintenance requirements that must be addressed deliberately and systematically.

Since mid-2024, we have also taken responsibility for the upkeep, renovation, and maintenance of the Lynfield church site. Funding for this work is being met from reserves specifically set aside within the Lynfield accounts for building maintenance. The commercial rental of the Lynfield vicarage covers the ongoing maintenance of that residential property.

While current rental income covers basic ongoing maintenance of the Lynfield vicarage, substantial upgrades will be required to bring the property up to Anglican vicarage standards. This will likely include a comprehensive site assessment to determine whether future development offers the most cost-effective long-term solution.

Across both sites, we rely wherever possible on the goodwill and skills of our members to carry out non-specialist maintenance. This practical service significantly reduces costs and strengthens our stewardship.

Within this context, 2025 has been a year of disciplined prioritisation and structured forward planning.

LYNFIELD SITE

Following treatment and assessment of leak issues, significant corrosion was identified in the Lynfield roof. Full replacement is therefore scheduled for 2026, with funding already secured.

This clarity enables responsible capital planning and removes uncertainty around future obligations.

Additional works completed during 2025 include:

- Interior repainting and joinery improvements
- Lighting and electrical upgrades
- Installation of a new alarm system and electronic locking
- Arborist work to improve safety and visibility
- Ongoing investigation into heating and cladding requirements

These works have stabilised the site and prepared it responsibly for renewed ministry activity.

HILLSBOROUGH SITE

Maintenance across the Hillsborough church complex and vicarages has continued methodically.

Key works completed during 2025 include:

- Healthy Homes compliance at 102A and 102B
- Insulation and moisture barrier upgrades
- Electrical compliance improvements
- Installation of CCTV and IT infrastructure upgrades
- Garden bed replacement and concrete remediation
- Identified and partially completed interior painting priorities

The Hillsborough roof was treated and sealed during the year. Immediate roof replacement is not required. However, 2026 will require replacement of significant sections of guttering and remediation of deteriorating fascia boards. These works are necessary to protect the building envelope and prevent broader structural deterioration.

In addition, older wooden windows and doors across the Hillsborough site are showing material deterioration. This issue will be addressed directly in 2026. Further delay would increase both cost and risk.

We record particular thanks to Paul McMath for his ongoing cleaning ministry and substantial painting work across both sites. His faithful service has improved the presentation of our facilities and materially reduced parish costs.

LED LIGHTING UPGRADE

Over the past two years, more than 120 fluorescent fittings across the Hillsborough site have been replaced with LED units.

This upgrade has:

- Reduced electricity consumption
- Lowered the risk of electrical failure
- Reduced potential building damage
- Improved lighting quality across the campus

This project was led by Terry Ryan, parish member and registered electrician, whose generosity and professionalism have been exemplary.

Thanks are also extended to Ian McIntyre, Neil Collis, and Neil Bennett, whose sustained assistance made this significant upgrade possible.

CAPITAL PLANNING AND STEWARDSHIP

During 2025, the Property & Finance Committee completed structured capital planning for the coming years. A Capital Expenditure Master List now guides major works including:

- Lynfield roof replacement
- Hillsborough guttering and fascia renewal
- Window replacement and remediation
- Ongoing vicarage preventative maintenance

A clear principle governs this work: ordinary giving sustains mission and ministry; major capital works must be strategically staged and responsibly funded.

Our overall debt position continues to trend downward compared with previous years. This provides prudent flexibility as we move into 2026 and undertake these necessary works with clarity and confidence.

GRATITUDE

I record my sincere thanks to the members of the Property & Finance team: Craig Conner, Andrew Durrans, Neil Collis, Ian McIntyre, Julie Arnold, and Andrew Scott.

Their practical wisdom, financial oversight, and willingness to engage complex decisions have served the parish faithfully.

Faithful stewardship of our buildings enables the mission of St Margaret's to flourish. We move into 2026 with clear priorities, secured funding for key works, and confidence in God's continued provision.



LEADERSHIP

Chris Bunce & Andrew Durrans

Shortly after last year's Annual General Meeting, St Margaret's ReVision programme was boosted with the formation of a ReVision Leadership Team and the completion of a ReVision Workshop.

The members of the ReVision Leadership Team are:

- Julie Arnold
- Kimberley Barry
- Chris Bunce – Co-Leader
- Shami Chand
- Andrew Durrans – Co-Leader
- Sumathi Hubert
- Fraser McDermott
- Nathan McLellan
- Emily Paterson
- Juliette Porter
- Leani Sandford
- Andrew Scott

On 2 May 2025, the RVLTL participated in a ReVision Workshop facilitated by our CTC Consultant, Jamie Bester. This workshop was invaluable for getting all team members on the same page and starting us off on some execution projects.

Our ReVision was confirmed as:

By 2029 St Margaret's will be one church, two sites and multiple congregations made up of people across diverse demographics and cultures who love Jesus and have an authentic and deepening faith. Through a rich understanding of scripture, leading of the Holy Spirit and an obedience to His call, we will be sent out to make and grow disciples with an increasing number of non-Christians engaging with the church, coming to faith, being baptised and learning to obey the commands of Jesus. We will have a flourishing ministry to young people. We will have a clear pathway for all people, of all ages, to be discipled, which will develop sustainable leadership into the future.

1. *Growing Congregations*
2. *Growing Disciples*
3. *Growing Young*
4. *Growing Leaders*

This is a great Vision and the whole team is committed to working towards it. The best way to achieve a long-term vision is to break it down into shorter projects. We regularly set four 90-Day Goals for projects that will help us move towards our vision. Each goal has a leader and a few other members of the RVLTL to work on the actions needed to achieve these projects.

So far, our 90 Day Goals have focused on these areas:

1. Making sure we have an effective communications programme to keep everybody at St Margaret's up to date with what progress we are making and help them understand how they can contribute.
2. Fully understand the roles that Life Groups can play in our church and look to increase the number of Life Groups we have so that more people can be discipled through them.
3. Review our current ministries and develop a new leadership structure that will help us to realise our goals.
4. Create a vision for and plan for a missional plant of a congregation into Lynfield.
5. Create a vision and a plan for improving our evangelism and discipleship programmes.
6. Understand what young adults are looking for from the church so that we can build a programme that engages them.
7. Create ways for people to become more involved in corporate prayer.

So far, we have been delighted with the amount of progress that has been made. We have achieved the vast majority of our 90-Day Goals. The first year has had a high proportion of plans and strategies to build. Consequently, there hasn't been so much hard evidence of things started or built.

We are now moving more into a more active mode where it will be easier to see progress. For example, you will have heard Fraser's call for 40 Days of Discernment for each one of us as we seek to hear God's call for which congregation we should attend. This is as we plan for the launch of a Lynfield congregation on Pentecost Sunday, 24 May 2026. Plans are well progressed for one or more new Life Groups to be formed. A meeting of young adults is scheduled. Growing Congregations, Growing Disciples, Growing Young. We have also just recently started work on Growing Leaders.

Of course, we are not perfect. We have felt quite stretched sometimes. It's difficult getting into each other's calendars to book meetings. We still need to improve some of our execution practices. We thank you so much for your prayers. Please continue to support us in prayer. We are committed to making our ReVision a reality.

Andrew and I would like to thank every one of our team members for the dedication and hard work that has gone into the work programme over the last 12 months.



LYNFIELD – PREPARING THE GROUND (2025)

Rev Fraser McDermott

During 2025, our focus at Lynfield was deliberate: prepare the site so that any future congregation can concentrate on mission rather than maintenance. Before planting, foundations must be secure. Before gathering, the environment must be safe, compliant, and welcoming. Much of this year's work has therefore been quiet, practical, and necessary.

Lynfield represents an important expression of our ReVision 2029 commitment to be one church, two sites, and multiple congregations. Sustainable mission requires solid groundwork, and 2025 has been a year of laying that groundwork.

STRENGTHENING THE PHYSICAL FOUNDATIONS

Partnership with MASPAC

Throughout 2025, we worked closely with MASPAC, the Methodist Church property committee responsible for oversight of the Lynfield buildings. Their engagement enabled responsible planning for significant capital works and ensured appropriate governance alignment. We are grateful for their constructive partnership.

Roof Investigation and Planning

Ongoing leaks required careful attention during 2025. Investigation throughout the year clarified the likely scale of the issue. Full confirmation of the extent of corrosion came in early 2026, allowing us to move from short-term patching to planning for full replacement.

Comprehensive Site Reset

A thorough clearing and reset of the property was undertaken:

- Removal of accumulated materials and unsafe remnants
- Clearing storage and ancillary areas
- Improving presentation and usability

This significantly strengthened both safety and morale.

Interior Renewal

Begun Painting and refresh work commenced during 2025, noticeably improving the worship environment. The space is brighter, cleaner, and more welcoming.

Electrical and Security Review

During 2025, outdated wiring and fittings were assessed, and planning was undertaken for necessary upgrades to bring the site to appropriate compliance standards. Most of the implementation work has followed in 2026.

A new alarm system, digital access control, and improved exterior lighting were introduced, strengthening stewardship and reducing vulnerability across the site.

External Presentation

Planning for improvements to the external presentation of the site was undertaken during 2025, with fencing cleaning and repainting scheduled for early 2026. These works will strengthen the street presence of the property and reinforce community confidence.

These works have not been cosmetic improvements. They ensure that a new congregation will not inherit deferred maintenance concerns, but instead be free to devote its energy to prayer, discipleship, hospitality, and neighbourhood engagement.



LYNFIELD VICARAGE

The residential property continues to generate rental income covering routine maintenance. In time, further upgrades will be required to meet Anglican Vicarage standards. A broader site assessment may form part of determining the most prudent and cost-effective long-term pathway.

SPIRITUAL AND STRATEGIC CLARITY

Alongside practical preparation, 2025 involved careful reflection about Lynfield's future.

It is understandable that at times there may have appeared to be limited visible progress during 2025. However, much of the year was necessarily devoted to investigation, planning, governance alignment, and funding applications. Confidence about congregational renewal cannot responsibly precede structural clarity. The site first needed to be made safe, compliant, and appropriately stewarded. Only once those foundations were being secured could we begin to think with integrity about planting a congregation.

Just as importantly, this season has been grounded in prayer. We have been seeking not merely a restart, but God's direction. Timing matters in the purposes of God. We are committed to careful pastoral discernment — listening together, weighing counsel, and ensuring that any step forward is both spiritually and practically aligned. It is far better to move at the Spirit's pace than to rush ahead of His leading.

We have intentionally resisted rushing toward activity without spiritual clarity and leadership depth. The goal is not simply to restart services, but to see a renewed congregation emerge with shared ownership and a genuinely missional posture.

This year has therefore been about readiness, ensuring that when a congregation gathers, its attention can be directed outward in mission rather than inward toward unresolved infrastructure.

Looking Ahead

By the end of 2025, Lynfield had moved from uncertainty toward stability.

Key investigations were completed. Governance alignment was strengthened. The site was safer and more usable. Confidence was rebuilding.

The groundwork laid in 2025 has enabled necessary follow-through in 2026 and positions the site well for healthy, sustainable, mission-shaped congregational life.



PREACHING

Rev Nathan McLellan

We continue to hope and pray that the preaching at St Margaret's will deepen our understanding of Scripture, so that God's Word forms our thinking, shapes our hearts, and directs our actions for the glory of Jesus Christ.

This year, our preaching has intentionally supported our "growing" goals—growing congregations, growing disciples, and growing leaders. Across the year, we taught from a wide range of themes, passages, and biblical books. Our aim has been to listen to the whole counsel of God and respond as followers of Jesus Christ in every aspect of life.

To strengthen our preaching capacity, we launched a preaching school to help develop preachers marked by biblical integrity, clarity, and pastoral warmth. As part of this initiative, we have undertaken workshops together and given structured feedback to one another.

It has also been encouraging to hear how the preaching has made a practical difference in people's lives—helping people grow in everyday discipleship and prayer, and prompting fresh trust in God and confidence in the Bible.

Preaching series in 2025 included:

NEW LIFE IN CHRIST

A series through Philippians showing how Jesus gives believers a new way of life—shaped by humility, joy, unity, and dependence on God. The series called us to live as citizens of heaven with renewed attitudes, priorities, and generosity.

TEACH US TO PRAY

An eight-part series offering a line-by-line exposition of the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:5–15; Luke 11:1–4). It explored the address and six petitions, aiming to deepen both individual and corporate prayer. A number of people shared how this series reshaped their understanding of prayer and renewed their prayer life.



RUNNING FROM THE GOD OF GRACE: THE STORY OF JONAH

A series tracing Jonah's flight from God's call to preach to Nineveh to his struggle to share God's compassion with them. It highlighted the tensions within Jonah—refusal and repentance, disobedience and obedience, anger and reluctant obedience—and helped us see God's grace afresh. We were also challenged to deepen our trust in Christ, the one who is greater than Jonah.

JESUS THE HEALER

A two-part mini-series focused on Jesus's healing ministry. Over two Sundays, people were invited to receive prayer for healing and to bring before God the needs of family, friends, and colleagues.

JOINING THE SONGS OF HEAVEN: SONGS IN REVELATION

A series focused on five "songs" in Revelation, presenting the book as a kind of "cosmic liturgy" in which the church joins all creation to praise the triune God for who he is and what he has done in creation, redemption, and fulfilment.

HOPE-FILLED WAITING

Our Advent series traced how God forms hopeful and faithful people in seasons of delay as he brings his promises to fulfilment in Jesus. It followed the opening characters of Luke's Gospel—Zechariah and Elizabeth, Mary, Simeon and Anna, and John the Baptist—showing different dimensions of Advent waiting: persevering through disappointment, receiving God's call with humble obedience, praying and watching with long-term faithfulness, and preparing with repentance and expectation. This culminated in our Christmas series, **Jesus the Hope of the World**.





MIDWEEK SERVICE

Kay Durrans & Linda Duncan

The Wednesday monthly service is a time of quiet reflection and focus on God, and is open to anyone who would like to attend.

The service commences at 11am and is followed by lunch, which is a lovely time of fellowship, friendship and laughter. I would like to thank Alfred and Punitha, who very kindly cooked the meal for us, with Linda Duncan and myself adding a few items.

In this service, we follow the liturgy, and this year have had the blessing of hearing from a number of people within the congregation speaking on the "last words of Jesus". Fraser, Emily, Nathan and George take turns presiding.

We have a core group of regular attendees, with the total number attending ranging from 10-25. As we have done for the last few years, we had a Christmas 'feast' following the December Wednesday service. It really is a joy to share this meal with the church family.

Transport is available for those who would like to come but are unable to come under their own steam. I would like to acknowledge Neil Bennett, who faithfully and generously helps with the transport for this service.

Going forward, we are planning to meet at 10.30am for morning tea before the service. This is for those who would like some extra time for fellowship, or those who may not be able to stay afterwards for lunch. The service will still start at 11am, and there will still be lunch following.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Linda Duncan, who is my collaborator, friend, organiser and our faithful service leader. Thank you for your energy, time and prayer. It is a wonderful blessing to serve alongside you

How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity.

Psalms 133:1



PRAYER

Sarah McDermott

In 2025, St Margaret's has enjoyed a vibrant and life-giving prayer ministry. We have seen many encouraging answers to prayer and continue to flourish under God's guidance and protection.

At our weekly Lift meeting, we pray over every aspect of church life. We vary the format, sometimes meeting in smaller groups, sometimes all together, so everyone can take part and the hour passes quickly. Alongside different church ministries, we pray for upcoming events, specific needs within the congregation, and requests from Op Shop customers. Lift has become a close-knit and welcoming fellowship - do come and join us.

Our 24-7 Prayer Week is always so uplifting. As each person takes the prayer baton for an hour, continuous prayer undergirds St Margaret's day and night. This year we held two weeks, with September's linked to the 24-7 Global Week of Prayer. Prayer stations engaged all ages and styles, covering mission, evangelism, discipleship, refinement, transformation, our ReVision commitment, youth, the sanctity of life, and families. If you have not yet experienced a 24-7 prayer room, look out for the next one in May 2026; it is a rich and fruitful time.

We continued our ReVision Prayer meetings, fixing our eyes on God and seeking His plans and power at work in His vision for St Margaret's. We are strongly aware that it must be His work that shapes and empowers all we do, and so we bring everything before Him in prayerful listening.

My heartfelt thanks to Anne Segedin and Penny Ockleston for leading Lift; to Barbara Murdoch for leading the Prayer 31 team and Grandparents Prayer meeting; to Punitha Luther and Penny Ockleston for coordinating the Prayer Chain; and to all who planned and led our 24-7 weeks, especially Anne, Donald, Juliette, Karen, Kay, Losana, Linda, Shami, Warren, and Yolanda.

Finally, thank you to everyone who prayed.

We give all glory and honour to God, praising Him for His love and mercy and relying on His wisdom and power in all things.

For from Him and through Him and for Him are all things. For from Him and through Him and for Him are all things.

Romans 11:36







GRANDPARENTS PRAYER GROUP

Barbara Murdoch & Joanna Johnson

Every first Monday of the month at 1 p.m., the Grandparent Prayer Group meets in the church lounge to pray for our grandchildren, and of course, their mums and dads - our precious children.

We consider it a joy & a privilege to pray together – sharing our joys & laughter, heartache and tears with each other, & bringing them all to our God. It is a time when we give thanks for the blessing that our families are to us, and to share, in a safe & understanding environment, those things that concern us, praying together both for the joys and concerns.

We are so very thankful for all the joy, delight & blessings that God has given us in and through our families, and the wonderful gift of His mercies, care & love which we experience continually through His mercy & grace. To be able to support & encourage each other through the difficult times is significant, and we are continually blessed by the goodness of God in our midst.

We also pray for families in the church who may not have grandparents or prayerful support. Of course, we only do this if you ask us to do so. Just chat to us at church, or phone us. We would love to pray for your families. We do pray generally for the families in our church when we meet.

We have been meeting for some years now & it is always a joy when new grandparents join us. So come along & join us, you will be most welcome.

“Grandchildren are the crowning glory of the aged; parents are the pride of their children”
Proverbs 17:6

May our Lord bless & keep you, & your families.



WORSHIP MINISTRY

Warren Duncan

The year 2025 marked my third year serving as Music Director at St. Margaret's Church, Hillsborough. Over the past twelve months, we have witnessed steady growth and meaningful development within our praise and worship ministry, both in skill and in team size. Our overarching aim has been to cultivate greater depth in our collective capabilities while continuing to raise the standard of excellence in praise and worship across our Sunday services and worship gatherings.

Throughout the year, we faithfully supported our weekly 8am and 10am services, in addition to hosting four worship nights—one each term. These evenings have become valuable opportunities for extended worship, creative expression, and spiritual renewal within our congregation. They have also provided space for emerging leaders and musicians to gain experience in a supportive and encouraging environment.

A key strategic focus for 2025 has been the intentional identification and nurturing of younger talent. As part of our broader desire to “grow younger” as a church community, we have actively sought to invest in our youth, creating clear pathways for development within both the music and sound teams. It has been deeply encouraging to see an increasing number of young people commit their time and energy to serving on the 8am and 10am rosters, and participating in our worship nights. Their enthusiasm, teachability, and faithfulness have added vitality and hope for the future of our ministry.



REACHING UP

To support this growth, we facilitated a series of targeted workshops throughout the year. These sessions focused on developing practical musicianship—particularly in drumming—enhancing sound desk proficiency, and strengthening worship leading skills. The outcomes of this investment have been evident in the increased confidence, cohesion, and overall quality demonstrated across our services.

In the 8am service, we were greatly blessed by the inclusion of organist Jaime Taylor, who joined our monthly roster. Jaime’s contribution has significantly enriched our traditional hymn repertoire and strengthened our capacity to lead congregational worship within a more traditional expression. This addition has complemented the diversity of worship styles across our services and broadened the musical depth of our ministry.

I want to acknowledge the incredible service of our Data and Livestream Team throughout 2025. Working mostly behind the scenes, they have ensured that our presentations, service recordings, and online broadcasts run smoothly each week. Their careful management of slides, media, sound integration, and livestream technology has allowed both our in-person congregation and those joining from home to engage fully in worship. I have been deeply encouraged by their consistency, technical skill, and servant-hearted commitment, which have helped extend the reach of our ministry beyond the walls of St. Margaret’s. I am truly grateful for their reliability, adaptability, and faithfulness in supporting our services week by week.

While several team members faced personal and life-related challenges throughout the year, the unity and resilience of the group have been commendable. Despite these circumstances, our team has remained committed to serving faithfully week by week, demonstrating perseverance, grace, and a shared devotion to honouring our Lord Jesus Christ through praise and worship.

On a personal note, it continues to be both an honour and a privilege to serve alongside this dedicated group of musicians and sound technicians. Over the past two and a half years, I have witnessed God’s faithfulness in remarkable ways, including the doubling in size of both our praise and worship and sound teams. Equally encouraging has been the development of genuine relationships among team members, fostering a strong sense of community and mutual support.

The clarity and direction provided by our senior leadership through the ReVision goals have given our ministry a defined pathway forward as we pursue the vision of being “one church, two sites, multiple congregations.” It is my prayer that God will continue to guide and strengthen each member of our teams as they generously invest their time, talents, and hearts into the ongoing growth and development of our music and sound ministries in the years ahead.



MISSIONS

Mission remains at the heart of who we are at St Margaret's. As a church family, we are committed to joining in God's work locally, nationally, and globally, sharing the love of Christ in word and action.

Jesus reminds us of our calling:

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations...”

Matthew 28:19

With this mandate in mind, St Margaret's Church administers its mission through three dedicated groups, each accountable to the Vicar and Vestry:

1. LOCAL MISSION GROUP

The Group encourages and equips our congregation to engage meaningfully with our Auckland community. Their focus is on initiatives and activities that directly bless and strengthen St Margaret's and the people around us. Through practical outreach, partnership, and presence, they help us live out our faith intentionally in our local context.

2. EXTERNAL MISSION GROUP

The Group leads and supports our engagement in mission beyond Auckland, both nationally and internationally. This includes prayerful support and partnership with our overseas mission partners. Their work keeps us outward-looking and connected to God's work across cultures and nations.

3. TITHE FIRSTFRUITS WORKING GROUP

The Group administers and distributes our 'tithe fund' (10% of all church income, including the Opportunity Shop and property rental income). These funds are prayerfully allocated to individuals and organisations carrying out mission work outside of St Margaret's, enabling us to give generously and strategically into God's wider kingdom purposes.

Each group meets regularly and provides updates to Vestry and the congregation, ensuring accountability, clarity, and shared vision. We encourage you to read the individual reports that follow, which outline the year's activities and demonstrate how these teams continue to help us faithfully live out St Margaret's vision and mission.



LOCAL MISSION

Rev Emily Paterson

As a church, we are called to share the good news of Jesus with our friends, family and local community. Our life is mission; and we long to become a people that are both confident in the message of the gospel and actively inviting people to 'come and see' Jesus for themselves (John 1:39-42). We have some specific Local Mission ministries (CAP, Alpha, and the Op Shop), which will be reported on separately, so this report offers a short reflection on other events and initiatives that took place during 2025; to both equip us in local mission and/or offer opportunities to invite/connect/share with people from our local community.

In April 2025 Julie-Anne Laird from City-to-City Australia ran two **Ripple Effect Workshops** with us, entitled: 14 Things I've Learnt about Evangelism and Six types of Friends and Family. These were attended by approximately fifty people; and offered practical and engaging advice on how to talk about Jesus with others.

We followed this up by asking each Life Group to complete module one of the **Ripple Effect Small Group Studies** entitled 'Jesus and Me' during the first half of 2025. This module offered 8 sessions designed to help participants prayerfully proclaim the good news of Jesus to people by sharing how Jesus met and changed them personally. Many Life Groups did this, with a couple of groups going on to complete further modules from Ripple Effect later on in the year too.

It was a joy to be able to run both a successful **Shrove Tuesday** event and two **school holiday programmes** at our Hillsborough site in 2025. Juliette and her team did a fabulous job of hosting these, and both gave great opportunities to connect with from the local community and share the good news of Jesus with them too.

In March, we hosted 'The Cause Collective' as they ran a series of six workshops on **Pacifica Health & Wellbeing**. These were designed to empower our Pacifica members with essential knowledge for health & wellbeing, while also offering an opportunity to invite the wider Pacifica community to attend as well.

We also hosted Adrienne Wood from Heartsync in March. She ran a **Teens and their Screens** workshop, offering wisdom to parents wanting to help their teenagers navigate the digital world safely. We had a small number from the local community attend this as well.

In November and December, we supported two community events. Firstly, a small choir from St Mags sang carols at the **Lynfield Community Day**, and we were also involved with the co-ordination of **Carols at the Kings** at Three Kings Reserve, led by the of combined churches of Mt Roskill. Both events offered an opportunity to share the story of the birth of Jesus, primarily through carols and were great opportunities to connect with people from the local community.

Finally, Alfred and his team continue to support the ongoing ministry of other local groups engaged in mission by providing weekly cooked meals for distribution to those in need. This enables our support of ministries such as the **Roskill South Hub; New Hope Church Onehunga;** and our **CAP Debt Centre**.

In summary, there were some good opportunities to both connect with our local community and be equipped to share our faith during 2025. We look forward to continuing to strengthening these opportunities and priorities in 2026.



OP SHOP

Sarah McDermott



"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

Matthew 5:16

The St Margaret's Op Shop exists to bring God's presence into the community by sharing the love of Jesus and praying, by listening, kindness, or giving freely to meet practical needs.

At the shop itself, we have a wonderful team of volunteers from both the church and wider community who express God's goodness in word and deed. Our sorting team works hard to process donations, while enjoying Godly fellowship and friendship.

Customers continue to put requests in the shop's prayer box, which are prayed for at Lift on Thursdays. Some people have become regular focuses of prayer, and we ask God to reveal Himself to each one, to bring His Kingdom into their lives, and drive away the destruction of the world and of the enemy.

Thank you especially to Taiana Filimone, our Assistant Manager, who serves so generously and expertly. Taiana strengthens and supports both me and the shop. Thanks also to everyone who has washed the laundry, to Neil Collis for transporting stock, to those who test jigsaws, pray, or bring coffee; we couldn't do this without you.

The shop's future, however, is uncertain. In September, Auckland Council began construction in the Onehunga car park where we are based. Ground works are due for completion in August 2026, after which the land will be sold for four apartment blocks, with further construction likely lasting several years. Since the work began, we have made a financial loss each month, and with more of the car park set to close, we expect further impact.

While making a profit is not our first or main goal, we cannot sustain long-term losses for the church. We have enjoyed being God's presence in the community, but now we are considering what He has for us in the future; do we hold on until all the work is completed, or move location, or close our doors permanently?

"I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you."

Psalm 32:8

I ask you to join me in praying for God's guidance and intervention: would He miraculously provide for us, He would guide us clearly for what is next. Whatever the future holds, may God be glorified.

(The shop tithes a portion of its income and supports New Hope Church and Elevate Christian Disability Trust in Onehunga.)

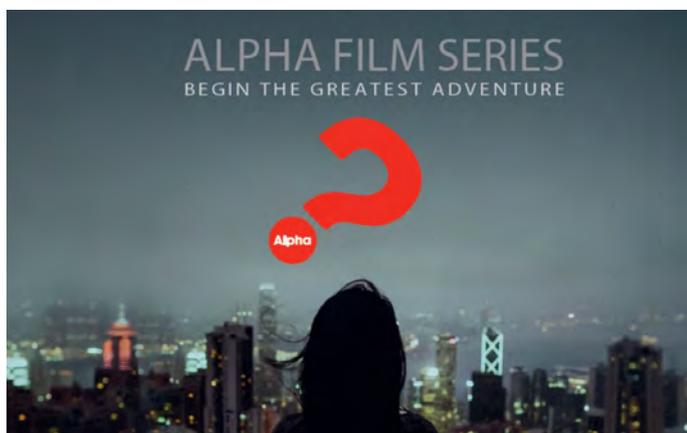
THE ALPHA COURSE

John & Sharon Eccles



In 2025, St Margarets hosted two Alpha courses on Tuesday evenings in school terms 2 and 3. Alpha is great for new Christians and people who are exploring the whole idea of faith – and we had both types of people on our courses. Each session started with dinner at 6:30pm and was followed by a video and then a discussion in which everyone was encouraged to ask questions and say what they think.

We used the Alpha Film Series in which hosts, Toby Flint and Gemma Hunt, join Nicky Gumbel to unpack the basics of the Christian faith in an engaging way. The videos are packed full of stories and testimonies of the life-changing power of God to transform lives.



When we run an Alpha course, we pray that the Lord will work in our lives progressively through the course. We pray that people will come to Christ and ask Him into their lives or that existing faith will be reawakened. We pray that they would encounter the Holy Spirit and His power. Praise God – we saw all of that happen over the courses and we saw new people coming to church services.

We'll be running Alpha again this year, starting in April at StMags Hillsborough. We also want to run Alpha in Lynfield later in the year. We need everyone to invite friends and family to Alpha and we need to expand our Alpha team so we can run courses in both Hillsborough and Lynfield.



CAP DEBT HELP CENTRE

Sharon Eccles



In 2025, we saw 9 new clients through our Debt Centre. So far this year, we have seen 3 new clients and are booked up till April. Currently, we are actively walking alongside 16 client families.

Some clients have been officially “closed” because they have reached a point where their debt is no longer unmanageable, and they are able to manage their finances without our direct input.

Some of our clients have attended events at St Margaret's. A couple of clients have attended our Women's retreats, where they have been very blessed and warmly welcomed. Two have attended the Alpha Course and made commitments to following Jesus. Some clients have attended Sunday services. One other has said she has “found God” through her connection with us at CAP and is actively reading the Bible and praying. She says that whilst she has come a long way in learning to manage her finances, she sees this connection with God as even more significant. Another has moved out of our area, and I am currently working with her to find a local church where she can continue to grow in her faith. Other clients have attended events like our Family Christmas Party, where several children heard the true meaning of Christmas for the very first time.

Several of our clients are receiving weekly meals delivered to their door by our wonderful Alfred, and all have expressed extreme gratitude for this practical support.

At Easter and Christmas, all our current clients receive gift packages from us.

We have run two CAP Money courses – one in March and one in Sep/Oct. These courses involve three sessions in which participants learn to “spend, save and budget well”. They have been well attended by both current Debt Centre clients and other members of the community. The course has been very well received. The next one is planned for March this year and will be run by Donald Titus. Punitha Luther is also about to retrain as a CAP Money Coach and will join Donald in running these courses. We aim to offer two a year through St Margaret's.

I am also investigating opportunities to offer CAP Money courses out in the community.

We currently have a great team of volunteers who are able to attend home visits with me and others who offer prayer support and practical help. I am extremely grateful for their commitment and support.

EXTERNAL MISSION

Alfred Luther

EXTERNAL MISSION POLICY REVIEW

The year 2025 began with the review and documentation of the overarching Mission Policy of St Mags. The External Mission Support Group (EMSG) role was clearly defined and updated to make it more appropriate to changing times.

THE LIMAPELA FOUNDATION

Founder Director Mr Matthew Raymond, was in Auckland. He was invited by the EMSG to share the word of God and to thank the congregation for their generous donations towards that organisation.

MEETING WITH REVEREND JUSTUS, NATIONAL DIRECTOR, INTERNATIONAL NEEDS, UGANDA.

Reverend Justus had a brief meeting with Fraser and a few EMSG members. There was a request to support a local Missionary Pastor in Uganda to the tune of \$350 per month. This request was passed onto the Tithe Committee, and we can now report that Pastor Stephen has been supported for the last two years.

Te Rongopai House in Kaitaia, had been well supported throughout the year with food parcels and essential domestic goods being donated by our congregation. The end of the year saw more than 120 gifts for children and for needy families being distributed to people in need in the Rongopai House. There were two teams sent to support the Messy church, once in August and the other at the end of the year in December.

2025 ST MARGARET'S CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Last year's Christmas Appeal was for the St Saviour's Church, Kaitaia.

St Saviour's Kaitaia

Through our support of St Saviour's Anglican Church, we stand alongside a faithful Anglican witness in the Far North.

Our partnership assists practical outreach, pastoral care, and sustaining gospel ministry in a region facing significant socio-economic challenge.

Together, these partnerships reflect St Margaret's commitment to mission in word and deed — locally, regionally, and relationally.

EXTERNAL MISSION IMPACT REPORT 2025

Rongopai House Community Trust

Through the generosity of our Tithe Committee, over \$3,300 was given to support tamariki and whānau connected with Rongopai House Community Trust.

- 1,320 nappy and baby-wipe packs distributed
- 440 cans of baby formula provided
- 1,760 meals served
- 120 food parcels distributed
- 1,250 children received a Christmas gift
- 180 transport assists for safe programme access

Our partnership helps ensure dignity, nourishment, and joy for families under pressure.

Roskill South Hub

St Margaret's continues its close partnership with Roskill South Hub through weekly cooked meals and practical support.

Since the 2023 floods, meals have been regularly supplied to whānau facing hardship. These meals provide not only sustenance but connection, pastoral care, and wellbeing support — particularly for kaumātua and vulnerable families.

- Additional large-scale meal support during a family crisis
- Pantry contributions strengthening kai services
- Reduced-cost acoustic panels for the Hub hall
- Sponsorship of tamariki to attend our Holiday Programme

Together we are participating in God's transforming work in Roskill South.

On a concluding note... throughout history, people have often become receptive to the gospel only after witnessing Christ's love expressed through His body, the church.

Jesus reminds us, "Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven"

Matthew 5:16

May we continue to live as that shining witness—carrying His light, His compassion, and His hope to the very ends of the earth.

TITHE & FIRSTFRUITS GIVING

Julie Arnold

Title First Fruits Committee: Andrew Durrans, Jo Johnson, Lynette Mackereth, Graham Simpson, Julie Arnold

“Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give... for God loves a cheerful giver.”

2 Corinthians 9:7

The Tithing Committee is responsible for the prayerful oversight and distribution of tithed funds entrusted to the parish. These funds are set aside to support external mission, ministry, and outreach beyond the regular operating costs of the church, reflecting St Margaret's commitment to generosity and service both locally and further afield.

The Committee meets regularly to:

- Discern the allocation of tithed funds in line with St Margaret's mission and values to 'Make Jesus known and See Lives Transformed'
- Receive and consider requests for funding
- Ensure funds are distributed responsibly, transparently, and prayerfully

In carrying out this role, the Committee seeks to be faithful stewards of what has been given, recognising that these resources represent the generosity, trust and sacrificial giving of our members.

Funds distributed this year include our long-term Mission Partners, Open Homes Foundation, Sharing of Ministries Abroad (SOMA), Anglican Community St Mark (ACM), EFest, A Girl Called Hope, Rongopai House, Venn Foundation, International Needs and Christian Missions Charitable Trust (CMCT).

As a guiding principle, we endeavour to allocate about half of the available funds to overseas mission initiatives, with the rest supporting local and national projects within NZ. This balance reflects our desire to participate in God's work both globally and within our own communities.

The Committee wishes to express its gratitude to the congregation for your faithful and generous giving, which enables us all to participate in God's work beyond our parish.

I also thank Committee members for their time and discernment throughout the year in stewarding these resources with care and integrity.

Freely you have received; freely give.

Matthew 10:8



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Juliette Porter

When I signed up for running the children's ministry at St Margaret's, I didn't realise how much it would involve carrying heavy stuff! I'm not much of a gym-goer, but I do think the amount of boxes, chairs, tables and other random equipment I've had to carry from one place to another this past year has more than made up for any lack of weightlifting in my life.

However, carrying heavy stuff has felt true in a metaphorical as well as literal sense this past year. When you could be the difference between a child encountering Jesus or not, the magnitude of what you're doing very quickly comes into focus.

With this in mind, I've kept coming back to a verse God gave me at the beginning of 2025. Isaiah 30:15 says 'In repentance and rest is your salvation; in quietness and trust is your strength.' No matter the size of the task at hand, God's reminder has been to continually trust in Him, and remember that it will be to my utmost advantage to rely on His strength rather than on my own.

And there certainly have been many times I've had to rely on the Lord! In 2025, we had two consecutive holiday programmes in Terms Two and Three, which took a huge effort from everyone involved. It's hard to name just a few highlights, but there are a couple of aspects which stand out to me. One was that I sensed God had gone ahead of us and opened the children's hearts to hear about Jesus. I was blown away by their spiritual openness and desire to know Him, and give thanks for all the people who prayed and 'prepared the way' for us spiritually. My other highlight was seeing our wonderful team of youth leaders and adult helpers operate so well. I sensed that the Lord had brought along every single person to do their parts and I was especially proud of the youth for stepping up to leadership positions with enthusiasm and diligence.

I also praise God for the Sunday morning children's programme this past year and for every volunteer who gave up their time to do the important (and often unseen) work of discipling our young ones. They truly deserve a medal! In 2025, we focused on learning about Jesus' life, death and resurrection, the parables He told, and the story of the early church. We used a new curriculum which focuses on Bible literacy and is good at producing lots of laughs! It was a particular highlight for me to see the children grow in their personal relationship with Jesus, through learning to pray and seeing God answer prayers, listening to His voice and having a greater desire to participate in worship.

Looking forward to 2026, I'm excited for this year's Sunday morning and holiday programmes, and in particular, am looking forward to empowering volunteers to take greater ownership and continue to take responsibility for various ministry areas. I'm also praying that the number of families at St Margaret's will continue to grow and that God will raise up more leaders. A final challenge will be organising a team to do a children's programme at Lynfield once services are up and running.

Before I finish off, I'd like to thank each and every person who has prayed for me and for the children's ministry over the last year. The very foundation of trusting God to carry the heavy things is bringing them to Him in prayer, and I feel incredibly blessed to be part of a church community that believes in supporting one another in this way. I'm so grateful to every single one of you!





YOUTH

Losana Fonua & Karen Newton

YOUTH MINISTRY OVERVIEW

Youth Ministry supports young people through two weekly gatherings. Friday Youth (ages 11–18), led by Losana, focuses on connection and community in a welcoming social space, while Sunday Youth (ages 10–14), led by Karen, centres on discipleship and growing deeper in faith. Both are supported by an incredible team of volunteer leaders whose dedication makes this ministry possible.

FRIDAY YOUTH

The purpose of our Friday Youth nights has been to create a safe, welcoming space where young people feel accepted, connected, and encouraged - a place where faith is authentic, friendships grow, and everyone experiences a sense of belonging. Over the past year, we have been truly blessed to witness significant growth within the ministry. Attendance increased nearly to 30 young people, inviting their friends and becoming more actively involved in serving across various areas of Sunday services.

Alongside our fun activities, outings and AYM events, we intentionally introduced “Connect Nights”. These evenings created opportunities for deeper conversations, shared devotions, and small group discussions. Through this, we saw many young people grow in confidence and openness, strengthening their faith while learning to support and pray for one another. The impact was evident as several youth expressed a desire to lead their own devotions on Friday evenings - an area we are excited to further develop and encourage into this year.

An African proverb reminds us that “It takes a village to raise a child”, and we sincerely thank the volunteers, parents, and church members who continue to support and invest in our young people. Your care and encouragement help nurture their faith, character, and well-being. On behalf of the Youth of StMags, we are truly grateful for the strong community that walks alongside them.

Feedback from young person and a leader:

Leader: Feedback from one of the leaders highlighted strong growth in youth attendance and the positive impact of leaders - led devotions. Leadership numbers are strong; more volunteers would be welcomed. And future fundraising opportunities may help support events and wider youth experiences.

Young person: A young person shared that they have really enjoyed getting to know others and growing in their understanding of God. They expressed appreciation for the relationships built and the opportunity to learn more about their faith. When they first joined, it felt like there were already established friend groups, which made it harder to feel included initially. However, they eventually were able to build connections by stepping out socially.

This feedback reminds us to continue being intentional about creating a welcoming inclusive space for those who are naturally more reserved.



SUNDAY YOUTH

The junior youth continued to meet in the Youth Room during the 10am Sunday service throughout 2025 – leaving during the peace and coming back to the service for communion. The senior youth experimented with meeting one evening during the week for a discipleship group. This worked well during the first term but after that it became difficult to find an evening which suited everyone’s schedules of extramural activities and exams.

On Sunday mornings over the course of 2025, we have explored Who is the Holy Spirit? What is Prayer? and What is the Bible? We are heading into a series on how to read the Bible at the beginning of 2026. As the mid-week senior youth discipleship group faded out, we extended the Sunday morning meeting to include all of your youth.

Many of our youth attended EFest in April 2025 and returned enthused and encouraged in their faith. St Margaret’s had a larger presence at EFest 2025 due to the growth in the size of the youth group and to the availability of sponsorship towards camp fees. Thank you to all our sponsors – you gave our youth a wonderful gift. At EFest 2025, I had the great experience of leading a small group and giving one of the talks.

Sunday morning attendance in 2025 has been variable as many of our youth have been involved in serving during the 10am service in areas such as the live stream, sound desk, data projection, children’s ministry, and the band. Such service opportunities are wonderful avenues for our youth to express their faith and be an integral part of the church. Despite this, we have seen growth in attendance with up to 25 young people regularly being at church on Sundays. Some of our youth choose to remain in the service but up to 18 of them attend the youth discipleship programme in the Youth Room.

At the last AGM, the youth expressed a desire to update the Youth Room. This is happening slowly and the Youth Room is becoming a space where our youth feel they can relax and enjoy the time together. We still have more plans to continue refreshing the room through this year.

This ministry would not be possible if it were not for the team of devoted helpers who give up their time to support both the young people and me. Michael Mysolla and Scott Newton were helpers on Wednesday evenings. On Sunday mornings, Losana Fonua, Sharyn Elliffe, Donald Titus, and Andre Borro have taken turns to join us in the Youth Room. All of these people have brought a wealth of life experience and Bible knowledge, and a love of young people. Thank you to all of you, each one of you has been a blessing to me and the youth of St Margaret’s.



WOMEN'S GROUP

Penny Ockleston & Muriel McIntyre

STMAGS WOMEN'S MINISTRY OVERVIEW

St Margaret's women meet regularly throughout the year, usually on Saturdays. We have two groups: one focused on building connections and spiritual growth, and the other dedicated to Bible study.

Details about these programmes are shared in our weekly Enews. If you'd like to learn more or get involved, feel free to reach out to any of the following team members: Anne Segedin, Kay Durrans, Linda Duncan, Marineke Goodwin, Penny Ockleston, Barbara Murdoch or Muriel McIntyre.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Meeting mostly in Terms 1 and 4 in 2025 allowed space for the Beth Moore Bible studies in Terms 2 and 3.

Our first meeting of the year in January was a gathering at Monte Cecilia Park where a small group met to enjoy a sociable time together in the relaxing outdoors environment.

February saw a day retreat. Twenty of us travelled out to Anne Segedin's family bach on the hill overlooking beautiful Piha beach. Following morning tea, Anne led us in a time of quiet reflection. After lunch we were free to spend more time quietly, take a nap, sit and chat, walk on the beach or even go for a swim. It was a very relaxing and enjoyable day of time with God and one another.

In preparation for Palm Sunday, a group of us met in April to make palm crosses, skilfully instructed again by Susan and Chris Chung. There were moments of hilarity as some of us found the process rather challenging but eventually we managed to produce hundreds of palm crosses successfully.

Having enjoyed the Piha retreat day so much, we held another in November, which followed a similar format to the previous one. Such days are proving to be so worthwhile, with opportunities to spend time reflectively with God as well as having time for deeper conversations with other women, mostly from St Margaret's.

We are very grateful to Anne who generously makes her bach available and puts so much time and thought into preparing reflections and songs.

We are excited to be planning more events in 2026, including a new craft group to be held monthly on Wednesdays.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Again, we completed another exciting Beth Moore Women's study, **Living Beyond Yourself** – Exploring the Fruit of the Spirit. This was concentrating on Galatians, where at the outset Beth challenged us, "What could be more important than learning to be a spirit-filled believer?"

This year, about 30 women from St. Margaret's and a number of other churches participated in this ten-week study series, again fortnightly on Saturday mornings. It was a joy to reconnect with those from previous study groups and welcome in and establish connections with those who joined this year.

The series was facilitated by Maidalyne Beazley, Barbara Murdoch and Muriel McIntyre, together with Lynnette Wood from St George's, sharing the responsibility to facilitate Beth's video and workbook material in small groups for discussion.

Stories were shared on how this journey truly enhanced and challenged them in different areas, and over the ten weeks, the group established connections and support for each other.

To further consolidate these learnings, a small group continued a home meeting to view the video series and engage in further discussions and sharing. There was eager desire to continue a Women's study group, so this year, immediately after Easter, we will be undertaking one of Beth's most recent publications - **Entrusted – A study of 2 Timothy**.

This is a five-week series and will again follow the same fortnightly Saturday morning rhythm, so we are excited as to who God will draw in this year.



MEN'S GROUP

Neil Bennett

The Men's Group has been faithfully operating for the past eight years, with around 10 dedicated members who meet regularly. Our mission is to support, encourage, and pray for one another as we grow together in our Christian walk.

Where possible, we actively provide support to church families and the wider church community in practical ways, reflecting God's love in action.

We gather on Friday mornings at 7:00 a.m. at the church, sharing breakfast and engaging in meaningful "Men's talk." For those in the know, there is usually a serving of baked beans alongside other breakfast goodies!

It is inspiring to see this core group of men committed to prayer, strengthening both our church and each other. As we look ahead, we are excited for opportunities to grow our group, deepen our fellowship, and continue making a positive impact within our church and community.



LIFE GROUPS

Rev Emily Paterson & Suma Hubert'

We are incredibly grateful to the many people who have faithfully led and hosted our Life Groups over the past year. Thank you for your leadership and for opening your homes. While our Life Groups come in different shapes and sizes, they are all crucial to our sense of community and ongoing growth as disciples of Jesus. In addition, we are grateful to Ian & Suzanne Buswell for their oversight of the Life Group Ministry until early 2025, and Suma Hubert for her oversight during the rest of the year.

As part of the Revision work in 2025, the Revision Leadership Team undertook a review of our Life Group Ministry in order to identify the purpose and role of Life Groups in our Parish and establish a clear plan for strengthening this area of church life. Thank you to Juliette Porter, Suma Hubert, and Nathan McLellan for the work they did on this review.

Their work identified the four key purposes of Life Groups at St Margaret's as being, places for:

- 1. Fellowship:** Where members are part of a community that knows and loves one another deeply.
- 2. Bible Study, Worship and Prayer:** Where members grow as disciples of Jesus together.
- 3. Pastoral Care:** Where members offer one another both practical and spiritual support through the ups and downs of life.
- 4. Multiplication:** Where new leaders are trained, and new members find a place of belonging within the community.

This work also led to the production of a new Life Group Brochure (providing information on Life Groups at St Mags and how to join one) and a Guide for Life Group Leaders (outlining their role and responsibilities), which were distributed in late 2025.

During the review, some groups requested that studies based on the Sunday sermons be produced so that groups could use these when they met together during the week that followed. Therefore, Nathan McLellan trialled producing these for a couple of the sermon series in the second half of 2025. They were well received, and Nathan will continue to produce these in 2026. Thank you, Nathan, for this work.

Overall, in 2025, a lot of foundational work for strengthening our Life Group ministry was done. As we look ahead to 2026, we hope to continue building on that by running regular Life Group Leaders Training sessions; identifying new Life Group Leaders; launching new groups and developing our Life Group resource library (both online and physical). Please pray that God would grow our Life Group ministry and would take us deeper together in small groups over the next year.

PASTORAL CARE REPORT

Rev Emily Paterson

In 2025, we recognised the need to establish a wider Pastoral Care team within our growing church. Therefore, we applied to the Bishop of Auckland to have four of our members Licenced as 'Lay Chaplains' among us. This enabled us to recognise and affirm the ministry that these members carry out among us and on behalf of us.

Alfred Luther and Punitha Luther were licensed as 'Lay Chaplains for Pastoral Care'; with their ministry focus primarily being the co-ordination of Pastoral Meals and Emergency Prayer Chain.

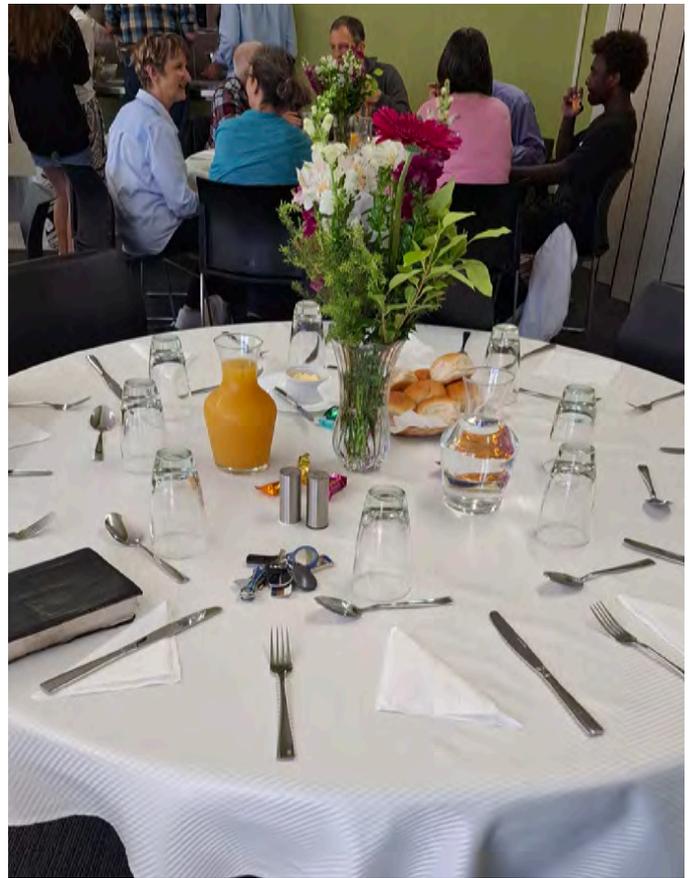
Kay Durrans was licensed as 'Lay Chaplain for Older Persons', with her primary ministry focus being the monthly Wednesday Communion Service and invitational lunch, as well as providing care for our older members.

Linda Duncan was licensed as 'Lay Chaplain for Pastoral Visiting', with her primary ministry being visiting and connecting with those in hospital and/or the 'house-bond', as well as supporting Kay with the Wednesday Service.

The Lay Chaplains have met monthly with clergy to share necessary updates and ensure co-ordinated pastoral care across the Parish, as well as joining in our wider team meetings. We are incredibly grateful for the way they have supported and sustained many in our church family by their faithfulness, prayer and care over the past year.

Pastoral Care is, of course, not just the role of the Clergy and Lay Chaplains. As a church, we are all called to love and care for one another. Therefore, we also acknowledge the many ways (seen and unseen) that members have cared for and shown love to one another in the past year – in life groups and friendships; on Sundays and during the week; in conversation and prayer; and by offering practical support. May we continue to grow deeper as a body that loves one another as Christ has loves us (John 13:34-35; Galatians 6:2), in order that many more will know that love and be drawn into the community of the Church.





THE ANGLICAN COMMUNITY

OF ST MARK (ACM) *“Helping Build Hope-Filled Churches”*

Rev Fraser McDermott

The Anglican Community of St Mark (ACM), of which Fraser serves as National Chair, exists to strengthen orthodox Anglican faith and leadership within the Anglican Church of Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia.

ACM is not a separate church, but a recognised fellowship within the Province — committed to remaining Anglican, contending for the faith once delivered to the saints, and ensuring that historic, biblical orthodoxy continues to have a clear and confident voice within our Church.

A YEAR OF MOMENTUM

2025 has marked a decisive and encouraging shift. Where ACM was once frequently perceived as primarily oppositional, it is now increasingly recognised as a constructive and principled partner within the Church. Conversations with bishops and senior leaders have deepened in substance and respect. Doors that were once closed have opened.

This shift is significant. It demonstrates that orthodox conviction, expressed with clarity and integrity, strengthens rather than weakens the life of the Province.

STRENGTHENING THE CHURCH FROM THE GROUND UP

ACM’s vision is not defensive — it is constructive. We seek the renewal and strengthening of the entire Anglican Church in Aotearoa, beginning at the grassroots of parish life.

We are convinced that lasting renewal does not begin with structures, but with leaders. Healthy congregations are shaped by leaders who are theologically clear, spiritually resilient, and pastorally courageous. When leaders are strengthened in conviction and hope, the churches they serve gain stability, focus, and confidence in mission.

For that reason, ACM intentionally invests in strengthening clergy and lay leaders — giving them clarity in doctrine, courage in public witness, and relational support within the Province.

ACM brings together parishes, clergy, and lay leaders who affirm the authority of Scripture and the doctrinal foundations of Anglicanism. It provides:

- Relational solidarity
- Thoughtful advocacy
- Leadership formation
- Strategic coordination

Encouragingly, many new members are younger vicars — leaders who will shape Anglican parishes for decades to come. Investing in this generation is essential for the Church’s long-term faithfulness.

In 2025, ACM intentionally shifted from large national conferences to smaller regional Leadership Days. The emphasis is depth over scale — formation over attendance — strengthening leaders spiritually, theologically, and pastorally for sustained ministry.

STRATEGIC FOUNDATIONS FOR FAITHFULNESS

ACM became a registered charity and adopted a 2025–2030 strategic framework focused on advocacy, leadership development, sustainable funding, networking, and clear communication. The goal is clear: orthodox Anglican leaders must not stand alone.

CONVICTION WITH COURAGEOUS PRESENCE

ACM’s distinctive contribution is the commitment to hold conviction and relationship together — remaining theologically orthodox while fully present within the Province. In a global Anglican context often marked by division, this model of faithful engagement is increasingly recognised and respected.

WHY THIS MATTERS FOR ST MARGARET’S

Through Fraser’s national leadership, St Margaret’s contributes to strengthening orthodox Anglican witness and shaping a confident, missionally grounded future for the Church in Aotearoa and Polynesia.

This work aligns directly with our ReVision 2029 commitment to raise leaders, deepen discipleship, and multiply healthy congregations.

We look ahead with confidence, believing that as leaders are strengthened and churches renewed, God will continue to build a resilient and faithful Anglican witness across our land.



ANGLICAN
COMMUNITY
OF SAINT MARK

A YEAR OF THANKSGIVING

Shami Chand

This year, we give thanks to God that there are no names to record in our 'In Memoriam' section. We recognise this as a quiet mercy from the Lord and pause with gratitude for His sustaining hand over our church whānau.

At the same time, we acknowledge that even in a year without funerals within our parish family, many among us have walked through seasons of grief. Some have farewelled parents, siblings, spouse, extended family members, and dear friends. Others continue to carry the weight of illness, frailty, or ongoing health challenges; their own or those they love.

As Scripture reminds us, "The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."

Psalm 34:18

We are a church whānau, and when one rejoices, we rejoice together; when one mourns, we mourn together. We give thanks for those who have quietly supported others through hospital visits, meals, prayers, phone calls, and faithful presence. These unseen acts of love reflect the heart of Christ among us.

We also want to affirm the power and faithfulness of prayer within our community. Time and again, we have seen the Lord sustain, strengthen, comfort, and guide His people as we have prayed together. Prayer is not our last resort; it is our first response. It anchors us in hope and draws us into the presence of God, who hears and answers according to His perfect will.

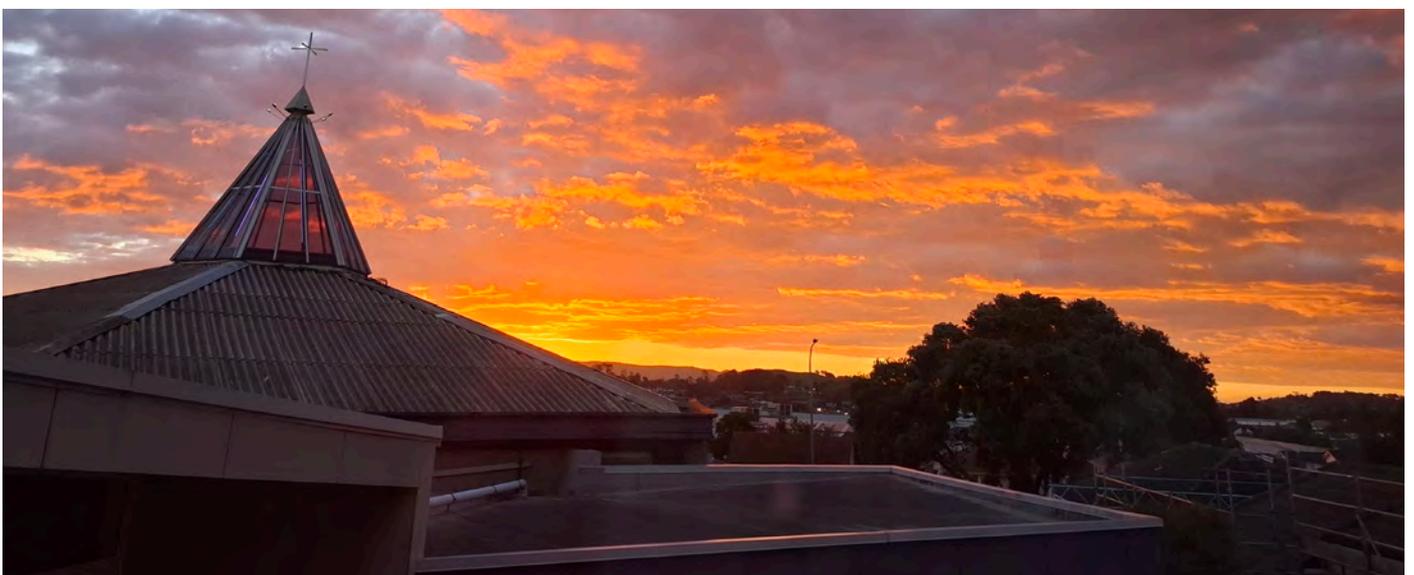
Our Prayer Team is always available to stand with you in prayer, whether in times of grief, illness, uncertainty, thanksgiving, or praise. If you would value prayer support, you are warmly invited to email: prayer@stmags.org.nz. All requests are treated with care and confidentiality.

As we continue into another year, may we remain a people marked by compassion, attentiveness, and steadfast prayer, trusting in the Lord who holds us in every season.

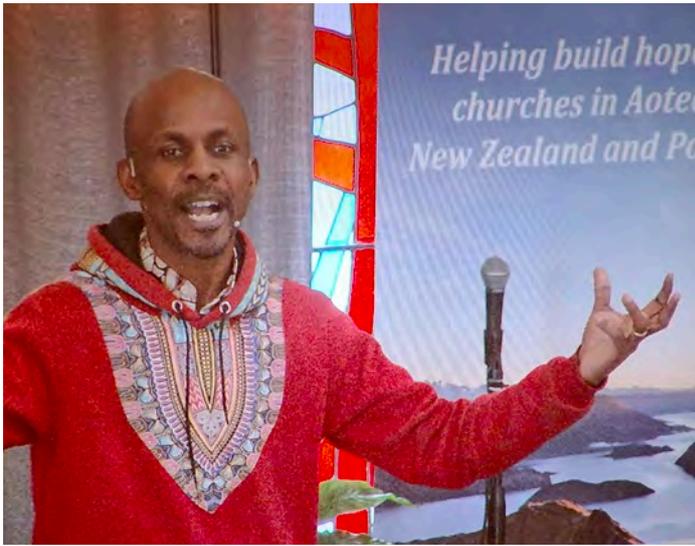
"Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for His mercies never fail. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness."

Lamentations 3:22–23

Thanks be to God for His sustaining grace over St Margaret's this year. May we continue to walk together in faith, hope, and love.







FINANCIAL CHARTS

2025 TOTAL INCOME \$870,724



PLANNED GIVING	71% (\$616,273)
CHURCH SHOP	10% (\$82,822)
DONATIONS	2% (\$19,513)
PROPERTY INCOME	6% (\$47,900)
CAPITAL INCOME	5% (\$47,729)
OTHER INCOME	6% (\$56,487)

2025 TOTAL EXPENDITURE \$863,080



STAFF COSTS	45% (\$392,182)
PROPERTY COSTS	14% (\$122,806)
OP SHOP COSTS	8% (\$71,812)
TITHED GIVING	8% (\$68,796)
MORTGAGE INTEREST	4% (\$32,021)
MINISTRY COSTS	7% (\$57,548)
ADMINISTRATION	7% (\$61,942)
DIOCESCAN COSTS	4% (\$35,643)
INSURANCE CHARGES	2% (\$20,330)

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