

P I C T O N Baptist Church



(Photo credit: <https://www.google.co.nz/>)

Welcome to our Missions Service today!

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Matthew 28:18-20

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TODAY'S SERVICE

*Opening Songs All together

The Mountain

More than Conquerors

Welcome/Notices/Offering Deo Vistar

*Singing All together

Oh You Bring

This is Amazing Grace

The Hope of All Hearts

Missional Talks Pene Sarjeant

Daniel and Allison Le Heux

Garry Stanley

Prayer for our Missionaries Deo Vistar

Ministry Presentation Omri Jaakobovich

Founder, Hosting Israeli Travelers (HIT)

*Closing Song All together

The Hope of All Hearts

Prayer & Benediction Deo Vistar

*Led by the Music Team: Garry Stanley (leader), Jonathan Duffy (guitar), Bronwyn Duffy (keyboard), Kirsty Baldwin (singer), Georgine Raj (singer), Pare Raj (singer), Lynette Stanley (projector)

- ✪ If you have any questions or need help, please ask one of the welcomers who will be happy to help you.
- ✪ If you would like prayer after the service today, ask the people around you or come to the front and someone will pray for you.
- ✪ We invite you to stay for a cup of tea after the service.

PASTORAL NOTES

Let's thank our Great Physician for the gift of healing upon the members of our congregation who were unwell recently: Andy Baldwin, Deo, Georgine Raj, and Val Mooney. Georgine was discharged from hospital last week, and Val is also now home, but they do need our continuing prayer and practical support.

The Holy Week (and Easter) are coming. In our times of meditation let's reflect on the sufferings that Christ endured on our behalf, particularly on the purpose and meaning of His death. To quote the prophet Isaiah: "But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the

punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed" (53:5).

As was announced previously, we'll have a special worship service on Easter. We'll be screening a video sermon by Billy Graham titled *The Cross*, which also features the testimony of two well known personalities in the US. This is our evangelistic effort this Easter, so consider the person/s that God might want you to invite to the service, and pray for the advanced work of the Spirit.

We have lots of invitation leaflets for the Easter event – get enough copies for yourself (as you go out of the door) and share them with neighbours and friends this week.

We also have high quality biblical material from the Hope Project NZ that you can share with family and friends. All these are available today on the desk by the main door.

Thanks to Omri Jaakobovich for visiting us today. Pray for him and his ministry. Visit his websites at www.teote.org and www.hitinternational.net.

PRAY FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH IN LIBYA

Taken from *The Barnabas Fund 2018*
barnabasfund.org

Libya's interim constitution (2011) declares Islam the state religion and uses sharia as the principal source of legislation, but claims to guarantee non-Muslims the freedom to practice their religion and prohibits religious discrimination. The UN-backed Government of National Accord's (GNA) policies contradict these claims. The government seems to be either unwilling or powerless to investigate crimes against religious minorities. The Christian presence is mainly comprised of foreign migrant workers and refugees, but there are also a small number of indigenous Libyan converts. Islamists target them for killing, kidnap, forceful conversion, and sale in what the U.N.'s International Organisation for Migration (IOM) calls "modern-day slave markets." Most of the refugees hail from West African countries or from Eritrea, and are trying to reach Europe via Libya. In August 2016, Islamic State (IS) abducted more than 500 Christian refugees, and sold at least 63 of the women after forcefully converting, raping, and enslaving them. The

previous year they had beheaded 21 Egyptian Christians on a Libyan beach.

The country has been beset by chaos and civil war since the overthrow of Colonel Muammar Gaddafi in 2011, with two major factions claiming legitimacy. The parliament based in Tobruk has refused to recognise the GNA. The powerful Libyan National Army (LNA) only recognises the authority of the parliament. Militant Islamist groups like IS have filled the power vacuum and built a strong presence in the country; there are now estimated to be almost 2,000 such groups.

In December 2016, the GNA drove IS out of Sirte, with help from US airstrikes, while the LNA managed to do the same in Benghazi in July 2017. The ousted jihadists moved into the deserts of southern Libya to regroup.

Cry out to the Lord to protect our brothers and sisters in Libya, especially those who have left Islam and follow Him. Ask the King of kings and Lord of lords to grant Libya peace, justice, freedom and stability. Put the militant Islamist groups in your prayers, asking that the scales will fall from their eyes that they might meet Jesus Christ for themselves.

NOTICES

Train to Share the Gospel

Happening today at 4–5pm here at church. Come and be a part of it. Here’s the whole program at a glance:

- 18th March: The Power of Your Story and How to Share Your Story
- 25th March: The Simple Invitation that Can Change a Person’s Life

STAY CONNECTED THIS WEEK!

The following home groups are on this week:

- Tuesday 10am at 90 Lindens Road. Study pp. lesson 6 (pp. 31ff) of *My First Steps* (contact Deo at 022 421 1405)
- Tuesday 7pm at 5 Amelia Cres (contact Stu at 022 323 3691)
- Wednesday 6:30pm at 35 South Terrace (contact Clive or Lynn at 573 8858)
- Thursday 7pm at 12 Lincoln St (contact Deo at 022 421 1405). Study Acts 4:23–31.

Prayer Requests from the Morrises in Malawi

Pray for:

- Kingsley when he preaches at Tsoka (18th March), Dwangwa/Liwaladzi (25th March)
- for the leadership training weekend with Dwangwa/Liwaladzi leaders on 23rd–25th March
- for plans for a Lakeshore area Pastor’s retreat/development week, 4th-8th June

Missions Update from the Robertsons in Thailand

Kim and Mary wrote this week: “On Sunday evening [11th March] at Don Chedi church six people prayed to receive Jesus as their Lord and Saviour ... The six are Gung, Nan, Nerie, May, Milk, and Maut ... Please pray that they would truly know and love the Lord and would be able to stand against opposition which will certainly come. It does help them that they have come as a group and so have each other to stand with and encourage each other. Nerie and May are young women living as ‘husband’ and ‘wife.’ We are praying that the Lord will bring healing and conviction to them and they will know God’s love and forgiveness.

“Another amazing thing that happened last night [Wednesday] was that Mother Bunnark, (mother of Day-cha, Nee and Num) came to church for the first time in her life! When she was in hospital some months ago, the doctor asked the family if they wanted to take her home to die at home, but instead of dying, God answered our prayers and she has been improving ever since. She has been bed-ridden for ten years with her only outings being trips to the doctor/hospital. So this is a miracle indeed! Pray for Bunnark’s continual improvement in health and her growth in faith and love for the Lord.”

A Short-Term Accommodation Needed

A Christian family of nine, from Pelorus Sounds, needs a house in Picton that they can house-sit, or even rent out, from the 29th March (Thursday evening) to the 3rd April (Tuesday morning). They have a tent that can be used if the property is not large enough. Please contact Stephen or Shirley-anne Amos on mobile 0274991741, home 035716208, or email amosfamilynz@gmail.com.

ROSTERS*

Hosting

4 Mar..... Stu & Ralphia Henderson
 11 March Lauraine Young & Nelia Davis (Communion)
 18 Mar..... Nelson & Judith Dodge
 25 Mar... Pene Sarjeant & Gyllian Macdonald (Communion)

Children’s Church Teaching

4 MarchGuan Vistar
 11 MarchGuan Vistar
 18 MarchLinda Price

Note: There will be no *Sunday Friends* session on the last Sunday of each month, as we would like to provide an opportunity for children to worship with their parents.

Music & Sound

4th March: Guan Vistar (leading), Jonathan Duffy (guitar), Bronwyn Duffy (keyboard), Judith Stretton (singer), Te Mara Riwaka (projector), Steve Lavers (sound)

11th March: Gwenda Galbraith (leading), Johannes Hacker (guitar), Graham Galbraith (keyboard), Kirsty Baldwin (singer), Gyllian Macdonald (projector)

18th March: Garry Stanley (leading), Jonathan Duffy (guitar), Bronwyn Duffy (keyboard), Georgine Raj (singer), Kirsty Baldwin (singer), Pare Raj (singer), Lynette Stanley (projector)

25th March: Gwenda Galbraith (leading), Johannes Hacker (guitar), Graham Galbraith (keyboard), Lynn Whitlock (projector), Steve Lavers (sound)

*If the date doesn’t suit please arrange a swap with others on the roster.