

NOTICES

The Dinner Collective

14th October (Sunday) 6pm at the church
All welcome!

Monthly Prayer Meeting

28th October (Sunday) at 4pm here at the church

Missionary Update

Kim and Mary Robertson – missionaries we support in Thailand – will be back in NZ on Home Assignment from mid-Dec 2018 to mid-Oct 2019. Pray for them as they prepare for this transition and for the provision of their needs.

STAY CONNECTED THIS WEEK!

We have several home groups running during the week. Find out a group that may suit and help you in your Christian walk. See schedule and contact details below.

Tuesday 10am	Home group (Bible study) at 90 Linden's Road	Contact Deo on 573 6315
Tuesday 7pm	Home group at 5 Amelia Cres	Contact Stu on 573 7769
Tuesday 7pm	Home group at 90 Lindens Road	Contact Pene on 573 7785
Wednesday 6pm	Youth group in the Church Hall	Contact Mary on 573 5499
Thursday 7pm	Home group at Steve & Sue Dawson's place (374 Waikawa Rd)	Contact Steve on 021 688 071
Sunday 9:30am	Prayer meeting in the Children's Ministry Room	Contact Steve Lavers on 021 0235 5728
Sunday 10am	Church Service	Contact Deo on 573 6315
Sunday 10:30am	<i>Sunday Friends</i> (Children's Ministry)*	Contact Carol on 027 7735 263

*Except on the last Sunday of each month

Any Prayer Requests?

If you have any prayer request for the prayer chain, contact Judith Dodge at 573 9245.

ROSTERS*

Hosting

7th Oct Nelson & Judith Dodge (Communion)
14th Oct Ana Woolf & Linda Price
21st Oct L Young & N Davis (Communion)
28th Oct Bill & Mary Pettigrew

Music & Sound

7th Oct: Deo Vistar (leading), Graham Galbraith (keyboard), Allison Le Heux (singer), Mara Riwaka (projector), Steve Lavers (sound)

14th Oct: Allison Le Heux (leading), Jonathan Duffy (guitar), Bronwyn Duffy (keyboard), Kirsty Baldwin (singer), Mara Riwaka (projector), Andy Baldwin (sound)

21st Oct: Gwenda Galbraith (leading), Graham Galbraith (keyboard), Jude Stretton (singer), Gyllian Macdonald (projector), Steve Lavers (sound)

28th Oct: Garry Stanley (leading), Jonathan Duffy (guitar), Bronwyn Duffy (keyboard), Jude Stretton (singer), Lynette Stanley (projector), Steve Lavers (sound)

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



P I C T O N Baptist Church

**“So stand ready, with truth as a belt tight round
your waist, with righteousness as your
breastplate.”**

Ephesians 6:14 (TEV)



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Pastor: *Deo Vistar*, PhD

TODAY'S SERVICE

*Opening Song..... All together
The Hope of All Hearts
Welcome & Notices.....Pene Sarjeant
Tithes & Offerings
*Singing..... All together
Glorify
Broken Vessels (Amazing Grace)
Communion
Message.....Deo Vistar
"Putting On the Breastplate of
Righteousness"
Ephesians 6:14b
*Closing Song All together
More Than Conquerors
Prayer & Blessing.....Deo Vistar

*Led by the Praise Team: Deo Vistar (leading), Graham Galbraith (keyboard), Allison Le Heux (singer), Kirsty Baldwin (singer), Te Mara Riwaka (projector), Steve Lavers (sound)

- ✱ 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.
- ✱ A crèche is available down at the foyer. The service is relayed into the room so you are able to listen to it. Please ensure the room is left tidy.
- ✱ We invite you to stay for a cup of tea after the service.

PASTORAL NOTES

Kia ora! Welcome to our worship this morning. If you are a first-time guest, I encourage you to fill out a blue visitor card and hand it to the welcomers or drop it in one of the offering bags.

The current church financial year ends this 31st October. Our AGM will be on 24th Nov at 5:30pm here at the church. It's a Saturday – mark it on your calendar. Pray for those in charge of preparing and producing the financial and various ministry reports. Note that on the night of our AGM we will have a shared supper too.

Our denomination (the Baptist Union) needs our prayers as the search for a new national leader is

under way. Ask the heavenly Father to send the person most suited for the role.

In many places in the world it's becoming increasingly difficult for Christians to publicly practise their faith. Think of Iran, for example. Thank God that we're not in one of those places, but we also need to remember in prayer those who are suffering for their faith in Christ.

This past week I had a prayer time with fellow Picton ministers and we focused on praying for persecuted Christians. One of the verses the Lord gave us is 2 Timothy 3:12: "In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ will be persecuted." No one can totally escape persecution. Even here in NZ a faithful Christian can be persecuted (i.e. mocked or ridiculed) by unbelieving family or friends. In the Philippines I was ridiculed and mocked by my high school teachers and friends when I decided to go into ministry. We can only avoid persecution if we hide our faith under a bushel. But whose praise are seeking: men's or God's? John 12:42–43: "Yet at the same time many even among the leaders believed in Jesus. But because of the Pharisees they would not confess their faith for fear they would be put out of the synagogue: for they loved praise from men more than praise from God."

This morning we continue with our series on the armour of God in Ephesians 6, and we focus today on the "breastplate of righteousness" in v. 14b. I pray this message will minister to you today, helping you to be equipped for the spiritual battle everyday.



PRAY FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH IN YEMEN

From the *Barnabas Fund* 2018
barnabasfund.org

Christianity arrived in Yemen in AD 354, when the Roman ambassador converted the country's pagan king to Christianity. Its spread was vehemently opposed by the Jewish community and when a Jewish ruler came to power Christians were persecuted, even massacred. In the 7th century, the

country became predominantly Muslim and Islam expanded across the Arabian Peninsula. There is no mention in the historic records of any Christian presence after 850 except on the island of Socotra where Christians survived until at least the late 16th century.

Today, less than 0.5% of Yemen's population is Christian, most of them refugees from Ethiopia, or expatriate workers. Yemeni Christians are converts from Islam; only God knows their current situation. Expatriate Christians can worship together, but some have been arrested from "promoting Christianity and distributing the Bible"; others accused of evangelism have been expelled. Ethiopian Christians are not permitted to be buried in the Yemeni capital Sanaa unless they accept a Muslim name. Islam is the state religion; sharia is the source of all legislation. Conversion from Islam is technically punishable by death, although the sentence is rarely rare, if ever, carried out. Converts nevertheless face arrest and are in danger from their families and communities. In March 2016, gunmen attacked a home for the elderly run by a Christian charity in the port city of Aden, killing 16 people. The previous year, a church was set on fire.

A long-running conflict between Shia Houthis rebels and the government escalated in 2015 when Houthis captured Sanaa. Saudi Arabia responded with a merciless campaign of aerial bombardment, resulting in a humanitarian disaster of unbelievable proportions.

Bring to the Lord Christian converts in Yemen, who officially face the death penalty for apostasy and unofficially rejection by family and community. Pray that they will stand strong in the mighty power of the Lord

(Ephesians 6:10). Call out to the Lord for an end to the conflict and a

change in the government's discriminatory attitude toward Ethiopian refugees and other Christians.

