

TAWA UNION CHURCH

(Christian Churches New Zealand,
Methodist, Presbyterian)

Christ Centred — Community Facing



Weekly Diary:

Mon	7.30pm	Faith Explorer's, Luke Chapel
Tues	7.00pm	Tawa Learners Band, Stephen's Lounge
Fri	7.30pm	Tongan Youth Activity, The Centre
Sat	6.00pm	Tongan Choir, Church

Services 10 February 2019

9.30am Combined Service

Led By:	Rev Doug Rogers
Elder:	Alapua Poasa
Music:	Lois Hill
Reader:	Gretta Dymond
Technical Crew:	Jacky Cocker & John Melville
Prayers of People:	Margaret Jenkins
Reception:	Marjorie Todd & Margaret Lack
Morning Tea:	Peini Family
Cleaning:	David & Rona Belcher
Pantry:	Ron Bichan
Tellers:	David Bray & Andre Milkop
Flowers:	Marjorie Todd
Lectionary:	Psalm 138 Luke 5:1-11

1.00pm Tongan Language Service: Wesley Class

Service 3 February 2019

9.30am Combined Communion Service

Led By:	Rev Clare Lind
Elder:	Gill Knox
Music:	Margaret Jenkins
Reader:	Heather Collins
Technical Crew:	Nuku Family
Communion Prep:	Keith & Gill Knox
Communion Servers:	Ron & Helen Bichan Margaret Lake & John Melville
Prayers of People:	Keith Knox
Reception:	David & Heather Bray
Morning Tea:	Tupou Family
Cleaning:	Vave Fifita
Pantry:	Ron Bichan
Tellers:	Geoff Hughes & David Bray
Flowers:	Marie Jones
Lectionary:	Psalm 71:1-6 Luke 4:21-30

4.15pm Longview Service: Keith Knox Music: Robin Thomson

OFFICE

Hours: Tues—Fri, 9.00am—12.30pm
The Centre, 6 Elena Pl, Tawa
Administrator: Leanne
PO Box 51-019, Tawa, 5249
Ph: 232-8844
Email: tawa_union@orcon.net.nz

MINISTER

Rev Clare Lind
Ph: 021-0276-1962
Email: tawaminister@orcon.net.nz

Website: www.tawaunionchurch.org.nz

Welcome to Tawa Union Church

If you are a visitor we are pleased to meet you and hope you enjoy your time with us today. For further information on Tawa Union Church please speak to the worship leader or an elder, identifiable by their gold name tag. For office details see back page.

Please note your nearest fire exit.

The meeting place is the far end of the car park.

In an earthquake: Drop, Cover and Hold.

Trust Porirua City Brass Band presents: **Brass on the Grass** at Aotea Lagoon from 2pm on Saturday 16th February. Free Entry.

Sunday 27th January was recognised as World Leprosy Day. The International **Leprosy Mission** seeks to bring transformation and “rife in all its fullness” for people, world wide affected by leprosy. The Leprosy Mission, founded more than 140 years ago by Wellesley Bailey now has worldwide staff who care and support patients in many African countries, India, China, extensively in Asia, South America even New Zealand, through clinics, hospitals and outreach to villages. T.L.M.is worthy of our prayers and support.

Rosters for March-April-May will be compiled soon, if you are unavailable during this time please email the office as soon as possible.

Are you able to help? As we start the new years roster it's a great time to get involved and help if you are able. As the saying goes “many hands make light work” so please speak to Heather Collins or Leanne about what you can do to keep our church running so smoothly.

February **Refrigerator Informators** are now out, if you are not on email please collect a copy from the foyer. Help distributing would be appreciated.

Tawa Learners' Band -Tuesday weekly practices resume at 7pm on 5th Feb. The Band is going strong – 50+ years since it was formed by our Boys' Brigade.
It is a relaxed group of players, of all ages: brass, wind and percussion; open to all ages. Ideal for learners and those wanting to return to playing.
More information from Keryn Campbell, 232-5815

On the Notice board this week:

- **Central Roundup:** Moderatorial Messages; Events, Workshops and Retreats; Stumped
- **MCNZ Presidential Team Blog**

On the Web:

- The Executive of the **MCNZ National Women's Fellowship** is now preparing a monthly newsletter. This is available on the Methodist website http://www.methodist.org.nz/organisations/methodist_women_s_fellowship (under 'President's Newsletters').
- **Bush Telegraph:** <https://www.presbyterian.org.nz/publications/bush-telegraph/2019/february-2019>

Girls Brigade starts again on Monday 11th February at the usual time of 6pm to 7.30pm. New girls welcome, contact Leanne 232-2031 or in the church office. Come in mufti and bring any uniform that needs updating.

Advance Notice

On February 24th after the 9.30am church service we will be holding a special congregational meeting about the Ministry Settlement process that the parish will follow to find its next minister for when Clare finishes at the end of January 2020.

Next week the church bulletin will have an insert with more details about the above and an update on our KCML intern. Mark February 17th on your calendars, Sian will be commissioned during our 9.30am service on that date.

Some of you may know that Ruth Day's brother, Asher Samson, was deported from the UK back to Pakistan a couple of weeks ago. He had lived in the UK for 14 years, 3 years on a student visa. For the last 10 years he has been applying for asylum in the UK, because the political attitudes have hardened against members of Pakistan's minority religious groups and Christians are facing increased persecution. Asher has not been well served by some of the lawyers he employed to help him in the UK.

Unfortunately, by the time he had a good lawyer, deportation proceedings were a long way down the track. A final appeal by this lawyer for a stay of proceedings until things could be sorted out properly was ignored. The house Asher was staying in was raided by the police and Asher was taken away still in his pyjamas and put into custody. He was taken in a military plane to Islamabad.

It is not a good time to be a Christian in Pakistan. The current government has connections with hard- line Islamist groups. Asher is a Christian pastor which makes him particularly vulnerable, and his family have grave fears for his safety. He is now in hiding in Pakistan.

Rev Lorraine Shorten, a United Reform Minister in the UK, has been working with the family trying to help Asher. She has started an online petition appealing to the Home Office to have Asher returned to the UK. If you follow this link it will bring up the petition and if you would like to, you would be able to sign it. Look for the red box. <https://www.change.org/p/please-help-us-bring-asher-home>

If you would like to help Asher out with the cost of his legal expenses there are envelopes in the foyer that can be placed in the offering bag. Funds gathered will be passed on through the office to the correct channel. Don't donate through the website because your donation will go to the maintenance of the website and not to Asher's expenses.