

## Welcome to the service 14 January 2018

Speaker (10am & 2pm): Joy Davis

First 2pm service today



Joy Davis  
Community  
Ministry

For most, the holidays are either drawing to a close or over. What a blessing times of rest are, time to reflect, time to plan, even if it is the next holiday!

As we head into 2018 we will face many challenges, as individuals and as a church. How do we tackle them? Many we will have the ability to meet using our own gifts and abilities. Some we will need help from others with, still others will seem too hard, too risky. For all of them we will need God's help. Nehemiah found this out, as we will discover as we continue working our way through his story.

Nehemiah found prayerful planning and execution, brings better outcomes.

When we fail, God helps us learn (if we are open to that) some failures can even be redeemed. For those challenges that seem risky, too hard, God will help us plan, give us courage and confidence, open (or close) doors. Seems easy! Just pray, prepare and plan, trust God and be prepared to accept the outcome...maybe not so easy! Handing over total control is never easy- ever taken a family member for a driving lesson? That is an occasion for much prayer!

For our plans to have the best hope of succeeding, with the best possible outcomes, we must hand over control, seek God's will and direction, plan well, get organized then step out and trust him. It truly is the most liberating experience.

All of 2018 awaits, God has good things planned, so will you hand over control, seek him, and join in?

My desk calendar this week said: *"When God asks you to step out of your comfort zone, do it, and wear a glorious pair of new shoes!"*

Try it you won't be disappointed.

Joy

Important dates to note:

FUEL Service resumes Sunday 28th January 2018

EPI C Service resumes Sunday 11th February 2018

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### News from Your Global Mission Team

**Egypt**—From Colin and Elaine Scurr

“In November we had the privilege of spending time with Joseph and Helen Nakhla in Cairo. They are generous hosts and showed us places in Cairo that many visitors do not see. Being there on a Friday (the Egyptian equivalent of our Sunday) we were able to attend the Heliopolis Community Christian Church. This oasis of calm in busy Cairo could have been any evangelical church in any country of the World. However as with all Churches in Egypt it did have an armed guard posted outside plus barriers to prevent car bombing. It was a delight to speak to some members who had fond memories of Berys Miller and her influence on their lives.

Joseph and Helen spend time with many house groups. Joseph is studying for his Masters degree in Theology. Helen is involved with teaching English to a group of Moslem Syrian refugees. They are vital pastoral support people for the Christian communities they are involved with as being a Christian in a majority Moslem country is challenging. Hany will finish high school midyear and Sara is doing an honours year (an addition to her already completed three year degree) in NZ for which she has been awarded a scholarship. Sara has been home in Cairo over the Christmas period.”

**Short Term Mission teams** - Two teams are heading away this year.

In June six East Taieri people plus three from Cromwell fly out to Malawi to encourage and support Jim and Diane Young. We will also be involved in helping two churches complete their building projects although they may be largely complete by the time we arrive. The team will also visit Blantyre (in the southern part of Malawi) to see the World Vision Onga project that East Taieri now supports.

In July the Youth Team heads to Vanuatu and especially Tanna Island to support the Christian community there. For some of the Youth this will be their second trip so it will be a wonderful opportunity to cement relationships with the schools there and that area in particular. Arrangements are underway for a visit to the Tear Fund Nasi Tuan project on Tanna that supports peanut and coffee growing on the island.

#### **Sunday 18 February**

All services this Sunday will have an emphasis on Global Mission as the two STM teams are introduced to the congregations. Fund-raising opportunities to support the projects both teams will be involved in will also be profiled.

#### **GM meetings**

The first meeting for the year is scheduled for Tues 23rd January, Kowhai Room, beginning at 7.30pm. You are welcome to join the Team.



### Pine Cones for Sale

Large sacks of pine cones \$10.00 each  
Fund raising for Oliver Cleland going to Vanuatu in July  
Free delivery in Mosgiel area  
Phone: 260 6160 or email [clelandclan@snap.net.nz](mailto:clelandclan@snap.net.nz)



**Community Garden ‘Dig Up’  
Monday 15th January at 10.30am (weather permitting)  
All welcome**

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