

### Intermediate Sunday Group

- \* Pray for Hayley Grant & Hayley Olsen, as they lead this group on a Sunday.
- \* Pray that the friendships in the group continue to strengthen and become firm so that they can support one another as they grow in their faith and love of Jesus.
- \* Pray that they will have strength and courage to be different in a world that wants them to blend in.

### SHFT/YET (Youth East Taieri)

- ⇒ Continue to pray for the young people who come to our programmes, that they will come to know Jesus in their lives. Pray for wisdom for our paid staff and volunteers.
- ⇒ Give thanks for our SHFT Board. Pray that they will have wisdom in decisions to be made, particularly around staffing for 2026; and that God will lead in finding new staff; and the team working together.
- ⇒ Give thanks for the “What about God?” group that meets on Tuesday at Taieri College. Pray that we will continue to build fellowship amongst the group. Pray that the ‘right number’ would come; that we can answer questions for seekers, create a safe space for all, and strengthen believers.
- ⇒ Pray for our Ground Zero term, particularly for camp coming up 13-14 September. Pray for our young leaders growing in confidence to lead. Pray for great relationships amongst all the adult leaders, junior leaders, leaders in training and participants. Pray that many will be encouraged to engage in Friday night and/or Sunday night as their time with GZ finishes at the end of the term.
- ⇒ Pray for planning for our Challenge program for Wednesday nights in Term 4. Pray for the building of our leadership team, for all the participants that will sign up, and for safety for the term. Give thanks that this opportunity is available for our young people.
- ⇒ Pray for our Friday night youth group. Give thanks for our dedicated volunteers and for Emma leading the program. Give thanks that so many are coming along each week, regularly 40+. Pray that we will be able to grow true community and point the youth to Jesus. Pray for safety and fun week to week.



*‘Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in all circumstances give thanks for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus...’ 1 Thessalonians 5 v 17-18*



## PrayerMatters...September 2025

*Prayer letter for East Taieri Church-*

*‘To Know, To Grow, To Go...’*

**September 2025**

Welcome to the latest edition of our bi-monthly prayer letter for all of the ET congregations. You can use this personally in your time with God, with each other, with your prayer partner, in your groups or in your congregations. Some of these are for future events. With prayer, working with God we can accomplish much.

### Praying thoughts...from Charles Price (Living Truth, People’s Church, Toronto, excerpts taken from daily Devotional August 2025)

‘Weddings are exciting occasions to celebrate the love a couple has for each other as they commit to spending the rest of their lives together. Now, imagine after all the pomp and circumstance of a wedding, the groom turned to his bride and said, “Today was great, but I have to run. I’ve got a golf game with the groomsmen tonight and won’t be home till late!” The next morning, the groom woke up next to his new bride and said, “Oh, right! I have a wife now! Sorry, I forgot. The morning after, he said something similar and this went on for a few weeks. How would this couple describe their marriage? Lifeless and pointless. The Christian life is a relationship with God, but how often do we treat it like the marriage relationship described above? There is an initial joy and excitement after becoming a Christian, but slowly and subtly, spending time with God becomes something we quickly slot into our busy lives. We may say a quick catch-all prayer before our head hits the pillow at night, thanking God for taking care of us and asking Him to bless our families and missionaries too. This would amount to no more than a minute of our entire day talking to God. I have had some people come to me saying, “I am a Christian. I believe in God and I love Jesus Christ. But what I can’t seem to understand is why my Christian life feels so dry. God seems distant to me.” I would then follow-up with a question asking, “How much time do you spend alone with God?” And the response I almost always receive is, “That’s my weak spot.” Of course, God would feel distant if they do not spend time listening and talking to Him.

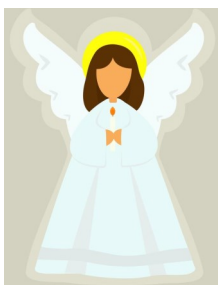
Almost every time a relationship falls apart it is because of a communication breakdown. This is why prayer is so vitally important. Prayer brings us into relationship with God, that is, it brings us into communication. Hence, when the Christian life becomes dull, when God becomes distant, when our Christian experiences become dry, we can be very sure that there is very little prayer going on. Prayer is like the fuel of our life. When we diligently spend time in prayer, we will begin to notice qualitative differences in our relationship with God, one of them being that we grow more and more eager for our time alone with Him.’

## From the **ELDERS** ...

- Pray for the Elders as they meet, make decisions and seek God for the Church and its future.
- Pray for the exploration of the structure of the Church and the ideas going forward.
- Pray for the right person to become the Senior Pastor and for the work of the MSB (many Churches are in the same position).
- Pray for the ongoing building plans for both ET and Fuel.
- Pray for unity in purpose and vision and protection, wisdom and discernment for all the Elders and the staff team.
- Pray for Jo as she manages the admin while Leanne is away.

### Christmas Outreach 19-21<sup>st</sup> December

The team has already been working hard on the theme and activities for this year. The theme is based around Angels in the control room, but we haven't got a name for it yet. This year we will also be incorporating a short children's drama, with dance. Please pray for the following:



Pray that the plans come together for Lynda Willsman and Deborah Taylor who are working on the drama and dance.

Pray for creative ideas for the whole team as they pull together activities. Pray that God will open doors and shut doors to keep us on the right track.

Pray that we will have enough volunteers to step into all of the areas needed. Please pray for those who are working on building props and for those who are thinking about technology.

### For ALPHA concluding end of September:

- ⇒ Thank God for the huge response, questions that have been raised and discussed and a slow realisation for many of the gospel of Jesus and what this means.
- ⇒ For team, for unity and protection.
- ⇒ For hearts to be open to the gospel for salvation and that people will come to faith or have a renewal of their relationship with Jesus.
- ⇒ Pray for the impact of ALPHA on the guests lives.



### 'Little Groovers'

Pray for the family connections being made through the team who lead this work—that God's love will be demonstrated and draw people in.

### Night Church...

- ◇ Give thanks for the young people who worship and serve amongst us and for the team that is developing to lead this congregation and for term 4 and the plans ahead.
- ◇ Pray for wisdom for those leading youth groups. Pray for the young people who are only just being exposed to ideas about faith and God and that the Spirit will reveal Jesus to them.
- ◇ Pray for Amos and Micah who are heading off with YWAM in September, for their protection, willingness to learn and take risks and the impact for their developing faith.



### Fuel...

- Thank God for this congregation who are expressing Church alternatively, learning and growing together and reaching out to their community.
- For the growth in people's lives and faith and for more families to come. Thank God for the families that are now coming.
- For the plans for improvements to the facilities; for wisdom, guidance and provision and that these will become a reality.



### 2pm folk...

For our members who are becoming frail and for their spouse or carers to continue to have the energy required to meet their needs 24/7. May the ones suffering know the peace and understanding of our Lord Jesus Christ and the Carers gain strength and patience from the Holy Spirit. Ask for additional younger members to join their ranks who could help boost the support team.

### Children's work... Sundays

Praise God for the growth of the children's work as numbers grow. We are praying that 10 more will come too.

Pray for Kerah and her team for wisdom and inspiration.

Pray for their protection and for unity and consistency amongst them and the children's work as a whole.

The theme for term 4 is based on the Parables of Jesus. Pray for those who are preparing and leading for term 4.

Pray the children will be inspired, come to personal faith and be equipped to be firm in their faith as they grow and develop.

