



CONNECT



Keeping Church Relevant

CONTENTS

- 2 Pastor's Pen
- 3 Close Up with Michelle Herbert
- 4 Deep Devotion
- 5 Equipped to face the challenges of life
- 6 Connecting @ HBC Camp 2012
- 7 Opportunity & Involvement
- 8 Communication & Looking Ahead

*Are you wanting to make some new friends?
Then why not come and connect with us, here at
Hawera Baptist Church.*



Sunday Worship
10AM
All Welcome



**HAWERA
BAPTIST CHURCH**

OUR PURPOSE

We exist to:

Honour God

Build the Kingdom of God

Connect with our Community



honour | build | connect

OUR VISION

**“Living Faith
from the
Inside Out”**

Living faith in such a way that we see our own spiritual growth result in greater participation in God's work of transformation, through significant Kingdom impact, in our community and beyond.

OUR FOCUS

Our focus comes out of what we value and forms an important part of the implementation of our vision.

- Prayer & Worship
- Discipleship & Training
- Care & Inclusion
- Local & Global Mission
- Resourcing & Administration



PASTORS PEN



It's great to be writing for our second "Connect" magazine. What a wonderful success the first magazine was, and that success is largely thanks to fellow editor and friend Brendan Grant and his hard work to pull it together. With this next edition, my hope is that "Connect" will become something of a companion for us as we take the steps that God is calling us to as a Church. Have a good read of it now, but also keep it handy over the next couple of months. I encourage you to refer to it often as we start to see the things talked about in it unfold in our lives and community.

Recently, I've been thinking a lot about the relationship between plans and reality. So often our plans are not 100% reflected in the reality that unfolds in our lives. When Helen and I bought our first home in Rotorua eight years ago, then, after moving a number of times, finally built our "dream home" in 2009, it appeared that our financial plans were all coming to fulfillment.

However, nothing could have prepared us for the whirlwind we've been through over the past couple of years. A cacophony of: Council, lawyers, engineers and aggrieved neighbours all protecting their own interests as, through no fault of our own, we discover our "dream home" is sinking into the ground.

I don't know the final outcome of all of this right now, but what I do know is that God is at work in it all. He is at work in the circumstances; He is at work in all those who are helping us out; and most importantly, He is at work in us! We can trust God for the past, the present and the future.

The same is true for us as a Church. Our success can never be measured in the size of our congregation or even the "influence" we have for the Kingdom of God in this town. Our success is far more to do with our relationship with God - maintaining and sustaining intimate communion with our Lord; and in the depth of relationship that this brings to us as a community.

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world". "Living faith from the inside out" requires us to look deep inside and explore those "dark" places where only the light of Christ can penetrate.

Let's make sure that He is the light in our world as we continue to do the work of reaching this community for Him. Let's look deep inside ourselves as we seek to be "Living faith from the inside out"!

Arohanui,

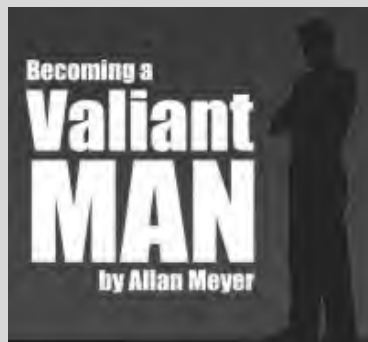
Pastor David



Morning Prayer

Tuesday's 7 - 8am
During June & July
@ Hawera Baptist Church

Course currently in progress 16 May – 18 July



Valiant Man is a 10-week course for men. Developing and maintaining a healthy sexuality is every man's battle. Valiant Man is about male sexual discipleship. This program with study and devotional guide is designed to fortify and restore the moral and spiritual integrity of men. Valiant Man challenges all men to fight for their own personal, moral and spiritual vitality and help other men fight for theirs.

Where Can I Find More Course Info?

Visit www.careforcelfekeys.org for more detailed course information or contact Matthew Smythe Ph 06 278 3009

MICHELLE HERBERT

Michelle spent most of her growing years down in Paraparaumu where her Dad was employed as a Postmaster. She has fond memories of childhood, growing up in a beautiful spot, where she would spend her days with her neighbourhood friends, fishing for eels and building forts, as long as they were home for tea by 5pm. One of her friends went to church and from time to time Michelle was invited to go along, she enjoyed the family atmosphere and thought it was a nice thing to do. Her Dad was against religion but mum believed, she had a Bible and often pointed out scripture. Michelle grew up to be compassionate and a determined young woman.

Finishing school at 15, Michelle found a full time job at Copsford Florist at Coastland Mall, spending the next twenty-two years as a florist. Moving to Hawera Michelle worked for the local florists in town before setting up the florist at New World. Michelle then decided it was time to try something new, she enjoyed caring for people and decided to do a caregivers course and became the activities officer at Calvary Rest Home now called Trinity.

Today Michelle is a solo mum with four children, Ashley 21, Michael 17, and twins Toni and Grace 7½. She is co-ordinator for Friend's Plus, Tuck In and Wake Up service in South Taranaki. A service caring for the elderly in their own homes, making sure they take their medication, they are secure and dressed, ready for bed or the day ahead. Michelle enjoys connecting with people, caring for the elderly and co-ordinating staff. She feels so blessed to have a job where she can work from home and have flexible hours, a perfect situation for a solo mum.

Michelle has always been a keen cyclist but after having three serious cycling accidents, she has decided to take up walking 8km's every second day instead. In her last crash Michelle was biking out to Normanby at 42km/hr and a lady turned right in front of her – colliding, her bike cracked in half and she broke both her legs. Not knowing this she kept trying to get on her bike but couldn't, she was embarrassed wondering what was wrong with her. Next thing she passed out and nearly dying of shock, the ambulance took her to hospital.

Michelle has developed a strong interest in diet and health after feeling like she lacked energy and doctors found a thyroid condition. So she has decided to go Vegan and started following the book Fit for Life and kicked the thyroid problem in 2½ weeks and lost 11kg in four weeks.

Michelle has always believed in the creator God who lives in heaven and she would often pray and thank Him, but when her Mum died she got angry and yelled at God and said He didn't exist. Michelle continued her search with the Mormons and Jehovah Witness's reading the Bible and asking questions. Then one day Michelle's friends invited her along to the Baptist Church.

Michelle was ready for church, it was the right time after being through a rough relationship breakup, the final step was to split the assets and move out. The church family was supportive in many ways through prayer, encouragement and practical help. One answer to prayer was when a home new home was made available for Michelle and the girls which was close to school.



Toni, Michelle & Grace

All through life Michelle has had an awareness of spiritual things, but not always in a positive way. The church family has helped Michelle identify and become aware of these spiritual encounters that were scary and didn't make sense. What happened was every time Michelle would seek to learn more about God, along came a scary spiritual encounter, which scared the hell out of her and caused her to pull back. But Michelle was ready to face it head on and when it occurred again, it was the last time, she decided it was time to give her life to the Lord. Michelle thanked Jesus for dying for her and turned away from sin and asked Jesus to come into her life. She was baptised and received prayer for these scary spiritual encounters to leave in Jesus name and they have.

Let the heavens be filled with joy. Let the earth be glad. Let them say among the nations, "The Lord rules!" Let the ocean and everything in it roar. Let the fields and everything in them be glad. Then the trees in the forest will sing to the Lord. He will judge the people of the world. 1 Chronicles 16:31-33

To Repent Means...

To feel so sorry for the things you've done wrong that you decide to change your life for the better.

If there is no repentance, there is no salvation.

Jesus said, "...unless you repent, you too will all perish." (Luke 13:3). But the good news is that God is "not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance." (2 Peter 3:9b).

"If you have not repented, you will not see the inside of the kingdom of God." Billy Graham

You may like to pray this prayer,

Loving God, thank you sending your Son to pay the price for my sins. I turn away from my sinful life and choose to follow you. Please come into my heart now I pray, in Jesus name, Amen.

DEEP DEVOTION

Some people are dedicated to their work. Some people are dedicated to their families. Some people are dedicated to a set of ideals or a vision of the future. Dedication is a wonderful thing.

However, if dedication will mean that you go the extra mile, then devotion means that you'll get there even if you have to crawl! The dictionary defines devotion as "profound dedication; consecration". Indeed, there is something very profound about devotion, it has a spiritual aspect to it that compels us and consumes us.

That's what I think of when I think about prayer and worship. Prayer and worship should come from a place of deep devotion; somewhere deep inside of us that yearns to express our love and gratitude to God; somewhere that compel us to be changed, even transformed, by the power of the Holy Spirit.

That's a pretty big concept – Prayer and Worship is an expression of our deep devotion!

So how do we take such a big concept and apply it to our everyday lives? Even more challenging, how do we apply it to our life as a community of faith, when we're all wired so differently? Well, I think it starts by us making it a priority in the normal day-to-day things that we do.

Let me give a few examples:

- Our "Missions Team" recently decided that we needed to change our approach to meetings and to spend ½ the time in prayer. That happened at our last meeting and made a tangible difference – we've decided to make this the normal practice for us as a team.
- Recently, I turned my car stereo to "the concert program" so that I can use the beautiful classical music as a pathway to worship God rather than just hum along to the latest trashy words on the regular channels.
- At the moment my six year old daughter Emma is wanting to read stories from "The Jesus Storybook Bible" every night. My eight year old Hannah has to read 15 minutes a night for homework and will often ask to read a great kids theology book we have called "Who made God? And other tricky questions" – that's theology aimed at kids, that many adults (including myself) benefit from reading!
- The Valiant Man group at Church has introduced morning and evening devotions relating to the material we are going through – it's a wonderful discipline to take those moments to reflect regularly on what is important in our Christian lives.

...and there are so many more "little" things that make all the difference when it comes to us expressing our deep devotion for God. Start to make a list for yourself...what's missing? What could you add? Let's take the challenge of making our lives open to God's presence 24/7. Let's make prayer and worship a tangible, normal and even instinctive expression of our deep devotion to our Lord.

Mid-Winter Dinner

6pm Tuesday 17 July
Home Group Potluck

Guests Welcome RSVP Deanna

Txt 027 340 2275 / Ph 06 278 7422

careforce

HBC Pastoral Care Team

Kicks Off 12pm Sunday 15 July

With Pizza & Chips RSVP Brendan

Txt 027 340 2275 / Ph 06 278 7422



KIDS CHURCH

Year 1 – 7

Sunday 10 – 11:30am
Hawera Baptist Church

Are you READY?

PRAYER AND SELF DENIAL

10 – 24 June 2012



Find us on
Facebook

<http://facebook.com/groups/hawerabaptist>

EQUIPPED

TO FACE THE CHALLENGES OF LIFE



I don't know about you, but I am loving Acts. It just seems so relevant and applicable to where we are as a church and who we are as individuals. There are so many lessons and challenges for us to take on board, which if we do so will help us to have a greater impact in our own lives, our church, our community, our country and even to the ends of the world, as we are challenged to have by Jesus.

Now it's all well and good knowing what we should be like or should be doing, but I know that it is a different story knowing how to get there. At times we can feel so bewildered and overpowered by all that we know we need to change or grow in, without the knowledge of how to do this. Looking at it from a Discipleship and Training point of view, there are so many opportunities that we have to up skill and develop ourselves and others around us, making this change easier.

There are a number of courses being run currently within the church that are designed to equip us to live out our lives more like Jesus would have us live. The Alpha course is a course that the church runs fairly regularly for those people exploring what life is about, people who don't believe that life is only about what exists in this physical realm and people who ask the question, "There must be more than this?" The course is a really good introduction to the Christian faith, in which many of the common searching questions often asked are explored and answered.

There are also Tuesday night home groups that run a variety of courses, one of which is "the Power of the Whisper", in which Bill Hybels reveals the attitudes and actions that help us hear directly from heaven as we navigate the most significant challenges on earth - Hearing God, Having the Guts to Respond.

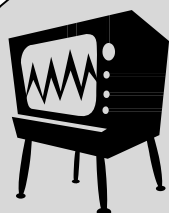
How often have you asked the question "if only I knew what the Lord wanted me to do?" May be this is a course for you or maybe the next one will be?

A group of us men are also doing a course this term called "Valiant Man", where we are exploring exactly who God has called us to be and also how to be this man, in a world where sexual integrity doesn't have the level of priority that God intended. This course helps establish a start in men's lives where sexual integrity becomes a progressive thing, where over time standards in our lives and minds are raised, up to the level that God has always intended them to be.

Hopefully there will be something on offer for you that will help provide you with the tools and knowledge to make meaningful change a reality in your life. If not, maybe you should be seeking the Holy Spirits guidance on something that does stir your heart. If you already have an idea or passion for a certain course or area I would love to speak to you, as we always need to be seeking direction on where to go from here.

What they've got to say.....

Hi my name is Michelle. I went on my first Alpha course and loved it; I am a very new Christian so am very hungry to learn as much as I can about God. The Alpha course is a very good way to learn in a safe friendly environment with like-minded people who are more than happy to encourage any questions that you might have. I really enjoyed the course and even attended a second Alpha! I feel I have more confidence in all areas of my life. I would love to see many more people enjoying the Alpha experience as I have. A great place to meet new friends ☺



Movie Night

Bring a friend and some munchies to share.
Choose a night that suits below.

Your Hosts ...

7pm Friday 29 June

Michelle Herbert

RSVP Text 027 275 8790 / Phone 06 278 1110

7pm Saturday 30 June

Stephanie

RSVP Text 027 335 9899 / Phone 06 278 1320

7pm Sunday 1 July

Matthew & Inge Smythe

RSVP Text 027 507 8636 / Phone 06 278 3009



CONNECTING

@ HBC CAMP 2012



Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. 1 John 4:7a

OPPORTUNITY & INVOLVEMENT



**Welcome Bay Mission Team
May 2012**

Opportunity and involvement. These two words seem to come up a lot recently, and I believe they are great together - God presents us with opportunities, and we make a choice to get involved in what He is doing.

The recent visit by the Welcome Bay team was a great example of how people can get involved in the life of the church and particularly in missions. Some people hosted the visitors, some organised the market outreach, there were people who prepared games for the Saturday event, and those who cooked and served food. Someone perhaps was less visible and simply said a quiet prayer for the travel safety and reaching new friends. Others responded to the invitation and made an effort to come and join the Amazing Race. Everyone described above was important, everyone contributed, everyone mattered. And all together we made things happen and each other's loads lighter.

The following quote grabbed my attention (author unknown, one of those things travelling on the internet): "There are three things that never come

back to you - time, words and opportunities. So don't waste your time, choose your words carefully and don't lose opportunities".

Here are a couple of people from the Welcome Bay team sharing of their 'opportunities and involvements':

"It was a great pleasure to lead a Team from Welcome Bay Community Church in Tauranga on Mission to Hawera in May - something I have not done for over three decades. It is so easy to believe in and talk about mission but not actually get around to doing it. Even if it was half as much a blessing to the good people of Hawera Baptist as it was to us, they would have been blessed indeed. It gave our Team, ranging in ages from mid-teens to nearly seventy, growth opportunities in testifying to faith, and sharing struggles in the Christian life, which we all experience. The hosts were marvelously hospitable and apart from anything else we made some new friends and enjoyed each other's company. I recommend going on mission as a great experience for faith building and growth. Thanks so much for having us!" Alan Withy

"I experienced the warm hospitality offered by your church. Our hosts went the extra mile in caring for a late arrival! It was a great opportunity to share my testimony, which was a welcome reminder of how much God has done in my life. Saturday market was a fun opportunity to make music in an impromptu band, something that seldom happens for me, and in general it was a great opportunity to get to know members of our own church better." Nigel Stables



**WELCOME BAY
COMMUNITY CHURCH**

An **Opportunity** is on the horizon for team to go on a Missions Trip to Welcome Bay, Tauranga in October 2012. Please talk to Olya if you are interested in being **Involved**.

Supporting the Trewavas Family

A few weeks ago Mark, Katrina and family said their goodbyes and left Hawera on their big adventure with God as missionaries. Their 1st stop was Australia where they did some important courses to equip them for ministry in Thailand. It has been an intense time of learning, homework and also looking after the family, but Katrina said they all coped well. Here are some things we can pray for this family:

- Safe travel between the countries and in Thailand.
- Health and adjusting to new foods and new ways of shopping and cooking.
- Setting up home schooling routines.
- Quick and even supernatural learning of the language.
- Making new friends with locals and cultural understanding.
- Being encouraged daily though God's word and His Spirit, and other believers.





HAWERA BAPTIST CHURCH

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 david@hawerabaptist.org.nz

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 Hank Mansvelt 06 278 7464
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 matinge.smythe@sky.com

Care & Inclusion
 Brendan Grant 06 278 7422
 banddgrant@xtra.co.nz

Local & Global Mission
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 olyabartlett@gmail.com

Resourcing & Administration
 Sharon Wilkinson 06 278 3118
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 helen@auty.co.nz

Youth Ministry
 Sarah Harris 06 278 6561
 sa.sj.harris@gmail.com

Community Craft Group
 Yvonne Evans 06 278 3388



Hawera Baptist Church
 www.hawerabaptist.org.nz

COMMUNICATION



From Wikipedia: "**Communication** is the activity of conveying information. Communication has been derived from the Latin word "communis", meaning to share"

At our recent 'Champions' meeting we were asked to write an article for 'Connect' encompassing a one-word descriptor given. Mine is 'communication'.

Hard to believe but I have been the church administrator for a year now. Whilst there have been many new ideas and activities in that time there has also been one constant running through my role.....communication. It comes in many and varied forms. The obvious is the weekly newsletter sharing information with the church family and with any visitors who pick one up. I also send out emails or pop things into the pigeon holes as and when required. My current focus is the Contact List which again shares information to our church family.

We have also embraced the social networking world and now have a Facebook page. This can be visited and commented/updated on by all thus sharing information about us to the world wide web! The same can be said of our Website which shares information visually and aurally.

Now, all this 'communicating' within our church family, local community and "www." is great but we need to stay focussed on our commission as disciples and think about the way in which we communicate the 'Good News' to others. Are we conveying the information? Are we sharing the Love of God? Is the recipient getting the message?

When I was teaching in Sunday School I had a really clear image and that was that as a teacher I was taking the small hand of the child and putting it in Gods mighty hand. The same can be said of our 'communicating' the love of God to those who don't yet know him.

"May the words of my mouth and the thoughts of my heart be pleasing to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer" Psalm 19:14 (NLT)

Blessings Sharon

LOOKING AHEAD

10 - 24 June Prayer & Self Denial

29 June Soul Surfer Movie Nights

15 July Careforce Kicks Off with Pizza & Chips

17 July Mid-Winter Dinner

October Sending Mission Team to Welcome Bay



Community Craft Group



When: Tuesdays 9:30 - 11:30am
Where: Hawera Baptist Church Hall

If you want to explore your crafty side why not come along to our craft group. A typical morning includes morning tea, a thought for the day and women bring a craft along, whatever they enjoy. On the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month there is a visiting teacher in card making. The craft group is a safe place for women to go, to share and support one another in friendship.

Contact Yvonne Evans, Phone 06 278 3388