Weekly News

10TH AUGUST 2025

fairfield baptist church

Connect, Care, Commit, Contribute

Fairfield Baptist Church

In unity be a fully functioning Biblical community, demonstrating the love, grace and truth of Christ, through our worship, walk and witness.

Connect with those inside the church and beyond

Do a random act of kindness this week (RAK)

Care for one another

Encourage someone in the church with a card, note or small gift

Commit to sharing Christ's love with others

Offer to pray or share your faith with someone not part of the church

Contribute to the life and mission of FBC

Serve God in a ministry this week

www.fairfieldbaptist.co.nz
Ph: 07 8555 469
Email: office@fairfieldbaptist.co.nz

THIS SUNDAY

Iunisi Katoa
Ephesians 1:3-8

NEXT SUNDAY

Neville Stevenson
Ephesians 1:9-14
Communion

THIS WEEKS EVENTS

Craft Group: Monday at 10.00am in the Youth room.

Community Lunch: Monday at 12.15pm in the cafe

Cafe Connect: Tuesday from 10.00am - 11.00am in the cafe.

Bowls: Tuesday at 12.45pm in the hall.

Here is the link for last week's sermon:
https://fairfieldbaptist.co.nz/sermon-audio/?sermon=ephesians-introduction

NEWS, ARTICLES AND STORIES FROM
BAPTIST NZ
APP & WEBSITE
MAY JUNE 2025

This newsletter is a print version of the latest articles published on the Baptist NZ website and app. The app now replaces the Baptist magazine and is available to download on Google play and App Store. For those in the Baptist family who prefer to read hardcopy, check out what God is doing in our faith communities in this newsletter, sent bimonthly to churches. If you have email and would like this document to be emailed to you, sign up to our newsletter at baptist.nz.

NATIONAL COUNCIL

A podcast series bringing you brief updates from the Chair of the National Council of The Baptist Churches of New Zealand. Stay updated on what's happening nationally in our movement. Listen on baptist.nz/podcasts

Do you have any stories of gospel renewal in your community?
You can share them by emailing stories@baptist.org.nz

Feedback
If you would like to give feedback on this newsletter, write to our Communications Director at the Baptist Support Centre **PO Box 12 149, Penrose, Auckland 1642, New Zealand.**

CHRISTINE STRIDE

Baptist legend receives King's Service Medal

Christine Stride is Executive Assistant to the Baptist National Leader and works at the Baptist National Support Centre in Auckland. She is a member of Tāmaki Baptist Church in Auckland.

You'd have to search high and low in the New Zealand Baptist world to find someone who doesn't know of Merrilyn Withers.

For nearly 50 years, Merr, as she's known to most, has dedicated herself to enhancing the well-being of young people in New Zealand.

Merr's work was acknowledged in this year's King's Birthday Honours list released on Monday, 2 June. Fittingly, she was attending the King's Birthday (KB) Leadership Training weekend in Rotorua and was able to celebrate the news surrounded by hundreds of young people and Baptist youth ministry workers.

She says her first reaction to receiving the official email from the Honours Unit – Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet was to wonder if it was a joke or a scam.

"I saw the 'Private and Confidential' and I thought, 'Good heavens, someone's having me on.'"

True to form, Merr deflects the honour, saying, "It may have my name on it… but I accept it on behalf of all the people in New Zealand who work for and love young people."

Merr was nominated for the KBM by two people who were in a youth group she led in the 1990s and who have kept in contact with her.

Now 71, Merr has been actively involved in youth leadership for most of her life. From 1979 to 2004, she led youth groups and led regionally in Canterbury and Wellington, giving up evenings and weekends, organising events, clocking up kilometres of travel,

Every 2 months, a printable newsletter with Baptist news and articles is released at baptist.nz/print.

The May/June newsletter is out now and there are a limited number of copies available at the info desk. If you miss out on a copy email the office and one will be sent to you.

SMALL GROUPS

Whether you are young or old , single or a couple we have the small group for you.
Our small groups are groups of a few people who get together regularly to support each other while they do a bible study, establish friendships and strengthen their faith in Jesus.
If you would like to join a small group please contact the office or Derek (our small group deacon)

The Georgiou family are our Mission Focus for August

Capernwray New Zealand: This year we have students from New Zealand, Australia, England, Ethiopia, Switzerland, Germany, Netherlands, Canada, America, and France.

Ross: This has been a busy but also a very rewarding season, with 11 young people getting baptized in 6 months. It's been such an exciting time journeying with the students, building into them and helping them discover how they can serve in Missions after their time at the college by using the gifts God blessed them with.

One of my highlights was to watch one of them share her faith with a group of homeless people in Auckland during the ministry week.

Roula and I hosted a couple of student groups at our house in Auckland, which they all appreciated.
We thank God for each one of you and pray that you may experience God's amazing love, care and peace in a very tangible way.

Continued on next page...

Prayer Chain

All prayer chain requests should be emailed to rose@fairfieldbaptist.co.nz

HELP!

Let the office know if you can help serve in our church..

Iunisi Katoa 11th
Gaylene Burgess 13th

Giving at Fairfield Baptist Church
Online banking: 03-0306-0200267-00 Use your name as a reference
Donation Box in foyer at church
Online via website at https://fairfieldbaptist.co.nz/giving/

We praise God:
- For the new chaplains who completed the GSCA chaplaincy training 2025. Thank you for praying for their protection.
- For the Sports Chaplaincy training teachers, who shared their knowledge and gave up their free time to equip the new sports chaplains from the global Christian community.
- For the successful GSCA Coaching program 2024/2025 who was completed last week.
- For all the young people who came to Capernwray this year to spend time at the feet of Jesus, to learn and grow in their faith and in the relationship with Him.
- For God's protection on the way, especially for Ross, who is spending many hours a week on the road.
- For my successful eye surgery on June 3

Please pray with us:
- Pray for the new chaplains who completed their GSCA Training, and are positioned to serve in different clubs. Some of them work in dangerous places.
- Pray for Lau from Angola. He feels called to full-time Christian ministry and is pursuing theological studies and further studies in Sports Chaplaincy.
- Pray for the direction of GSCA, especially regarding the GSCA chaplaincy training.
- Pray for the complete healing of my eye. I am struggling, especially with computer tasks.
- Pray that the upcoming conference in the UK would be a blessing to every one attending, including Ross and myself (Roula)
- Pray that we will get a good summer break after that. We are looking forward to special times with God.
- Pray for a complete recovery for Ross's dad, who had a hip replacement surgery today. He seems to be in good spirit,
- Pray for complete healing for Roula's mum, who suffered a heart attack 2 days ago due to pneumonia. She is on the way to recovery.

If anyone is interested in baptism and/or membership, please see Ross.

"And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptised every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." Acts 2:38

Prayer is available after the service on Sunday. Please come to the front and one of the prayer team will be happy to pray with you.

The Monday night prayer meeting is held from 7pm to 8pm in the Oasis room.

Tuesday morning prayer meeting is held in the Oasis room at 9.15am.

Dear Fairfield Baptist Church,

We're excited to open our hangar doors and invite you and your family to celebrate Father's Day weekend with us!

Come for an afternoon of planes, good food and lots of fun for the family.
Date: Saturday, 6th September
Time: Between 12PM - 4PM
Location: Kendon-Strong MAF Centre, 7 De Havilland Way, Mount Maunganui.
Activities include:

- Exploring an ex-MAF missionary plane and other aircraft.
- Taking a ride in an antique fire-truck
- Be entertained by FUSE Bucket Drummers
- ...and more!

Tasty food and drink will be on site to purchase, and street parking will be available.

Plus be in to WIN a scenic flight for you and your dad, grandad or kids in our MAF Cessna 206!

This event is a fantastic way to introduce your family and friends to the work of MAF, so be sure to forward this email to them!

We can't wait to see you there!

Stay up to date and share the event by RSVPing to our Facebook event below.

RSVP to the Facebook Event