

## **Outreach Ministries Reports**

### **City Mission outreach team report**

#### Auckland City Mission Haeata Centre

The Parish continues to coordinate a team of 25 volunteers to assist with serving food to those who come to the Mission on a daily basis. We work in teams of five and individuals are rostered on four times per year. All of us recognise the privilege it is to be involved in this ministry which currently consists of preparing and making up bags of takeaway food sufficient for one day.

Lockdown restrictions have caused a disruption to our usual monthly commitment but it is hoped that we can resume our duties before too long.

#### Auckland City Mission Food Bank

Our supermarket trolley for the collection of food items sits in a prominent place in the Gathering Area. Parishioners make regular weekly donations of non-perishable food items which are delivered to the Mission's Distribution Centre. Over a period of four weeks in the lead up to Winter, the Parish continued its tradition of highlighting food items and toiletries which are in particularly short supply at the Mission. It was great to see such a very generous response to the request to make an extra effort to help restock the Foodbank shelves .

#### Auckland City Mission HomeGround

For the third consecutive year, the Parish has decided to use its Annual Quiz night as an opportunity to fundraise for the Mission's new HomeGround building. It is hoped that HomeGround can open before the end of the year. The focus for our August Quiz Night this year was the purchase of equipment for the HomeGround commercial kitchen and dining area, a place where those in need will be able to gather to be fed, to feel safe and to meet with others. A very pleasing amount of \$3500 was raised on the night.

Barbara Weir

### **Habitat for Humanity Curtain Bank**

St Aidan's continues to be a collection point for donated curtains for the Habitat for Humanity Curtain Bank. Preloved curtains are dropped off at the Church during office hours and are collected by HfH on a regular basis. A special thank you is due to Anne in the office for her assistance to those who come with curtains to donate and for her willingness to have curtains stored, on occasions, in her personal work space.

To the year ending 30 June 2021, Habitat reports that 4065 curtains were washed, unpicked, cut, sewn and handed out to low income families. Current research shows that well-fitted, double lined curtains are effective at keeping a home warm and healthy, cutting energy costs and most importantly, reducing hospital admissions and doctors' visits resulting from respiratory infections.

The Parish views this partnership with HfH as an important part of our Outreach programme.

Barbara Weir

## **Pins & Needles Report for AGM 2021**

2020 & 2021 – Two years we will never forget!! Our “Pins and Needles” group have been affected by lockdowns at varying times during this period and unable to meet in person except on rare occasions.

Nevertheless our needles have kept on clicking and in our long hours confined to home our group of wonderful knitters, crocheters, and sewers have produced a staggering amount of baby blankets, cardigans, beanies, bootees, and other delightful baby, children’s and adult garments of various kinds.

Until this latest lockdown we have been able to deliver a constant supply of gifts to Counties Manukau Community Midwives, the Anglican Trust for Women and Children (ATWC), the Neonatal Unit, and Age Concern.

We have not been able to collect many recent goods as our Church buildings have been closed, but when we recently received an urgent call from Counties Manukau Community Midwives for desperately needed supplies of baby blankets, cardigans and beanies we were able to respond quickly as many of our members were able to arrange contactless delivery to Gail Hodder and Marie. There were literally hundreds of goods donated from members throughout the North Island.

Our grateful thanks are due to Gail for her informative and cheery emails to us all, her constant supply of yarn when people ran out and shops were closed, and her safe and careful delivery of our gifts to Counties Manukau Midwives.

While we all missed meeting together on a regular basis with the friendship and fun we enjoy, I am sure we have all had a sense of community and purpose as we spent our lockdown days busy making these delightful baby goods which we know fill a real need in our midst.

May God’s blessings be on our members and especially on those who receive our gifts.

Marie Taylor

## **Prison Ministry Report**

The year started off with a bang but has ended with a whimper!

There are two teams Hein and myself and Barbara Weir, Anne Priestley and Pip Colgan being the other team.

We (Hein and I) were around in January so went in and then resumed, as usual, in February. We then went in on alternate Sundays and this continued till lockdown.

The fact that lockdown prohibited all from being on site was not good for the women at Wiri and has left the prison ministry somewhat bankrupt.

Chaplaincy is an integral part of Sunday and the women look forward to the services. Different churches and denominations visit so the women hear a ‘gospel smorgasbord’.

The Chaplain did send out a Prayer Calendar for the women and the different units within the Prison which also included the Guards, Nurses and essential workers

Often we could not go to all the blocks we usually visit due to a variety of non-disclosable factors.

The Chaplaincy at ARWCF does an amazing work in furthering God’s kingdom and attending to the individual needs of the women. Praise God that this Ministry still exists!

Let us look forward to new beginnings, when we are allowed to enter once again.

Sheryl Swanevelder