

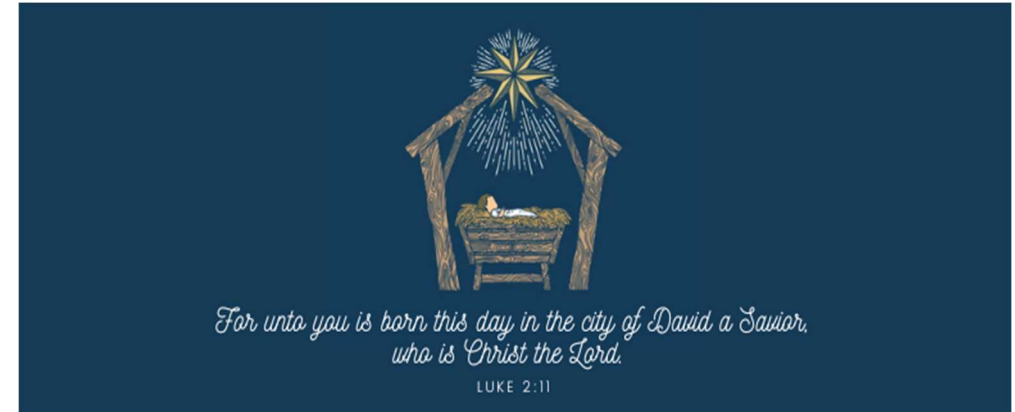
## Let's Pray!

- Praise God for the priceless gift of His only Son.
- Worship Him, the radiant King of life who calls us His very own.
- Give thanks for all the prayers answered this year, and where those prayers are still to be answered, pray for God's comfort and strength.
- Remember to keep in prayer those who will find this festive season lonely and isolating, and especially those who will be celebrating Christmas for the first time this year without a loved one.
- Pray for everyone traveling, for safety and refreshment.
- Pray for the Police, First Responders, Fire Brigade and Surf Life Savers who sacrifice time with their families to serve our communities.
- Pray for Te Hahi, remembering that this can be a time when family stress and violence is particularly evident.
- Pray for our Sister Churches for unity amongst believers, and together we will demonstrate the true message of Christmas.
- Pray for our Government. Pray for a united focus to provide wise council decisions and unity between all citizens.
- Pray for persecuted peoples dealing with race or religious discrimination. Pray the peace of God will keep them strong and protect their hearts.



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**10 am service every Sunday**



Service Teams	Duty Person	Door Greeter	Morning Tea Team	Clean Team	Communion
December 1 <sup>st</sup>	R Quinn	R Thomas	F Marshall & W Braimoh	J & C Bebarfald	Hosken, Dunnett, Sosa & Franco
December 8 <sup>th</sup>	N Bennett	W Braimoh	R Quinn & P Swinburn	K & M Squires	
December 15 <sup>th</sup>	T Langdon	P Swinburn	Green Family	L Leopard & M Smiles	
December 22 <sup>nd</sup>	R Quinn	V Jones	J & C Bebarfald	I & J Beaven	
December 25 <sup>th</sup>	N Bennett	P Sosa			
December 29 <sup>th</sup>	M Hosken	E Hosken	P Sosa & N Bennett	G & A Hickling	
<b>Communion Servers for December 1:</b> H Dunnett, Z Gilliland, N Bennett, J Mcleod, P Sosa, F Marshall					

Napier Baptist Church is a NZ registered charity: CC26965  
 A member church of the Baptist Union of New Zealand

## December 2024

*Our values*

**Compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.**  
 (Col 3:12)

### CONTACTS

#### Pastor

Andrew Mitchell  
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 pastor@napierbaptist.org.nz

#### Prayer Net

Helen Dunnett  
 helenandivan@gmail.com

#### Community Worker

Sarah Mitchell  
 021 311 418

#### Office Administrator

Patrichia Sosa  
 022 175 0215

#### Leadership Team

John Bebarfald 021 47 1952  
 Pat Swinburn 835 1534

John Bebarfald 844 7476  
 Pat Swinburn 835 1534

## Pastor's Pen

Our 3 1/2 weeks away was a mix of: ministry with 4 days at the National Baptist Hui, catching up with family and friends, hearing from God about the season in front of us, and taking some time to rest and refresh. In all 4 areas it was a valuable time.

### The Baptist Hui

Our highlight was the elective we attended on the first day on community engagement. This was at Southwest (formally Spreydon) Baptist Church. While no single thing stood out, we were encouraged by the many intentional ways that the whole church was endeavouring to be Jesus to their local community. Their story presented some of their successes as well as some of their challenges. This day left us with some valuable learnings and a couple of key connections as we continue to grow in our own community engagement here in Napier.

The main Hui in Rangiora had approx. 350 voting delegates with another 100 to 200 attendees. Many big topics were discussed including serious misconduct by pastoral staff, constitutional changes around the makeup and election process of the assembly council, as well as the process involved for churches who might want to leave the Baptist Union. There were a lot of strong opinions (often opposing), but I was encouraged by how these rigorous discussions occurred in a spirit of gentleness and humility.

I would also like to highlight two points of prayer for the Baptist Union. Next year Charles Hewlitt, our National Leader steps down. He has done a fantastic job in keeping Jesus at the centre of the movement despite the many challenges faced. Secondly, John Tucker resigns as principal of Carey Bible College but will remain as a lecturer. John is another man that I have great admiration for as he is devoted to the authority of Scripture and is an inspiring Bible teacher. As a movement we have been so blessed by the standard of these leaders, but the guard is changing. Please pray that God would raise up the right people into these positions that have such an important influence on the future of the Baptist Union.

Andrew

## Services for December

1 <sup>st</sup> December	Regular Service	Communion
8 <sup>th</sup> December	Annual Planning Meeting (APM)	
15 <sup>th</sup> December	Regular Service	
22 <sup>nd</sup> December	Baptismal Service	
23 <sup>rd</sup> December	Christmas Adam Service	
25 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Day Service	John Bebarfald
29 <sup>th</sup> December	Regular Service	

## Offerings & Gifts

Tithes & offerings total for October: **\$16,287** Budget: **\$13,600**

For more information on ways to give and giving number, refer to flyers available.

Napier Baptist Church's bank account: BNZ - **Napier Branch 02 0700 0010779 00.**

## Notices

### Annual Planning Meeting

The APM will be held on the **8th of December, Sunday**. This will be integrated into the regular service, so please ensure that you can join from the beginning.

### Baptism

Exciting news of another baptism before the end of the year, on the **22<sup>nd</sup> of December, Sunday**. If you feel called to be baptised or have any questions, please speak to Andrew.

### Community Christmas Lunch

The **Napier Family Centre** is hosting a **Christmas lunch on 25<sup>th</sup> of December, 12 p.m.**, at the **Napier Old Boys Marist Clubrooms** for anyone finding the season difficult. To book your place, contact Jill at 0211835069 before 18<sup>th</sup> of December. If you'd like to volunteer, please email [napiercommunitychristmaslunch@gmail.com](mailto:napiercommunitychristmaslunch@gmail.com).

### A Soul Choir Christmas Show

Join Stephan Zebe and the HB Soul Choir for a special performance of **Precious Memories** on **14<sup>th</sup> of December, Saturday, 7:00 p.m.**, at the **Taradale Club**. Tickets are available at the door or online (exclusive group tickets only available online).

**Te Hāhi – Duty week: 2-8<sup>th</sup> December and 30 Dec – 5 January 2025**

## What's On This Month

**Ladies Coffee Club & BOBs Men's Coffee** – Monday, **2<sup>nd</sup> December** at Mitre10 Café at 10:00a.m.

**BMF** – Monday, **9<sup>th</sup> December** at 2:00 p.m. in the Church Lounge.

**Working Bee** – Saturday, **14<sup>th</sup> December**, 9:00 a.m. – noon.

**Shake, Rattle & Roll** – **Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m.** in the Auditorium (School terms).

**Prayer Together** – **Tuesdays, 7:00 – 8:15-ish p.m. and Thursdays, 9:00 – 10:15-ish a.m.** in the Engine Room.

**Care & Share** – **Thursdays at 9:30 a.m.** in the Lounge (School terms).

**Sunday Pre-service Prayer** – **9:15 to 9:50 a.m.** in the Engine Room.

## Study & Fellowship

<b>Super Group</b>	2nd & 4th Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m. 5th shared lunch at 12:30	Brian 0212797305
<b>Tuesday Night Study</b>	6:00 p.m.	Ven 021487373 / 068436302
<b>Women's Bible Study</b>	Tuesdays at 9:30 a.m.	Melanie 02040383482
<b>Wednesday Afternoon</b>	3:00 p.m.	Helen 0278422963
<b>Young Adults' Bible Study</b>	Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.	Sarah 021311418
<b>Evergreens Study</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday at 2:00 p.m.	Eddie 068367363
<b>Thursday Bible Study</b>	7:30 p.m.	Andrew 0276258747 / Sonja 0277282840