

## CHAPEL MESSAGES FOR THE WEEK ENDING 14<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2016

### MONDAY, 10<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER

WELCOME BACK Everyone!

The beginning of Term 4 calls us back to the busy-ness of school life and the final term particularly for our Leaver's Class 2016.

We pray all our Staff and students rested well over the break.

THANK YOU to everyone who helped with preparing our facilities for the Methodist Church of NZ-Te Hahi Weteriana o Aoteroa Conference which was held here over the holidays. A special THANK YOU to both Maintenance and Kitchen Staff for all their hard work leading up to and throughout the conference week.

THANK YOU to the PE Department who laid down the carpet and allowed much of their space to be used for Conference.

CONGRATULATIONS and THANK YOU to Tupou Vaai who after his time with the NZ Secondary School's Barbarians Team, presented his jersey to the School.

Our theme for this week is FAITHFULNESS.

The Bible reading was from Hebrews 11:1-7 on pages 1347 and 1521 in the Wesley Bibles. The Biblical definition for FAITH comes from Hebrews 11:1 *"Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."*

It is simply believing in something that we cannot see. There are many passages throughout the Bible that deals with FAITH and FAITHFULNESS .

We know that a characteristic of God is God's FAITHFULNESS and we read consistently about God's FAITHFULNESS to us.

FAITHFULNESS works both ways ... we are also called to be FAITHFUL and a people of FAITH.

FAITH is a "means to a beginning". When we choose for the first time to believe and have faith in God and In Christ, we are saying we want to start a new way of life.

FAITH is a choice that we make to believe in God whom we cannot see with our eyes but through what we know in our hearts can make that choice.

FAITH then, is a choice. FAITH then, is a promise we choose to make because we trust God with the whole of our life both seen and unseen.

Have a blessed day.



### TUESDAY, 11<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER

Good Afternoon All

Tis a lovely warm spring day at Wesley. We give thanks.

WELCOME to new Deputy Principal Mr Aaron Scorrige who began yesterday.

Mr Scorrige will be welcomed officially tomorrow with a powhiri along with members from Team Solutions where Mr Scorrige last worked.

We continue with our theme of FAITHFULNESS.

The Bible reading was from Hebrews 11:8-13 on pages 1347 and 1521 in the Wesley Bibles.

As we read more of this chapter from Hebrews we see how FAITH was integral to the relationship between God and God's people.

Down throughout history to the present day, the integrity of that relationship remains between God and God's people based on FAITHFULNESS.

God continues to be FAITHFUL and God's people continue to endeavour to be FAITHFUL.

The two are synonymous, identical, tantamount to the same thing as in ... you can't have one without the other.

FAITH is the reliance, dependence, confidence, trust and belief in God that when we cannot, God can!

When we will not, God will. When what seems impossible, it is possible with God.

Have a blessed day.

## **WEDNESDAY, 12<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER**

Good Morning All

A wet but warm and overcast day here at Wesley. We give thanks for each new day.

WELCOME to Deputy Principal Mr Aaron Scorrige who was officially presented by members of Team Solutions to the School.

A warm Wesley welcome was given to both Team Solutions and Mr Scorrige which ended with the School chants.

CONGRATULATIONS to Year 13 Prefect Michaela Leaupepetele who has made the Niue National Netball Squad. Awesome!

FAITHFULNESS remains our call this week.

The Bible reading was from Hebrews 11:17-26 on pages 1349 and 1522 in the Wesley Bibles.

Now FAITH is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

In FAITH Mr Scorrige comes to us in the hope of making a difference.

We haven't seen him before, but we see him now and look forward to his contribution to the life of our School.

In FAITH as a School, we have welcomed the new Deputy Principal in the hope that what he comes with and brings, will add to what is already here.

In the same way, we cannot see God, but we know through God's FAITHFULNESS, that we can be certain of the things we hope for.

We see God and Christ through the FAITH and love of our parents and families. We see God in the FAITHFULNESS of our teachers and all our staff who endeavour to do their best for us and for our school, for those who have come before us and those who are yet to come. This is our prayer. This is our hope. This is our FAITH!

Have a blessed day.

## **THURSDAY, 13<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER**

Good Morning All

It's a warm overcast day here at Wesley. We give thanks for the new day.

We continue to be FAITHFUL.

The Bible reading was from Hebrews 11:27-34 on pages 1349 and 1522 in the Wesley Bibles.

Sometimes we hear people saying 'FAITH is blind!'

We know what they mean ... believing in something which they haven't seen.

Is not our FAITH as God's people that which causes God to act in our lives and within the world?

Then it is not 'blindness' but a knowing which comes from a deep belief at having seen God in action in our lives and within the world.

Christ who is perfect is seen and evidenced in those of us who are less than perfect and in that is a visual worth seeing.

Every day we are confronted by Christ in the faces of the many we engage with, challenging us to 'see' them and to know them.

It is not FAITH which is blind or that which can often blind us.

Sometimes we refuse to believe what we see because it would then require us to act.

How does God act in the world if not in and through us?

Have a blessed day.

## **FRIDAY, 14<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER**

Good Morning All

The end of our first week and it's beautiful blue skies over Wesley as the sun shines warmly today. We give thanks for the new day.

We bring to a close too, our theme for the week FAITHFULNESS.

The Bible reading was from Hebrews 11:1-3, 39-40 on pages 1348 and 1521 in the Wesley Bibles.

The following is an extract from a historical piece about our School ...

In 1895 ... the same year the Rev. J. H. Simmonds came into residence as Principal at Three Kings which was now confined practically to Maori pupils.

Rev. Simmonds was a competent and energetic man with strong-views which he could express, in terse and pithy English.

He had been a missionary in Fiji for a short term and was perhaps more typically a teacher than a preacher.

During his long reign at Three King's he had opportunity to form and to carry into effect the policy which led to the establishment of the present school at Paerata. He had some knowledge of practical farming and was to become an expert in forestry and the acknowledged authority on the growing of Eucalypts in this country. The prospect was depressing.

The new Principal complained in his first report that "decay and disorder meet the eye in every direction.

"The buildings, fences, implements and stock were all past their best and came in for scathing comment.

"To attempt to carry on education, and especially industrial education, in the midst, of disorder must surely be to a large extent abortive.

"The first thing to be aimed at is to get the institution out of debt the second is to put it in thoroughly good order, the third is to bring to it and educate scholastically and industrially the most capable and promising youths that can be induced to accept its benefit."

To these objects Mr. Simmonds devoted himself during the remainder of his working life. Progress was very slow.

As we look from our 2016 perspective at what was the past, we endure the same things today as was endured then.

What seemed without hope and of slow progress, through hindsight we are enabled to see the progress that was made.

From 2016 as we look to the future of a new school and while progress may again appear slow and perhaps the prospect depressing, our FAITH inspires us to look forward in hope as they did who have gone before us.

The Hebrews reading reminds us of the many FAITHFUL, in the days to come can we add our names to the list of the FAITHFUL?

The FAITH of our Wesley College forebears were realised through action in the School we have today.

We continue that FAITH and hope today in looking to the future and the work we are called to now.

Have a blessed weekend.

