

What's going on @ acpc in December

| Mon | Tues | Wed | Thurs | Fri | Sat | Sun |
|-----|--|---|--|--|-------------------------------|--|
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| | 7.30pm Professionals Group | 10.30am Ladies' Group 6.30pm Young Adults' Group | 10.30am Tea & Talk | | 10.00am Remuera Home Group | 10.30am Service 3-5pm Table Tennis |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| | 7.30pm Professionals Group | 6.30pm Young Adults' Group | 10.30am Tea & Talk 8:00pm Greenlane Group | | | 10.30am Communion Service 3-5pm Table Tennis |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| | 7.30pm Professionals Group | 10.30am Ladies' Group 6.30pm Young Adults' Group | 10.30am Tea & Talk |  | | 10.30am Combined Christmas Service and (Finger Food) Lunch 3-5pm Table Tennis |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| | CHRISTMAS DAY No service |  | | Visit to Hamilton Giuseppe Castiglione & Hamilton Gardens | | 10.30am Service 3-5pm Table Tennis |

AUCKLAND CHINESE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

105 Vincent Street, Auckland City
2 December 2018

praying for others

- **Rev Tang & Rev Vogel as they minister at ACPC** – for wisdom & God's guidance in leading our ministries.
- **ACPC congregations** – we pray that we can make a fresh commitment to pursue You daily, excited to see the amazing things You do in our lives.

We pray God's discernment and encouragement as we consider calling Pastor Andrew Cox at ACPC.

We pray in the busy lead up to Christmas that we remain Christ-focussed.

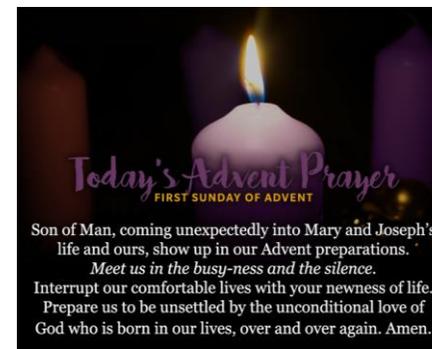
- **For our neighbours in the city** – that we take the opportunities to show Your kindness, love, mercy, grace and hope to our neighbourhood.



Bringing you Advent and Christmas

Youth Group and Sunday School Service

*A very warm welcome to everyone, especially visitors, to the service today!
Please join us for morning tea afterwards.*



Son of Man, coming unexpectedly into Mary and Joseph's life and ours, show up in our Advent preparations.
Meet us in the busy-ness and the silence.
Interrupt our comfortable lives with your newness of life. Prepare us to be unsettled by the unconditional love of God who is born in our lives, over and over again. Amen.

contact us:

rev stuart vogel

Email: stuartvogel8@gmail.com

Cell Phone: 027 915 9805

Home: 620 5595



Serving @ acpc

Service Leader
Music Leader
Bible Reader
Ushers
Techno
Cup of Tea & Dishes

This week

YG & SS
Isabel Lam
YG & SS
Weng Wai & Sammy Bing
Rob Wong, Rob Fong
Jenny Wong, Allister Young,
George Lowe

Next week

Glenda Choy
Darren Koo
Benson Fong
Eva Yeung & Francis Yu
Michael Yu, Harvey He
Yanna Ho, Glenda Choy,
Bryony To

Reaching out each week @ acpc

Tea and Talk - games, tea and English conversation:

Thursdays 10.30am-12pm

Tea and Talk has now got some plants in the backyard and at Griffiths Gardens on Wellesley St. This has brought about a lot of good conversation and contacts.

Table tennis:

Sundays 3 - 5pm weekly

A good way to develop your table tennis skills in a friendly, stress-free atmosphere.

Thank You to everyone who helped today!

We're sure that you had a great time this morning... and learnt something new about Advent and Christmas. A huge thanks to everyone who took part... it's a lot of hard work and we especially appreciate the time, effort and sometimes stepping out of your comfort zone to help with today's service. Thanks too to our dedicated Youth and Sunday School teachers! Formal lessons have ended for the year, but we will still have Sunday activities in the lead up to and during the holidays.



Congregational Meeting – today after church



At today's Congregational Meeting at 12:15, the Ministry Settlement Board will share and to vote on whether to call Pastor Andrew Cox to join ACPC as an Assistant Pastor for the EM. All members and associate members are invited and encouraged to attend.

If you cannot stay for the meeting (having enjoyed the Advent Service today), please see Celia/put your Absentee Voting Form in the box at the front desk so that we can make sure your vote will count. **Please be aware that you have to be registered to be either a Member or an Associate Member to vote.** As such, voting papers will not be issued to Non-Members at today's meeting.

If you are interested in knowing more about becoming a Member or Associate Member in the future (and we would love you to do so), please see Rev Stuart.



Notices from Rev Stuart...

- On Friday 28 December, everyone is invited to go to Hamilton to see the exhibition of artworks by Giuseppe Castiglione (1688-1766). He was a Jesuit missionary in China who painted in the Emperor's court. Stuart will introduce the artist and his artwork. We will have lunch in the Hamilton Gardens. Please let Stuart know if you are coming and if you can provide seat in your car for students from the YWCA. This is an interesting and relaxing summer outing as well as a chance to get to know our neighbours.
- On Saturday, January 18, 2019, 12.00 to 2.30pm. we will have a programme in Griffiths Gardens in Wellesley St. Uncle Alex will demonstrate his calligraphy, some games and we will have Taiwanese tea to drink in traditional style. Please consider being part of the team to arrange activities - see Stuart.
- If you have older family members who have stories to tell about their immigration here and especially during the time of the poll tax, please let Stuart know. I am researching stories for a book to be published by the Poll Tax Heritage Trust.



Waiting and Faith Go Hand-In-Hand

What's the longest you've had to wait for something?

I imagine almost everyone has a memory of Christmas Eve as a child; squeezing your eyes shut, trying with all your might to go to sleep on Christmas Eve. For those of you with traditional parents, you knew that even opening one present before Christmas morning was akin to high heresy.

And so you counted sheep and waited.

Waiting is still difficult. We expect everything to be at our fingertips the moment we have the desire for it. It's a world we're growing into and it's addicting. We live in a world of easy downloads, instantaneous email, on demand and food prepared in a few minutes. Yet God finds ways of making us wait. Waiting and faith go hand-in-hand.

We wait for the baby we've dreamed we'd hold in our arms.

Some are waiting for their prodigal son to come to the end of himself and return home.

Many of us are waiting for the phone to ring so we can return to a job with a normal salary and benefits.

Others are waiting for an eye-opening spiritual breakthrough.

Waiting is the embodiment of faith.

In Hebrews 11:13 we are reminded that faith involves trust in God's promise even if the promises of God are fulfilled long after we're gone. The writer says, "These all died in faith *without* having received the promises, but they *saw them* from a distance ..."

