



# Gonnnections



Red-legged Partridge by Birdorable.com

## **The Partridge in a Pear Tree represents Jesus Christ.**

Because this bird is willing to sacrifice its life if necessary to protect its young it feigns injury to draw away predators.

## **The 12 Days of Christmas Competition**

From 1558 until 1829, Catholics in England were not permitted to practise their faith openly. Someone during that era wrote 'The Twelve Days of Christmas' as a catechism for young Catholics. It has two levels of meaning. Your challenge is to write out the song and the two levels of meaning in your own words, email to [banddgrant@xtra.co.nz](mailto:banddgrant@xtra.co.nz) by 31 Dec 2020. The best answer will win a prize.



# From the Pastor's Heart



In our last GBC Connections Magazine, we wrote a lengthy report of many of the good things that have been happening in our midst during this unique year so I won't focus on looking back this time. I want to focus on looking forward.

Where is God leading us in 2021? What challenges lie in store for us? How will we thrive? I heard, very recently, a claim that the veil between Heaven and Earth is getting very thin...meaning that God's presence and power is being seen more often in the daily lives of those who are seeking it. It means that our country's decline into moral darkness is being matched by the increased activity in God's Kingdom of Light, resulting in healings, prophetic messages, uniting of Christian Churches in city-wide events, a growing hunger for more of God, a commitment to pray and humble ourselves before God, and people being brought to the end of themselves in preparation for reaching out to God. It means that God is on the move in a fresh movement of His Spirit like NZ experienced in the 80's and the 60's, but this time it is going to be Global. It means more change...not just business as usual as we move into 2021.

That is the first challenge we will face as we move into the New Year. Many of us prefer the familiar to the uncertainty that comes with change. But allow me to encourage you to focus on our guide rather than on the uncertainty. Because the Spirit of Jesus, our guide, is courageous, capable and compassionate. He will not lead us anywhere that the Grace of God cannot keep us. If I was asked to go on an expedition with Gideon Geerling, I would be happy to go. Not because I feel overly capable in myself but because I know that Gideon has the character and capability to lead me through the challenges and to bring me safely home. And, as good as Gideon is, the Holy Spirit is even better :). Another challenge we will face is increasing opposition from those around us who don't share our trust in God. Many in our society strive to be in control of all areas of their life. The very idea of yielding control to an invisible God who would challenge their sovereignty over their own life is confronting to them. Even some within the Church who are focused on finding their security and pleasure in this life will resist the call to break camp and follow Jesus into uncharted territory.

So how can we thrive in our faith journey in 2021?

**"Be bold, be strong, for the Lord your God is with you."** (Joshua 1) Remember when Joshua felt alone after the death of Moses? Before him was a huge challenge: taking God's people into the promised land that was currently occupied. God promised His presence and that would be enough for Joshua. God promises to go with us into 2021.

**Eyes on the prize.** To be human is to love, and what we love defines who we are. Let's love God above all and find our delight in Him. I believe we will feel more alive as we do that, than if we gained the whole world.

**Together we can do it.** Brotherhood, and sisterhood, is cemented when we go through tough times together. By valuing the precious fellowship that we share in the GBC Faith Family we will not only survive 2021, we will thrive in 2021.

Together in His service,  
Pastor Mark.

**NEWS CLIPPING - Propelled Puss in Flight of Faith**

The Lord moves in mysterious ways. When the vicar of St John's with St Michael's discovered that his cat was stuck up a tree, he was forced to mount a perilous rescue operation. Climbing as far as his ladder would take him, he discovered he still could not reach the family pet.

Not to be defeated, he tied one end of a piece of rope to the trunk of the tree at the highest point he could reach and the other to the bumper of his car. As he drove forward - intending to bend the tree towards the ground so that the cat could jump to safety - the inevitable happened, the rope broke and the cat was catapulted into space.

No more was heard of the poor creature until a couple of weeks later. The Minister was in the supermarket when he saw one of his church members buying cat food. Overcome with nostalgia, he remarked that he hadn't realized this particular family had a cat.

"We didn't until two weeks ago," she replied. "It's all a bit of a miracle, really. I was having a picnic on the lawn with my daughter." "I'd like to have a cat, Mummy," she said. "You'll have to ask Jesus for one," I replied.

"At that moment this cat came flying through the air and landed on the lawn next to us. He's been staying with us ever since."

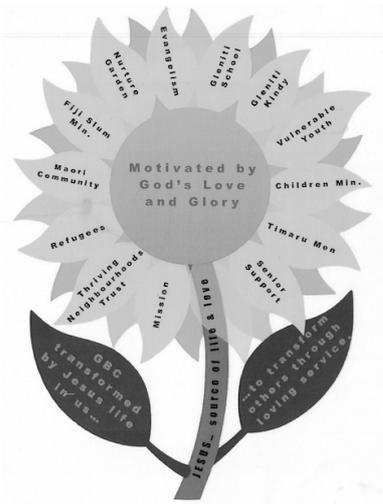
## OUR MISSION



### Connecting You With Life

GBC exists to connect all people to Jesus, the source of life. We seek to create a vibrant all-age community of believers who are passionate about sharing God's transformational love and Word with people in our community, city, nation and world.

## OUR VISION



## CONNECT

- 58 Gleniti Road, Timaru 7910
- 03 686 2829
- gleniti.baptist@xtra.co.nz
- www.glenitibaptist.org.nz
- facebook.com/glenitibaptist

## GATHERINGS

10am Sundays  
Gleniti Baptist Church  
58 Gleniti Road, Timaru  
All Welcome

# He Tangata He Tangata

What's the most important thing in the world?  
It is people, it is people, it is people.



**Engagement - Jim Waldron & Jenny Easterbrook**



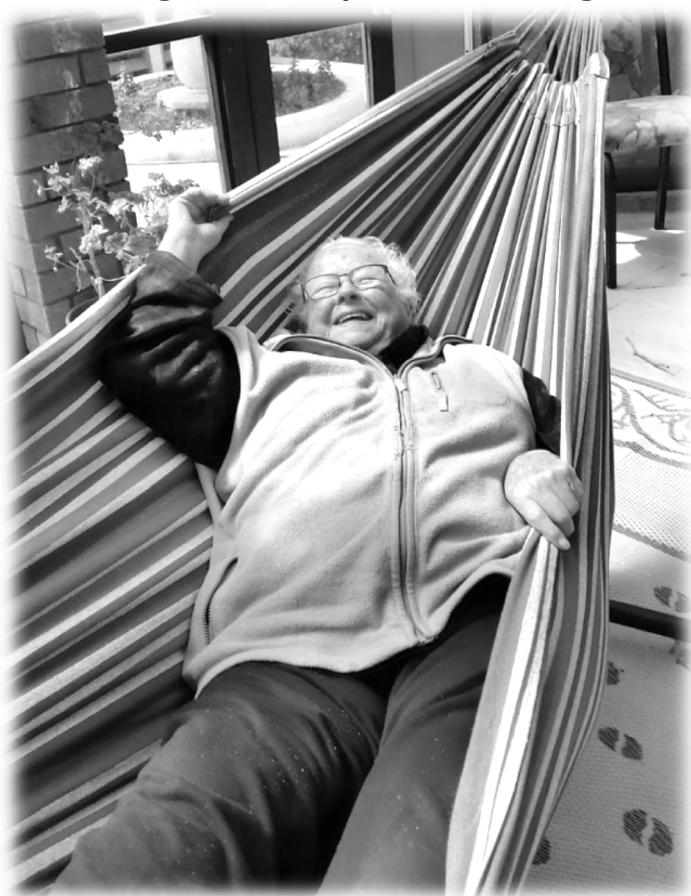
**Margaret McHardy - 90 Years Young**



**Engagement - Evan Walker & Diane Evans**



**Jordan Hay - Mountain View High School Dux 2020**



## OP SHOPPING

Fossicking  
rummaging  
foraging  
delving.

Time stands still for hours  
while intently loitering  
as a piece by piece examination  
of potential suspects treasures is carried  
out.

It would do a crime scene proud.  
And when treasure is found  
excitement knows no bounds  
and an immediate arrest purchase is made.

©Treena Davis  
8/10/2018

## PEACEFUL FOLLOWING

surrendering  
releasing  
yielding

there finding Peace

Peace for my soul  
sheep follows Shepherd

and restless heart

finds rest at last

in pasture green

LORD of my first and last

is become my LORD

of the in-between

©Treena Davis  
7/11/2020

## HAPPY EVER AFTER STORY

An adventure to have,  
A quest to complete,  
A princess to save,  
A treasure to find,  
A wrong to right.

Justice to seek,  
Mercy to obtain,  
Truth to discover,  
Good is triumphant,  
Evil is vanquished.

So goes the story,  
Of a princess (fairest in the land) rescued  
by True Love,  
And a Prince on a white horse,  
Who takes his bride back to his kingdom,  
Where happy ever after is just the  
beginning.

©Treena Davis  
21/1/18

## THREADS

Some tapestries from the back side look a complete tangle: chaos, disarray, ugly. Flawed?

We saw the back side of a different tapestry at Church, and how its threads gave a muted picture,  
Not a clear picture, muted and indistinct. But a pattern,. A picture was emerging.

There are threads coming from the Home Groups and the Prayer and Fasting Weekends  
and from our Leadership in Worship and Messages.  
Other threads are not yet recognized as part of our tapestry.

Threads. A weaving. Not complete. The on-going work of the Holy Spirit. Threads.

What is the good soil? How do we prepare the soil to be good? Plough the fallow ground.

A Hardened Heart. Not hating God; but doubting, or unseeing, unresponsive to Him.  
God telling us, I will give you a heart of flesh for your heart of stone.

Removing the stony areas with Repentance. Forgiveness. Watering with the Word.

What is the tender plant growing? Will we bear fruit in our lives?  
Will our Church bear fruit that will attract and embrace and minister to the not-yet-saved?  
Principles, not a Formula.

God weaves a very long tapestry, of many panels with parts of His Story.  
Add your thread to the yarn pile.

Take care that it is pleasing to the Master Weaver, and He will add it to His tapestry.

And we may be blessed to see our Tapestry Panel from the front.

Nancy Burgess Copyright© Aug 25,2020

# Eulogy of Harvey Radcliffe Harris

Parents: Herbert Radcliffe and Margaret Grace Harris.

DOB: March 13, 1942

Where: St Georges Hospital, Christchurch

Harvey started life weighing just over 5lbs (2.5 lbs less than average) yet he was average in height at 20.5 inches tall. He was always lean, a thoroughbred one might say, and this was to be an obstacle for him later in life when he wanted to pursue a career in farming. He was going to be told that he was "too small to be a farmer" and that changed his trajectory.

However, what Harvey lacked in physical stature, he made up for in personality...he flashed his first smile at 5.5 weeks old, a full week ahead of the average, according to The Plunket book: NZ Better Babies. And he was very considerate to Margaret Grace, his mother...The nurses recorded that he was very good at night, sleeping right through from 10pm until 5am. It might have been the horse-hair mattress that the baby book recommended, to be placed on a blanket on loose chaff "shake down" into which the baby comfortably nestles. (It is easily changed and renewed if any soiling takes place. Do not use ordinary chaff but the light soft chaff winnowed out by the threshing-machine.) In any case, a couple of pages later in his baby records he was called "The perfect baby" by his nurse. So that is probably the main reason that Harvey slept like an angel.

Harvey had a very busy first 6 months. He had jaundice at 5 days old, mumps at 3 months old and chickenpox when he was only 4 months and 1 week old. But as they say.... "What doesn't kill you makes you stronger" and we all know that Harvey survived these first traumatic 6 months. In fact, at that time (August 23rd 1942), Harvey was baptised at St Paul's Church in Papanui.

Timaru Technical College was where he enrolled as a pupil of the Farm Engineering course in Feb 1956. During his course he received instruction in English, Social Studies, General Science, Mathematics, Woodwork, Metalwork, Agriculture, Dairy Science, Wool Classing, Animal Husbandry, Music and Physical Education.

His principal, Mr Hill, considered Harvey to be a most conscientious pupil who made excellent progress. He was in the top five of all of his classes. His academic career culminated in gaining School Certificate, today's equivalent being Level 1 NCEA.

Mr Hill considered Harvey to be a boy of excellent character who was thoroughly reliable. Harvey had a high sense of responsibility and could be depended upon to do his best at all times.

Harvey left school and worked on a sheep and cropping farm in Totara Valley (behind Pleasant Point) for the Skinners in 1959. He worked there for almost a year. Mr Skinner felt that Harvey made good progress learning how to carry out all of the activities of a mixed sheep and cropping farm and he found Harvey to be a very conscientious worker of good character and very clean in his personal habits.



He wanted to do more and go to Lincoln but was told he was too small for farm work. He enjoyed the outdoors of farm work but settled into more indoor roles.

He loved reading, especially Dick Francis. He loved race horses and Hereford cattle. His favourite TV show was Country Calendar.

He went to work at Wilmots Menswear clothes for about a year.

Later he was commissioned to work for the Anglican Church Army as an Evangelist in 1965. He went to Australia to receive training. After his time in the army he worked at Whitcoulls for 13 years and 2 weeks. He also worked as the manager of the Timaru Christian Bookshop for a number of years. Harvey had made a Christian commitment when he went to an Easter YFC camp in Pounaweia in his teenage years.

Over the years Harvey had become a faithful supporter of people who shared the Good News of Jesus Christ and used their skills to improve the lives of others overseas. This led to his trip to PNG in May, 1985 for 6 weeks, where he spent some time visiting a friend teaching in a Christian School in the Highlands. He also went to visit a midwife who he supported in Balimore near the coast. Harvey returned from PNG engaged to Heather Joan Ellis...said midwife. (Bit of a dark horse!) Harvey had supported Heather for some time in her nursing work in PNG. (You've already heard that his school principal believed that Harvey had a high sense of responsibility and could be depended upon to do his best at all times...well Harvey obviously took his role of supporting Heather very seriously indeed.) They were married in August 23, 1986. And it worked out very well for them both as they have just completed 34 years of being happily married.

Soon after getting married they moved up to Auckland. Harvey found work there in the Library. And that is where he remained until he retired.

It was during their time in Auckland that I got to know Harvey and Heather, apart from one brief visit to Timaru when I had come to visit Anne’s family and her Mum sewed my pyjama pant legs closed and short sheeted my bed. It was to be a warning for me of what I was in for joining this family. But I do love a challenge. Anyway, I digress...

Harvey and Heather became a great support to Anne and I and as each new child was added to our family they were there...I mean literally, at the birth. Heather, being a midwife was a great support to Anne and I at the birth of Ariana and Joshua in NZ. They even travelled to Ecuador to be with us for the birth of Melissa. Did I mention that Harvey could be depended upon to do his best at all times? Obviously he was well matched with Heather too.

Harvey was in PNG May, 1985 for 6 weeks. Then again in PNG July 1991 for the 25th Jubilee Celebration of the Church of PNG together.

Harvey and Heather actually travelled to Ecuador on two occasions, one for Melissa’s birth in 2000 and one to come with Ruby (Heather’s sister and Anne Pavelka’s mother) to visit us in the Amazonian town of Yantzaza. They got the full experience of landslides and corrupt police etc.

Latterly we shared the same home together, until just over a year ago, Harvey’s health declined to the point where he needed Hospital level care. He had his mind set on Strathallan because they had a good library, and providentially there was a room available there just when he needed it. Harvey felt safe and well cared for at Strathallan and we are very grateful to the staff there for their generous loving care that they gave to Harvey through the difficulties of his final season of life.

DOD: Friday, October 9, 2020  
Where: Strathallan, Timaru  
How: Fall rapidly advancing his already deteriorating health.

# Spreading Christmas Cheer



On Friday the 4<sup>th</sup> December, the GBC Youth headed down to Strathallan Rest Home to sing Christmas carols, tell the Christmas story, and a sad joke. *What do you get when you cross Santa and a duck? A Christmas Quacker.* They accompanied the residents in two separate settings, singing five carols accompanied by guitars, flute and piano. It was an enjoyable experience for all.

# Shopped till they Dropped



On Saturday 28th November GBC hosted the once in a life time, not to be missed event, 'Shop Till You Drop'.

This event was held in the café extension with clothes and bric-a-brac laid out on trestles and hung on racks. At one point in the afternoon there was a feminine crush of humanity squeezing past each other with single-minded determination to get to the next potential find.

But nothing could dim the peaceful, happy murmur of many women rummaging through second-hand goods looking for a bargain, or the excited exclamations of a great find.

Then off to a rather delicious afternoon tea with the best china, ably and amply catered by Susan and her helpers. A big thank you to all those who supplied the yummy scones.

The afternoon was very successful with over \$500.00 being raised for the Youth Group, and a pleasant and happy atmosphere, with lots of happy chatter with many women from the wider community attending as well as those from GBC.

Another big thank you to all those who donated goods to sell and also to Karalyn and her team.

# THRIVING NEIGHBOURHOODS TRUST



Charity CC58339 - Established 8 October 2020

Inspired by God's love and compassion for all people, and a wish to promote vibrant and thriving neighbourhoods in Aorangi South Canterbury and beyond, where every person and every family experiences health and well-being in every aspect of life.

Possible initiatives in the pipeline for 2021:

## TNT Leadership School

Using the latest Global Leadership Summit Content – fresh, actionable and inspiring leadership content from a world-class faculty online. Followed by personal reflection, group engagement and supper. A great place for leaders to get better, network and mentor budding leaders. Class limit 25 people.

Location: Gleniti Baptist Church, 58 Gleniti Road Timaru

When: 7pm first Wednesday of month starting 3 February 2021

For more information contact Brendan Ph 027 891 2264 or Kerry Ph 027 488 2056

## Roots of Empathy

An international, evidence-based classroom program that has shown significant effect in reducing levels of aggression and bullying among schoolchildren by raising social/emotional competence and increasing empathy. The program is designed for children aged 5 to 13 and it is currently run in 14 countries, including New Zealand.

The programme is based on the relationship that is built between a baby and a classroom, with the children bonding with this child and watching it grow. The students learn empathy as they understand what the little one's needs are, and how important it is to meet those needs. For more information contact Robyn Ph 027 572 0377

## Toolbox Parenting Courses

Toolbox parenting courses are bursting with practical strategies, ideas and insights to inspire and equip you on your parenting journey – wherever you're up to (Baby and Toddler Years, Primary Years or Teenage Years). Toolbox courses are held over six weeks in a relaxed and conversational small group setting with a trained facilitator. The courses – Baby and Toddler Years, Primary Years, and Teenage Years run nationwide all year. There is also a Grandparents Raising Grandchildren resource available. For more information contact Wendy Ph 021 0237 6585

## Nurture Garden

Partnering with the Nurture Garden to support and resource consumable stock of seeds and compost. The Nurture Garden exists to:

- 1) grow vegetables and fruit to share with members of the community.
- 2) Provide a caring environment to promote healthy relationships and camaraderie between all who enter.
- 3) Encourage healing through listening and prayer for those who are struggling with life issues.

For more information contact Rosie Ph 027 420 2883

## Fiji

The trust also is looking at assisting Charles and Tina in Fiji with finishing the building project, water supplies on the Island, and supporting Charles with various out reaches into the community. Charles continues to be making a large impact in his community winning many converts. If COVID-19 restrictions ease we might plan another visit to Fiji in the new year. For more information contact Kerry Ph 027 488 2056

# Life Groups

You can be part of...



## Timaru Central

1:00pm Monday Afternoons  
Location: Otipua Road  
Hosts: Mark & Anne Pavelka  
Cell: 021 0877 7661



## Holdens' Life Group

10:15am Tuesday Mornings  
Location: Various  
Hosts: John & Lesley Holden  
Cell: 021 0238 0945



## Turners' Life Group

7:30pm Tuesday Nights  
Location: Pleasant Point HW  
Hosts: Kerry & Diane Turner  
Cell: 027 488 2056 / 027 699 2510



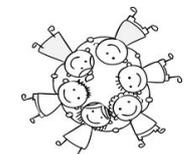
## Prayer For Our Region

7:00am Wednesday Mornings  
Location: Gleniti Baptist Church



## Lagesse Life Group

7:30pm Wednesday Nights  
Location: Cedar Place  
Hosts: Bruno & Martine Lagesse  
Cell: 027 688 6196 / 021 169 1991



## Sharing & Caring Group

10am Wednesday Mornings  
Location: Various  
Host: Denyse Taylor  
Cell: 027 741 0600



## Men's Life Group

7:30pm Friday nights  
Location: Various  
Host: Tony Shaw  
Cell: 027 221 1537

**STAFF**

**Senior Pastor**

Mark Pavelka 03 684 8985  
021 0877 7661  
[glenitipastor@gmail.com](mailto:glenitipastor@gmail.com)

**Associate Pastor**

Wendy Geerling 03 686 2829  
021 0237 6585  
[wendy.gleniti@gmail.com](mailto:wendy.gleniti@gmail.com)

**CHURCH LEADERS**

**Deacons**

Bruno Lagesse 03 686 0850  
Karen Munnings 021 265 3452  
Tony Shaw 027 221 1537  
Denyse Taylor 03 686 1632  
Grant Taylor 03 686 1632

**Elders**

John Davey 03 684 6250  
Diane Turner 027 488 2056

**TNT Trustees**

John Davey (Chair) 03 684 6250  
Wendy Geerling  
Brendan Grant  
Robyn Hewson  
Kerry Turner

**MINISTRY CONTACTS**

**Children's Church**

Simon & Louise Erskine 03 686 3537

**Church Library**

Elsie McDonald 03 684 8466

**Global Action Team**

Mark Pavelka 03 684 8985

**Men's Ministry**

Tony Shaw 027 221 1537

**Pastoral Care**

Denyse Taylor 03 686 1632  
Karen Munnings 021 265 3452

**Prayer Network**

Louise Davies 03 688 8241

**Rest Home Services**

Veronica Tompkins 03 686 0656

**Senior Support**

Carolyn McLoughlin 03 684 7372

**Worship Team**

Susan Butler 03 615 8731  
Pauline Hay 03 686 1153

**Youth Ministry**

Wendy Geerling 021 0237 6585

# Upcoming Events

You are welcome to join us for any of the following activities...



**Blue Christmas: The Certainty of Christmas**

Gleniti Baptist Church  
20 December 19:00



**Carol Singing**

Timaru Hospital  
21 December 18:30



**Christmas Eve Service**

Gleniti Baptist Church  
24 December 19:00



**Christmas Day Service**

Wilson Street Baptist Church, Timaru  
25 December 09:00



**Come Holy Spirit 2021**

Gleniti Baptist Church  
31 December 21:00



**Youth Camp**

Waihi Gorge Camping Ground  
22 Jan 2021, 00:00



**TNT Leadership School**

Gleniti Baptist Church  
3 Feb 2021, 19:00



**Gleniti's Got Talent**

58 Gleniti Rd, Gleniti, Timaru 7910, New Zealand  
13 Feb 2021, 19:00



**Parenting Toolbox: Teenagers**

Gleniti Baptist Church  
16 Feb 2021, 19:00