

# A Kids Friendly Welcome



 Presbyterian Church  
of Aotearoa New Zealand



**To contact a Kids Friendly Coach or Advisor check our Website:**

<http://www.kidsfriendly.org.nz/about/contact-us/>

or email us:

<mailto:admin@kidsfriendly.org.nz>

## **ORGANIC RESOURCES**

*All our Kids Friendly resources are ever-evolving "works in progress". So if you have ideas, websites, resources and stories to share or add please let us know.*

*And if you notice any mistakes in this resource please alert us.*

*This document is intended as a resource for the Church. The information it contains is not prescriptive. The Book of Order and its subordinate standards contain the Church's official rules and directions. Any perceived conflict between the information contained in this resource and the Church's Book of Order and subordinate standards is entirely unintentional*



## CONTENTS:

A Kids Friendly Welcome

The Kids Friendly Welcome Table

The Kids Friendly Welcome Pack

A welcome pack example: St Heliers Presbyterian Church

Sample inserts:

- Welcome flyers – St Heliers and Ahuriri Puterino
- Enrolment form – St Heliers
- Children's newsletter – Godzone News

Kids Friendly Activity Packs

- Sample front cover for A4 ziplock bag activity pack
- Sample activity book

## INTRODUCTION:

*Sundays: A Kids Friendly Welcome*



## A Kids Friendly Welcome

A **Kids Friendly** church is intent on welcoming children.

It is so easy to miss a child when one is busy greeting or handing out orders of service to adults, so churches are encouraged to set up a

**KIDS FRIENDLY WELCOME TABLE** at or near the entrance to ensure that each child can be welcomed by name.



### Kids Friendly Welcome Tables

Many use this as an opportunity to “mark or keep the roll” with children placing a sticker next to their name. Some have treasure boxes where children can choose a “prize” when they have 5 stickers on their chart.

But what of new or visiting children?



## **KIDS FRIENDLY WELCOME PACKS**

**Welcome packs** are given to new children coming to your church as they are greeted at the Kids Friendly welcome table.

### **Some things you may like to include in the welcome pack are:**

- ☺ A Kids Friendly welcome note and information sheet regarding your activities for children and your intent to be a Kids Friendly church. (see example from St Heliers and Ahuriri Puterino churches)
- ☺ An enrolment form. (see sample)
- ☺ A copy of your latest children's newsletter (see sample)
- ☺ A little gift (stickers, bookmark etc)
- ☺ A fruit or muesli bar

An example:

**At St Heliers Presbyterian** children are given a ziplock bag (can get coloured ones from the supermarket that don't have branding labels on them) that includes a welcome/information sheet for parents (and child) with enrolment form. The enrolment form can be torn off and left with the leaders. They also include a children's newsletter that is written at the start of each term and a little gift (eg from Christian book shop or \$2 shop) a fruit bar and some stickers.



## Example of a welcome flyer for welcome pack

**Hi** It's great to have you with us at Church today. We love kids and because of that we are working hard at becoming a 'Kids Friendly' church.



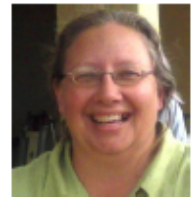
Turn over for some stuff you might want to know

We have a great children's programme each week. Kids normally go out to it about 20 minutes into the service, although you're most welcome to stay with your mum or dad for the whole time.



If you're four to nine years old your teacher will be Angela. She's great and loves kids, and the programme she runs revolves round a bible story each week and has lots of fun activities.

If you're ten to thirteen (-ish) then Kris takes a class for you. This picks up a biblical idea or story and, along side some cool activities, gives you room to discuss what you think and believe.



Kids are welcome in our church and they are invited to be part of the service while they're here. There is sometimes a special message or song for kids. Howard, our minister, may even ask you to help him in the service. We celebrate people's birthdays and wedding anniversaries by giving them a chocolate bar, and we ask the kids to give them out (it helps you get to know people and them to get to know you). Kids also help take up the collection, and you get your own chocolate bar for helping. As we get to know you and you feel comfortable there are other ways you can be involved in the service.




## In this welcome pack are:-

- A balloon and bouncy Ball
- A book and colouring pencils
- A brochure about the church for your Mum and Dad
- And a lolly pop.





## Sample welcome flyer for welcome pack



# Welcome to GODZONE

It's great to have you at our Kids Friendly church. From 9am, we worship God together as a church family. At 9.30 we go to **GODZONE**

## What happens at Godzone?


At Godzone we learn about the love and life of Jesus by doing fun things like games, crafts, stories, plays and lots more. Godzone kids also get to help in church by reading, singing, playing instruments and more. Let us know if you'd like to help. Come to Godzone five times and you get a prize!

## Godzone has different groups:

Jigglers for preschoolers, Rockers for year 1 and 2, Explorers for year 3, 4 and 5. Year 6, 7 and 8 learn about Jesus at Teen Team. When you turn 5 and go to school you are invited to join Rockers (or you may decide to decide in Jigglers until the end of the year.) Let us know what you'd like to do so we can make sure we welcome you.

## Godzone Fun Times

We also get to hang out with our Godzone friends at our family camp and kids and family events held each term.



## Our Godzone Leaders


Godzone is led by volunteers and our co-ordinator is Ros Nyce. Kids love to have their parents involved. It's a great way to meet new friends and share in your child's learning about God. Let Ros or Pauline know if you could join a team to teach for two blocks of three weeks a year. You'll get lots of guidance and support.

**Godzone is on every Sunday all year during the 9.00 and 10.30 am services.**

**St Heliers is a Kids Friendly Church.** This means we think kids are really cool and really important and we offer lots of fun things for Kids like:

- ☺ Kids Club
- ☺ Kidzown Holiday Programme
- ☺ Day Camp
- ☺ Ideas Explosion
- ☺ O.S.C.A.R—out of school care
- ☺ Small Miracles Preschool
- ☺ Focus Playgroup
- ☺ Music and Movement
- ☺ Performance Group
- ☺ Children's Choir
- ☺ Dance groups

**For more information about Godzone or what's on for kids, talk to our Minister Pauline (5756098) or Ros Nyce (5767964).**



Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand



## Sample enrolment form

### ENROLMENT FORM 2009 (CIRCLE YOUR GROUP)

**JIGGLERS**

**GODZONE**

**TEEN TEAM**

**TEEN TEAM**

**Preschool**

**year 1 – 5**

**year 6, 7, 8**

**PLUS**

**year 9+**

First name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mum's name \_\_\_\_\_ Dad's name \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Year at school: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_ Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_ Name on badge: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any allergies or health issues? \_\_\_\_\_

(give details if necessary) \_\_\_\_\_

We love you to help in church. If you'd like to help circle how.

door greeter      light Christ candle      reading      prayer      singing  
offering      drama      thought for the day      worship assistant



ST HELIERS CHURCH  
& COMMUNITY CENTRE



REACHING OUT  
WELCOMING IN





Sample children's newsletter

# ✚ GODZONE NEWS ✚

Term 3, July 2009



Hey all your gorgeous Godzoners!  
Join us for this term's extra super duper exploration of



## GOD'S SUPER Heroes



There'll be loads of awesome  
stories, games and lots more fun as we learn about God's  
Super Heroes and how we can be His super heroes too!



## WE'RE ON THE MOVE.....

GODZONE is moving into the hall where we will have lots of space for  
games and fun. Join us on: **Sunday 19 July** for a

## Super heroes GODZONE Carnival

with bouncy castle, face painting, art attack, crafts and more. We will end  
Godzone with a special farewell and thankyou morning tea for Vikas.

Can't wait to see you there!



✚ ✚ ✚ ✚ GOODBYE VIKAS ✚ ✚ ✚ ✚

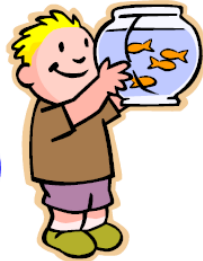
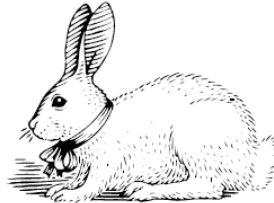
All children and families are invited to a POT LUCK dinner at church on  
Sunday 19 July at 4.30 pm to say goodbye and thanks to Vikas.



## **“ALL GOD’S CREATURES” SUNDAY**

**Bring your pet and join us for church in the Johnstone Hall  
on 2 August at 9 am.**

**Our youth bands will lead us in celebratory worship.**



**NOT TO BE MISSED NOT TO BE MISSED NOT TO BE MISSED**



**You're invited to a wedding celebration! Ella and Simon  
Casey will be married on Sunday 2 August at 10.30 am in  
our church. All are invited to the service and brunch**

We love kids to help every Sunday at our Kids Friendly church. Let your  
Godzone leaders or our minister Pauline know if you would like to help.



### **More important dates:**

**SMALL MIRACLES SERVICE for all  
SUNDAY 17 AUGUST**

**KIDS CLUB for 5 to 9 year olds starts 30  
July** – 6 fun Thursday evenings of games, craft,  
dinner, stories and songs. 5 – 7 pm. Phone 5756098  
to book. Costs \$40 or \$8 per session.



## **Our Godzone 2009 Mission**

Our friends in Pakpingjai, Thailand have so little compared to us.  
Can you help Drika and Noel? Please bring a gold coin every  
Sunday for our mission box so we can send money to help them.





## **KIDS FRIENDLY ACTIVITY PACKS**

Churches who don't have Sunday School or are not offering it certain Sundays are encouraged to have activity packs for children who attend.

These could include:

- an activity booklet (see sample) or activity sheets on the theme for that day, free lectionary activity sheets are available from <http://homiliesbyemail.com>
- some felt tip pens
- a fruit or snack bar
- a front cover that welcomes children and explains that you don't have Sunday School today but are glad to have them at church. (see sample).

Place all this in a ziplock bag and have someone allocated to especially greet children and present the bag to them so they feel really welcomed.

If your service is designed to engage and include children in the time before the sermon (a Kids Friendly ideal!) then only hand out the activity packs when the sermon begins.



Hey kids welcome to  
our church.



It's  
so cool  
to have you here  
today!



We love to have  
children at our  
church and we have  
created this activity  
pack just for you.



We hope you  
enjoy it.





## Sample activity book

### THANK YOU PRAYER

Dear Jesus

Thank you that you love us so much. Forgive us when we forget to talk or think about you. Thank you that you never forget about us and are always watching over us. Help us to share your love with all those in our world. Amen.



- At our church we love to have kids help. If you'd like to help by greeting at the door, lighting the Christ candle, reading or collecting the Offering let us know.
- When the minister talks to the adults sometimes we go out to KIDZONE for stories and fun activities and sometimes we draw and do puzzles in the KIDZONE corner in church.



# WELCOME KIDS

It's so  
cool to have you  
at church today

Jesus really loves children.  
He was really grumpy with his disciples when they tried to stop kids from coming to chat to Him and receive His blessing.  
He even told adults that the kingdom of heaven belongs to children.  
How awesome is that?  
Remember even when you forget about Jesus, He never forgets about you.

### WordSearch: John 13:31-35 (CEV)

X	D	O	G	Q	X	E	Q	X	Q	I	V	H	F	T	Y	J	L
O	R	T	S	G	R	J	I	I	Y	G	E	L	P	O	E	P	N
T	P	I	B	W	K	E	I	J	F	Z	U	M	X	X	J	N	U
D	I	S	C	I	P	L	E	S	L	M	J	O	X	P	O	K	W
U	X	S	S	H	J	X	B	E	T	U	U	K	Y	S	K	G	M
C	Y	K	F	K	G	U	L	O	D	R	H	S	F	E	G	B	Y
S	A	S	C	A	R	T	N	A	Y	F	S	M	T	V	A	B	Q
Q	N	U	H	T	T	N	S	N	G	D	K	L	C	E	T	B	M
H	S	M	R	I	A	V	R	J	J	Q	O	K	J	R	N	H	Z
Q	R	V	L	C	D	T	W	C	I	V	B	G	I	Y	P	J	M
T	C	H	I	L	D	R	E	N	E	G	T	B	G	O	N	R	A
U	U	E	D	Y	V	X	V	I	A	B	Y	L	G	N	Q	R	U
L	H	N	D	N	T	B	R	I	N	G	O	X	A	E	B	V	I
W	X	O	Y	O	I	S	V	R	K	R	N	X	E	I	N	T	I
A	R	K	Y	A	K	F	Q	C	Y	U	C	P	P	L	T	M	V
Q	E	S	T	N	O	K	K	T	I	X	M	I	V	O	N	A	G
B	E	C	A	U	S	E	L	V	R	U	K	R	M	O	F	T	U
O	M	B	S	X	N	T	D	N	A	M	M	O	C	K	B	Z	C

JUDAS	SON	BRING	BECAUSE
GLORY	GOD	CHILDREN	LITTLE
LOOK	FIND	PEOPLE	CANNOT
COMMAND	MUST	YOU	LOVE
EVERYONE	DISCIPLES		

Jesus said, "You must love each other, just as I have loved you."







A B C D E F G H I J K L M

N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

A row of 12 small icons representing different types of waste or debris. From left to right, they are: a piece of wood, a piece of metal, a piece of plastic, a piece of paper, a piece of glass, a piece of fabric, a piece of food waste, a piece of electronic waste, a piece of construction waste, a piece of agricultural waste, a piece of medical waste, and a piece of hazardous waste.























































Psalm 148:1



**the way to Jesus.**



**Let the  
children  
come to  
me!**

## Mark 10:14

**Mark  
10:14**

