

Te WāhiAtua Godspace and Waiapu Godly Play Hub

Our fourth year of Te WāhiAtua Godspace has been one of consolidation, development, experimentation and expansion. As the year unfolded, it became apparent that we had developed to a point where we could move beyond offering our monthly Thursday gatherings. Over the past two terms we have experimented with variously meeting weekly and fortnightly, and currently we are trialling meeting during weeks that have five school days, alternating Wednesdays with young people aged 11 to 17 years, and Thursdays with children aged 6 to 11 years.

To enable this development we now meet in the Upper Room above the narthex (entrance foyer) of the Cathedral. Huge thanks go out to Dean Di who made this possible and to her, members of the choir and families who facilitated this shift. Other development continues through introducing new story materials and initiatives like our team workshop gathering in January and sharing a story with Dean Di and Jan Martin, and occasional support from Godly Play trainer Elke Keeling.

We continue to benefit from the generous support of the team members who contribute and make themselves available to support our growing group of Families. We have been delighted to welcome two new team members this year too. Thank you to Marie Davis, Julie Burt Andrews, Sue John, Wendy Probert, Adalgard Willemsma and Mary Davies. Thanks also to Charlene for your ongoing support and for naming the Upper Room, to Esme for designing and sewing an exquisite baptismal gown and nappy for the doll in the Holy Baptism story, to Rae and Susan for your expertise and creativity to promote this ministry, and to Dean Di for your wisdom, guidance and encouragement. We also benefited greatly from Rev'd Jenny Chalmers sagacity and support while she was with us. The children and young people enjoyed some great conversations with her and I benefitted very much from our discussions and times of reflection together.

There has been little activity with the Waiapu Godly Play Hub this year. We appreciate the donation from Rev'd Deborah Broome of a book by Jerome Berryman who began and continues develop Godly Play.

Janine Melville

Cathedral Kids

On many Sundays through the year a small number of children and/or young people attend the 10am service, and it is good to be able to gather together for stories, discussions and other activities during the Gospel, sermon and prayers. Currently I am the only adult available for Cathedral Kids at the Sunday 10am services, and am not available at least one Sunday each month. If you would like to volunteer your time and energy for this delightful work, please let me know.

Janine Melville