

PROGRAMME

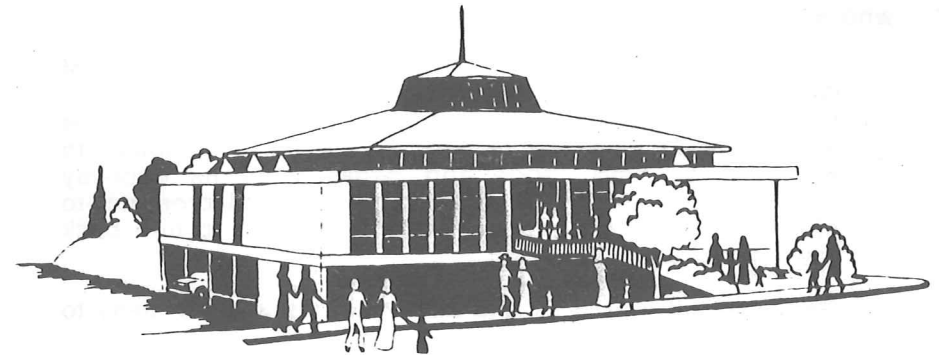
FOR THE OPENING OF THE

BAPTIST CHURCH CENTRE

AT NEW PLYMOUTH

on **SATURDAY, 2nd APRIL, 1977.**

at 2 p.m.



*"Enter into His gates with thanksgiving,
and into His courts with praise.
Be thankful unto Him, and bless His Name."*

Psalm 100:4

ARCHITECT:

Mr Oliver Donnell.

BUILDERS:

Mr Ron Youngman of Whangaparoa Baptist Church (until November, 1976.)

Mr Mervyn Martin.

Mr Robin Williams.

and over ONE HUNDRED VOLUNTARY HELPERS of the New Plymouth Baptist Church.

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NEW

v/c

NEW PLYMOUTH

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228360

ORDER OF SERVICE

OUTSIDE — the congregation will assemble outside the main doors in Liardet Street.

Welcome — the Minister

Prayer of Thanksgiving — Mr Robin Williams, builder.

The minister will hand the key to the builder, Mr Merv. Martin, who will then unveil the plaque, open the door and read:-

'I declare this Baptist Church Centre open to the glory of God and the service of people.

O God, make the door of this place wide enough to receive all who need love and fellowship, but narrow enough to shut out all envy, pride and strife. Make its doorway smooth enough to be no stumbling block to children, nor to straying feet, but rugged and strong enough to turn back the tempter's power.

God, make the door of this place the gateway for many to Your eternal kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord.'

The doors being opened, the people will now enter the building.

Donated by H. H. B. Martin

6 April 1977

CALL TO WORSHIP

— the Minister,
Rev. John A. Wilton.

HYMN

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;
To His feet thy tribute bring;
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Who like thee His praise should sing?
Praise Him, praise Him,
Praise the everlasting King.

Praise Him for His grace and favour
To our fathers in distress;
Praise Him, still the same for ever,
Slow to chide, and swift to bless;
Praise Him, praise Him,
Glorious in His faithfulness.

Father-like He tends and spares us;
Well our feeble frame He knows;
In His hands He gently bears us,
Rescues us from all our foes;
Praise Him, praise Him,
Widely as His mercy flows.

Frail as summer's flower we flourish;
Blows the wind — and it is gone.
But while mortals rise and perish,
God endures unchanging on.
Praise Him, praise Him,
Praise the high eternal One.

Angels, help us to adore Him,
Ye behold Him face to face;
Sun and moon, bow down before Him,
Dwellers all in time and space,
Praise Him, praise Him,
Praise with us the God of grace.

SCRIPTURE

Colossians 3: 1-4; 12-17

read by His Worship the Mayor

STATEMENT OF THE CHURCH'S TASK

—Rev. Hugh Coutts, former minister of this Church.

ACT OF DEDICATION — Dr John Jeffrey,
President of the Baptist Union of
N.Z.

(congregation stand, and respond with words in large print.)

As God has put into the hearts of His servants to
build this place,
and has given us grace to work together
so that we might dedicate this house
to His worship and service
let us now with gratitude and reverence
enter into this act of Dedication.

To the glory of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

WE DEDICATE THIS HOUSE

For the worship of God in praise and prayer,
For the public reading of the Holy Scriptures,
For the preaching and teaching of the gospel of Jesus Christ,
For the celebration of the sacraments of Baptism and the
Lord's Supper

WE DEDICATE THIS HOUSE

For the solemnizing of marriage and the hallowing of family life,
For the dedication, teaching, and guiding of the young,
For the rites of burial and the comforting of all who mourn,
For the upbuilding of all who believe,
For the conversion of people and the extension of the Kingdom
of God

**WE DEDICATE THIS HOUSE,
WE DEDICATE OUR GIFTS,
OUR ENERGIES,
AND OURSELVES.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION —
Mr Oliver Donnell, Architect.

CHOIR

ADDRESS — Dr John Jeffrey
President of the Baptist Union of N.Z.

HYMN

The Church's one foundation
Is Jesus Christ her Lord:
She is His new creation
By water and the word:
From heaven He came and sought her
To be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her,
And for her life He died.

Elect from every nation,
Yet one o'er all the earth,
Her charter of salvation
One Lord, one faith, one birth,
One holy name she blesses,
Partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses,
With every grace endued.

Mid toil and tribulation,
And tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation
Of peace for evermore;
Till with the vision glorious
Her longing eyes are blest,
And the great Church victorious
Shall be the Church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union
With God the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion
With those whose rest is won.
O happy ones and holy!
Lord, give us grace that we,
Like them, the meek and lowly,
On high may dwell with Thee.

BENEDICTION — Rev. Doug Rushbrook,
former minister of this Church.

PRESENTATION AND GREETINGS.

PRESENTATION TO THE ARCHITECT AND BUILDERS.

READINGS OF GREETINGS — Mr L. McMorran,
Secretary of the Church.

Brief greetings to be received from:

Mr D. Sutherland — Mayor of New Plymouth.
Mr A. Friedlander, M.P.
Dr J. Jeffrey, President of the Baptist Union of N.Z.
Captain Ian Kilgour, Salvation Army, on behalf of other
Churches of New Plymouth.
Rev. Ken McCormack, President of Central Districts'
Association.

AFTERNOON TEA — Church Hall.

WEEK-END PROGRAMME

Saturday 2nd April, 1977

2:00 p.m. Opening of new Baptist Church Centre.
3:30 p.m. Afternoon Tea in Church Hall.
8:00 p.m. Public performance of Choral Music by ARS
NOVA Choir

Sunday 3rd April, 1977

10:00 a.m. Morning Worship
Preacher — Dr J. Jeffrey.
President of the Baptist Union of N.Z.
7:00 p.m. Evening Worship
Preacher — Dr Francis Coningsby,
Pastor of Spurgeon Memorial Baptist
Church, London.

NEW PLYMOUTH PUBLIC LIBRARY



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THE NEW BAPTIST CHURCH CENTRE.

For many years, there had been growing within this church a conviction that the emphasis of our work and witness should more and more be turned outwards, towards the people round about us, and to our own community. Step by step, we came to accept that while our buildings were an essential base, our old buildings had become inadequate.

Through a time of careful testing before God of many ideas and suggestions, we were brought in a remarkable way to the decision to dispense with the old building which had served through 60 years, and to replace it on this same site with a structure designed to aid our hope and purpose of reaching out, and to provide facilities basic to that end.

So many of our people have involved themselves in so many ways in the growth of this new building that there is no need to re-tell for ourselves the steps by which we have reached this day. But we all combine to tell out that the contributions of hand, heart and head through many months of dedicated effort have forged only the first step, and that we now seek to know His will and His guidance and directing for the steps which are to follow.

Mr John Ennor,
Chairman of Building Committee.