

A brief history of **Joy Ministries (NZ)**,
and some of what we do as a service to the community



**JOY
MINISTRIES**
Celebrating 21 years of
JM in NZ - 2016

Joy Ministries (NZ) is an interdenominational Christian organisation working in the community, giving individuals with an **Intellectual Disability** the opportunity to meet with other like-minded people, for friendship, social occasions, and to learn about God.

Joy Ministries (NZ) was established **23 years ago** in **1985** under the umbrella of **Elevate Christian Disability Trust**, a Registered Charitable Trust ... <http://elevatedcdt.org.nz/joy-ministries/>.

It started in **East Auckland**, a vision of **Debbie Kennedy** (after 9 months with **Joy Fellowship**, in Vancouver, Canada), begun with **Pastors Kevin and Jan Bridgeman**, and **Peter and Sandra Druskovich**.

There are now **9 Branches** throughout New Zealand:

- [1] **Central/West Auckland** (2pm-3:30pm, 2nd Sunday, at Church of the Saviour, Blockhouse Bay)
- [2] **East Auckland** (10am-11:15am, last Saturday, 4 times a year, at St Columba Presbyterian Church, Botany)
- [3] **South Auckland** (2pm-4pm, usually 3rd Sunday, at Papakura, a "home group")
- [4] **Whakatane** (at Whakatane Baptist Church)
- [5] **Hamilton**
- [6] **Hawke's Bay** (Napier/Hastings/Taradale ... currently meeting at Hastings)
- [7] **Taupo** (at Taupo Baptist Church)
- [8] **Wairarapa** (currently meeting at Masterton), and
- [9] **Marlborough** (Nelson/Blenheim)

All who work in **Joy Ministries (NZ)** are volunteers.

Joy Ministries (NZ) is also on **Facebook** ...
<https://www.facebook.com/JoyMinistriesNZ2017/>

We generally meet once a month (some fortnightly) for a short service, followed by morning or afternoon tea. The services usually consist of a time of singing, sharing of news, prayer, and a Bible study (the theme can be developed further by way of a Drama, or Craft activity), and maybe Communion.

Besides these services, there could be a **Summer Picnic** held in a local park, or other social events (such as a **Disco**), and visiting other Churches.

Every two years, we have a **National Camp**, held at **Totara Springs Christian Camp** in **Matamata**, usually held in May (**the next one, 15-17 May 2020 ... see:**

<https://www.facebook.com/events/642714502729837/>. We would expect about 120 people attending, including Helpers, Campers, a Doctor, and several Nurses to give the best care we can to our people. At Camp, there are many activities offered, including a Dance, Sports and Crafts activities, along with Bible teaching and Singing.

Also on **Facebook** ... <https://www.facebook.com/JoyMinistriesNZ2017/>



Everyone is welcome at **Joy Ministries (NZ)** – people with an Intellectual Disability, their family, friends, and support people.

For more information about **Joy Ministries (NZ)**, please do not hesitate to contact **Jan Bridgeman**, mobile **027.641.2653**, or email jandkbridgeman@hotmail.com

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