

## **Something to Think About: 14 March 2010**

### **The call is out! And you are being called!**

Last week I was at two events that expressed deep concern over the impact of current decisions on Auckland Local Body restructuring. Monday I heaved a sigh of relief to see at last the Herald is running a series that will, I hope, enable more people to get up to speed with this major change impacting us all. One of the core gospel expectations is that all people will be taken into account and all will have a chance to be heard. Certainly the mission of church today is predicated on the basis that all people should be able to express their voice within a community that cares, supports and works for the good of all. At St C we work to build community, to declare we care, and that all people count. It is a travesty that the effort of past generations in this city can so easily be cast aside; their work accruing magnificent parks and reserves for the benefit of us all, shaping a system of government in which we can all have a say, growing the wealth of the city on behalf of us all. We need to ensure future generations will receive the treasures of our city from us, we need to exercise good stewardship and add our share to them. It is not good enough to pass over to private profit-making contractors the business of the city because we are too busy to be involved in listening and understanding what is going on. We need a transparent system of planning and decision making so we can know what is happening and can make our opinion known. We need to be able to trust that the opinions of the people who commit themselves, with our support, to the wellbeing of the city will be heard and will be taken into account. We all have a responsibility to find out what is going on and to vote in ways that protect our democratic rights and responsibilities. You are being called to protect your democratic rights. **Susan**