



Dunedin Methodist Parish

Finding Good in everyone Finding God in everyone

www.dunedinmethodist.org.nz

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PARISH BULLETIN

7th OCTOBER 2012

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 14th OCTOBER 2012

9.30am	Mornington	C Gibson
9.30 am	Mosgiel	S Pole
11.00 am	Glenaven	C Gibson
11.00 am	Wesley	S Pole
1.00pm	St Kilda	TBA
6.00pm	Broad Bay	No Service

MOSGIEL METHODIST M.W.F.

Tuesday 9th October 1:30pm. When Doreen Christie will take us to the Greek Islands. Ladies please bring a friend.

MOSGIEL MID ~ WEEK SERVICE

This month will be Wednesday 17th October at 2:00 pm.
Followed by afternoon tea all very welcome.

BROAD BAY CHURCH

Will meet at 6.00pm on the first and third Sunday's as from 7th October 2012 through the Summer until 17th March 2013.





MONDAY 15 OCT 7 PM – OVERSEAS ADVENTURES

Jasmine and Annabelle Weston will share their recent overseas adventures. Jasmine had a year in the USA as an exchange student, and Annabelle spent some weeks in Fiji as part of a church mission group. Come along to Mornington Methodist Church on Monday 15 October at 7 pm to hear some of their interesting stories, see photos of their trips, and enjoy supper together afterwards.

BECOMING LIFE WISE WITH OPEN EDUCATION

The Mornington Methodist Church, Galloway Street, invites you to join a conversation on life experience as several 80 year-olds (and more) discuss what they have seen and learned in their lifetimes. An Open Education programme of the Dunedin Methodist Parish, on Wednesday 17 October, starting at 7.30pm (the charge of \$5 includes supper).

A pre-session meal catered by Judy Russell commences at 6pm (\$15). Book your place in advance by ringing Judy (455 3727): we can guarantee that the food won't be as mature (did someone say 'old'?) as the speakers!

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR WORLD PEACE 14TH-21ST OCTOBER 2012

Annual Dunedin Community Interfaith Peace gathering. People of all faiths are warmly invited to attend. Thursday 18th October 7.30-8.30pm followed by supper. Venue: Friends Meeting House 15 Park Street, Dunedin. All welcome.

THE BOARD OF MISSION RESOURCING IS INVITING APPLICATIONS FOR THE POSITION OF DIRECTOR OF ENGLISH SPEAKING MINISTRIES.

The Job Description and full advertisement has been placed on the Methodist website

http://www.methodist.org.nz/administration_division/job_opportunities.

Applications with CV are to be directed to:

The Chairperson of Mission Resourcing Board The Reverend Marilyn Welch, 12 Delmont Close, Dannemora, Auckland 2016

The closing date for applications is Wednesday 17 October 2012

CHILD POVERTY – TIME TO HEAR YOUR SOLUTIONS

The Children's Commission wants feedback on its paper 'Solutions to Child Poverty' by 12th October. There are 270,000 children living in poverty. Of these 56 percent are from sole parent families. Poverty for Maori and Pasifika families are about double that of Pakeha families. Addressing twenty five percent of children living in poverty is a responsibility of governance. In the book of Kings Chapter 3, Solomon asked for an 'understanding mind' to govern, an understanding of what is right, and God rewards him with governing with justice. A justice approach could be that every child is welcome and is nurtured to thrive.

Poverty means hardship. For children it means not being able to go on school trips; not having a secure or adequate home; and not having lunch or books. The cause of child poverty is family incomes below the poverty line, which is 60 percent of the median wage. Benefits are too low and many jobs are paid at low rates which are insufficient to lift families out of poverty. To solve child poverty requires strategies to increase incomes, and provide for education, health, and housing.

Action: Please meet and discuss the proposals and share your views with us by 7th October (betsan@publicquestions.org.nz). See Solutions to Poverty at: www.occ.org.nz; and Key Issues at: www.methodist.org.nz/public_questions_network

MOSGIEL, WESLEY, MORNINGTON and GLENAVEN have all experienced, and appreciated the [Y@M](#) service on MARK'S GOSPEL. When we heard of their intention to span all of Mark in one service, we could not conceal a smile. Yeah right! But they did it, and even embraced a good dose of modern scholarship in so doing. What an achievement. And what a brilliant script, Ginny Kitchingman. [Y@M](#)'s versatility and competence are now well and truly proven, and people at Mosgiel and Wesley have felt very much included. CONGRATULATIONS EVERYONE. Pictures show [Y@M](#) getting into the rhythm; The crowd as puppets, so important a part of Mark's story; the cast display their artwork, recording the more important part of Mark's good news.

(Photo's on next page)



Story from the Mission

Three students leaving us with employment this week. One to take up a part time role with Statistics NZ, one to take up a project management role for a construction company in Christchurch, and one to take up a position with a local brush company.

The student who is taking up the position as the project manager in ChCh had applied for several project managing positions in the building and construction sector and was in the fortunate position to be able to take the time to consider each position and choose. He came to us wanting to learn how to use Microsoft Project software as he knew this was essential for the area he wished to work in. We had never taught this software before, so tutors and student were learning together. So with newly found skills in this software, a targeted CV, and practice interviews with the Section Manager, the student was highly marketable and sought after.

The student who gained employment with the brush company has been with us only a short time. He was very focussed on gaining employment; upskilling in computing, creating a startling targeted CV, and maintaining a positive outlook.

The student who gained employment with Statistics NZ was also very focussed on gaining employment. She came to upskill in computing, freshen her customer service skills, create a targeted CV and so gain employment. This student has immersed herself fully into student life – she is an elected student representative, and outstanding role model for other students and a tower of support for those that need it.



Joyce Patton of our Wesley Church is the personal embodiment of the *Connections* theme as today we honour the 65th anniversary of her role as a gifted pianist/organist first at Caversham and from 1978 at Wesley.

As long as Joyce can remember she has been personally involved in the music of the Church. The Caversham Church, once on the corner at the Kew roundabout, was a singing church, and nothing stirs Joyce like a full-voiced congregation singing the hymns of Wesley and others of the evangelical tradition, evoking great memories of the congregation where she was nurtured.



Joyce associates her music education with the encouragement she was given in her teenage years. There was Mrs Myrtle Smythe, organist at Caversham, who enlisted the young piano student from the ranks of Sunday school and bible class and made her one of a team of assistants - for each one of whom it was more a privilege than a duty when called upon to play for services. But those were the post-war years, and the lives of many people were undergoing change. The result was that much sooner than she could ever have expected, a process of attrition left Joyce as the only one left, she became the senior organist - a position she held until Caversham closed its doors in 1978, the congregation being officially merged with Wesley. Eric James and Norma Bartlett were very fine organists there, and later Jim Dixon, and Joyce joined a team again until in passage of time, Joyce was again left as the sole organist, a position she has held ever since.

Those of long standing in Dunedin Methodism know Joyce well. A more-than-competent Church musician, with a lovely touch to either organ or piano, and a sympathetic appreciation of what makes a good worship service. All are assets that make Joyce a gift to any worship leader. But more than that. As time has gone by, her loyalty and perseverance in the face of the setbacks of recent years have shown through as the hallmarks of her service to the Church.

For seven years, Joyce has been an organist with no organ in a congregation with no certainty as to its future, Schemes and visions aplenty have been lavished on the Hillside Rd site, visiting a veritable roller coaster of hopes and disappointments on Wesley people. As the one who presided 7 years ago at the last service at which the 1863 heritage organ was played prior to its dismantling for sale to David Burchell, I can testify to the deep sadness of the occasion, and the silently held opinion that the sale of the not long upgraded organ was too soon, and for too little - and then they had to remind themselves they did agree to the sale believing, in so doing, that major developments were in the offing. Sadly, it has not been so, and a minor resurgence, coupled with the growing strength of the Tongans, have only served to heighten the sense of loss of a beloved organ.

Joyce is not the only one with treasured memories of Methodism in South Dunedin, but moreso than most she has made a point of preserving them. Joyce reminded me that within her lifetime Methodism has serviced congregations in a multitude of preaching places far in excess of the six that have survived. St Clair, Caversham, Sawyers Bay, Ravensbourne, Waitati and Fairfield came to mind, and with those names the memories a much larger list of ministers who served their appointed time in those circuits. A mixed lot, for sure, and it's interesting to hear Joyce's perceptive memories of the some the saints (and sinners) with whom she has associated over her 65 years. She assured me none deserved to be put on a pedestal, but she spoke warmly of their unique gifts and graces to the Methodist community of faith in South Dunedin.

Despite everything said above, however, Joyce is today's person and not a bitter bearer of regrets for a Church whose best days were yesterday. In fact, Joyce is as shrewd an observer of the present Dunedin Parish as any of its younger members.

She looks forward to the monthly visit of the Tongan Methodists for Communion at Wesley each month, the depth of their singing and the natural innocence of the children in the worship services. She is a strong supporter of recent initiatives to share special Mornington creations with the rest of the Parish - Y@M presentations and Explorers services. Joyce reckons Wesley is as much deserving of the stimulation and inspiration that such services afford as the good people of Mornington. She likes a service that lifts her spirits and makes her think, and its her view that there are plusses as well as minusses from the inability to attract another presbyter - the sharing of riches in a Parish that has much talent among lay people and retired ministers.

On this 65th anniversary of the service of a very fine musician, Joyce would not want us to forget what the Church has given to her - opportunity to practice and grow her particular skills, and above all, and in her own words "friendship, fellowship and a caring community."

I conclude with a snippet from Joyce that slipped out as I was leaving their home in College St, Caversham, last week. The one to whom credit must be given for the building of Wesley Church is the Rev Lewis Hudson, whose ministry in the early 1890's was all too short. It is said he worked tirelessly for a new 'mission hall' on the corner of Cargill Rd and Wesley St, and the local Wesleyans of mainly working class people responded with enthusiasm. Under his leadership they built an edifice on a London model, originally designed to accommodate a gallery. But his labours were given at a cost, and he preached but once in the Mission Hall, now Wesley Church, before retiring for health reasons - a reminder, perhaps, that in Methodism the clergy come and the clergy go, but great lay people, like Joyce Patton, given health strength and resilience, go on exercising their gifts and graces in familiar places to the glory of God. Carry on Joyce!

Ken Russell