



# Dunedin Methodist Parish

*Finding Good in everyone Finding God in everyone*

[www.dunedinmethodist.org.nz](http://www.dunedinmethodist.org.nz)

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## PARISH BULLETIN

19<sup>th</sup> MAY 2013

### WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 26<sup>th</sup> MAY 2013

9.30am	Mornington	G Hughson
9.30 am	Mosgiel	G Watson
11.00 am	Glenaven	G Hughson
11.00 am	Wesley	G Watson
1.00pm	St Kilda	TBA
4.00pm	Broad Bay	No Service



### MUSICAL SOCIETY CONCERT

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May, 2.30pm at Mornington Methodist Church.  
Piano Items. Cost - \$2.00.

### COMBINED TAIERI CHURCHES PENTECOST SERVICE

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May, 7.00pm at East Taieri Church, Cemetery Road, Mosgiel. Offering taken for Bibles in Schools. Supper to follow. All welcome.

### PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

This is being held on Wednesday 22 May, at 7:30pm, at Mornington.

## MORNINGTON METHODIST FELLOWSHIP

The May Meeting will take place on the 22nd May at 2p.m. This will take place in the Church Lounge and the Guest Speaker will be Prof Colin Gibson - the subject "Chopsticks and Sushi". I wonder if we should bring our chopsticks? All Welcome. Don't forget your knitting for the Mission & your small change for "Fellowship of the Least Coin.

**WESLEY DAY** will be celebrated **26 MAY** by Methodists and Anglicans joining together at our usual service times but at Anglican venues. Mornington people will meet at 9.30am at Mornington Methodist Church, and Glenaven at St Martin's, 194 North Road. At 10.45am. Rev Greg Hughson will be leading both combined services. Please help to spread the word!

## WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2013

Ecumenical Service, Preacher: Rev. Dave Brown. Knox Church, Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May, 7.00pm. Followed by supper; please bring a plate.

**Ecumenical Bible Studies**, May 9-17<sup>th</sup>, 12.30pm at Burns Hall, First Church. BYO lunch; tea and coffee provided. Theme: What does God require of us? (Micah 6:6-8).

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> - Walking in Conversation, Friday 10<sup>th</sup> - Walking with the broken body of Christ, Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> - Walking towards freedom, Monday 13<sup>th</sup> - Walking as the children of the earth, Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> - Walking as the friends of Jesus, Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> - Walking beyond barriers, Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> - Walking in solidarity, Friday 17<sup>th</sup> - Walking in celebration.



## GOSPEL BICENTENARY - AN OPPORTUNITY!

2014 will be the bicentenary of the Gospel in New Zealand. To celebrate the 'Jesus - all about hope' initiative plans to share the reasons for our hope in Christ with every home in NZ through multiple media in the weeks leading up to Easter 2014 (during lent). A Roadshow is traveling throughout our nation to give believers an opportunity to hear about this first-hand. Please consider getting along to Mornington Presbyterian Church at 7:30 p.m. on the 31 May to hear about it. For more details see

<http://www.hopeproject.co.nz/>



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to David Canon who turns 12 on 21<sup>st</sup> May.

### **STORY FROM THE MISSION**

#### *Stories from the Hub*

Miriam has completed another successful MEALS at the Hub cooking classes. There were nine people for Ari Te Uru this time and hope to have some Dads starting in May for 5 weeks.

Stephanie Gardiner from Christchurch held a four day seminar on Hypno birthing.

The curtain bank has moved to Andersons Bay Road. The Hub is still a drop-off and referral place.

We would like to thank Anisha for her time with us and the contribution she made to our knitting group.

There is another young Mum who is currently cataloguing some of our toys a, books and puzzles in preparation for the development of our small toy library.

Ange from footsteps has started some free resource making workshops on Wednesday afternoons.

There has been an increase in numbers of people coming for music and movement.

The Blokes Shed have been doing some maintenance and toy mending for the Hub.



There is a parable that David Foster Wallace, an American novelist, once told. It goes like this: there are these two young fish swimming along and they happen to meet an older fish swimming the other way, who nods at them and says "Morning, boys. How's the water?" And the two young fish swim on for a bit, and then eventually one of them looks over at the other and goes "What the hell is water?"

Which is a story about how much we take everything around us both for granted and as inevitable.

I want you to think about the water you spend your life swimming in. Not the actual water, it's far too cold for that this time of year! I mean the taken-for-granted, unmoveable experience of your daily life.

The grind. The hassle. The amount of organisation it takes and then the frustrations when you are stuck behind others in the supermarket or on the road. The routine of it – every day the same get up, get dressed, get going, work, get home in time, keep the house running, the laundry of it ...

How inconvenient every single disruption to that routine is. (By disruption of course, I mean "other people".)

Not all other people, just the ones who get in the way. Who are driving at 40 in a 50 zone when you're late. Who are blocking the aisle to have a chat in Pak n Save when the store is packed. Who said they'd do this or that by then and haven't.

Because we live in a city, there are enough people for at least one or two of these frustrations to pop up each day.

And so that frustration becomes the water we swim in, that we take both for granted and as inevitable.

But what if we knew that the people driving at 40 in a 50 zone are doing it because they are learning to drive? Or the folks blocking the supermarket aisle are passing on news about a sick neighbour and one of them is volunteering to check in on him? Or who didn't get their part of the job done in time because their partner was rushed to hospital two nights ago?

We usually can't know whether those things are true or not. But we also seldom wonder if they might be. What we usually do is decide that these other people are just idiots.

Which is a very affirming thing to do! Much easier that someone else be an idiot than we think of ourselves as uncaring. Unimaginative. Inattentive.

It turns out that other people have the same grind we do. The same hassles. And they too are often frustrated by idiots getting it wrong. And unless you are perfect, that includes you.

The problem is, once we've decided that someone is an idiot; we're free to feel frustrated.

What a waste of time. If I'm going to be stuck in the queue at the shop, caught for an extra 10 minutes on Cumberland Street, or have to hang around with my project until someone else comes through; I *could* spend it steaming with frustration.

Or I could realise that there is a choice. As David Foster Wallace said: *But if you're aware enough to give yourself a choice, you can choose to look differently at this fat, dead-eyed, over-made-up lady who just screamed at her kid in the checkout line. Maybe she's not usually like this. Maybe she's been up three straight nights holding the hand of a husband who is dying of bone cancer. Or maybe this very lady is the low-wage clerk at the motor vehicle department, who just yesterday helped your spouse resolve a horrific, infuriating, red-tape problem through some small act of bureaucratic kindness. Of course, none of this is likely, but it's also not impossible. It just depends what you want to consider. If you're automatically sure that you know what reality is, and you are operating on your default setting, then you, like me, probably won't consider possibilities that aren't annoying and miserable. But if you really learn how to pay attention, then you will know there are other options. It will actually be within your power to experience a crowded, hot, slow, consumer-hell*

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*type situation as not only meaningful, but sacred, on fire with the same force that made the stars: love, fellowship, the mystical oneness of all things deep down.*

Not all the time of course. No-one's that perfect!

***Laura Black***

**Pentecost** (Ancient Greek: Πεντηκοστή [ἡμέρα], *Pentēkostē [hēmera]*, "the Fiftieth [day]") is the Greek name for the Feast of Weeks, a prominent feast in the calendar of ancient Israel celebrating the giving of the Law on Sinai. This feast is still celebrated as Shavuot. Later, in the Christian liturgical year, it is also a feast commemorating the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the twelve Apostles of Christ.

In the Eastern church, Pentecost can also refer to the whole fifty days between Easter and Pentecost, hence the book containing the liturgical texts for Paschaltide is called the Pentecostarion. The feast is also called **Whit Sunday**, or *Whitsun*, especially in England, where the following Monday was traditionally a holiday. Pentecost is celebrated seven weeks (50 days) after Easter Sunday, hence its name.<sup>[1]</sup> Pentecost falls on the tenth day after Ascension Thursday.

Among Christians, Pentecost commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Twelve Apostles and other followers of Jesus as described in the Acts of the Apostles 2:1–31.<sup>[2]</sup> For this reason, Pentecost is sometimes described by some Christians today as the "Birthday of the Church."



