



Dunedin Methodist Parish

Finding Good in everyone Finding God in everyone
www.dunedinmethodist.org.nz

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PARISH BULLETIN

23rd JUNE 2013

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 30th JUNE 2013

9.30am	Mornington	Combined at Wesley
9.30 am	Mosgiel	Combed at Wesley
11.00 am	Glenaven	Combined at Wesley
10.00 am	Wesley	D Phillipps
1.00pm	St Kilda	Combined at Wesley
4.00pm	Broad Bay	Combined at Wesley

MORNINGTON METHODIST WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The June Meeting will take place on the **26th June at 2 p.m.**

This will take place in the Church Lounge, followed by Devotions

- taken by the Rev Donald Phillipps, who will then chair the Annual Meeting.

The Guest Speaker will be Donald - subject "Some Interesting People". All Welcome. Don't forget the Fellowship of the Least Coin.



COMBINED PARISH SERVICE

Will be held **Sunday 30th June at 10.00am** in Wesley Church Hall, Wesley Street, South Dunedin.

The service will be led by Rev. Donald Phillipps. Following the service morning tea will be served, contributions of food for this would be much appreciated. Thank you.

COMMISSIONING SERVICE FOR REV. DR ROD MITCHELL

A Commissioning service for Rev. Dr Rod Mitchell will be held on the **30th June at 10.00am** in the Wesley Church Hall, Wesley Street, to minister in Dunedin Methodist Parish.

This is the Sunday that the Parish has its Combined Service and hopefully everyone in the Parish will turn up to support Rod and his family in this special occasion. Pray for Rod and his family as he begins his ministry in our Parish.

EXPLORERS GROUP

Meets on **Sunday June 30 at 4-30** in the Mornington Church Lounge, all interested people most welcome to attend.

BULLETIN NOTICES FOR 30th JUNE

As I will be on leave on Friday 28th June, it would be appreciated if all notices for the Bulletin can be in to the Mission Office (phone 466 4600 or sarahc@dmm.org.nz) by 3.00pm on Wednesday 26th June. Thank you. – Sarah Campbell.

MOSGIEL MID-WEEK SERVICE

Due to the weather last weeks Mid ~ Week Service was postponed and will now be held next **WEDNESDAY 26th** at Maran~atha Resthome at 2pm anyone needing transport please phone 489 7663.

VERDI'S REQUIEM

On Thursday night, June 27, at 6.30pm in the Dunedin Town Hall, the City of Dunedin Choir, augmented by fellow choir members from Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch, together with the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra will perform Giuseppe Verdi's Requiem, one of the greatest and most dramatic of all religious choral works. Don't miss this once in a lifetime experience—our national orchestra and a choir of nearly 200 hundred voices singing their hearts out.

OPEN EDUCATION

On Wednesday, David Bromell, consultant to the Ministry of Social Development, delivered an excellent presentation on the world of social welfare and Government policy in New Zealand. Several people have asked for copies and David has agreed to send the full text in pdf form to me for distribution to any one who asks. Let me have your email address if you want to read at leisure what David told a considerable audience on a very nasty night weather-wise. Contact Colin Gibson (colin.gibson@clear.net.nz).

ALIVE NOW - Many copies of the Christian Resource magazine "ALIVE NOW" have been placed in the book case in the foyer of Mornington Church and are there for the use of who-so-ever would like to make use of them. Alive Now is published by the Upper Room out of the HQ of the United Methodist Church in Nashville, Tenn. and each edition is themed for research or devotional use. They are very much situation based, and very relevant to daily life. Go through the mags on the shelves and you are almost guaranteed to find the theme you are looking for - ideal for those charged with leading worship or devotions at Womens Fellowship. Take them home and keep them as long as you need them, and then swap them for others them for others. Pictured examples have themes - "Going Somewhere" "Blessed are the Poor" "Changing Direction" Hope" "Running/Walking"



ITEMS NEED FOR FOODBANK

Mosgiel Community Foodbank is based at Mosgiel Methodist Church Hall,
Has requested for these food items: Sugar, milk, coffee, milo, toothpaste,
soap. Please contact 4894792

STORY FROM THE MISSION

Client aged 17yrs, victim of family violence resulting in hospital care now needs a permanent place to live.

One of our Support and Advocacy workers received a phone call from a needs assessor at South Mental Health Team asking what information we could supply. She also received a phone call from a Clinical Psychologist asking for support for this client to help with accommodation. They were advised that informed consent from the client was required before any discussion could take place. The Support and Advocacy worker spoke with the Client, explained the situation, and asked what they wanted. The client gave their consent to discuss this with the SMHT assessor and the Dr at the Hospital.

On returning the phone call to the SMHT Assessor, she applauded our Support and Advocacy worker for her professionalism.

Discussion followed and based on the information we were able to supply; being supportive of a 'developmental' diagnosis this client now fits the criteria for funding to apply for supported accommodation with the view to living independently.

Consultation with The Mission enabled the client to be in an appropriate living situation where they had the support needed to work towards independent living. But the most important aspect of our work was ensuring the client's voice was heard by all the professionals involved.



What price compassion?

I am composing this piece while preparing to go to a funeral in Balclutha this afternoon. An ex-colleague's wife died late last week and Judy and I are travelling down to the gathering for Angela. The event made me think about the increasing frequency of funeral occasions and what they mean. At my age, 70 now, people seem to be passing on with greater frequency. That may be due to the impact of two factors: I am of an age where more people I know are dying and the world simply has more people, the laws of nature dictate more will die. More the former, than the latter, actually.

However, it is more important to focus on what they mean – the impelling force guiding one to attend. Care and compassion are most obvious with the living. When a friend is alive but ill, it seems natural to go and see them. When they die, other forces come into play. The motivating reason is to support the family of the departed, the living. But, the fear of death is one of the most deeply embedded instincts in us, and it seems hard-wired into us to avoid the notion and presence of death lest we too become "tainted". It takes some time and maturation to realise that this is not necessarily the case. Attendance to the dead, at funerals or elsewhere does not make us susceptible to catching the complaint. Young people look with amazement at the number of "older-folk" among those who attend funerals, and are often shy about attending. They are usually only seen at the deaths of close relatives or the fatal accidents of friends.

A scene I remember is of a young woman who was the head girl of a school where I taught sitting beside the deathbed of a gravely ill sixth form boy. He died of cancer which had not been detected early enough despite his and his parents' appeals to medical staff over chronic pain. She put aside all the business of the school day and her learning to nurse him in his last days alive. It was an act of great compassion which I will not forget. I was asked as his dean to speak at the funeral, and felt most

inadequate. I had only known him briefly and our connections had been perfunctory. I had a choice – to refuse or to accept. In the end I spoke briefly, relating mostly what his school friends felt. What surprised me was the graciousness of his family. They thanked me for speaking on behalf of the school and comforting them. What might they have felt if I had given way to fears of inadequacy and not spoken?

Another picture is of a young man – he will always remain young in my mind – who went to high school with me. His name was Pak Leng Young. He was my best friend at school, but was withdrawn from school at the age of sixteen to run a branch of the family farm. He was a brilliant student, following in the footsteps of his father, a professor of economics at Canton University in China before the 1948 revolution, during which the father died of illness. Pak Leng and I shared many conversations and life experiences. He eventually completed a Bachelor of Pharmacy degree at Otago after financing his younger brother Ho Leng through a medical degree. It seems that his life travelled a much more turbulent and difficult path than mine. He married twice, separated, and had a disabled daughter whose condition was caused by hospital misadventure. Yet for all that he was then one who forever saw his lot as more fortunate than mine. His life, in retrospect, was one of consideration and compassion. He is remembered as a most respectful and good man in his role as the chemist in the Mosgiel Hospital pharmacy.

Compassion is a virtue, but not exclusively Christian. It is seen in the world of nature as well as in humankind. Great compassion is greatly memorable but we must remember it comes in differing styles and quantities. Compassion is often quiet and goes about its business unnoticed. It is the tidying hand, the carpet cleaning knees, the guiding across the street, the steering of a wheelchair, the allowing to speak, the comforting the crying, the listening and the listening. It is going the extra mile, seeking the need, indeed doing those things through which Methodism gained its recognition of place in services to a society. There is no price to compassion – it is beyond price.

George Davis

