



Dunedin Methodist Parish

Finding Good in everyone Finding God in everyone

www.dunedinmethodist.org.nz

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PARISH BULLETIN

27th October 2013

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 3rd November

9.30am	Mornington	R Mitchell
9.30 am	Mosgiel	S Pole
11.00 am	Glenaven	R Mitchell
11.00 am	Wesley	S Pole
1.00pm	St Kilda	Comb. Wesley
6.00pm	Broad Bay	S Pole

EXPLORERS GROUP MEETING

Please note that as our usual Sunday for gathering falls on Labour Weekend, the meeting date has been changed to Sunday Nov 10th, 4.30pm in the Mornington Church Lounge. We look forward to hearing Rod Mitchell sharing with us his impressions of attending the 3rd Common Dreams Conference.

TRUFFLES IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS: Soon we'll be singing Jingle Bells and Silent Night - a signal that it is truffle time!!! If anyone would like to place an order for the Mornington Toy & Games Library's yummy truffles, please contact Rebecca Neaves, 488-4372. The cost is \$6.00 per dozen, and will be delivered to church on Sun, Nov. 17 (or can be delivered to your home on Saturday the 16th when I pick them up from the truffle making bonanza). Ho, Ho, Ho - and a Merry Christmas to you all!



Happy birthday to Patrick Boyes who turns 12 on 29th October.

The Book of Esther – the Movie Study Guide

Come along and be part of an exciting new study of the Book of Esther. This four-part study has been developed by the Y@M group and we can promise an entertaining and thought-provoking experience! Each study includes a 10-15 minute DVD telling the story, as well as a booklet with the text of the story, an activity and questions for discussion. The story itself is outrageous, the production is unorthodox, and the issues that are raised for discussion are vital and relevant.

You don't need to be a scholar!

You don't need to have read the Bible!

There are no wrong answers!

Everyone is going to be talking about it – don't be left out!

So far there are three groups that you can join...

Tuesday nights at 7 pm at Mosleys, starting on Tuesday 5 November

Wednesday nights at 7.30 pm at Russells, starting on Wednesday 23 October

Friday afternoons at 1.30 pm at Hughsons, starting on Friday 1 November

To join a group you can sign up in the foyer at Mornington or phone the host (Andrea Mosley 455-8874, Ken Russell 455-3727, Hilda Hughson 487-6226).

If you would like to start your own group, or if you have any general questions about the studies, contact Ginny Kitchingman 477-5030.

If you would like a copy of the DVD and study guide, they are available for \$10 from Ginny, with all proceeds being donated to the Mission.

STORY FROM THE MISSION

Leanne had all her students out today on a field trip and part of that was to call into Workbridge to listen to one of the employment consultants there talk about the jobs going, mainly work at the stadium and at Finegand, and about drug tests etc. Leanne said it was really good and the speaker was really encouraging of the students to apply for these jobs.

Anyway, the consultant also mentioned that the motels in town were starting to look for people to employ, particularly the Commodore.

On the way back to Approach one of the students in the van said that she would be really interested in a job at the Commodore, so they detoured to the Commodore motel where the student got out and took in her CV and came out with a work trial!

GLENAVEN EVENTS

Meet the Neighbours: On Saturday 2 November the churches of North East Valley are each holding a drop-in tea-party at a specified time. Salvation Army/Sacred Heart are combining for 10-11am at the Sacred Heart Church Hall, and three others -- St Martin's Anglican, NEV Baptist and Opoho Presbyterian -- offer the time of 10.30am - 12 noon. I'm ensuring Glenaven is open 4-5pm that day, with a cuppa ready, if anyone would like to help host this community-oriented event. I intend to do the rounds of the other churches in the morning. Should be fun. Inquiries: Helen W White watsonwhite@xtra.co.nz

All Saints Together: On Sunday 3 November members of all the NEV churches and friends are invited to the Nga Maara Hall of Sacred Heart School for an All Saints celebration, 5 - 7.15pm. There will be singing, balloons, a quiz and a short thanksgiving. To add to the BBQ sausages, please bring a plate of food to share.

PRAYER REQUEST

Please pray for the people of Australia,
Especially those who are affected
By the big fire on the Blue Mountain
Area, New South Wales. Families have fled
Homes, properties are burned, jobs are
Lost, and people are fear of their future.
We pray that there will be compassion and
Care offer to those who grieved and may
God will grant peace in their hearts.

An Invitation

MOSGIEL CHRISTIAN BOOKSHOP

PRE-CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

Wednesday 6th November
5.30 to 8.30 pm.

Bring your friends....
.....come as a group!
Free nibbles, tea, coffee.

BRING THIS NOTICE 15% off
everything (except cards).

Advent Calendars, Nativity Scenes,
2014 Calendars, & Diaries,
Journals, Gifts, DVDs, CDs.

LEADERS

Order your Sunday School prizes...
and Youth Group awards etc!!!

A GREAT GARDEN EXPERIENCE

was enjoyed by Mornington MWF ladies on Wednesday. They had an outing to the Wylde Willow Garden at Abbotsford where they were the guests of Fran & Mike Rawlings. The garden itself was "absolutely beautiful" with a wide selection of plant life, trees, pond with ducks and the ladies wandered freely over the extensive property. They were given a talk on the speciality of the garden, heritage roses, provided with a tasty afternoon tea, and came away having had a most sociable afternoon. Photos show Dorothy Pearce, Helen Messervy, Joy Clark, Catherine Gibson and Shirley Douglas enjoying a cuppa tea & cake, while Rona Preston gets close and personal with a magnificent rhododendron.





“Stories make our world,” says Prof. Richard Jackson, Deputy Director of Otago’s National Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies. The

long title of his recent inaugural professorial lecture was “The discursive construction of social processes, *or* how stories make our world”. It is not just *that* stories make us who we are, he says, but *how* they do it : that is the focus of his research.

This academic is also an artist, fly-fisherman and now a fiction-writer, with a novel soon to be launched called *Confessions of a Terrorist*. As the humorous but scary pretend-security procedures around the lecture made clear, there are many creative ways of getting your message across, and he considers the peace story, or world-wide web of peace stories, need to be told.

For years we have been sold a pup, he says, in the way our inherited legends of war embody heroism, nationalism and all things admirable, while tales of non-violent alternatives, of conflict resolution, and of the success of these strategies, have been suppressed or ignored. “The war stories have failed us” because they have suggested that “civilized” people may make war on “uncivilized” people, to defend the form of civilization – that is, in one major modern myth, the economy -- they have developed. Yet if you look at the American military response to 9/11, going to war in Afghanistan and Iraq has not brought peace or economic stability, but made the situation worse. A “civilization” that so readily goes to war is fired by an economy of death; he is not alone in thinking it doesn’t deserve to be called civilized.

I am proud that the establishment of the Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies has been an Anglican initiative, planned and formed over many years, by people I have known in other contexts for their quiet persistence and their absolute faith that there is another way. Towards the end of the social gathering I discovered that Richard Jackson, too, is an Anglican, a member of St Paul’s Cathedral; his wife Michelle sings in the choir in exactly the same spot where I used to stand. It’s possible that Richard,

the son of Salvation Army parents who were missionaries in Africa, made the switch to his wife's denomination as a great many people do. All such combinations make me happy, as they promote a merging and sharing of stories.

Stories make us who we are. My sister Janet and I have recently been on an Anglican "pilgrimage" to the Whakatipu area. After I dropped John at the airport on his way to the UK, we drove to Queenstown and next morning joined the group gathered at St Peter's for worship and story-sharing.

The "pilgrims" came from all parts of the Diocese of Dunedin (Otago/Southland), as they have done 5 or 6 times before, exploring the geography and faith history of its regions, from Stewart Island to North Otago and the Waitaki Valley.

Five carloads of people – who, although they were Anglicans, didn't necessarily know each other – made their way in convoy up the lakeshore to Glenorchy, Diamond Lake and Paradise, stopping at various points along the way for historical commentary from St Peter's Vicar (and ex-Bishop) Rt Rev Dr David Coles. The stories that imbue this region now include *Lord of the Rings*, so we were travelling through country that is fabled in film as well as in Maori oral history and the printed word. Bible stories come alive as you ford the River Jordan (singing negro spirituals) and bump your way up to the old homestead called Paradise, with a bushwalk through beeches called the Garden of Eden.

The presence of trucks and workers of all kinds revealed yet another ad was being filmed in some of the most magnificent scenery in the country. Mountains, misty slopes, ancient and mysterious forests: this is the stuff of fairy-tales and literature; the grand house at Diamond Lake is called Arcadia. Our family lore includes a stay there with the Veint family for my three older siblings during the polio epidemic of 1948. After correspondence lessons with the Veint children, they were free to explore, on foot or on horseback; Janet recalled some thirsty days haymaking with everyone taking part, then racing down to the lake to swim.

The story of the church's origins in Queenstown is tied to the history of the town itself, and of its founder William G.

Rees, who in 1863 – 150 years ago -- was not only (in one paper's words) "a carrier, coach proprietor, lighterman, boat builder, hotelkeeper, storekeeper, contractor, sawyer, gold buyer, slaughterman, baker, land-agent, station holder and ferryman" but also an Anglican lay reader, who took services for some six years before the area had its first vicar.

His great-granddaughter gave us another example of a family having more than one denominational identity, when she told the story of how William's father died when he was only 12, and his maternal (Pocock) grandfather became a strong influence in his life. George Pocock was a lay Methodist schoolmaster who conducted lively Tent Missions in Bristol. The great-granddaughter is a lay minister too.

I came away from the tiny 1889 interdenominational mission hall in Glenorchy thinking "when two or three..." (you know the rest). The Christian story is the greatest peace story of all, and because you don't have to be specially qualified to tell it, it continues to be told.

-- Helen Watson White, Anglican Methodist