



Dunedin Methodist Parish

Finding Good in everyone Finding God in everyone

www.dunedinmethodist.org.nz

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Pastoral Convenor	Beryl Neutze	476 7447
Mornington:		

PARISH BULLETIN

15th March 2015

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 22nd March

9.30 am	Mornington	R Mitchell
9.30 am	Mosgiel	S Pole
11.00 am	Glenaven	R Mitchell
11.00 am	Wesley	S Pole
1.00 pm	St Kilda	TBA

EASTER SUNDAY DAWN SERVICE, 5 April, 7am at Broad Bay Beach. After the service, enjoy a fish breakfast at Olive Bain's home, 8A Waikana Street, Broad Bay (5 minutes walk from the beach). For catering purposes, please let Jenny Winter know if you are coming, by 30 March, by phone or email (total numbers from each congregation is fine), phone 478 0491, email mcleanwinter@clear.net.nz



HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Beth Mosley, who turns 7 on the 20th March!

OPEN EDUCATION THIS WEEK: AN IMPORTANT VISITOR

For its first session of the year, Open Education brings Dr Justine Cornwall, New Zealand's Deputy Commissioner for Children, from Wellington to discuss the problem of Child Poverty in our country. Don't miss this outstanding occasion when we can hear one of the best informed people in New Zealand talking about Child Poverty, how bad it really is, and what we might do about it in our own community. Bring a friend or neighbour, and let others know what is happening at Mornington Methodist Church, Galloway Street, at 7.30pm, on WEDNESDAY 18 March. You are asked for a koha of \$5 (more will be welcome) and proceeds will go to the work of the Mission's Hub in South Dunedin with young families at risk. Sign in or ring 4536662 for the excellent \$15 pre-session meal prepared by Judy Russell \$15). That begins at 6pm.

STUNNING VISUALS have become a feature of services led by Rod Mitchell, and none moreso than this invitation to worship that greeted us last Sunday as we filed into Church. "O for the wings of a dove - that I may fly away and be at rest" Ps 55:6. But no rest from Rev Rob as the many images of flight on the screen reminded us of the historic inspiration of birds. eagles, ravens, even the lowly sparrows, to soar above the levels of degradation and depression to which us human beings can so easily descend, and become what the creator has given us potential to be. So you say there is nothing left for the birds to teach us? Consider the money and technology required to sit a huge airliner safely on a runway, and the certainty with which this tiny bird can alight on even the most gnarled of twigs.



CONGRATULATIONS to NAOMI POLE who graduated last weekend with a Bachelor of Education in Early Childhood Development B.Ed. Most members of the Parish have no idea the amount of time and difficulty that confronted Naomi along the way of working part time toward the degree - including surgery last year - but the joy and sense of achievement overflowed in a thanksgiving dinner at St Kilda where family, friends, work colleagues and university faculty staff joined with the Tongan Methodist community to honour Naomi. Tributes were paid to her as wife, mother, leader, role model and inspirer. A memorable occasion. Go well Naomi. Who is to say where such a degree will take you in the future?



BACH IN THE SUBWAYS - The Cellists of Otago have the privilege of being the first group in the world to celebrate composer J S Bach's birthday with Bach's birthday bash in St Pauls starting at 11.30pm on Friday night 20 March and continuing with various concerts throughout Saturday 21 March. Other venues will be Toitu Settlers Museum 11am, the Railway Station 12 noon, Wall St Mall 2pm, and the Dunedin Hospital at 5pm. This will be an exciting musical adventure. There is no admission fee.



MID-WEEK SERVICES will start again at Maran-atha on Wednesday 18TH March @ 2pm with Holy Communion. Please come and support these people. All Welcome.

PROPERTY, FINANCE AND RESOURCING COMMITTEE meets on Tuesday 17 March, 7.30pm at the Mission Board Room. There will also be a meeting of the Wesleydale Trust distribution committee.

STORY FROM THE MISSION

I worked with one young family where both parents had recently found work and are doing their best to support their three children, but due to their low wages and an anomaly in the Family Tax Credit system, they have found that until the end of the tax year in March, their weekly income will actually be lower than it was when they were receiving benefits from Work and Income. I have supported the mother to find ways to cope with this situation and she has continued in employment. She is remaining positive as she has employment, managing her budget as carefully as possible, accepting assistance from family members, accessing some support services - the DCC Consumer Electricity Fund and the Methodist Women's Support Fund and deferring some payments where she can.



DUNEDIN HOSPITAL'S VOLUNTARY CHAPLAINCY ASSISTANTS' TRAINING COURSE 2015

Voluntary Chaplaincy Assistants have a vital role in working alongside our paid chaplains for four hours a week on a specific ward in Dunedin and Wakari Hospitals. The Otago Healthcare Chaplaincy Support Trust is now in need of additional ecumenical VCA's, and is offering a training course commencing in April of this year.

The course will run from April 20 for 11 weeks on Wednesday afternoons 2pm – 5pm. It will include training in –

- Understanding of pastoral ministry & preparation for hospital chaplaincy
- Communication and listening skills
- Grief and loss
- Understanding the hospital environment / confidentiality / privacy legislation, Hospital standards and policies / keeping statistics for Ministry of Health
- Written reflection on pastoral encounters experienced

Supervision and support during the course will be provided by our chaplains. Following the course, trainees will be allocated a ward on a trial basis, and will receive support through group work and supervision.

Key dates are:

- Applications close on Friday, March 27
- Short-listed applicants will be interviewed in early April
- Course starts on Wednesday, April 20

**For further information and application packs, please contact:
Frances O'Connell - Chaplaincy Administrator, Dunedin Hospital
201 Great King Street, Dunedin
Phone 474-0999 ext 8130,
Email frances.o'connell@southerndhb.govt.nz**

THANK YOU - Thank you to all those who participated in the Parish five years review on Tuesday 10th of March in Mornington church. A special thanks to the two facilitators, Rev Peter Taylor and Rev Alan Webster. The result of the report will be sent to the parish in due time. At the mean time continue to support the parish and Prayerful for its ministry.



COMBINING THE LOCAL AND THE ETERNAL.

On 26 February last I attended the funeral of Dr Henry McKinlay (1929-2015) who would have been well-known to some of the older members of the Mornington congregation as the physician who attended them in the 1970s and 1980s from his home practice in Napier Street. Many local identities and also a good smattering of senior medical personnel in Dunedin were also present.

During the funeral service we learned of Henry's work in far-flung reaches of the world for humanitarian aid organisations. He worked stints in Cambodia, Afghanistan and Lebanon to name three. His skills were highly regarded and he was sent to dangerous areas. His family can remember him with great pride as an affectionate and humorous family man and a quiet, respected and unassuming humanitarian.

The three hymns chosen for Henry's funeral are close to my heart: 'Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah,' 'Who would True Valour See' and 'Nothing Is Lost on the Breath of God' – the last being one of Prof Colin Gibson's notable pieces. Indeed, they seem to bridge the impressive chasm between the local, personal and the eternal. As with many males of my generation and before, I was taught the bass line of the Welsh hymn 'Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah' at high school, and it has remained a favourite ever since. The words represent to me the flavours of the Old Testament and the dependence of the people on a powerful and unfathomable God, guiding humans to safety in an uncertain world.

‘Who would true valour see’ the John Bunyan hymn which reflects his turbulent life as a nonconformist preacher and his 12 years of imprisonment following the Restoration of Charles II. He is of course, most well-known for *Pilgrim’s Progress*, (1675 & 1684). Bunyan shows a worthy pilgrim beset by the vicissitudes of life in a vivid word-picture. He (or indeed, she today) stands like a lighthouse in a raging storm. Not all is so staunch, and occasionally, like us, the pilgrim slips into the slough of despond[ency]. We are persuaded though that by Christian labour we will eternal “life inherit.”

Colin Gibson’s hymn, ‘Nothing is Lost on the breath of God’ lifts us into the modern era where there appears a partnership with a loving God – not defined as a father figure but eternally caring for all humans and other living creatures in the world we briefly inhabit. We are assured of eternal care and God’s goodness forever.

These hymns represent both stability and change. They resonate today because they point to a quintessential value we all cherish. The notion of caring for others, whether reflected in a benevolent God, or in the life of a true humanitarian is what we all aspire to. And it is there, not in warlike endeavours that the salvation of the world can be found.

Being in the Other’s Shoes: being over there..

In a few days the 18th March will slip by. It means little in New Zealand, a country presently swamped by the militaristic resonance of Anzac Day. Indeed the focus of most New Zealanders’, and Australians’ attention will be on the up-coming celebrations and commemorations in Turkey. In particular, much will be made of the Gallipoli battles of 1915, but particularly from the Anzac perspective.

These were part of the British Dardanelles’ campaign which was lost to the Turks, and from which the Anzac forces withdrew from the 10th of December 1915, after 8 long frustrating months fighting an enemy force which was much more tenacious than first assumed.

What do the Turks make of this? It certainly strikes them as peculiar that thousands of New Zealanders and Australians each year in fairly constant and large numbers swamp that area which they call Çannakale. Indeed, the battle to retain the area is not known by the name of the famous strait of water, the Dardanelles, but by the name of the region and its largest city, Çanakkale. The defensive battles of 1915 are called Çanakkale Şavaslari (Çanakkale Battles) and are most celebrated with the holiday Onsekiz Mart Zaferi (18 March Victory). The Turks use the term Onsekiz Mart Zaferi elsewhere in the year to remind them of the victorious foundation of the Turkish Republic in the naval battles against the British and French combined forces in the Dardanelles that day.

Where does Anzac Day sit in all of this? Well, this year is not the centenary of Anzac Day (although this has already been stated on TV1 news) but the centenary of the Gallipoli Landing on 25 April 1915 starting around 4.30am. The first Anzac Day was commemorated in 1916. The Turkish people enfold Anzac Day as one of their own commemorations within the generic term "Onsekiz Mart Zaferi" i.e. 18 March Victory. It is sobering to find out that Turkish people have been attending The Gallipoli area since 1916, first as returned soldiers and these days as students and families. Their presence on the Peninsula, honouring the 82,000 Turks who died in defence of their country (approximately double the British and French mortalities) has been constant. This fact was made clear to the British both by Mustafa Kemal in 1930s and by the Turkish Government again to the British in 1952 at the time of the collection of money for the massive Turkish national martyrs' memorial at Fortress Point, clearly visible from Troy.

What is most amazing and reassuring in all of this is the generous spirit that shown to visiting New Zealand and Australian citizens when they visit Gallipoli. Perhaps it is time for us also to remember what 18 March means to the Turkish people.

George Davis.