



Dunedin Methodist Parish

Finding Good in everyone Finding God in everyone

www.dunedinmethodist.org.nz

Presbyters:	Rev. Siosifa Pole	455 2923
	Rev. Dr. Rod Mitchell	477 3700
Parish Stewards:	Mrs Hilda Hughson	487 6226
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Pastoral Convenor	Beryl Neutze	476 7447
Mornington:		

PARISH BULLETIN

12th July 2015

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 19th July

9.30 am	Mornington	R Mitchell
9.30 am	Mosgiel	E Merrett
11.00 am	Glenaven	R Mitchell
11.00 am	Wesley	E Merrett
1.00 pm	St Kilda	TBA

MORNINGTON WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The July Meeting will take place on 22nd July in the Church Lounge at 2p.m. The Guest Speaker will be Mr Nigel Pitts & his subject is "An Interesting Mix". Please remember the Fellowship of the Least Coin. All Welcome.



OPEN EDUCATION: LIFE ON THE EDGE

On Wednesday 15 July, in the Mornington Methodist Church, at 7.30pm, Open Education presents an extraordinary film about life in the seas and on the islands of the Hebrides. It focuses on how humans are learning to co-operate with and protect this remote environment and all of its inhabitants, from fields of wildflowers to huge basking sharks and white-tailed eagles. There are lessons here for New Zealand's own island environment.

Sign in for the usual tasty pre-session meal provided by Judy Russell (or ring 455 3727), and bring a friend for a wonderful night of entertainment and education. All proceeds go to help keep Chatbus on the road: we would like to raise \$1000 for this project. Will you help us do so?

OTAGO HEALTHCARE CHAPLAINCY SUPPORT TRUST Spirituality Seminar, Dunedin Hospital Chapel, Thursday 23 July, 1-2 pm with Assoc. Prof. Dr. David Perez. His personal perspective on spiritual and existential issues that people with serious or life-threatening issues face and how they adapt to give meaning to dramatically new realities. All welcome.

ABOUT EIGHTEEN OF US spent two most interesting hours at the HOLY CROSS centre at Mosgiel last Sunday, where Monsignor VINCE WALKER gave us a tour around the very extensive complex. Opened in 1900 as a seminary for the training of priests, the most impressive Chapel was completed in 1901. For almost a century a significant number of New Zealand's priests were trained at Holy Cross with the maximum number exceeding 100 in 1953. However, it was considered necessary to split the number, and half the number of trainees went to Christchurch - which was the beginning of the decline at Holy Cross, with all priests trained in Auckland since 1997. Beside the Parish Church, much of the

extensive property in Church St Mosgiel remains under-used. There is an extensive kitchen, a well-equipped Formation Centre available for spiritual retreats, and 100 rooms which are sometimes used by visitors to Dunedin when accommodation in the City is stretched to the limit.



Father Walker made us most welcome, and Judy Davis and Colin Gibson played suitable pieces on the Chapel's "grand."



Photos - the Chapel, and Father Walker explains its features.

FAITH THINKING

Short Courses jointly offered by the Department of Theology and Religion, University of Otago and some Dunedin Church in conjunction with Continuing Education at the University of Otago

The Protestant Reformation and the Breaking of the Western Church

Associate Professor Tim Cooper, Department of Theology and Religion.
Friday July 31st, 7-9pm and Saturday August 1st, 9-12.30
Burns 5 (Albany Street), University of Otago

A Closer Look at Christian Leadership

Pastor Peter Tate, Senior Pastor at Nations Christian Church
7.00-9.00pm on three Mondays: August 17, 24 and 31: NOTE CHANGED DATES.

Nations Christian Church, 334 King Edward Street, South Dunedin

Wrestling with Romans: Part 1 – the Impact and Importance of Romans 1-8 for the church of the 21st Century

Dr Chris Caradus

7.00-9.00pm on three Wednesdays: September 9, 16 and 23
Burns 5 (Albany Street), University of Otago

Suffering and Evil as a Challenge to Faith: Philosophical, Theological and Pastoral Responses

Professor Murray Rae, Department of Theology and Religion.
7.00-9.00pm on three Wednesdays: October 7, 14 and 21
Burns 5 (Albany Street), University of Otago

Each Course costs \$20. For further information go to:

<http://www.otago.ac.nz/theology/news/otago055227.html>

PLEASE REGISTER ONLINE AT www.otago.ac.nz/continuingeducation

If you have any queries, please do contact me. Paul Trebilco
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STORY FROM THE MISSION...

The Incredible Years Programme is working really well for parents. One parent has a four year old who would not stay in his own bed. She used a sticker chart to teach him to stay in bed and he is now staying in bed every night without needing the chart any more. Another parent told the group that she had learnt to give her child the choice of doing as she was told or doing without a privilege at home and her child was now choosing to do as she is told more often. One of the techniques that parents have found very useful is to think of the 'positive opposite' of a behaviour that they want to address with their child; for example, rather than telling the child not to walk on the wet grass, ask them to walk on the pavement; rather than telling them not to jump on the furniture, ask them to sit down quietly. This has made their requests more likely to be followed and reduced stress between parent and child for a number of the parents. Parents have also been taught to use

Time Out to Calm Down, which has helped one parent to manage her child's tantrums more successfully and taught her little girl how to calm herself down when she gets upset about something.





A BOOK FULL OF STORIES

Have you a book on your shelf which contains over 200 stories, a book full of stories? Yes, the Bible, it contains battle stories, betrayal stories, stories about seduction and treachery in the royal court, stories about farmers and crops, healing stories, violent stories, funny and sad, criminal and miracle, death and resurrection stories. Of course there are also sections containing law, poetry, proverbs, psalms, and much more, undoubtedly you can add to the list.

To say the Bible is a story book is not far off the mark.

“God has given us a book full of stories” - you may have sung at Sunday school and you will have favourite stories you remember from then. There was usually a lesson from them but if you were like me it was the story that counted, I suppose we/I learnt something.

The Bible stories are multi-purpose, they can be used to entertain, (I’m thinking of younger days there), a means of research, a way of experiencing other people’s way of living, they can even be used to base a sermon on!

It is an accumulation over a long period of time, some 1300 years, it is an archive of works written by a diverse collection of writers

Since the Bible became available to the everyday person instead of just the church leaders/clergy, it has found its way into almost every home

that has bookshelves. Some people even make a living from writing books about the books in 'The Book.'

The Bible continues to be a best seller, the Guinness Book of Records estimates over 5 billion copies have been sold.

Even though great numbers have been destroyed one way or another. How many homes have one or more copies on the book shelf?

The eighteenth century French philosopher Voltaire was supposed to have boasted that the Bible would, for all practical purposes disappear from public life within one hundred years of his own. The Bible is still around but Voltaire's influence is disappearing.

The Bible is a record of a people, a nation, a culture, a society; the bible is a book about 'The People of God;' the Bible is a book for people, for the 'People of the Book.'

It contains timeless truths, it also contains irrelevance.

We have to read it with a realistic and balanced approach to the challenges of today's way of living.

William Loader, an Australian theologian and writer presents some options for us to consider when we read/study the Scriptures. He provides some questions we could ask ourselves: "Are these the words of the Lord?" To be believed and obeyed without question. This approach implies that the words written, the instructions given are God's to be obeyed.

"Is this the word of the Lord?" to be weighed selectively. Care needs to be taken whether we weigh up the words or override them, we could be watering down rather than assessing constructively.

"In this is the word of the Lord?" To be engaged openly and perhaps critically. This approach can give full weight to all insights available to bring to bear on the interpretation, but it can leave open unselected major issues of what is deemed authoritative.

"Your word is a lamp for our feet, a light for our path." The Word meets us, challenges us and engages us, giving us the chance to be imaginative and allowing us to be free to live in such a way that our all-encompassing love is not based on adherence to instruction, but is the fruit of the Spirit which inspires us.

Eyes to see and ears hear and a tongue to speak the Word imaginatively.

Gordon Abernethy