



# Dunedin Methodist Parish

*Finding Good in everyone    Finding God in everyone*

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

<b>Presbyters:</b>	Rev. Siosifa Pole	455 2923
	Rev. Dr. Rod Mitchell	477 3700
<b>Parish Stewards:</b>	Mrs Hilda Hughson	487 6226
	Mrs Earlene Owens	489 8146
	Joy Clark	455 9534
<b>Tongan Steward:</b>	Mr Kaufusi Pole	455 0096
<b>Parish Office:</b>	Siosifa: <a href="mailto:parish@dmm.org.nz">parish@dmm.org.nz</a>	466 4600
	Katrina: <a href="mailto:admin@dmm.org.nz">admin@dmm.org.nz</a>	
<b>Parish Prayer Convenor</b>	Elaine Merrett	489 7663
<b>Pastoral Convenor</b>	Beryl Neutze	476 7447
<b>Mornington:</b>		

## PARISH BULLETIN

2<sup>nd</sup> August 2015

### WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 9<sup>th</sup> August

9.30 am	Mornington	S Pole
9.30 am	Mosgiel	G Abernethy
11.00 am	Glenaven	S Pole
11.00 am	Wesley	G Abernethy
1.00 pm	St Kilda	TBA

**MOSGIEL METHODIST WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP** Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> AUGUST at 1:30pm in our Hall Lounge. Our speaker is Judy Knox Speaking about her recent trip to TONGA, all parish WELCOME.

**OTAGO-SOUTHLAND SYNOD MEETING** - The Synod meeting will be on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> of August 7pm-9pm, Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> August 9.30am-3pm. The venue is Mosgiel Methodist Church. I would like all members of the Synod to attend this meeting.

**MUSICAL SOCIETY CONCERT** Sunday 9 August 2.30pm at Mornington Methodist Church. Come and hear some very good singers. All welcome. Cost \$2.



**St John**

Here for Life

### **“A CELEBRATION OF COMPASSION”**

St John Dunedin invite you to join them for their Annual Church Parade. entitled “A Celebration of Compassion”.

This will be a service of thanksgiving for all that St John does in our city. A new Ambulance will be dedicated and information about the breadth of the work of St John will be available. It is to be held at Hope & Sons, 523 Andersons Bay Road, on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> August at 2 p.m. As Christians you are invited to show your support for this organisation which has its roots in the Christian faith.

### **OPEN EDUCATION: TALKING CHATBUS**

On Wednesday 19 August, in the Mornington Methodist Church, at 7.30pm, Open Education brings the creator and director of Chatbus to talk



about her wonderful work with troubled children and worried staff. Averil Pierce is a compelling speaker about a counseling service that is unique in New Zealand, as she engages with children at risk in our school system. Sign in for the usual delicious pre-session meal provided by Judy Russell (or ring 455 3727) and bring a friend along. 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?

**THANK YOU** - I would like to convey my sincere thanks to Rev Gordon Abernethy and Rev Rod Mitchell for taking care the administration of the Parish while I was away on leave. I also would like to acknowledge the support of the Parish stewards during this time. For the whole Parish, thank you for your contribution to the mission of God in the Parish and in our community. I am coming back feeling refreshed for the ministry of the Parish. Please continue to pray for the work of our Parish and its future.

## STORY FROM THE MISSION...

*Next Step Training:* Matariki was celebrated at NST on Friday 26th June.

The Adult students prepared a large feast for the adult and youth NST students and staff. John Crawford-Smith (Operations Leader) spoke on the theme of Matariki and why it is an important celebration for the Methodist Mission. Heremaia, one of our youth recited a Karakia. Students had decorated the common room with large banners with folded paper stars representing the seven stars of Matariki.



Book review by Rev Greg Hughson, University of Otago Ecumenical Chaplain

**Preventing Suicide - A Handbook for Pastors, Chaplains and Pastoral Counsellors** by Karen Mason. IVP Books 2014

During late-June and early July of this year I spent three weeks on study leave, researching suicide prevention. From 1900-2000, approximately 25,000 people in New Zealand took their own lives. Currently, around ten or eleven people (on average) die each week in NZ as a result of suicide. At this rate, over 50,000 New Zealanders will take their lives this century. We have a major problem. Karen Mason's recently published book is an excellent resource for Pastors, Chaplains, Pastoral Counsellors and for any person of faith who has a genuine concern about helping to prevent suicide and bringing these tragic statistics down. Karen is associate professor of counselling and psychology at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. She is a psychologist who has been working in the mental health field since 1990, and a person of deep Christian faith. Integrating theology and psychology, Karen shows how as pastoral care-givers, we can be agents of hope, helping potentially suicidal people within our Church communities and in the wider community not to take their own lives. She advocates for a holistic "Bio-Psycho-Social-Spiritual" approach to suicide prevention, and demonstrates from her own experience how the Church can play a vital role in suicide prevention. This is a practical handbook which I

have found very helpful in my ministry this year. Chapters include “Shattering Myths about Suicide”, “Suicide and Christian Theology”, “Theories of Suicide”, “Helping someone in a crisis”, “Helping a survivor of attempted suicide”, “Helping the helpers”, “Helping suicide survivors”, and “Helping the Faith Community to be effective agents of suicide prevention”. There are excellent discussion questions at the end of each Chapter. This book would be a good resource for a monthly study group, reading and discussing a chapter at a time. Karen makes the point that even strong Christians can become depressed and consider suicide. She writes to encourage parents to focus on safety, and thoughtful communication with their children and teenagers. Sometimes, misunderstandings and wrong information about suicide can lead to our holding back, and not asking the questions that need to be asked. Karen writes with considerable pastoral awareness. A great deal of the pastoral advice she offers is of immense value in other contexts, so this work is not valuable only in relation to suicide prevention. This book should be required reading for all Church leaders, and all pastoral carers in our NZ Churches. Jesus came that we might have life in all its fullness. Life matters! And if we are to bring our high rate of suicide down in this country, we need to attend more to the ever present possibility of suicide, and learn to care for each other better. Also, after a suicide, we need to know how best to respond, to reduce the possibility of further deaths. Karen Mason’s book is the best up to date resource I have come across, written specifically for Christian pastoral carers concerned with suicide prevention. The book includes 47 pages of detailed notes and references for further in depth study. As a Biologist I appreciate the way in which Karen acknowledges the part which biology, genetics and neurotransmitter levels in the brain, play in suicide. As a Christian minister I value the comprehensively intelligent, biblical, theological, practical and compassionate approach Karen takes to suicide prevention. Highly recommended. Available from Epworth Books for \$28. <http://www.epworthbooks.org.nz/> Free phone 0800 755 355 [sales@epworthbooks.org.nz](mailto:sales@epworthbooks.org.nz)