



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
	Mrs Earlene Owens	489 8146
Tongan Steward:	Mr Kaufusi Pole	455 0096
Parish Office:	Siosifa: parish@dmm.org.nz	466 4600
	Katrina: admin@dmm.org.nz	
Parish Prayer Convenor	Elaine Merrett	489 7663
Pastoral Convenor	Beryl Neutze	476 7447
Mornington:		

PARISH BULLETIN

13th December 2015

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 20th December

9.30 am	Mornington	Y@M
9.30 am	Mosgiel	G Abernethy
11.00 am	Glenaven	Y@M
11.00 am	Wesley	G Abernethy
1.00 pm	St Kilda	TBA

COMBINED MORNINGTON CAROL SERVICE - 13th Sunday evening, at 7pm at the Presbyterian Church, in Maryhill Terrace. A warm welcome to everyone. The Presbyterians will provide supper after the service.



THE WORST DAY FOR COWBOYS - A brand new Christmas play will be performed by Y@M at Mornington and Glenaven on 20 December. Featuring cowboys, cacti, and the usual combination of singing, dancing, jokes and the Christmas message!

ORDERS OF SERVICE & BULLETINS OVER CHRISTMAS BREAK

The Mission Office will be closed from midday Wednesday 23rd December until Monday 11th January. Could you please ensure your Orders of Service over this period are sent to Katrina (admin@dmm.org.nz) no later than 12 noon Thursday 17th December. The final bulletin for 2015 will be the 20th December edition and the first Bulletin for 2016 will be 17th January. Thank you everyone, wishing you a very happy Christmas.



PROFESSOR DAVID TOMBS

MA (Oxford), STM (Union Theological Seminary, NY), MA (London), PhD (London) David Tombs is Howard Paterson Professor of Theology and Public Issues, and Director of the Centre for Theology and Public Issues at the University of Otago. David studied theology and philosophy at Oxford University, Union Theological Seminary (New York), and London University.

Previously David taught theology at the University of Roehampton (1992-2001), and then taught conflict resolution and reconciliation in Belfast for the Irish School of Ecumenics, Trinity College Dublin (2001-2014). His research focuses on public, contextual and liberation theologies, and their engagement with political, social, cultural, economic and environmental issues. He is interested in the interface of faith, values and public life in theology, and how theology can contribute to a common good in a shared society and in a connected world. He especially welcomes proposals for Ph.D. projects in these areas.

The [Centre for Theology and Public Issues](#) is a founding member of the [Global Network for Public Theology](#) (GNPT), which is an academic research partnership that promotes theological contributions on public issues, especially those issues affecting the poor, the marginalised and the environment.

A CHOIR FOR ALL SEASONS - that's the choir from St Kilda Tongan congregation. They demonstrated their versatility two weekends ago when they turned up for the Saturday night Mornington concert and entertained us with the rhythm and colour of their dance routine. A few hours later they were at it again but this time adding their own special Tongan flavour to the combined Parish service at Mosgiel. Thanks Tongan friends and colleagues. You add much to the character of our Dunedin Parish, but it's a pity we don't have the technology to print photos in the colour you bring to so many occasions.



CAROL SINGING - Please come and form a walking choir to visit those near the Mornington Church. Sing carol with enthusiasm while walking with friends. Date is 19 Dec assembling at the Mornington church to depart at 7:00p.m. Please bring a plate for supper after the walk. Please Cam know on 4545600 or 021 995 130 if who wish to be sung too or are helping make up the choir's numbers.



MORNINGTON/GLENAVEN SERVICES CHRISTMAS AND JANUARY:

24 December Christmas Eve: Combined at Glenaven 11pm
(Please bring a plate of finger-food for supper from 10.15pm)



25 December Christmas Day: Combined at Mornington 9.30am

27 December Sunday: Combined at Glenaven 10.40am for 11am

3 Jan Sunday: Combined at St Mary's (Anglican) Mornington 9.30am

10 Jan Sunday: Combined at Mornington Methodist 9.30am

17 Jan Sunday: Combined at Mornington Presbyterian 9.30am

24 January Sunday: Combined at Glenaven 10.40am for 11am

(Afterwards a pot-luck picnic at Watsons', 5 Cairnhill St, Maori Hill)

PARISH STEWARD - The Parish is looking for someone in the Parish to replace Joy Clark in the role of Parish Steward. If you are the person please contact Siosifa or Rod.

Carols in the Gardens

Sunday 13th December 2015 4.30pm



Come celebrate Christmas
with traditional carols, story time,
Salvation Army Band and Sounds Nor'easterly
at the Sound Shell in the Botanic Gardens.



Bring a donation to make to
the Salvation Army Food Bank
If wet to be held at Nga Maara Hall, Sacred
Heart School, 63 North Rd

Organised by the
North End Combined Churches

STORY FROM THE MISSION

Client Support: I have been working with an older man in Mosgiel, who moved into the flat next door to a former client. She could see that he

was struggling, asked him if he wanted some support from the Mission and gave him our number. He called me and I was able to go and visit him a couple of days later.



Bob had recently separated from his wife, and moved to Mosgiel to be nearer to his son. He has multiple health problems, including breathing problems due to asbestosis from exposure to asbestos in his work. He had left everything behind, had almost no money and didn't know anyone in Mosgiel. His son had helped him with the deposit for the flat and some second hand furniture and his next door neighbour, who is disabled herself, had kindly offered what she could, including food. Bob's most immediate need was for some supplies for the pantry, and I brought a referral to the foodbank and explained how it works, so he was able to go round and obtain some food to tide him over until he had been to Work and Income.

Bob's mood was quite low and he felt overwhelmed by everything he needed to do. He scored 2.9 on the PCOMS ORS (Outcome Rating Scale). I asked Bob what his priorities were and he identified straight away that his health was a big issue. He had run out of one of his medications and felt that his blood pressure should be checked. He needed to make an appointment to see a new GP, obtain all his prescription medications and follow up with his specialist appointments. I supported him to identify a GP in Mosgiel and make an appointment and I was able to obtain a GP Voucher to cover the cost of the visit and a contribution for the pharmacy costs, so that Bob could go immediately.

The next time I saw Bob, he already looked more cheerful and said that his blood pressure medication had been adjusted and he felt much better. His PCOMS score was up to 16.2. He had made an appointment at Work and Income and asked me if I would accompany him. He made a list of all his expenses and outgoings and thought about which costs might be extra costs due to his disability, such as travel costs for hospital visits and the cost of his St John's alarm. After the visit to Work and Income, Bob was granted an additional weekly sum under Temporary Additional Support and was given the forms for his doctor to complete for his Disability Allowance.

I also talked to Bob about some places he might go to meet people socially, such as the St Lukes coffee morning, The Taieri Bloke's Shed or the RSA. He said that he is going to the dog park with his dog nearly every day and is getting to know a few people and having a chat. His neighbour also has two little dogs, so they often go together. Bob was now scoring 19 on the Outcome measure.

Bob is now in control and has a clear path, achieving his goals and making new social relationships. With a little support, he is back on his feet in a new town.



TATALI PE, TATALI PE: WAITING, WAITING

Tatali pe, tatali pe is part of a Tongan love song. It is a song that was composed about a young man who was waiting for a long time for his lover to come. It seems that his lover was somewhere else. The longer he was waiting, the more frustration and worry he experienced. He did not know whether his lover would come at all and if she was coming, he did not know the time. Waiting can be an uncomfortable state for a

person to be in, especially if waiting for a girl friend or a boy friend to come. Because waiting is uncomfortable and uncertain, it requires patience, courage, hope, and trust. I remember arguing with my two daughters about putting up our Christmas tree at home. They wanted to put up the Christmas tree immediately on the first day of December. On that day we came home late at night and they wanted to put up the Christmas tree. I told them that we could put it up on the following day. They argued that we should put it up on that night because we are in the month of December. I asked them this important question, "Can you wait until the following day?" They both replied, "No, we can't wait." They were both uncomfortable with the concept of waiting. For them, to wait is to increase their frustration and stress. Finally, they convinced me and we put up the Christmas tree on that night. We put it up because of their persistence and determination. Is it possible to wait? Can we wait?

Waiting is part and parcel of expressing patience and displaying endurance. It emphasizes the importance of time, and in particular the unknown time. We wait because either the time is not right, or the time is still yet to come. The concept of 'time' is vital to the urgency of waiting. Because of the vitality of time we need to know the definition of 'time'. There are two words in Greek that define the importance of time. These two words are '*kairos*' and '*chronos*'. '*Kairos*' is usually referred to a fixed time and '*chronos*' usually refers to an unknown time. For instance if we meet at 2pm then we have a fixed time and that is what '*kairos*' means. There is a fixed time of this meeting. However, if we arrange the meeting for next week and with no particular time, that's what '*chronos*' means. Waiting can be difficult when time is unknown and that is when *tatali pe* is required. *Tatali pe* doesn't give up on waiting, whether the time is known or unknown. The right time is God's timing, which requires an element of patience.

We are still in the Advent Season, which is a Season of waiting. We wait with worry, with frustration, with fear, with courage, with

patience, and with hope. Obviously, we have mix feelings as we wait. Whatever way that determines our feelings, it will certainly affect the way we wait. There are lots of things that we are waiting for. While many island nations in the Pacific are worried about the rising of the sea levels, they are waiting with hope for the outcome of the Climate Change Summit in Paris. They are waiting with hope that the powerful nations will make decisions that will minimize global warming. While war and violence are increasing in many parts of the world, there are ongoing conversations about peace and reconciliation. Surely, communities and families affected by these wars are waiting with hope that peace will finally be achieved. We heard two weeks ago from David Clark about the impact of poverty and lack of economic and social equality in our nation. He asked a question, 'Can we be generous?' I am sure many families who live under the poverty line are waiting with hope that opportunities will come on their way.

Waiting calls upon us to maintain our hope and trust in God who knows the unknown and what is best for us. The story in the Bible that reminds me of the importance of waiting is the story of Simeon in Luke 2:25-32. He was an old man who was waiting for the coming of Christ to liberate his people from their oppressors. His waiting was fulfilled when he saw baby Jesus, then he was ready to pass away. He was waiting with hope and it was fulfilled in the person and the life of a baby. God worked in a mysterious and impossible way to complete Simeon's waiting. I think the idea of waiting is real for us in our parish. We are waiting with fear, frustration, and worry because of the unknown future. *Tatali pe* reminds us that despite an unknown future, and the length of waiting, we still need to be hopeful, and faithful. We are hopeful because God - who knows the desires of hearts - will intervene and vindicate us. I wish you all a hopeful Advent as we wait for the birth of Christ.

Siosifa Pole