



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
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Parish Office:	Siosifa: parish@dmm.org.nz	466 4600
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Parish Prayer Convenor	Elaine Merrett	489 7663
Pastoral Convenor	Beryl Neutze	476 7447
Mornington:		

PARISH BULLETIN

15th May 2016

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 22nd May

9.30 am	Mornington	Helen Watson White
9.30 am	Mosgiel	R Masterton
11.00 am	Glenaven	Helen Watson White
11.00 am	Wesley	R Masterton
1.00 pm	St Kilda	TBA

PF&R COMMITTEE will meet on Tuesday 17th of May, 7.30pm, at the Mission. All members are expected to be there.

HI EVERYONE - just to let you know we've changed our email address to juke.russell34@gmail.com It's PENTECOST. It's good to keep in touch!! Ken & Judy Russell/

CAN RELIGION AND POLITICS MIX? - Join us for the next Open Education presentation, on Wednesday May 18, when Dunedin's David Clark, prominent politician and an ordained minister of the Presbyterian Church, addresses this thorny question from his own experience in the New Zealand parliament. Mornington Methodist Church, Galloway Street, 7.30pm. A koha of \$5. Ring Judy Russell (455 3727) for your place at the pre-session meal, starting at 6pm. This is a subject of general interest: bring a friend. All proceeds go to the Syrian refugee families now in Dunedin.

SUNDAY 22 MAY 12.30: All present at Glenaven at the end of the service 11-12am are invited to bring partners and families to a pot-luck lunch at 12.30 at the Watson/White house, 5 Cairnhill St 9010. Maps to get there, then tea, coffee and juice provided; please bring a plate of finger-food to share. No need to indicate numbers in advance, but other inquiries to 467 2936.

MUSICAL SOCIETY CONCERT Sunday 22 May at Mornington Methodist Church at 2.30pm. Pianists playing music by NZ composers. Also saxophone trio. All welcome. Cost \$2.

MORNINGTON METHODIST WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP - The May meeting will take place on the 25th May at 2 p.m. - in the Church Lounge. Laura Black will be the Guest Speaker & her subject will be "Thoughts from the Mission". Please remember The Fellowship of the Least Coin. See you there.

WORKPLACE SUPPORT - Workplace Support is looking for someone to be a member of their Board. They look for someone who has experience in governance and is also enthusiastic about the work of Workplace Support. If anyone is interested in this role please contact Lindsay Guild or Wendy Lobb on 0800 333 200

**VOICE FOR THE VOICELESS IN WEST PAPUA
AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND TOUR MAY 2016**

Rev. Socratez Sofyan Yoman

*West Papuan author, courageous human rights defender and President
of the Fellowship of Baptist Churches of West Papua*



Monday 16 May

**12pm Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, University of Otago,
518 Castle Street**

7.30pm All Saints Anglican Church, 786 Cumberland Street

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held Wed 11th May:

- **“Where are we Going?”** We are inviting all Parish Councillors and other interested people to a short session on **Saturday 21st May 2-4pm at Wesley Hall** to further refine our Parish future mission. We expect we will need at least one further session. This will not be about how to fix our buildings.
- **Games Evening Saturday 11th June at Wesley.** Keep this date free for a fun time of board and card games, bowls and more!
- The Protocol for letting everyone know about service cancellations due to snow or other adverse situations has been written and put into a flow chart form.
- The Methodist Mission now spreads its work to Gore, Invercargill, Timaru, as well as Dunedin. Laura has been active at central

Government level, and they are interested in some of the Mission's ideas. This includes the premise that clients can identify their own needs and solutions, and that you can measure the change. Spare copies of the Mission's five strategic objectives for 2017-20 are available.

- Rod and Siosifa are offering a series of discussions called **“Bible with Attitude”** at Mosgiel each **Wed 1.30-3.30pm 1st June – 13th July** for 7 sessions. Come if you can!

Hilda Hughson, (Chairperson)

STORY FROM THE MISSION

Science Kids: Evaluating the programme: We use the CORS form and ask the children at the beginning, halfway through and at the end of the programme ‘How do you feel about your learning in Science?’ The average positive shift for Green Island School was 9 points, and the average positive shift for Musselburgh School was 11.1 points. We are also interested in the parents’ perspective on the programme. On a scale of 1 – 10, all parents from both schools marked their child’s enjoyment of the programme as a 10. We also ask parents which part of the programme their child gained the most from – there are a range of responses including increased confidence, the experiments, learning new skills, visiting the museum. In response to what could we do better, most replies are keep the programme as it is although a really good suggestion from one parent that suggested an information sheet for the child to take home about what they had been doing in the programme to share with parents – Christine following up this suggestion with Kim at the Museum. In addition we also look for feedback from the schools – Steve Hayward, Principal at GI School, wrote that the programme contained a good balance of school based activities and going off-site to the Museum. He noted that there were some big gains in confidence noticed for some children. He said that the children were highly motivated about the programme.





NEWCOMERS are always welcome, and new faces at Mornington last Sunday soon showed themselves to be convivial and friendly. **DIANNE COOPER** (with daughter Rhiannon) comes from Whangarei, and

they have bought a property in Mornington in the course of Rhiannon pursuing singing studies at OU. Dianna has worked in libraries and has had extensive contacts in the music circles in the Whangarei area. She comes to Mornington on the strength of good recommendations from those who know us well. **HEATHER RHODES** is no stranger to Dunedin, having spent her student days at OU. She's come immediately from Christchurch, and now she's close enough to Mornington Church - would you believe, having purchased the property next door in Galloway St!! A BIG WELCOME to Dianna and Heather. Picture shows Siosifa chatting with Heather (left) and Dianna (right).



"Waves' spray at St Clair Seawall"

Inu e Fisi'inaua (Drink from waves' SPRAY):

A Concept of Endurance in Time of Great Challenge

It feels fresh to take a walk at sunset around St Clair beach when the weather is fine. The body and mind relax and both enjoy the cool

breeze of the easterly wind. I immediately feel at peace and renewed as I meditate on the wonder of God's creation. It is a different experience if you walk around the beach on a wild and windy day. The waves are getting bigger and they roll down and splash on the seawall of the Esplanade and spray over the top of the wall. Those who walk on the top of the seawall like myself are confronted by the spray from big waves. The spray from the waves goes up high above the seawall. Sometimes those who walk on the top of the seawall accidentally sniff or drink the sea water that comes up from the big waves. This short experience at the St Clair seawall reminds me of this Tongan saying, '*Inu e fisi'inaud*' (drink from waves' spray/ sea-water).

"Drink from the spray of waves" is the experience of sailors and navigators as they sail their boats in the sea on long distance voyage. Our ancestors are known for their experience in the South Pacific Ocean. They didn't have the technology and tools that European navigators and explorers had, but they had their experience and knowledge about the circle of nature as their direction. They relied on their experience of the sun, the wind, the stars, the moon, and ocean currents. In his book entitled, *We, the Navigators*, David Lewis remarks on the experience of the Polynesian people of sea voyaging. He states, "One essential part of this complex, often at the core of it, is an image of the outrigger canoe and the heroic men who comprise its crew, sailing intrepidly over uncharted seas to yet undiscovered isles." They travelled between islands on their big wooden outrigger or doubled-hulled canoes looking for food and exploring new lands. As they travelled by sea on the route to their destination they were usually confronted by strong wind and big waves. Those experienced navigators and sailors endured these challenges by standing firm on their positions while their boat was tossing around. They are smashed and tossed by waves and sometimes they drink the sea water as they face those challenges. Despite those challenges, they would never give up, because the survival of the passengers depends on their expertise and endurance. Those experienced navigators and sailors are known as

'*kaivai*' (water-eaters) because they usually consume the sea water from waves' spray as they carefully navigate their boat to arrive safely at their destination. They wouldn't mind the salty taste of the sea water because their main goal is to reach their destination and accomplish their mission.

Inu e fisi'inaua is a Tongan concept, which originates from the experience of the seafarers and navigators as an encouragement for those who face great times of challenge, not to give up. There are three important factors which would enable a navigator to endure such a rigorous voyage. Firstly, the survival of the passengers, secondly, to accomplish the mission, and thirdly, to enable the mission to continue on. It is surely the priority of a navigator to save the lives of his passengers and he would take all the risks in the sea necessary to safeguard his passengers. He would always draw on the best of his ability to fulfil the mission that he is aiming to accomplish on his destination. He would also see that arriving at his destination is not the end of the mission, but is part of a long journey to accomplish more in the future. These three factors would empower a navigator or sailor to endure the rough sea and to drink the salty water from the waves' spray (*inu e fisi'inaua*) of the ocean. He would not and will not give up until he achieved all these factors.

The concept of *inu e fisi'inaua* is at the heart of the gospel and Christian theology. Discipleship is an integral part of the gospel. The concept of *inu e fisi'inaua* can help us to draw meaning out from the gospel that shapes our theology. In the gospel of John chapter 3 verse 16, we have these words, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life." Of course we have to read this passage within its context in order to have a fair understanding of its meaning. It is clear from the context of this passage that it is the love of God that cost him his Son to die for the world. God (symbolically) consumed the sour taste of our hatred so that the world may experience God's love and compassion. God's mission was to save this world by his love and continue to do so

through his followers. David Watson in his book entitled *Accountable Discipleship*, states, “Discipleship meant following the commandments of Christ according to the law of love.” Love requires sacrifice and the cross, which is a symbol of our Christian faith, a symbol which speaks volume to the reality of God’s love for us. I have found it to be true in my life that without making sacrifices we are not able to offer genuine love toward others.

As a Parish we often talk about leadership and the kind of leadership that we want. For me, I want to see a leadership which is able to face up to all the many challenges which our church faces today and not to run away from these challenges. This is what the Tongan *inu e fisi’inaua* concept is all about. For our Parish to have a future we need to be resilient, create a vision for growth, and also maintain our mission which is to reach out to our world both now and in the future with the love of Christ.

Siosifa Pole



RADIO CHURCH

a weekly service presented by Dunedin Inner City Ministers' Assoc
Otago Access Radio 105.4FM & 1575AM and online www.oar.org.nz

8.30am Sunday