



Dunedin Methodist Parish

Finding Good in everyone Finding God in everyone

www.dunedinmethodist.org.nz

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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

9th April 2017

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 16th April

9.30 am	Mornington	R Mitchell
10.00 am	Mosgiel	S Pole & Mosgiel LMT
11.00 am	Glenaven	R Mitchell
1.00 pm	St Kilda	TBA

SPECIAL PARISH MEETING - There is to be a Special Parish Meeting on **Tuesday 11th April at 7:30 PM** at Mornington Methodist church. This is to discuss the PARISH PROFILE as it needs to be filled in before the parish meeting in May. It is important that representatives from all the churches in the parish attend this meeting.



BULLETIN – EASTER WEEKEND – Due to public holidays over Easter, please ensure all articles to be included in the bulletin for 16th April are in to the Administration Office a day earlier than usual - by lunch time on Wednesday 12th April. Many thanks, Katrina.

GOOD FRIDAY 14TH APRIL "Walk of the Cross" starts at HOLY CROSS at 8:45am walk 5 stations then to ST LUKE'S for the Service at 10:00am ALL WELCOME.

FAITH THINKING EVENTS

These are jointly organised between the Department of Theology and Religion and some Dunedin Churches, and supported by Continuing Education at the University of Otago.

Islam and Christianity

Dr Adam Dodds, Senior Pastor, Elim Church. **7:00 – 9:00 pm Monday May 8, 15 & 22.** Elim Church Conference Room, 67 Harrow Street

OPEN EDUCATION: AN EVENING WITH JONATHAN LEMALU

Open Education is excited to present an evening with the great New Zealand international singing star, Jonathan Lemalu. We will be asking Jonathan what is it like to live such a life of constant rehearsals, performances and travel, how a famous artist keeps up standards and manages his family life, and much more. Mornington Methodist Church, Galloway Street, Wednesday 19 April at 7.30pm. A koha of \$5 (or more if you wish to give to Syrian refugee families). The usual pre-session meal catered by Judy Russell, at 6pm, \$15. Ring 455 3727 to book your seats.

LAST LENTEN BIBLE STUDY - Will be Wednesday evening, April 12th, 7pm. Mosgiel church. All are welcome

SWEET ADELINES NATIONAL CONVENTION

Dunedin Town Hall April 20 – 22.

Programme details –

THURSDAY APRIL 20 – 8 p.m. Dunedin Town Hall.

Welcome and Official Opening. Entry FREE.

A short programme featuring the Christchurch City Chorus, who will present their 15 minute dance package that won them the 5th place in the international competitions in Las Vegas last year. (Our Dunedin girls, Lynley Kloogh and Robyn Abernethy joined with Christchurch for this competition)

FRIDAY APRIL 21 – 12 noon Dunedin Town Hall - Quartet Competitions. (Robyn is singing in this competition in a quartet called 'Diversity'. GO ROBYN & DIVERSITY!) Entry \$30 and \$15.00 for seniors and under 25.

FRIDAY APRIL 21 – 5.30p.m. Octagon (St Pauls Cathedral if wet)
Mass singing by competition entrants. Free performance.

SATURDAY APRIL 22 – Dunedin Town Hall – 12 noon – Chorus Competitions. The Dunedin Chorus, under the direction of Robyn, are singing in the small chorus competition - (a small chorus is up to 30 singers plus the Director). GO DUNEDIN!! Entry \$30 and \$15.00 for seniors and under 25.

If you want further information ask Robyn or Lynley.

A little bird has told me that the Revelry Quartet will be busking round Dunedin during the Convention – if you see them see if you can work out which one you will know – a clue – look for a young lady that strongly resembles Sharon Connor!!!

EASTER CELEBRATION - The members of our Parish and their families will take part in many of the activities in their local communities, starting on Good Friday until the Easter Sunday. May your faith will be renewed and strengthened during this time.

ST KILDA EASTER CAMP - St Kilda Church will have an Easter Camp for their young people. But parents are also joined to support their children and their programmes. The Camp will start on Friday 14th April and finish on Sunday 16th April.



STORIES FROM THE MISSION

Client Support: Sarah, a mother of 2, has been working alongside the Mission for 3 months. During this time Sarah's client support worker has watched Sarah overcome challenges and build on her confidence as she works towards her goals of re-establishing her life for herself and her children.

When Sarah filled in the Partners for Change Outcome Management System tool at the end of each visit (a tool used by the client support worker to measure growth and change) Sarah's graph showed she was not doing any better, not experiencing any change. This allowed a discussion with Sarah about how she viewed her progress to date. While the client support worker could see the great progress Sarah was making, Sarah herself when filling in the forms was only focussing on what she hadn't yet achieved. It highlighted for the client support worker and Sarah how she viewed her situation when she was filling out her PCOMS forms. We were able to highlight to Sarah that while she has things she is still working towards she had accomplished a great deal already. Sarah at this point had a realisation she was looking at things with a 'glass half empty' attitude and commented how her Mum is always telling her this was how she looked at things. Sarah was

then able to change the way she saw her situation. Since having this discussion Sarah's PCOM scores have lifted and although she is still working towards her goals, she is focussing on the positive growth and change she is achieving. Sarah continues to show strength and courage as she works towards her goals.

Oamaru: Independent Advocacy: The Oamaru Police were very interested in the other roles The Mission has within Corrections and asked for a brief rundown of the programmes Joy has been involved with. She spoke about the To Advocate role, Story Book Dads, Skills for Dads, Brief Drink Driving Intervention, and Literacy and Numeracy. The Southern Chief Commissioner was there, he commented that 10 years ago if Joy had been speaking about those programmes to a room full of police the reception she would have received would have been very cold. He was heartened to see his officers showing interest and asking lots of questions. The Commissioner took a To Advocate flyer away with him, stating that he thought it could be a very useful service.

If you would like to support the Mission's work with a donation, please visit www.givealittle.co.nz and search for The Methodist Mission.



THE LAMPEDUSA CROSS has established its presence among us, all messy-coloured and unlovely and improvised and salvaged. Nothing shiny and brassy from Lampedusa; only the impulse of a village carpenter to attach together two unassorted beams from wreckage bestrewing his stony coastline, telling evidence of human tragedy upon human tragedy. The Lampedusa Cross tells its story to those who will listen - of broken families caught in the crossfire of a civil war they do not comprehend,

their small chances of escape imperilled in the fragile craft offered by unscrupulous entrepreneurs only too pleased to make their fortune from their misery and vulnerability.

The Lampedusa Cross is ours for this Sunday as we prepare for Easter next weekend. What shall we make of this cross ?

One option is to ignore it, pass by on the other side, so to speak. Of that option I have nothing to say, except of muttered contempt. How much does it take to move us, or not, as the case may be?

The second option is to fall back on the traditional salvation theology of the cross, turn the cross on its side, as it were, and take comfort that at the cross (the Golgotha one) an eternal transaction took place whereby the wholly good man Jesus was sacrificed by his loving Father to earn forgiveness of sin for those who repent and believe. The Lampedusa could very possibly evince such a response among some of us, but is there one good reason to bring an ugly wooden cross all the way from Italy when the familiar shiny brassy one that sits so comfortably on our communion table will do just as well? I mean no disrespect, but let's be real here.

A third option for our very special cross is to make us weep. I like this option, and I don't doubt you've shed tears, as have I - quietly and self-consciously. The kind of conditions from which these Syrians are fleeing defy imagination. The systematic destruction of their cities, the failure of the heavily armed protagonists to distinguish civilian from military targets and the utter intransigence of war criminal President Assad to consider anything other than the preservation of his own privileged house is at the heart of a war that has gone from one act of callous inhumanity to another. Let's never forget that the crosses in our churches are the ongoing reminders of the Roman practice of crucifixion - the ultimate imposition of a heartless aggressive authority which destroyed good human lives with absolute impunity. One of

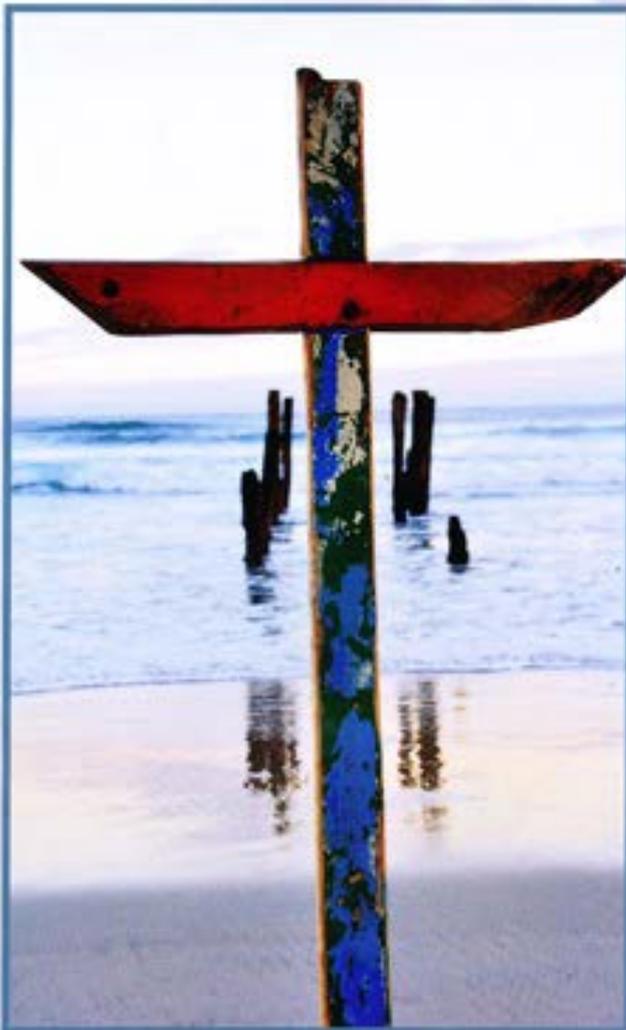
them was Jesus from Nazareth. Little wonder that women, friends and supporters gathered weeping at the foot of his cross. Such waste. Such grief. And now. this week's gas attack. At very least we too should be driven to tears. What has the human race come to? How can this kind of tyranny be stopped in its tracks? Is there no better way than armed reprisal?

Our Lent this year has been hugely leavened by the moving performance by a Dunedin Choir of Karl Jenkins' 2000 masterpiece *The Armed Man*, a mass for peace based on the Catholic Mass. Originally dedicated to the victims of the Kosovo genocide, the work heroically pits the powerful words of the mass against the hypnotic throb of marching armies shown on screen, footage from the world wars through which most of us have lived, where the awesome power of war machines have imposed their seeming impregnable power on innocent communities. And people wept helplessly, as well they might as their children, homes and futures were swept aside by the tsunami of the great war machine. If our audience needed reminder of the all-encompassing power of armed aggression it certainly got one. But did we depart the Town Hall resigned to the triumph of evil? Not at all! The crosses carried in the processions of peace throughout Europe, England and around the world, brought back into living memory by the film clips, were not the crosses of crucifixion, sorrow and defeat, but crosses which in all manner of deployment celebrated the outbreak of peace. "Better is Peace" sang the great Choir, a contemporary benedictus.

What the film clips could never do, of course, was to show the innumerable acts of peace done in the face of an all-powerful enemy, the sum total of which turned the tide of war. The simple cross, symbol on many an award for bravery, was no longer a cause for weeping but of pride, honour, thanksgiving and an overwhelming desire to build a better world.

In next week's *Connections* I'll develop a fourth interpretation of the Lampedusa Cross and suggest it as an Easter motivation.

Ken Russell



Welcome to
***THE DEDICATION
OF THE
LAMPEDUSA CROSS***

*Made by Francesco Tuccio
carpenter of Lampedusa
Italy and set in a base
made by William Torr,
Dunedin craftsman,
Aotearoa New Zealand
in a service held at*

***Mornington
Methodist Church***

***Galloway Street
Dunedin***

9th October 2016