



# Dunedin Methodist Parish

*Finding Good in everyone    Finding God in everyone*

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

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	Rev. Dr. Rod Mitchell	477 3700
<b>Parish Stewards:</b>	Mrs Hilda Hughson	487 6226
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<b>Parish Prayer Convenor</b>	Elaine Merrett: <a href="mailto:elaineross@xtra.co.nz">elaineross@xtra.co.nz</a>	489 7663
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<b>Mornington:</b>		

## PARISH BULLETIN

23<sup>rd</sup> April 2017

### WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 30<sup>th</sup> April

10.00 am	Mornington	Combined at Mosgiel
10.00 am	Mosgiel	S Pole/R Mitchell/C Gibson
10.00 am	Glenaven	Combined at Mosgiel
1.00 pm	St Kilda	TBA

**THE APRIL MEETING OF THE METHODIST WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP** will take place on the 26th April in the Church at 2 p.m. The Guest Speaker will be Rev Dr Rod Mitchell & his subject - "The Stories We Live By". All welcome to our monthly meetings & hear some very interesting speakers. See you there.

**THE EXPLORERS GROUP** meets today, **23 April**, in the Mornington Lounge at 4.30 pm. You're welcome.

**PASTORAL CARERS MORNINGTON:** You are invited to meet over lunch at Fuschia House 5 Lees St after church on Sunday 7th May @ 11.00am. We will review our groups, and ways we can best support our church community and each other. Your attendance is important but if unable to come please notify Beryl. Transport is available if needed.

**THESE PHOTOS** of "The Walk of the Cross" on Friday 14th which started at Holy Cross with the first station, next to Church Street Presbyterian for the second station, on to Memorial Park where the Methodists took part for the third station, on to Gordon Rd. Factory Rd. Corner where East Taieri Church took part from there to Anzac Park with the Salvation Army. At each Station we had a bible reading, a prayer & 2 verses of a hymn. Although it was light rain it did not deter 60 members of the Taieri community from taking part. Following the walk we all went with about another 150 people to St Luke's for an ecumenical service, after which several people went up to view East Taieri Church's Easter Presentation "Easter Unwrapped" an amazing production.



**FIVE LITTLE COUSINS** did much to liven the congregation at Mornington last Sunday. The Mosley connection, with Eldon and Andrea Mosley as proud grandparents of three girls from Tauranga and two from Owaka. Photo left to right - Beth, Alice, Annabelle, Juliet and Kate.



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**THIS WEEK'S OPEN EDUCATION** meeting at Mornington was an outstanding success on at least four counts - great meal, thanks Judy Russell; great turnout, 54 diners, the largest for some time; great profit, \$800 after expenses to go to Syrian refugees living in Dunedin; and most of all, an exhilarating conversation between MC Colin Gibson and world renowned baritone Jonathan Lemalu that kept the large audience enthralled. Jonathan did not come to sing, but to talk, and this he did most effectively - to reflect on his family life in Dunedin, his early training as a singer, and his life as a London based internationally renowned operatic star. The great man impressed with his honesty, candour, openness and engaging humour, acknowledging the importance of Dunedin as his true home to which he must return for refreshment and renewal. Altogether a splendid occasion that will live in the memory.



**COMBINED PARISH SERVICE** - Just a reminder, that we will have a Combined Parish Service on Sunday the 30<sup>th</sup> of April, at Mosgiel Methodist Church, 10am. Please bring a plate for our morning tea after the service.

**COMBINED SERVICE FOR MORNINGTON CHURCHES** 4.30 pm at Mornington Methodist – Sunday 30<sup>th</sup>.



### **STORIES FROM THE MISSION**

*Take 10 Streets:* Since the end of November there has been quite a lot happening with the formation of a South Dunedin Library Action Group. A meeting, with a select few residents, has taken place at the Hub. Although a small gathering, one resident put her hand up to take leadership of the group, tentative strategies were talked about trying to raise the profile of this community need, and contact details were exchanged. A second meeting was scheduled for 24th January 2017. Nick Orbell, who is now the new Community Advisor from the DCC, is interested in coming along in a listening and supportive capacity, he has offered the group an introduction to Bernie Hawke (the person in charge of the Library/Hub project at the DCC) when they are ready for it. Mike Tonks, from Catholic Social Services, was also contacted and is keen to provide a supportive role to the group at the next meeting. Craig Waterhouse (Chairperson of the South Dunedin Small Businesses Association) has also been approached, his response was very positive; he is unable to attend the meeting on the 24th but would like to be included in any future meetings. Those residents who registered an interest in being part of the group, but unable to attend, are going to be contacted and all are being encouraged to spread the word of the group and invite other residents to come along on the 24th January.

*Take 10 Streets:* The Library Action Group has become really fired up with another two meetings. At the first meeting the group leader announced she had resurrected a South Dunedin Library Facebook page, “People for a South Dunedin Library”, and would be inviting all council members to join. A petition has also been designed and will be being circulated at the Buskers Festival on the 25th February. There was also talk about approaching PaknSave about setting up a table to collect signatures. A poster has been designed to be put on lamp posts within South Dunedin, shop windows and anywhere else the ladies could think of, to highlight awareness of the group’s existence, contact details and the next scheduled meeting in the hope of gaining some new members/support. Discussion also started around putting in a submission to the council by May 2017.

DCC Councillors Marie Laufiso and Rachel Elder came to lend their support to the Library Group at the second meeting; they had seen the poster in a café. They were able to tell the group what was happening from a council perspective. They have also offered to help the group with their submission to the Council and have recommended approaching Sue Bidrose about presenting at the next council meeting. It was also decided local schools were also going to be approached to put something in their newsletters and running a competition for the children about what they would like their local Library to look like and things they would like to see happening in it – prizes to be sourced from local businesses. Rachel told the group of plans for a trial ‘Pop up Library’ and it was felt the competition entries should be displayed there for residents to see. Another group member talked of contacting the Star newspaper for that same purpose and about forwarding an article to the new South Dunedin Community News Letter “The Lowdown”.

**If you would like to support the Mission’s work with a donation, please visit [www.givealittle.co.nz](http://www.givealittle.co.nz) and search for The Methodist Mission.**



## **“ON WAR, PEACE AND PRAYER”**

This coming Tuesday will be ANZAC Day . This will be the sixth year I have helped organise and offer karakia/prayer at the Otago University Student’s Association’s service on campus. The service starts at 1.30pm and will be held in a new location this year, outside the staff club. There will also be a less formal Anzac Day Peace service around the Peace pole outside Otago Museum at 12.30pm. This service is organised each year by Otago University students who are studying at our National Centre for Peace and Conflict studies. You are invited to attend either or both services. I am very grateful to Dr George Davis for supplying readings for the 1.30pm service for the Mayor and others to read, and for his introduction to Ataturk’s tribute which will be read by the Vice Chancellor.

The distinctive thing about the more formal 1.30pm “Honouring those who fought, valuing peace” service is that we plan it each year to be an intentionally bicultural event. The service commences with a Mihi Whakatau (welcoming speech) in Maori. Part of the opening prayer which I will offer will be in Maori. The message will be shared by the President of OUSA and the Tumuaki of Te Roopu Maori. The Kapa Haka performance to be offered by members of Te Roopu Maori will be a highlight, as will be the singing of the Maori Hymn “He Honore” . The ode to the fallen will be recited in both English and Maori.

It is significant that we choose so intentionally to affirm our bicultural journey in this context. This is very consistent with the bicultural commitment of our Methodist Church of NZ, Te Hahi Weteriana o Aotearoa, and of our wider national commitment to the Treaty of Waitangi.

This year the Southern Youth Choir will sing, and lead us in the singing of both the NZ and Australian National Anthems. Otago students who are in the army reserves will be on parade.

The historic Otago University Medical Company Prayer will be read this year by Zoe Ogilvie, a medical student who is the current President of the Otago University Medical Christian Fellowship. The words which Zoe will pray are as follows :

“E Te Atua, Almighty and everlasting God, who through the healing touch of thy dear son didst recover the sick and relieve their pain, may we remember those who, with such love towards thee and devotion to duty, have served beneath thy Cross in the Otago University Medical Company, providing medical and dental support in times of war, peril, need, disaster and peace keeping, may we also, with them, at all times take with us the motto of the University of Otago, “SAPERE AUDE”, have the courage to be wise, in all our duties for Elizabeth II our Queen and for Aotearoa/New Zealand. In the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ, Amen.”

I find this to be a very special prayer. The Otago University Medical Company indeed, in the past has provided quality support in times of war, disaster and peace keeping. The prayer is one of remembrance. We remember in this prayer those from our University - doctors and dentists - who, like Jesus helped “the sick to recover and relieved their pain”. The prayer encourages us all to have the courage to be wise in all that we do.

It was wonderful a few weeks ago to have Otago students share their stories and wisdom with us in a combined Glenaven-Mornington Church service at Mornington.

In a world where the threat of another world war is sadly becoming more and more real, our world leaders need wisdom more than

ever before. Last month the Churches of South Korea wrote these words to President Donald Trump, on 16 March 2017 :

Dear Mr. President,

On behalf of the National Council of Churches (NCCK), I bring the warmest greetings to you in the name of God of Peace. The National Council of Churches in Korea wishes to express our concern with the growing tensions on the Korean peninsula. We have heard your administration is considering a pre-emptive strike on North Korea as one of your options. We urge you to take this off the table, as it would guarantee an all-out war. Turning the Korean peninsula into a battlefield again would ensure our annihilation. We ask you to seek dialogue with North Korea immediately to decrease tensions. Dialogue is the only way toward de-escalation and convincing the North that their immediate survival is not at stake and does not depend on military defence. For the sake of our continued existence we call upon you to enter into dialogue and turn Northeast Asia away from what might begin a new world war.

Sincerely,

Rev. Dr. Kim, Young Ju

General Secretary

National Council of Churches in Korea

Since President Trump has received this letter, the USA has bombed Syria and the President has (tragically) started to use God language to defend his warmongering. Let us pray that the USA will not bomb North Korea. May wisdom and sanity prevail, and Rev. Dr. Kim, Young Ju's sincerely wise words be heard, internalised and respected. Otherwise, Anzac Day next year will be quite different.

Rev. Greg Hughson

Otago University Chaplain