



# Dunedin Methodist Parish

*Finding Good in everyone    Finding God in everyone*

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

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<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
<b>Tongan Steward:</b>	Mr Kaufusi Pole	455 0096
<b>Parish Office:</b>	Siosifa: <a href="mailto:parish@mmsouth.org.nz">parish@mmsouth.org.nz</a>	466 4600
	Katrina: <a href="mailto:admin@mmsouth.org.nz">admin@mmsouth.org.nz</a>	
<b>Parish Prayer Convenor</b>	Elaine Merrett: <a href="mailto:elaineross@xtra.co.nz">elaineross@xtra.co.nz</a>	489 7663
<b>Pastoral Convenor</b>	Beryl Neutze	476 7447
<b>Mornington:</b>		

## PARISH BULLETIN

7<sup>th</sup> May 2017

### WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 14<sup>th</sup> May

9.30 am	Mornington	S Pole
10.00 am	Mosgiel	S Ungemuth
11.00 am	Glenaven	S Pole
1.00 pm	St Kilda	TBA

**PARISH COUNCIL** will meet at Mornington Church on **Wednesday 10th May** 7.30pm. We have done well putting together the Parish Profile, which we will discuss before sending it to the Synod superintendent. Look forward to seeing all members of Parish Council.

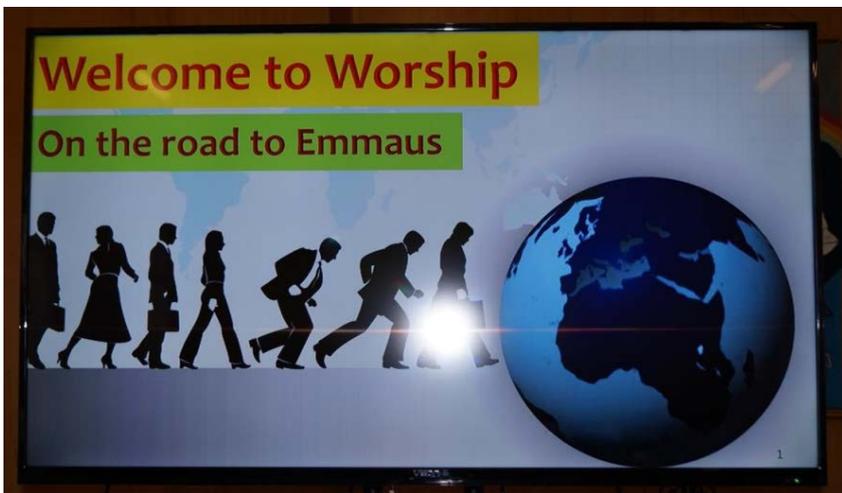
**PASTORAL CARERS MORNINGTON:** You are invited to meet over lunch at Fuschia House 5 Lees St after church on Sunday 7th May @ 11.00am. We will review our groups, and ways we can best support our church community and each other. Your attendance is important but if unable to come please notify Beryl.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



## STORY FROM THE MISSION

*Story Book Dads:* Ten prisoners took part in the Story Book Dads programme and produced some wonderful resources for their children to accompany their chosen books and DVDs. They produced some amazing canvas artwork, photograph frames, matching games, character masks, and story themed snakes and ladders, a pop up box of story characters, a feely book and a hide and seek board game. The motivation of the prisoners was very high, they wanted to produce the very best they possibly could for their children and, although nervous, the final DVDs were of a high standard and they were proud of their work. Many wanted to do the course again.

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.



**MOSGIEL MONTAGE** - on a murky Mosgiel morning, Methodists mingled to sing, pray, listen and enjoy Christian fellowship



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**TRUMPISM, BREXIT,  
NEO-LIBERALISM,  
THE GOSPEL AND THE  
GENERAL ELECTION**

***A power-point presentation  
and discussion led by Bishop  
Richard Randerson***

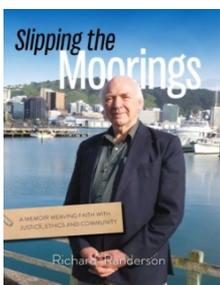


***7.30pm, Wednesday, 17 May 2017  
Mornington Methodist Church, Galloway St, Dunedin***

**A meal is available** at 6pm for \$15: book with Judy Russell on  
Tel 455 3727

**About the Topic** We live in troubled times with growing numbers in western society marginalised, and alienated, through poverty, homelessness and related causes. This seminar examines the socio-economic realities for New Zealand and offers a critique of the neo-liberal values which underpin them. By contrast, Gospel values of mutuality and well-being raise critical questions about choices for all Kiwis in the September election.

Richard Randerson is a retired Anglican bishop, now living in Wellington, whose 50 years in ministry have focused on the Church's engagement with the wider society, addressing issues of poverty and justice, ethics in the public square, and contemporary issues of theology and inter-faith.     randersonjr@paradise.net.nz  
Tel 04 976 6050



***Slipping the Moorings:*** Richard's 2015 book addresses the above issues, along with same-sex relationships, ethics in the Public Square, God in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, and the future of the Church. It will be available on the night for \$25 (\$20 unwaged). Books may be invoiced if desired.



## OTAGO COMBINED CHRISTIAN GROUPS CCG Unity Ball: What's Your Story?

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1766280390352739/>

For the first time in over a decade, CCG is having a ball! As well as a great night of music, dancing, food, and fun with our friends and church families, this is a wonderful opportunity to further our vision of building connections and unity between the many churches and Christian groups represented on our campus! If you're wondering whether you're invited or if this event is for you: you are and it is! Students involved in any churches/Christian groups in Dunedin, and anyone else, are all welcome! Don't let your fancy dress/suit/shoes you haven't worn since high school or first year gather dust in the back of your wardrobe!

Ticketing info: \$20, please order tickets by the 9th of May (Tuesday before the ball). Order via this form

<https://goo.gl/forms/qziMJQxYkcTq2kk82> and payment is made by online transfer. Account details will appear when your order form is submitted-- please make your payment ASAP after ordering your ticket/s!

Dress code: Formal

Saturday May 13th, 7pm-12am-- book it in now, and invite your friends! [#CCGBall](#)

If you have any questions or issues please don't hesitate to post to the event page or email [prestidge.lucy@gmail.com](mailto:prestidge.lucy@gmail.com)

About CCG: Since 2000, the Otago Combined Christian Groups network has aimed to build relationships and unity between Christian groups and churches in order to better demonstrate God's love on campus.

<http://otagoccg.co.nz/>





## HOW WILL WE VOTE?

Election campaigning is beginning here in New Zealand. So I have begun wondering how we make our assessment and what prompts us to vote in one way rather than another. Traditionally, we live with a left and the right frames working in our politics, but it is interesting to reflect a little more deeply on what constitutes the 'right' voting a particular way and the 'left' voting in a strikingly different way. So when I came across George Lakoff's wonderful little book entitled 'Don't think of an elephant'-know your values and frame the debate-; I was stimulated to wonder whether his analysis of the Republican and Democratic voting rationale in America could have application here.

Here in a brief outline is George Lakoff's ideas. George is a linguistic metaphor communication specialist. He remembers from his teaching days a student linking the metaphor for a nation as a family. We have 'founding fathers'. 'The Daughters' of the American Revolution. We send our 'sons and daughters' to war. The family is a natural metaphor because we usually understand large social groups, like nations, by using smaller groups like families.

Given the existence of the metaphor linking the nation to the family, he asked the next question: if there are two different understandings of the nation, Republican and Democratic so do they come from two different understandings of the family?

So when George put in the two different views of the nation, he found two very different models of the family emerged: a strict father family and a nurturant parent family.

The Strict Father model begins with a set of assumptions:

“The world is a dangerous place, and it always will be, because there is evil out there in the world. The world is also difficult because it is competitive. There will always be winners and losers. There are absolute rights and absolute wrong. Children are born bad, in the sense that they just want to do what feels good, not what is right. Therefore, they have to be made good.”

What is needed in this kind of a world is a strong, strict father who can

- protect the family in the dangerous world,
- support the family in the difficult world, and
- teaches children right from wrong.

The nurturant parent family also begins with a set of assumptions:

“Both parents are equally responsible for raising the children. The assumption is that children are born good and can be made better. The world can be made a better place, and our job is to work on that. The parent's job is to nurture their children and to raise their children to be nurturers of others.

What does nurturance mean? It means two things: empathy and responsibility. If you have a child, you have to know what every cry means. You have to know when the child is hungry when he or she needs their diaper change when he or she is having nightmares. And you have a responsibility – you have to take care of this child. Since you cannot take care of someone else if you are not taking care of yourself, you have to take care of yourself enough to be able to take care of the child.

All this is not easy. Anyone who has ever raised a child knows that this is hard. You have to be strong. You have to work hard at it. You have to be very, competent. You have to know a lot.

Also, all sorts of other values immediately follow from empathy and responsibility. Think about it.

First, if you empathise with your child, you will provide protection. This comes into politics in many ways. What do you protect your child from? Crime and drugs, certainly you also protect your child from cars

without seat belts, from smoking, from poisonous additives in food. So progressive politics focus on environmental protection, work protection, consumer protection, and protection from disease. These are the things that progressives want the government to protect their citizens from. But there is also terrorist attack, which liberals and progressives have not been very good at talking about regarding protection. Protection is part of the progressive moral system, but it is not being elaborated on enough. And on September 11th, progressives did not have a whole lot to say. That was unfortunate because nurturant parents and progressives do care about protection. Protection is important. It is part of our moral system.

Second, if you empathise with your child, you want your child to be fulfilled in life, to be a happy person. And if you are unhappy, unfulfilled person yourself, you're not going to want other people to be happier than you are. The Dalai Lama teaches us that. Therefore it is your moral responsibility to be a happy, fulfilled person. Your moral responsibility. Further, it is your moral responsibility to teach your child to be a happy, fulfilled person who wants others to be happy and fulfilled. That is part of what nurturing family life is about. It is a common precondition for caring about others.

There are still many other nurturant values like:- freedom; opportunity and prosperity; fairness; open two-way communication; honest communication; community building and service to the community; cooperation; trust.”

So does this analysis ring any bells for us here in New Zealand and if it does could it help us as we listen to program promises from our politicians over the next few months.

*Rod Mitchell*