



# Dunedin Methodist Parish

*Finding Good in everyone Finding God in everyone*

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

Find us on Facebook: Dunedin Methodist Parish

<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:elaineros@xtra.co.nz">elaineros@xtra.co.nz</a>	489 7663
<b>Pastoral Convenor</b>	Beryl Neutze	476 7447
<b>Mornington:</b>		

## PARISH BULLETIN

2<sup>nd</sup> July 2017

### WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 9<sup>th</sup> July

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

**MOSGIEL METHODIST WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP AGM** Tuesday 4th July @ 1:30pm in the hall with the Rev Siosifa Pole'. New members welcome.

**PRAY FOR THE PARISH** - Prayer is a vital part of our church tradition and we are always encouraged to pray constantly for the mission of the church. Pray for the leaders of the Parish and its ministry.

**IT WAS A HAPPY CROWD** of Glenaven and Mornington people who gathered for a pot luck lunch at the home of **Helen White** and **John Watson** last Sunday. It is amazing what good food materialises with seeming little trouble on such occasions, and always more than enough and to spare. Thankyou Helen and John for your, by now, legendary hospitality.

It was special to have two Dunedin artists present: **Claire Beynon**, after her first-ever Glenaven visit, where she made a big impression with her Honeycomb Project *The Hum of the Parts*, an expression of peace and global community; and Helen's son **John White**, who has played his viola at Glenaven with both Colin Gibson and stepdad John Watson, and who was due to leave the next day for India, where he'll continue making all kinds of music and working with people in other creative ways. We wish him well. PHOTO John White, Claire Beynon, Helen White, John Watson



**OTAGO DISTRICT METHODIST WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

To be held in the Mosgiel Methodist Church

**Saturday 15 July**

**12:30pm - POT LUCK LUNCH**

Please bring FINGER FOOD to share.

**Annual General Meeting** to follow

**Collection for Social Services** - going to the Family Support Fund



## **STORY FROM THE MISSION**

*Client Support Work:* A self-referral was received in February 2017 from a middle aged man who was looking for help and support to access Respite Care. Frank was seeking support for himself but mainly his wife as she was his main caregiver. Kate (his wife) had gone to the doctor who had advised her she needed to have a rest as she was near 'burnout' due to managing her husband's high complex care needs, work and the running of the house. Kate had a small part time caregiving job to try and supplement their benefit to make ends meet. When she wasn't caring for her husband she was working. Kate had no 'down time' for herself. They were struggling financially – this was new to them as they both had good jobs before Frank become sick with a debilitating illness. They were not sure if they were receiving all they were entitled to through Work and Income. This was also something the couple wanted support with from the Mission.

The couple had moved from the North Island in 2015 and were finding it hard to access the already allocated Respite Care. Frank was assessed in Auckland before he left and was granted Respite Care; however he was finding it difficult to access this through the NASC service once he had moved South. He was told he was only entitled to Carer Support. On meeting them both, it become evident he was a determined man whose goal was to be 100% well again. He was also his wife's number one priority. They had made several attempts to access Respite Care and was becoming desperate as he was seeing the impact his care needs and life in general was having on his wife. Kate was feeling exhausted, overwhelmed and was losing hope in their situation.

By the time they made contact with the Mission, Frank was frustrated by the lack of support and care shown by the organisations around him, and the lack of willingness from the organisations to help him and his wife get the care they needed. While he was desperate for help, one of his first comments to the client support worker when she rang was 'there's no point in meeting if there's nothing you can do for us'. He explained his situation and was happy to communicate via email and phone calls allowing the client support worker to follow up on the Respite Care assessment on his behalf. At a home visit with them they constructed an email to voice their frustration and feelings of not being heard and feeling like no-one cared about their situation. Once the email had been made to the appropriate organisation they began to see some positive progress. They were contacted not long after the email was sent and an appointment for a 'face to face' assessment was made. They wanted the client support worker to advocate for them at this meeting. The meeting proved to be very successful.

They have now moved to the city. Frank has just had his first use of Respite Care days and Kate has had some much needed 'time out' for herself without the worry of 'who's going to care for her husband' and knowing he is in safe hands. They have both been along with the support of the client support worker to Work and Income and they are now receiving all their entitlements. This has increased their weekly budget by \$100. Kate is overjoyed as they can now include meat in their budget. They are happy with the support they have received from the Mission and feel they now have everything they need to continue to work towards Frank's rehabilitation goal to be 100%.

**PRAY FOR PEACE** - The rhetoric from some of the world leaders could easily ignite another world war. Please pray for the peace of the world, especially the peace of Syria and other places that are affected by war and violence.

# Parish Links

As I write this Mosgiel is again basking in sunshine after a good frost my mother

always said we need the frost to kill off the germs which leads me on to pray that all our people of the parish are coping with the winter and keeping well and warm.

Mosgiel held our combined Pentecost Service at St Luke's Anglican church. Several people came up afterwards saying how special it is when we all gather together to worship God. Six plus different religions gathering together with each having one rep taking part in the service.

Our mid-week service which is held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month. This month we tried having it in our home @ 40 Forth Street around the log burner so we were all cosy and warm. Our 98-year-old Thelma who no longer is coming to church for the winter and also Anne really enjoyed being in a warm home rather than trying to heat our church for 8 to 10 people. **Our next Mid-Week Service will be on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July @ 9 Aitken Place** so for winter this will be the format.

Our Mosgiel ladies are really enjoying our coffee afternoons @ "Blackstone" Café between 14 to 18 gather for a social afternoon tea. At our June gathering we farewelled Rosemary on her 3-month trip to England. We don't need a special occasion to meet as our group enjoy just getting together without having to do anything.

Our Taieri Christian Care Food bank has been very busy giving out more parcels than this time last year and serves a very necessary purpose in the community.



## COMMUNITY

### A Gospel way of living.

As I write this article I'm listening to news of the horrific and seemingly uncontrollable inferno that was home to about one hundred and twenty lower socio-economic families in the city of London. A few days ago the terror attack on London Bridge and Borough Market dominated the news. A few days before that, it was the terror attack on Manchester. A massive amount of grief and suffering inflicted for a variety of reasons on unsuspecting and vulnerable people....and I haven't even mentioned the enormous suffering in the Middle East and other countries torn apart by war, oppression, poverty and natural disaster!

One could be forgiven for believing that the world is in a hopeless mess. World leaders, Politicians, Lobbyists, Global Corporates all jostling for power and control, self interest often taking precedence over the 'common good'. The world IS in a mess, but there is an interesting trend emerging, which, if it continues to gain momentum, could begin to transform society from being a society obsessed with Individualism and unfettered Capitalism where profit at any cost is the bottom line, to a community which IS interested in the 'common good'.

With interest, I watched the very youthful crowds attending the post terror attack concert of Ariana Grande and her supporting artistes. All advocating love, peace and unity, rather than hate, division and war. The young fans were holding up signs and banners pleading for peace, justice and love, caring communities and a 'coming together' of all citizens of all races and creeds. One could have understood if they had been angry and out for vengeance. They were not. The audience in the main were the youth of Manchester and they 'got it'. In their youthful wisdom they could see that hate and division were not the route to safer communities where all can thrive. Unfortunately, the many 'grown-ups' who hold positions of power seem hell-bent on maintaining the status quo which clearly isn't working for the majority while creating great wealth for the few. What will it take for the

powerful few to realise that the great chasm between the 'haves and the have-nots', destabilises communities leading to civil unrest and eventually revolt.

A couple of weeks ago I heard an Economist from the London School of Economics declaring that the old fashioned economics of the 1970's are so 'yesterday' and old fashioned. He said there is no place for government led social welfare in 21<sup>st</sup> century. Nobody should be forced into contributing to the welfare of those who are not contributing to society. 'The idea of the 'common good' is quaint and old fashioned' he said, 'we should be aiming for small government and low taxes'. What sort of community would this economist's vision of society create? The notion that private organisations can provide compassionate welfare for the 'have-nots' of this world is a system doomed to fail. Big business in the private sector is about making greatest profit possible for the shareholders. Altruism is not the predominant reason business exists. 'Not for profit' organisations (like The Hub) struggle to provide care with ever diminishing resources as government funding is constantly being more closely targeted. Accountability requirements strain personnel resources as more and more statistical data is required. Of course accountability is an important part of the deal, but more and yet more personal information about their clients is being demanded of these organisations.

At Explorers on Sunday, Rev. Alec Clark (Vicar General of the local Diocese) reminded us of the importance of nurturing our church community and being involved in the community beyond.

Perhaps the word 'community' is in danger of becoming the latest 'buzz' word but 'Community' seems to have been at the core of the Jesus way.

It was his lived experience. He was always visiting people, having meals with them, encouraging others to do the same. It would have been a cultural thing too because people were reliant on their neighbours and fellow villagers for sharing chores and gathering food. Hospitality was a

sacred aspect of Middle Eastern culture.

At its most fundamental level community is 'Always treating others as you would like them to treat you' Matt. 6: Vs 12.

The golden rule!

I think our parish is very very good at this. It is one of our biggest strengths. I suspect Jesus wouldn't be too bothered about creeds and doctrines. They were dreamed up long after Jesus walked this earth by the ancient church fathers and used as weapons of power and control, everything Jesus despised. Methodism as practiced in the Dunedin Parish is well connected to the community in many ways; MWF groups work really hard at reaching out to their local communities and the churches have perfected the art of welcoming and enveloping people of all races and faiths without overwhelming them. My brother in law who was staying with us last week, having attended church, dinner and Open Ed., (yet would call himself 'Atheist'), commented that he would really enjoy being part of our church because there was a vitality and true sense of community about it. Of course we have our issues, but I think we have to be realistic. Too often we despair about what isn't happening in our aging, dwindling congregations and feel we must apologise for it. However, we cannot magically morph into what we are not, a youthful parish bursting at the seams with young families, a feature common in the golden Christendom era of the 20<sup>th</sup> century .... So let's continue 'doing what we do do well' in the 21<sup>st</sup> century;

Finding good in everyone

Finding God in everyone.

Let's celebrate that, and continue being the 'light on the hill' following  
the Jesus way,

By being a community of love.

Trish Patrick