



Dunedin Methodist Parish

Finding Good in everyone Finding God in everyone

www.dunedinmethodist.org.nz

Find us on Facebook: **Dunedin Methodist Parish**

Presbyters:	Rev. Siosifa Pole	455 2923
	Rev. Dr. Rod Mitchell	477 3700
Parish Stewards:	Mrs Hilda Hughson	487 6226
	Mrs Earlene Owens	489 8146
Tongan Steward:	Mr Kaufusi Pole	455 0096
Parish Office:	Siosifa: parish@mmsouth.org.nz	466 4600
	Katrina: admin@mmsouth.org.nz	
Parish Prayer Convenor	Elaine Merrett: elaineros@xtra.co.nz	489 7663
Pastoral Convenor	Beryl Neutze	476 7447
Mornington:		

PARISH BULLETIN

23rd July 2017

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 30th July

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

NEXT SUNDAY 30TH JULY a Mornington Combined Churches special service, at 4.30pm at Mornington Presbyterian Church, 16 Maryhill Terrace, followed by a light tea.

EXPLORERS GROUP – Meeting this Sunday 23 July, Mornington Lounge, 4.30 pm. Siosifa Pole will speak on the recent Oceania Biblical Studies Association Conference at which he led a session on ‘Lament for Domestic Violence and Youth Suicide.’ All welcome.

MORNINGTON METHODIST WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP Our July Meeting will take place on the 26th July in the Church Lounge at 2p.m. Our Guest Speaker will be Liesel Mitchell & or subject - "Performing non-violence, an Inside Outside Journey". Please remember The Fellowship of the Least Coin. The room will be warm - so please put this on your calendar! & see you there.



STORY FROM THE MISSION

Arahina: We have had a great month at Arahina and the new groups of children of similar age are now really working well. The children who have had difficulty making friends due to their challenging behaviours or poor social skills have lots of opportunities to interact with their peers with the support they need to make it successful. They learn that if you think about the other person's feelings as well as your own, you can have the fun of playing co-operatively.

We have done a lot of social coaching around sharing, getting on with each other and how we treat each other at Arahina and believe it is really meaningful for the children. At the beginning of term, we sat with each group and asked them what they think the rules at Arahina should be and they came up with things like "Be kind to each other", "Talking nicely", "Respect the house", "Have fun!" and "Sharing". We made a fun poster for each group with their comments on it and each child put their name on it too, so we can stick it on the fridge just to remind each other what the rules are.

They are able to put these ideas into practice and we have noticed a big improvement in the ability to help each other, socialise appropriately and play co-operatively within each group.

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.

FAITH THINKING 2017

Who Is Jesus Really?

Revd Assoc. Prof. Chris Holmes, Department of Theology and Religion,
University of Otago

7:00 – 9:00 pm Monday July 24, 31 and August 7

R7N10 (Richardson Building), University of Otago ***Please note room change***

A “Taster” Course in New Testament Greek

Dr Katie Marcar, Department of Theology and Religion, University of
Otago

7:00 – 9:00 pm Wednesday August 16, 23 & 30

Burns 5 (Albany Street), University of Otago

Understanding the Book of Revelation

Professor Paul Trebilco, Department of Theology and Religion,
University of Otago

7:00 – 9:00 pm Wednesday September 6, 13 & 20

Elim Church Conference Room, 67 Harrow Street

The Protestant Reformation and the Breaking of the Western Church

Assoc. Prof. Tim Cooper, Department of Theology and Religion,
University of Otago

7:00 – 9:00 pm Friday Oct 27 and 9:00am – 12:30pm Saturday Oct 28

DCBC Church, 19 Main South Road, Concord

Each Course costs \$30. Please register online at

www.otago.ac.nz/continuingeducation or

see payment options overleaf.

For further information go to:

<http://www.otago.ac.nz/theology/news/faith-thinking.html>

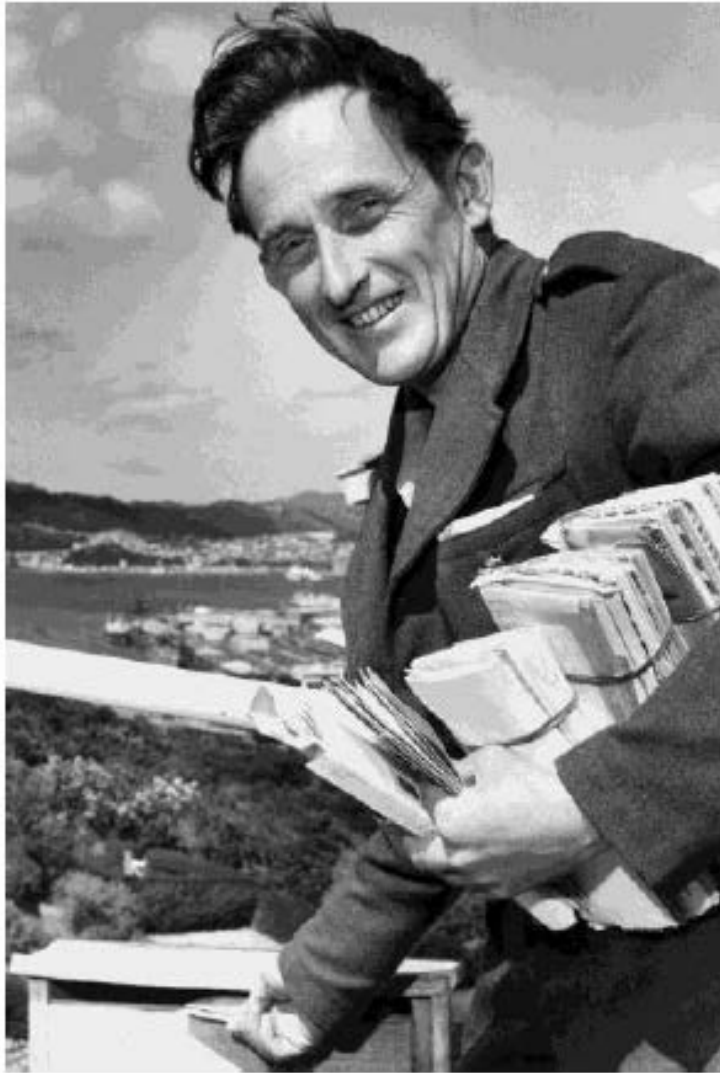


photo source: Alexander Turnbull Library

THE SPIRITUALITY OF JAMES K. BAXTER

31ST AUGUST, 10AM-4PM
BURNS LODGE AT HOLY CROSS,
89 CHURCH STREET, MOSGIEL
COST: \$80 (INCLUDES LUNCH)

In this all-day seminar, we will interactively explore the spirituality of Dunedin's beloved poet. We will look at the different streams that influenced Baxter's spirituality including Catholicism, wairua Maori, mysticism, Twelve-step and his father Archibald Baxter, New Zealand socialist, pacifist and conscientious objector.

Presenters:

—
Mike Riddell

Writer and playwright

(Via Video)

&

**Professor
Kevin Clements**

*Former Director of National
Centre for Peace and Conflict
Studies, University of Otago*

**REGISTER BY CONTACTING
NOLA:**

03) 473- 1141

robinola@xtra.co.nz

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Register now for our next workshop:

Tuesday, 25th July, at 6pm
Venue: Alexander McMillan
Rm, Dunedin Community

Contact us:  lifemattersotago@gmail.com



OUR TRIP OF A LIFETIME TO THE UK AND NORWAY

Recently, Hilda and I spent 5 weeks overseas. We returned to Dunedin on the 4th July. From the 5th-9th June, while Hilda and our daughter Christina visited Spain and Portugal, I attended the Conference of European University Chaplains Conference held at Aberdeen University in Scotland. I led a workshop entitled "A Practical Theology of Suicide Prevention". Over the last ten years, Scotland has been successful in significantly reducing their male suicide rates, as a result of targeted government funding for men's support groups throughout the country. Our government could learn from this.

On Pentecost Sunday, I attended the Upper Tooting Methodist Church, near Balham in London. Early on in the service I was approached by the officiating minister (Rev Armstrong Fummey, originally from Ghana) and asked to share leadership of Holy Communion. This was a true blessing - to unexpectedly find myself offering the sacrament to around 150 brothers and sisters in Christ whom I had never met before. I felt deeply connected with these people, in spite of having never met any of them before. The service went for two and a half hours, and was energised by the African Choir. After the service, over morning tea, I met the grandparents of an Otago student. Most of the congregation were of African descent. The night before, terrorists had attacked innocent people on London Bridge (where Hilda and I had been, a few hours earlier). Rev Fummey courageously addressed the issue of suffering during his sermon, highlighting the experience of the disciples on Pentecost Sunday, only six weeks after the crucifixion of Jesus. The Spirit moved, and continues to move, to bring renewal and to build community in the midst of our grief, shock, sadness and heartache.

We were privileged to stay five nights in a bedsit at Wesley's Chapel in the heart of London. This was possible as a result of our friendship with



the Superintendent Minister of Wesley's Chapel, the Rev Dr Lord Leslie Griffiths who came to Dunedin three years ago to deliver our annual peace lecture, and to be the keynote speaker at the NZ National Interfaith Forum. Leslie sends his greetings to everyone here.

Greg, reading Romans 5:1-8
Wesley's Chapel, London.

On the evening of Saturday 17th June I celebrated my 60th birthday with family and friends, including former Otago students and Rev Jo and Professor David Fielding, at the Admiralty Tavern in Trafalgar Square. The following morning I attended the 9am Holy Communion service. I arrived at the "Foundry Chapel" one minute before the service began, and met the minister at the door. I introduced myself. He asked, "Do you happen to play the organ?" So I found myself, three minutes later playing Charles Wesley's historic organ, for a very special service of Holy Communion. The ordinary organist has been delayed. At the 11am service I was privileged to be able to bring a greeting from the Methodist Church of NZ to a large international gathering in the main Chapel. People from around 80 countries make up the Chapel congregation, and on this occasion there were two large Methodist visiting Choirs from the USA. The brilliant regular organist (Elvis) is from the West Indies. I read the Epistle reading which was Romans 5:1-8. It's a reading about how enduring suffering can potentially help form character, and even give birth to hope. The sermon by Rev Jennifer Potter included reference to the terrorist attack on London Bridge one week earlier. While we were staying at Wesley's Chapel there was a special open day on John Wesley's (and my) birthday, the 17th June. John Wesley's home was opened up to the public, and staffed with members of the congregation dressed as characters from Wesley's time. It was great to chat with a man playing the part of Wesley himself, just as I had at Morningson on my 50th birthday when Colin Gibson played the same part so admirably!

We spent two days in Brighton, and later in Bournemouth, hosted by a Muslim friend, and former during Ramadan. Osman was fasting from sunrise (5am) to sunset (9.30pm). One night, Hilda and I attended the breaking of the fast at the Bournemouth Mosque. We admire Osman's resilience and faith, and enjoyed meeting his grandparents. His grandfather has been a Methodist lay-preacher (in Poole) 65 years, and recently turned 90. Still preaching monthly.

A highlight of our trip was six days in Norway. We stayed in the Oscarsborg Hotel which is attached to the restaurant where our son Paul is the Head Chef. It was wonderful to be able to explore the island on which the Hotel and historic military fortress are located, and to go sailing to other islands nearby. Another highlight was a summer barbeque at a beautiful Norwegian Lake.

We returned home feeling very proud of our daughter and our son. We returned home more deeply connected to our daughter, our son, to their friends, to international University Chaplaincy networks, to our international Church and to the interfaith community. We have so many cherished memories to reflect on, and value, going forward. There was a great deal of sadness and grief in London during our time there. It was touching to see the way in which people of different cultures and faiths all stood together to support the victims of terrorism and of fire. I sensed significant political instability in the UK. In such a diverse community it is not going to be possible to please everyone. The same dynamics apply here in Aotearoa-NZ as our general election approaches. In the midst of so much conflict, fear, instability and change, we can nevertheless celebrate the potential for hope to emerge out of suffering. As Paul wrote in his letter to the Romans 5: 3-5

“We rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.”

Greg Hughson
University Chaplain