



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
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Tongan Steward:	Mr Kaufusi Pole	455 0096
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Parish Prayer Convenor	Elaine Merrett: elaineross@xtra.co.nz	489 7663
Pastoral Convenor	Beryl Neutze	476 7447
Mornington:		

PARISH BULLETIN

29th Oct 2017

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 5th November

9.30 am	Mornington	R Mitchell
10.00 am	Mosgiel	S Pole
11.00 am	Glenaven	R Mitchell
11.30 am	St Kilda	S Pole

DUNEDIN MUSICAL SOCIETY concert in Mornington Methodist Church at 2:30pm on Sunday 29 October. Items include singing, piano and cello. All welcome. Entry \$2.



THE METHODIST MISSION is opening a Youth Transition Home (YTH) in January 2018

The Mission's new Youth Transition Home (YTH) will provide homeless young people from Dunedin with a safe, comfortable place to live while they pursue education, training or employment. Young people will have 24/7 support and learn important life skills like cooking, budgeting and personal care, to help them achieve independent living.

YTH will be part-funded by Government, but extra help will be needed in the form of donations and volunteer contributions. If you would like to assist, please visit our online registry:

www.thankfulregistry.com/MMSouthYTH

or contact Christine on 03 466 3407

or **hub@mmsouth.org.nz**.

Mission staff look forward to speaking more about YTH at a Sunday service in November (date still to be finalised).



A CONCERT IN AID OF THE TEAR FUND - Naomi Striemer, on a New Zealand tour, sings about 'Giving it all to God', at the Mornington Presbyterian Church, Maryhill Terrace, Saturday 4 November, 7pm. Admission free.

THANKS - To all those who came to the Bible and Interpretation Workshop yesterday. Rod and I appreciated your effort of attending and participating. We hope that helps us all in our endeavour to seek meanings from the Bible that relate to our own contexts.

OTAGO-SOUTHLAND SYNOD MEETING - Otatara Parish, 11th of November, 10am. Those who are thinking of going please inform Rachael Masterton for catering purposes and also inform me if you need a ride.

MOSGIEL METHODIST WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP Tuesday 7th November @ 1:30pm in the CHURCH our speaker is Mr Max Quinn Natural History NZ. Photographer. Max has an awesome power point presentation & amazing story to tell. All welcome, please phone Fay 489-5485 any visitors ALL WELCOME including MEN.

Hear the
Royal Dunedin
Male Choir



East Taieri Church
2pm Sun 29 Oct

12a Cemetery Rd
 East Taieri
 03 489 6308
www.etchurch.co.nz

No charge
Afternoon Tea
to follow

A LARGE AUDIENCE listened attentively on Wednesday night to Dr Peter Matheson's lecture on MARTIN LUTHER and the Reformation - 2017 being the 500th anniversary of Luther's declaration of Protestant freedoms. Most of us have a fixed and stereotypical view of Luther - fearless, impulsive, resolute, as one who "shook the foundations" of the medieval church, of Rome itself, and in doing so opened the scriptures to the common people. But Peter described a more human Luther, a man whose doubts accompanied his towering faith, who was vulnerable, sensitive, given to bouts of anger and impatience, yet beautifully tender and compassionate - a truly complex person with a soaring intellect, yet a pastoral heart, a hymn-writer and poet with a deep concern for the heart of the nation. And we were reminded that Luther was not a loner. He was surrounded and supported by a wide community, including remarkable women who shared his reforming zeal. We were privileged to have as our guest a renowned biblical scholar who has made a career-long study of one of the "greats" in the history of the Church.

*Meal Cost \$235. Meal profit \$330. Open Education donations \$200.50. Given to MWF for support of work with young mothers at the Hub, Methodist Mission \$480.50.

Photos show Peter Matheson in conversation with Colin Gibson.



DUNEDIN INNER CITY MINISTERS' ASSOCIATION RADIO CHURCH

Each Sunday morning a pre-recorded service of worship is offered to our wider community by members of the Dunedin Inner City Ministers' Association.

Shut-in folk, people in rest-homes, in hospital, travellers and anyone else who cannot attend church services can tune in to:

Otago Access Radio 105.4 FM, or worship with us online via www.oar.org.nz each Sunday morning from 8.30 am – 9.00 am.

Please publicise these services widely through all your networks, and tune in yourself to be led in worship by a wide range of Dunedin Church leaders.

Podcasts of services are available, so you can listen to them at any time. This provides a very valuable resource to our wider community.

Go to <http://www.oar.org.nz/browse-podcasts/> and find "Radio Church" via the "Select Programme Name" box.

Radio Church Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1241647572519138/>

For further information contact Greg Hughson

greg.hughson@otago.ac.nz



STORY FROM THE MISSION

Foundation Skills (Prison):

A student was on the audio-visual link to his partner and when she told him she was working on her CV, the student then said, “I’ve just got my unit standard in CV writing so I can help you”. He then advised her on fonts and number of pages and has asked her to send him a copy in so he can work on it for her. He also said that he wouldn’t have been able to do the interview unit without the training we did in class. And after the issues he had, he was ready to give up on studying in prison but now feels very keen to continue after doing the interview CV.

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.



IT’S ALL OVER BAR THE SHOUTING/GRUMBLING
but wait, there’s more – “God save the Queen”

Well, it’s all over, we’ve had our vote and we’ve got what we wanted or didn’t want – that’s democracy, now we follow with hurrahs or moans etc. – that’s democracy. MMP has its good and its bad points but – that’s our democracy, and compared to other political systems, we, in New Zealand are fortunate to have the political system we have.

(Reminder: Democracy- “a system of government by the whole population through elected representatives.”)

Each of us, i.e. voters and non-voters, contribute and create the society we have, **we are responsible**. There are those, of course, who confess to knowing nothing about politics so don't bother voting. You don't have to understand the political system, although it helps, but getting to know the women or men who are willing to represent you and your community does help.

I was/we were reminded recently of that political/theological question, "Is it right to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?" (Mark 12:14; Mathew 22:17; Luke 20:22) Jesus, when faced with this question knew the church/temple leaders were out to trick him into answering in a way that could have him convicted of treason. Matthew has Jesus talking straight to the temple authorities "You hypocrites."

That was Jesus, 2017 or so years ago. How today, should we approach the question of God and Caesar or God, Christ, Church, Crown and State (our government and our monarch)?

Where does God fit into the governance of the country?

What most of us want from our government is stability and fairness, and in a democracy that should be achievable.

Achievable more so in a democracy that is a monarchy and not a republic, or any modern tyrannical form such as communism or fascism! (*"God save the Queen"*)

There are 43 countries that have royalty - that are a monarchy, including the British Commonwealth made up of 16 countries. There is also the Vatican - a theocracy, not a King but a Pope.

But what has monarchy got to do with government? Studies show that a Monarchy is a more moral, stable, and overall better and ontologically higher form of government than any other system' thanks to God, the monarch, and the believers. (*Ontology – "the study of the nature of existence or being."*)

“God save the Queen.” “God defend New Zealand” - God bless USofA...they need it. We need all the blessings we can get and the faith and belief in God and the good of people and the world.

Not all monarchies are Christian of course, for there are Muslim monarchs, Buddhist monarchs and Hindu monarchs, each living to the values of their faith, each encouraging the spiritual development of their subjects through example. Something not easily found in many of the republican systems.

The Scandinavian countries and the Netherlands each have a monarch and are Christian. Malaysia is a monarchy with Islam religion.

In the majority of these monarchies the monarch is the figure-head of the national religion. And we know our Queen is head of the Church of Britain, and to a certain sense also of the commonwealth countries. Is this why monarchies have a better track record than republics? Let's not think of becoming a republic – God help us!

To finish on a different note: reported in the ODT on Tuesday the fine example a young student nurse is setting for young and old by her 'good works' in Malawi, helping with and improving pre-schooling there. And the response by people and business to help her. Good news shines through.

Gordon Abernethy