



Dunedin Methodist Parish

Finding Good in everyone Finding God in everyone

www.dunedinmethodist.org.nz

Find us on Facebook: Dunedin Methodist Parish

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PARISH BULLETIN

9th September 2018

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 16th September

9.30 am	Mornington	R Mitchell
10.00 am	Mosgiel	D Poultney
11.00 am	Glenaven	R Mitchell
1.00 pm	St Kilda	TBA

Dates to remember:

16 Sept		Mosgiel Spring Flower Service
19 Sept	7.30 pm	Open Education: Mr Bach's Magnificat - Mornington

Mosgiel Spring Flower Service - Next Sunday we will celebrate Spring – whatever the weather – you are invited to bring flowers in for our

celebration, afterwards these will be taken to some of our people who can't get to Church.

OPEN EDUCATION: MR BACH'S MAGNIFICAT - In 1723 Johann Sebastian Bach moved to Leipzig to take up the post of Music Director. Keen to impress his new congregations and his employers, the Town Council, two months after his appointment he composed the most brilliant setting of Mary's Song, the Magnificat, ever written. Join Emeritus Professor Colin Gibson on Wednesday, 19 September, at 7.30pm in the Mornington Methodist Church, Galloway Street, as he tells the story that lies behind this wonderful piece of music and plays big-screen excerpts from DVD recordings by famous conductors. Your koha of \$5 goes to support Syrian refugee families. Sign in at Mornington or ring 455 3727 to book your place at the tasty pre-session meal laid on by Judy Russell (\$15).

DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGION – UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO
Information session about theology courses for people who are interested in studying Theology with the Department of Theology and Religion at the University of Otago will be held on Tuesday 25 September, 3.30pm, Humanities Common Room – Room 1W9 - Arts Building, University of Otago, Albany Street (Go up the stairs beside Burns 2). This will be a chance to hear about the many courses and programmes the Department offers. All welcome!

Christian theology and science - The University has a Pre-Christmas Summer School from Nov 12-Dec 15, 2018. The Department of Theology and Religion is offering a paper on Christian Theology and Science (CHTH235/335). The paper will be taught over five weeks by means of 1 x 3-hour and 1 x 2-hour class each week. Distance students can participate through the Zoom videoconference facility. Lectures will also be recorded and available for later viewing. Prerequisite: at 200-level is any two 100-level papers in any subject. At 300-level: any two 200-level papers in any subject.

For further information contact theology@otago.ac.nz or 03 479 8901

WORLD SUICIDE PREVENTION DAY 2018

Monday, September 10 at 6 pm-8pm Burns Hall, First
Presbyterian Church, Moray Place, Dunedin

ALL WELCOME

This year's event will have amazing speakers who will share their knowledge and bring us more hope.

Sam O'Sullivan from Tough Talk

Jamie Allen from Taranaki Retreat

Klaudia Bennett student

Matt Toa from MMA

Maria Dillon who lost her son Harry to suicide.

They all come with different messages and we are all working together for a safer future to save lives. Performances by The Suitcase Theatre, Lani Alo and Kylie Price as well as KVC Kapa haka group.

This year we celebrate World Suicide Prevention Day under the theme "Working Together to Prevent Suicide". This theme highlights the most essential ingredient for effective global suicide prevention – collaboration. Collaboration and integration at all levels is required, between government and stakeholders, funding bodies and public and private sector organisations, NGOs and those that they serve, healthcare professionals and their patients and persons at risk and their family, friends and co-workers. Only when we bring together the knowledge, skills, resources and efforts of wide ranges of individuals and organisations can we collectively address the challenges presented by suicidal behaviour in society today.

Life Matters are inviting agencies, businesses and individuals wanting to work together with us in a positive way to make this day a success and provide more support and education than ever before. Remember we keep this a safe event and it will be run according to the Life Matters' ethos with safe discussions, support and literature.

Preventing suicide is possible and you are a key player in its prevention! You as a member of society, you as a child, a parent, a friend, a colleague or a neighbour can make a difference. The more that we know about the issue, the better we understand it, and the more efficiently we can cooperate to address suicide and the challenges it presents. The main focus is on support, remembering loved ones and what we can do better to help one another. This is by no means glamorising suicide and we are not selling products to make profit. To help protect vulnerable people there are some restrictions in New Zealand on what can be made public about a suicide or suspected suicide. These are set out in Section 71 of the Coroners Act 2006. The Act was amended in 2016 to clarify the restrictions. Therefore we do not talk or write publicly about the method or suspected method of death in any detail because it serves no purpose other than cause upset.

There will be candle lighting and love tokens to remember loved ones lost to suicide.

Gold coin donation is appreciated to cover refreshments provided. Please bring along photos of your loved ones to place on our remembrance table.



Corrections: Literacy & Numeracy: The remand workshop has started again, and the team that are enrolled this time are showing a lot of enthusiasm and enjoying it. The wing staff seem happy to have us on site to add to the experience of those on remand, and I am approached every week by prospective new students who want to be part of the series after talking to those who have been through it.

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.

OUR NEW PRESBYTER, David, has been with us for a month now, but his partner **DARREN JAMES** with their furniture, took a little longer. And so it is now WELCOME DARREN!

Born in England, Darren and David met each other through a social group in Northampton, Darren a chartered engineer by profession. They came to New Zealand in 2000 and after a year in Hutt City came to Dunedin where Darren had an engineering position with Fisher & Paykel in Mosgiel. That was when we at Glenaven and Broad Bay got to know the pair.

They shared equally in our Parish life prior to David being accepted for ministry training, necessitating a move to Auckland. Since then David's movements have largely determined life for Darren - ministries in Hamilton and Nelson. Five years ago they were married in a quiet ceremony in Hamilton, and in a full-circle move they are back in Dunedin, with Darren starting a new job with DX Couriers only a week ago.

David is warm in his praise of Darren for his support in many ways. Asked to be a bit more specific David had no hesitation in saying Darren's music ability (piano and keyboard) and his propensity to challenge him at every level have made him an invaluable part of a unique ministry team. We are singularly fortunate to have them both in our Methodist community.

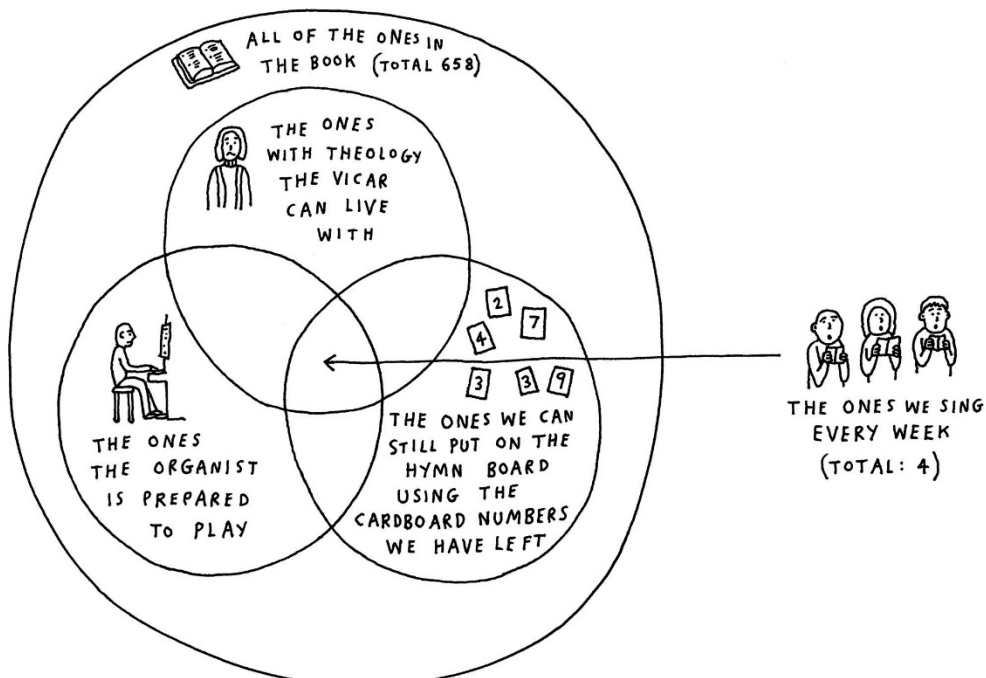
Photon Darren enjoys a milk shake in a nameless mall.



ON TUESDAY 4/9/2018 Mosgiel Methodist Women's Fellowship held their Friendship Day where we invite all other Taieri women's church groups. Our speaker was Simone Clair from Pillars. Working for children of prisoners supporting positive crime free futures which is our Methodist & Presbyterian Women Special Project 2017/2019.



CHOOSING THE HYMNS



In this Connections article I want to pay tribute to all those worship leaders who, week after week, month after month, toil over their sermons so that we will have something that is

interesting

relevant

amusing

profound

engaging

challenging

uplifting

reassuring

to listen to.

Yes, I know it's just part of the contract and the congregation's presumption that the words and images that issue from the pulpit will be of a quantity and quality we seldom get from the public media these days—obsessed as they are with the 'sound bite', the snappy headline, the bikini-brief quote, the bullet points flashing out before our weary eyes.

But week after week, I am astonished by the listener-worthiness of what we hear in our church, as thoughtful, well-informed leaders lead us into fresh consideration of the interface—now there's a fine, in-vogue word—between the inherited (yes, frequently biblical) past and the turbulent chaotic world of the present, finding meaning, challenging us to action, enriching our knowledge, deepening our spiritual life.

But if they deserve applause for their deeply-considered reflection, these worship leaders, spare a clap or two for their choice of hymns. Which, as you'll see, is the subject of the cartoon Darren James supplied me with.

Yes, I know that we can be confounded by music or words we haven't met before—it's called the learning process—and because we all have a stock of hymn memories cemented into our brains by repetition when we were young and more open and receptive, the choice of a fresh, new hymn can freeze our vocal chords and distract our minds.

But consider the perils the worship leader must navigate in choosing the three or four hymns we are to sing. They are comically summarized in the cartoon, though one might add to the circles of rejection or reception the tunes we know or think we don't know, as well as our own private and personal theology. What a wonder that every week we do sing—and with considerable vitality—songs that lift our spirits, resonate with our own and the preacher's thought patterns, and confirm our sense of community.

And to our credit, we have got over the cultural cringe and our childhood fixations to tackle hymns made in New Zealand by New Zealand composers and text writers, dealing with New Zealand issues and New Zealand theologies, and expressed in the idioms and images of our own country.

We grow spiritually with the help of the hard-won weekly reflection and the intelligently-chosen hymns we sing to God's glory. Long may that continue!

Colin Gibson