



Dunedin Methodist Parish

Finding Good in everyone Finding God in everyone

www.dunedinmethodist.org.nz

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

Presbyters:	Rev. David Poultney	545 7181
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	Rev. Dr. Rod Mitchell	453 3310
Parish Stewards:	Mrs Earlene Owens	489 8146
	Dale Meredith	467 2070
	John Hardy	472 7377
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Parish Office:	David: parish@mmsouth.org.nz	466 4600
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Parish Prayer		
Convenor:	Elaine Merrett: elaineross@xtra.co.nz	489 7663
Pastoral Convenor		
Mornington:	Beryl Neutze	476 7447
Bulletin Coordinator:	Rachael Masterton rmasterton@actrix.co.nz	

PARISH BULLETIN

30th September 2018

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 7th October

9.30 am	Mornington	D Poultney
10.00 am	Mosgiel	D Phillips
11.00 am	Glenaven	D Poultney
11.30 am	St Kilda	M Hardy

Dates to remember:

2 Oct	1.30 pm	Mosgiel MWF Games afternoon – Mosgiel Hall
7 Oct	1.30 pm	Visit to Windermere - Milton
14 Oct		After Church Mosgiel AGM

IT APPEARS THAT the majority of the parish are sending their notices straight to Katrina rather than to me as Bulletin Coordinator. Because of this I am removing myself as the coordinator. Please continue to send your notices to Katrina, and those who have been sending them to me, please start sending them directly to Katrina. Thanks, Rachael.

MOSGIEL METHODIST WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP - Afternoon with Pe'tanque, Croquet & Games. All welcome 1:30pm in the hall. **Tuesday 2nd October 2018.**

VISIT TO WINDERMERE ALPACA AND LLAMA STUD - On Sunday 7th Oct you with family are invited to visit the above stud just south of Milton to meet some beasts of burden from South America. Both species live in different paddocks and have individuals who are comfortable being hand fed. So come and get up and close with them but be aware they can spit if alarmed. The tour is limited to 20 so if you wish to come please advise Cam Weston on 021 995 130 or 454 5600. The cost is \$15/adult and school age children free. Please bring cash.

Transport plan is to share transport from Dunedin. We will meet at the Tall spired Presbyterian church in Milton at 1:30p.m. on Sunday Oct 7 and then proceed to the farm which is about 10 km from Milton. After the tour we can have a hot drink at the farm so please bring a nibble if you wish and coffee/tea will be available. Please come and learn about the creatures from far off lands.

MOSGIEL METHODIST CHURCH - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This is to be held after the Church Service on the 14 October. After the meeting we are having lunch at Weavers. Would you please let Elaine Merrett (489 7663) know before the 7 October if you are coming to the lunch.

IT WAS A SIGNIFICANT DECISION. The Mornington AGM decided on Sunday to adopt the WEST PAPUAN NATION as its ongoing concern, and to advocate for its liberation from Indonesian oppression. The congregation also decided that as a sign of good faith in this matter we will display the West Papuan MORNING STAR flag, maybe in the church, maybe in the foyer. The text of the almost unanimous decision was as follows

That Mornington Congregation, having been informed of the oppressive nature of Indonesia's illegal rule over West Papua, commits to become a partner with other New Zealand groups supporting efforts to free West Papua from Indonesian control, and under the supervision of the United Nations to achieve full independent nationhood as soon as possible.

Five strong points in favour of the action were considered by the meeting, among them that West Papua is our nearest and most obvious case of systematic and illegal oppression, with consequent civil rights abuses, and urge the New Zealand Government to actively support other Pacific Island nations in their consistent calls for the voice of the indigenous people to be heard by the international community.



WE WOULD LIKE TO ANNOUNCE the passing of a very loyal & much loved member of our Mosgiel congregation, Thelma Howison in her 100th year. Thelma had also been a member of St Clair, Trinity & Good News Room congregations. She will be missed but we know she is now safe in the arms of Jesus.

MOSGIEL METHODIST CHURCH - FIRE DRILL

During one of the services in October it is intended that we hold a fire drill in compliance with safety procedures. Fire Wardens will be the persons on the door for that day. When a whistle sounds proceed to the marked EXIT signs in an orderly manner. The designated fire wardens will see that you reach the assembly point safely. (This is at the church gates). They will check the building to ensure it is cleared. This should only take a few minutes.



STORY FROM THE MISSION

Dunedin Little Citizens: One of our priority learners is heading off to school at the end of August and this young boy has presented us all with challenges and made us think how we could make his time at centre a positive one. On his finishing care form his mum wrote “He has enjoyed his time at day-care and I have liked the teacher’s way of handling and caring for his behavioural issues”.

The teachers at Little Citizens have been on an amazing journey throughout the year as they have worked with an equally amazing little boy and his family to build on his knowledge and skills and positive attitude towards himself and others.

Although the journey has been a roller coaster the one thing that remained the same was the desire and passion to do the best that we could do to provide a positive learning environment for him and his family where he was exposed to support not judgement even when things were a little tough. This required constant reflection and conversations to ensure that teachers were consistent in their

approaches and engagement to bring about a change in behaviour and attitude.

We have seen wonderful progress over his time where he has gone from a child who spent most of his time searching for bugs not really that interested in being part of the group to a child who is now actively asking other children to play with him.

Although his impulsivity can still see him be a little unpredictable, through supporting this child one on one, and within the daily programme, he is now fully participating within the programme. His ability to regulate his emotions and responses is improving daily where he is showing that he can stop and think to make more positive choices and decisions. There has been a major reduction in the instances of biting, spitting and swearing which shows his increasing self-regulation skills where his initial response is no longer to go into flight mode and react instead he can stop and make more thought out decisions.

So we look ahead to his move to school at the end of August with a smile in the knowledge of the amazing progress he has made while with us this year and wish him all the best in his future endeavours.

Throughout this journey we have received wonderful feedback from the Ministry of Education in regards to the effort, energy and skills of our teaching team that they put into their work supporting children with diverse needs. Where they go over and above to achieve the best for the child and their family.

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.

DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGION – UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO

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

FAITH THINKING

Working Effectively in Culturally Diverse Situations: Building your cultural awareness. Presented by Dr Sheryl Silzer, Wycliffe Bible Translators. Monday 8 October, 7:00-9:00pm, Tuesday 9 October, 7:00-9:00pm, Burns 7, University of Otago. Cost for this course is \$10.

Faith and Belief in New Zealand: Results of a recent study and its implications for faith communities. By Chris Clarke, Former CEO World Vision New Zealand; Advisor, Wilberforce Foundation. Wednesday, 10 October 2018 5:15 - 6:30pm, Archway 3 Lecture Theatre

For further information and to enrol go to

www.otago.ac.nz/continuingeducation/what-we-offer/otago692057.html.

Please pay on the night.



YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

This weekend (and through until Wednesday) I am at Methodist Conference at St Andrew's College in Christchurch. It will be good to renew friendships and make new friends at Conference, and to work together for healing, justice and peace. Leading up to Conference this year, daily prayer e mails were prepared by 21 Methodist people, focusing on specific issues to be addressed at Conference. These e mails were sent out, one each day, leading up to Conference. I prepared this information, and the prayer pledge below for one of the e mails which were circulated to our whole Church family, not only those going to Conference. Hundreds, if not thousands of people, will have (or will in the future) pray this prayer. NZ has the highest Youth suicide rate in the world. May my prayer play some small part in helping bring down our tragic statistics. Every life matters. Our Churches need to step up our

activities in every area of suicide prevention, which is wherever healing and hope are needed. My message and prayer below, need not be restricted to Youth, or any particular age group.



"I have come in order that you might have life - life in all its fullness."

John 10 vs 10

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.nz/get-help/a-z/resource/48/suicide-worried-about-someone>

The Bible reminds us that God longs for us all to live full, healthy and meaningful lives. For healing to occur, it is important to bring our problems and feelings to God in prayer. We need to share our mental health and emotional struggles with each other. Trusting that we are loved by God and by each other, we need not hold back on sharing about

whatever it is we are facing, and how we are feeling. Never stop telling and showing those you are close to, just how much you love them and how much they mean to you. Keep reminding each other that it is OK to ask for help. Educate yourself about mental illness. Learn strategies to manage stress and be open to sharing your emotional pain. People who feel suicidal often feel like they are alone and that their family, whānau and friends would be better off without them. This is not true. Suicide eliminates the possibility of life getting better.

A prayer pledge:

Loving God, thank you that my life is precious. Therefore, I promise you, and I promise myself, that from today onwards, I will tell someone I trust whenever I am feeling stressed, overwhelmed or suicidal. I will look out for warning signs of distress in myself and in others. If I am concerned that a friend or family member might be suicidal, I will ask them if they are indeed thinking of taking their own life. Help me Lord to listen without judgement, and to do all I can to keep myself and my friends and family safe. Motivate me to get help for myself and for others when needed. I know that I do not need to feel ashamed to ask for help. Whatever I have done or however whakamā I am feeling, I am still loved. Thank you Lord for your love for me, a love which will never leave me, no matter how bad I am feeling. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

If you have prayed this prayer, I encourage you to let your family and friends know. Please give your family and friends a copy to pass on to others.

Need to talk? Free call or text [1737](tel:1737) any time for support from a trained counsellor.

Rev Greg Hughson
Ecumenical Chaplain, Otago University