



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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| Presbyters: | Rev. David Poultney | 545 7181 |
| | Mobile | 022 350 2263 |
| | Rev. Dr. Rod Mitchell | 453 3310 |
| Parish Stewards: | Mrs Jan Stewart | 473 9141 |
| | John Hardy | 472 7377 |
| Tongan Steward: | Mr Kaufusi Pole | 455 0096 |
| Parish Office: | David: parish@mmsouth.org.nz | 466 4600 |
| | Katrina: admin@mmsouth.org.nz | |
| Parish Prayer Convenor: | Elaine Merrett: elaineross@xtra.co.nz | 489 7663 |
| Pastoral Convenor Mornington: | Beryl Neutze | 476 7447 |

PARISH BULLETIN

25th November 2018

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 2nd December

| | | |
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| 9.30 am | Mornington | R Mitchell |
| 10.00 am | Mosgiel | D Phillipps |
| 11.00 am | Glenaven | D Poultney |
| 1.00 pm | St Kilda | M Hardy |

Dates to remember:

| | | |
|--------|------------|---|
| Today | 4.30 pm | Explorers meeting – Mornington Hub lounge |
| Today | 12.30 pm | Pot-luck lunch – Watson/White house |
| 28 Nov | 2.00 pm | Mornington MWF meeting – Church Lounge |
| 14 Dec | 12.00 noon | Dec-Jan Orders due in to Mission Office |

MORNINGTON METHODIST WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP - The last Meeting of the year will take place on Wednesday 28th November - in the Church Lounge at 2 p.m. The Guest Speaker will be Mrs Leah Taylor & her subject is "From Delft to the Danube". Come along & hear this interesting talk - with a bit of Christmas also. Please bring a small plate of "Party Food" for all to enjoy.

POT-LUCK LUNCH TODAY!! Sunday 25 November 12.30: Mornington and Glenaven and other interested folk are invited to bring simple lunch food to share at the Watson/White house, 5 Cairnhill St Maori Hill 9010. This is the last day John is the resident pianist at Glenaven, and he will turn 80 a few days later. Tea/coffee/juice provided, and please if possible park in Cannington Rd. Helen and John's phone: 467 2936 (pm only). Email preferred: watsonwhite@xtra.co.nz No presents, just your presence.

ORDERS OF SERVICE & BULLETINS OVER CHRISTMAS BREAK

The Mission Office will be closed from midday Friday 21st December and the Administration team return to work Monday 14th January 2019. Could you please ensure that your Orders of Service over this period (between 21st Dec & 14th Jan) are sent (admin@mmsouth.org.nz) no later than **12 noon Friday 14th December**.

The final bulletin for 2018 will be the 16th December edition and the first bulletin for 2019 will be 20th January.

Thanks everyone, wishing you a very happy Christmas.

Methodist Mission Administration Team.



WITH A SERVICE TITLED "Trump, Truth, Mystery and Some Alternatives" one could reasonably expect something a little out of the ordinary to follow, especially considering the table laden with a weird assortment of unrelated items in centre stage. Yes it was a service with a difference and who could deny that in a generation where the term "alternative truth" has rapidly taken its place in common speech, the overall theme of TRUTH was relevant for us all.

But what was on the table? The Lampedusa cross and the impressive stuffed tiger could not be ignored. But then the Tongan roundel, the Indonesian duster and the common old drink bottle each raised questions of their own. We were asked to choose one of these that maybe spoke something special to us in the moment and share it with a neighbour. For me the duster stood out, I wonder why? But every service should call on our powers of imagination, and this one certainly did. Photo courtesy Andrea Mosley.



EXPLORERS - The final meeting for the year will be held at 4.30pm in the Mornington Methodist Community Hub lounge (previously called 'the Hall'—but it's PR time) on Sunday 25 November. David Poultney will talk about the Faith and Order Committee of our national Methodist Church. An open invitation to all interested to get an insight into the workings of one of the Church's important committees.

2018 Food Bank Drive

**Monday 3rd Dec
6.00 – 9.00pm**

Listen for the sirens
in your street - please
place your items in the
'Lions' trailer!



**PLEASE HELP TO MAKE SOMEONE'S
CHRISTMAS THAT MUCH BETTER!**

*Proceeds to
Local Foodbank Only!*

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY THE FOLLOWING ORGANISATIONS



BULLET POINTS from the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on WEDNESDAY 14 NOVEMBER

- Jan Stewart has been appointed a Parish Steward in place of Dale Meredith and we are now seeking a third steward to replace Earlene Owens.
- The following offices were re-elected at the Parish Meeting

| | |
|-----------|----------------|
| Chairman | Colin Gibson |
| Secretary | Fay Richardson |
| Treasurer | Lynley Kloogh |
- Mornington has been given provisional approval to apply to the MCPC for funding for a feasible study for the replacement of their present hall with a new community hub. PF&R will first consider such an application.

STORY FROM THE MISSION

Next Step Training: Youth Guarantee:

Four YG students spent the morning looking around Otago Polytech last Friday. Hannah and the students met Sela their guide just after 10 and had a great tour of the Polytech looking in particular at their courses of interest for 2019. They looked at the classrooms for Foundation level three, Midwifery, Carpentry, IT, Automotive Engineering, Vet nursing and ECE. As a result of this visit one student has had an interview and been accepted into the Health bridging course as a step towards midwifery. Another has changed her mind and is hoping to enrol in the level 3 IT course rather than the Foundation 3 course. One is confirmed in their choice of Carpentry and another has enrolled in Vet Nursing Level 4.



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.



**TOLERANCE IS A NOT A MORAL PRECEPT
(Yonatan Zunger).**

Now that's a disturbing thought, particularly for Christians.

And yet more and more we are faced with the challenge of people who ab/use the careful balance of – usually tacit – society's rights and responsibilities to their own ends.

Their rights, our responsibilities, seems to be the go.

Think ... Trump.

Or more locally, perhaps the Hawera Lions Club wearing blackface at the town's A&P parade. A tolerant society allows for freedom of speech. But are we supposed to put up with acts that are well-known expressions of racism, that have been understood for *decades* to be offensive to a substantial part of our community.

Their right to express themselves, our responsibility to let them? Is that how it is supposed to go?

But let's go further. The response of the Hawera Lions has been to accuse everyone expressing disquiet of being "pc" and "small-minded", with all the implications that those people criticising them should, well, *not*.

The Hawera Lions have the right to express themselves, but (according to them) heaven forbid someone should respond.

Their right to speak, the critics' responsibility to be quiet?

We're seeing the return of anti-Semitism with the desecration of Jewish graves this year in Illinois, Lithuania, Greece, Manchester, Poland, the list goes on, and of course internationally the rise in Islamophobia throughout the western (tolerant!) world over the last decade has been striking.

And the recent declaration by Trump's administration that Transgender will no longer be accepted as a gender status (something even Iran manages to accept!), coupled with all the "bathroom bills" being passed by US states.

Increasingly, we're supposed to tolerate the intolerance of others.

Why?

Why should young Māori men put up with being "randomly" stopped by police at ten times the rate of young Pākehā men?

Why should LGBTQ+ people put up with (most recently in my hearing at MCNZ Conference a month ago by a Synod Superintendent) being linked to bestiality?

Why should women put up with the kind of misogyny in Ireland that lead to a not guilty verdict in a rape trial because the victim wore a particular kind of “sexy” underwear (common to young women) just this month? How is that even a starter in this day and age?!

Zunger writes that *Tolerance is an agreement to live in peace, not an agreement to be peaceful no matter the conduct of others. A peace treaty is not a suicide pact.*

But what of us as Methodists?

The injunction in Wesley’s sermon on a Catholic Spirit (based on 2 Kings 10:15 ... *Is thine heart right, as my heart is with thy heart? ... If it be, give me thine hand.*) is not for agreement, but for reciprocity.

Wesley says explicitly, *I do not mean, ‘Be of my opinion’ ... Neither do I mean, ‘I will be of your opinion’.* But that *I mean, first, love me. I mean, secondly, commend me to God ...I mean, thirdly, provoke me to love and to good works ... I mean, lastly, love me not in word only, but in deed and in truth.*

Where there is no reciprocity, where there is no love in deed and in truth, where one group is seeking to effectively extinguish the other, then there is no peace treaty.

And where there is no peace treaty, we must stand up, we must be active, we must be counted as being **forcefully** for tolerance.

(Zunger’s piece is at: <https://extranewsfeed.com/tolerance-is-not-a-moral-precept-1af7007d6376>)

SERVICE ARRANGEMENTS FOR DECEMBER



Please take careful note of the service arrangements for Mornington and Glenaven for December. Arrangements for January 2019 will be published shortly.

2 December 9.30am Mornington Communion service, with Anglicans from St Mary's attending (Mitchell); 11am Glenaven Communion service (Poultney)

9 December 9.30am Mornington Methodists attend St Mary's service under Anglican leadership; 11am Glenaven service (Mitchell).

7pm Combined Mornington churches Carol service at Mornington Methodist (Mitchell)

16 December 9.30am Mornington service (choir presents Christmas music); 11am Glenaven service (both services led by David Poultney)

23 December 9.30am Mornington service; 11am Glenaven service (both services led by David Poultney)

24 December Christmas Eve service at Glenaven (10.30 supper for 11pm start) (Poultney and Mitchell)

25 December 10am Combined Glenaven and Mornington service at Mornington (Poultney)

30 December 10am Combined Methodist Parish service at Mosgiel (Poultney)