



# Dunedin Methodist Parish

*Finding Good in everyone    Finding God in everyone*

[www.dunedinmethodist.org.nz](http://www.dunedinmethodist.org.nz)

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

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| <b>Presbyters:</b>                       | Rev. David Poultney  | 974 6172     |
|  | Mobile   | 022 350 2263 |
|  | Rev. Dr. Rod Mitchell  | 453 3310     |
| <b>Parish Stewards:</b>                  | Mrs Jan Stewart  | 473 9141     |
|  | John Hardy   | 472 7377     |
|  | Ross Merrett   | 489 7663     |
| <b>Tongan Steward:</b>                   | Mr Kaufusi Pole  | 455 0096     |
| <b>Parish Office:</b>                    | David: <a href="mailto:parish@mmsouth.org.nz">parish@mmsouth.org.nz</a>          | 466 4600     |
|  | Katrina: <a href="mailto:admin@mmsouth.org.nz">admin@mmsouth.org.nz</a>          |              |
| <b>Parish Prayer<br/>Convenor:</b>       | Elaine Merrett: <a href="mailto:elaineross@xtra.co.nz">elaineross@xtra.co.nz</a> | 489 7663     |
| <b>Pastoral Convenor<br/>Mornington:</b> | Beryl Neutze   | 476 7447     |

## PARISH BULLETIN

**31st March 2019**

### WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 7<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2019

|         |            |                    |
|---------|------------|--------------------|
| 10.00am | Mornington | Rev David Poultney |
|         | Mosgiel    | Elaine Merrett     |
|         | Glenaven   | Rev Rod Mitchell   |
| 1.00 pm | St Kilda   | TBA                |

### DATES TO REMEMBER

|          |             |   |
|----------|-------------|---|
| 31 March | 2.30 pm     | Dunedin Musical Society Concert                     |
| 7 April  | 2.00 pm     | Share the Journey                                   |
| 3 May    | 7.00-9.00pm | Practical Meditation<br>– simple step-by-step Guide |

## **DUNEDIN MUSICAL SOCIETY CONCERT**

Held 2.30pm Sunday 31 March at

Mornington Methodist Church. Featuring the group The Three Altos who play alto saxophones and with them are piano and bass. It will be a good concert. All welcome. Adults \$2 and children free.



**FAITH THINKING 2019** - These courses are jointly organised between the Theology Programme and some Dunedin Churches, and supported by Continuing Education at the University of Otago.

### **Taster For Biblical Greek**

Dr Katie Marcar, Teaching Fellow in Biblical Studies, Theology Programme, University of Otago

*Wednesday 3 April, 7:00pm – 9:00pm*

*Wednesday 10 April, 7:00pm – 9:00pm*

*Wednesday 17 April, 7:00pm – 9:00pm*

Burns 7, Arts/Burns Building, Albany Street, University of Otago

THIS IS ALSO AVAILABLE AT A DISTANCE

Please contact [Theology@otago.ac.nz](mailto:Theology@otago.ac.nz) for details

### **The Inner World And Its Workings:**

**Attention to our inner life of Prayer with the help of Ignatian Spirituality**

Father Mark Chamberlain, University Chaplain and Priest, Holy Name Parish

*Wednesday 8 May, 7:00pm – 9:00pm*

*Wednesday 15 May, 7:00pm – 9:00pm*

*Wednesday 22 May, 7:00pm – 9:00pm*

Burns 7, Arts/Burns Building, Albany Street, University of Otago

Each Course costs \$20. Please register online at [www.otago.ac.nz/continuingeducation](http://www.otago.ac.nz/continuingeducation)

## MOSGIEL METHODIST WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Being held Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April at 1.30pm in the Church Hall when Judy Knox will speak to us about a trip to Australia. All welcome.



**Share the Journey** ☼  
#sharejourney

**You are invited to** a global campaign to **walk a million kilometres** in an **act of solidarity with migrants and refugees** who are forced to leave their homes because of war, persecution, natural disaster and poverty. Our solidarity walk is also **an occasion for us to walk aside those who are new to our community** including migrants and former refugees in Dunedin and hear some of their story.

Simply come along on Sunday, 7th April at 2pm to walk and chat with some of our new residents. Following the walk along John Wilson Drive, there will be games on at Hancock Park (sack races, tug of war, lolly scramble) and a free sausage sizzle. After the walk we will combine kilometres walked and submit these to the global campaign.

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| <b>Date:</b>  | <b>Sunday, 7th April</b>   |
| <b>Time:</b>  | <b>2.00pm</b>  |
| <b>Where:</b> | <b>Meet beside the Dinosaur Park ready to walk 1, 2 or 4 kilometres along John Wilson Drive.</b> |
| <b>Cost:</b>  | <b>Free</b>  |

**For more information see our Facebook Page: Dunedin Churches Welcome Refugees or contact Amy: [amya@cdd.org.nz](mailto:amya@cdd.org.nz)**



### BULLETIN NOTICES

The deadline for all notices is noon on the Thursday prior. As we have had some staff changes around the compiling of the bulletin, we need to adhere to this deadline.

Many thanks from the Mission Admin Team

**ROSS MERRETT** has agreed to serve as a Parish Steward, we warmly congratulate him and look forward to his leadership in that role

**LENT BIBLE STUDY** is based on the DVD and book Holy Week for Beginners by Amy Jill Levine, an eminent scholar of both New Testament and Jewish Studies. We will be hosted at Ross and Elaine's home, 7pm Wednesday

**NEWSLETTER INVITE** - Every two months Methodist Mission Southern



distributes a newsletter to people who've supported projects in the past. It includes some of the good news stories you see in your Parish Bulletin, an outline of some new projects as well some practical ways readers can help with those new projects.

If you would like to receive this newsletter regularly, all you need to do is send an email to [rosen@mmsouth.org.nz](mailto:rosen@mmsouth.org.nz) If you'd like a printed copy rather than an email just let us know – you could phone the Main Office at Teviot Street - 466 4600 – Katrina will put you on the list to receive a print copy in the mail. Large print is also available.

## **MEDITATION: NEW COURSE – 8 Sessions**

**Starting May 3<sup>rd</sup> 7-9pm**

Come and share in this wonderful opportunity. If radical spirituality is in the hands of the people over 60 years of age, here is the opportunity to make a contribution to building a better world. Our focus will be on practice, using the best practices from as many religious traditions as we have access to. We will be drawing on material found in the book: *Practical Meditation – A simple step-by-step Guide* by Giovanni Dienstmann.

**Contact Rod Mitchel 4533310 or Colin Gibson 4536662**

## IT WAS ONE OF THE BEST ATTENDED OPEN EDUCATION SESSIONS, EVER,

when *Dr Mai Tamimi* spoke last week to a crowd that packed Mornington Church. Dr Mai is a Palestinian who is contracted to the Ministry of Social Develop to support refugee communities in Dunedin, but because our meeting came only five days after the horrific terrorist act in Christchurch, with such a severe impact on the entire Muslim community in New Zealand, Mai was in the early stage of shaping how best to respond to such a complex range of needs.

She spoke with clarity and candour and succeeded in bringing her entire audience along side a traumatised, grieving community.

Mai is married to *Nasser*, who teaches English language at a public high school in Palestine, and the couple get to see each other, if they are lucky, about every six months. Their three children *Naser Rinad and Malak* are with their mother, and each one is relishing their Dunedin education.

Dr Mai has impressed upon me that she is available to discuss any matter concerning support for the Dunedin refugee community and she can be contacted on 027 272 0036. An indication of the support for Dr Mai is the fact that \$1000 was raised from the meal, admission and donations, and this money will go to Dr Mai to support her work in Dunedin.

Photo:

(from left) Rinad, Malak, Dr Mai and Naser.

KHR





What a couple of weeks we have had since the

horrendous events in Christchurch that have sent shock waves through all people not only here in New Zealand but throughout the world. Against this background I have tried to settle my thoughts and emotions wondering what words, stories to share in this connections article. What I have distilled at this moment in time is an awareness that something of the “infinite” has broken into the “finite” in some very powerful ways that cannot have been pre-planned or logically expected. How do you measure the outpouring of goodwill and love that has been shown from the corridors of Parliament to the next door neighbour laying flowers of beauty in the street? How do you count the tears and words of sympathy from unlikely people? How do you account for the influence of sensitive photos that have gone global? I can only say for me something bigger than a tragedy in Christchurch has been released in our world. The “Infinite” breaking into our ordinary finite lives is one way I would have to describe all the many ripples of goodness on the pond of New Zealand and the world that we live in. With this thought in my mind I was reminded of a book I have read and appreciated called, “The Presence of the Infinite: The Spiritual Experience of Beauty, Truth and Goodness.” By Steve McIntosh. Let me quote from his very first paragraph, “This book is about spiritual experience, which can be understood as an encounter with the presence of the ‘Infinite within our finite’ universe of time and space. While the human experience of spirit takes many forms and can be conceived of in a wide variety of ways, I have found that the idea of spirit as the presence of the Infinite sheds a considerable amount of light on this complex subject. Gaining a deeper understanding of spiritual experience is

important because as we better appreciate what spiritual experience is and how it works, this enhances our ability to have such experiences more abundantly and to use them more effectively for our personal growth and for our service of caring for others.”

If all that comes from the Christchurch event is more hatred and bitterness then I for one would be doubly saddened. But if we appreciate a bigger and better spirit, a sense of the “Infinite” at work in our world of events then our hearts and minds will heal and a new found strength will emerge that can embrace more than we could before this event took place.

*Rod Mitchell*