



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	974 6172
	Mobile	022 350 2263
	Rev. Dr. Rod Mitchell	453 3310
Parish Stewards:	Mrs Jan Stewart	473 9141
	John Hardy	472 7377
	Ross Merrett	489 7663
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

22nd September 2019

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 29th September 2019

10.00 am	Mornington	Combined Service
	Mosgiel	Combined Service at Mornington
	Glenaven	Combined Service at Mornington
1.00 pm	St Kilda	TBA

DATES TO REMEMBER

25 th September	2.00 pm	Mornington MWF, Church Lounge
29 th September	6.30	Mornington Combined churches meet
11 Nov – 14 Dec		Pre-Christmas Summer School

DAVID'S LONG SERVICE LEAVE

David Poultney is on long service leave and will be back at work on 25th October. In his absence the Rev Dr Rod Mitchell is available for funerals and to deal with any pressing pastoral situation specifically requiring the input of a presbyter.

MORNINGTON METHODIST WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Wednesday 25th September at 2pm in the Church Lounge.

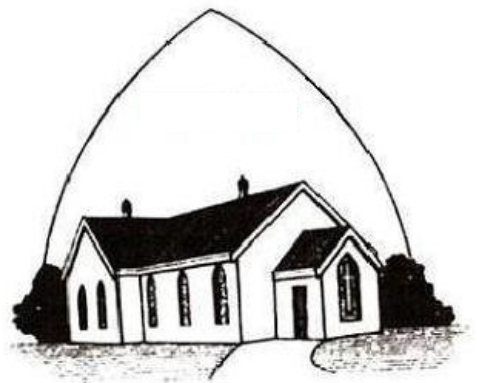
Kristen Weston is our guest speaker and will tell us of her experiences at the 63rd session for the Commission for Status of Women at the United Nations in March 2019. The CSW 63 is the largest group of women world wide given a voice at an International Conference. Nine thousand women attended this year.

All men and women are welcome to join us for this interesting session with Kristen followed by afternoon tea and discussion. Please remember the Fellowship of the least coin collection.

PLEASE REMEMBER the 5th Sunday combined churches of Mornington will meet at the Catholic Church at 6:30 on the 29th Sept.

MOSGIEL SUNDAY SERVICE - 6 OCTOBER

Fay and Rachael are taking this service and are trying something new. We will be holding the service in the Hall Lounge (rather than the church), still starting at 10am. Come along and experience a different style of church service.



**PRE-CHRISTMAS SUMMER SCHOOL PAPER:
Theology and the Environment (CHTH224/324).**

In light of climate change, ocean acidification, and our over-use of plastics, to name a few ecological issues, this timely course investigates what Christian theology has to say about care for the environment. The course invites students to look at how theology can speak to these pressing issues. The will taught by Dr. Andrew Shepherd.

Find out more here:

<https://www.otago.ac.nz/summerschool/study/otago714604.html>

Each Course costs \$20. Please register online

at www.otago.ac.nz/continuingeducation

**STORY FROM THE MISSION
CORRECTIONS**

Literacy & Numeracy



There is a fun friendly atmosphere within the programmes. The key philosophy is to create a respectful, supportive classroom. Class numbers are beginning to grow and there is a co-operative atmosphere where the men are supporting each other's learning. Libby and I have begun to team teach and support each other within each other's class if we find ourselves with free time. This increases classroom dynamics and support for the learners. Daily brain teasers are fun ways to challenge thinking and problem solving skills and often challenge men with a game of up-words to complete the session.

Pre-release – the men are working through units and keen to have an updated CV to present to prospective employers. A student who has completed the associated unit standards has asked for an extension to create a business plan for a cleaning business he plans to start.

ILN - One of the learners sharing his ultimate goal - to be able to read stories to his infant daughter when he is released.

MILTON LITTLE CITIZENS

The tamariki at Milton Little Citizens have been very busy during July with lots of learning and development happening. They have been enjoying the outdoors even though the weather is a little chilly and setting their own challenges within the environment; developing their physical skills, sense of balance, hand eye coordination confidence. There has been lots of exploration of senses, with various messy play activities. Wonderful tuakana teina relationships continue to evolve with older children supporting the younger children throughout the day. The natural world or bugs, insects, animals and dinosaurs continues to be of great interest. Through an interest in 'where things come from', we have been looking at where wool comes from and the children have explored felting wool rovings. We are planning to build a worm farm and Janine (our client support worker) shared this with the people from the Bruce Project. They have very kindly offered their support to help construct this when we have all the material together. The local Rotary group have come to us offering support with grants and man power for projects at the centre, giving us an application form which we will be putting to good use.

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



Thanks to the amazingly extensive library of Rod Mitchell, I've recently been introduced to the poetry of Mary Oliver. No, she's not a New Zealand writer, she's an American woman who grew up in Ohio and became one of the most successful poets of that country (yes, it has produced more than the disastrous Trump and his followers). Born in 1935, she eventually won the coveted Pulitzer Prize for Literature. In 2007 the New York Times praised her as 'this country's best-selling poet.'

As a child, she spent a great deal of time alone outside, where she enjoyed going on walks or reading, and this experience of nature was to stay with her all her life. She said, 'I don't know why I felt such an affinity with the natural world except that it was available to me, that's the first thing. It was right there. And for whatever reasons, I felt those first important connections, those first experiences being made with the natural world rather than with the social world.' However, her childhood was not simply idyllic. Near the end of her life she revealed that she had been sexually abused as a child and had experienced recurring nightmares.

She failed to gain a degree at either Ohio State University or Vassar College, but at 17 she had a lucky break and became secretary to the sister of one of America's other great female poets, Edna St Vincent Millay, whose papers the pair worked on for seven years. Settling in Provincetown, Massachusetts, she went on to teach writing at a number of colleges for women, and steadily published volumes of her own poetry. In the 1950s she met photographer Molly Cook, and the pair enjoyed a happy and fruitful relationship until Cook's death in 2005.

In Provincetown the couple found ‘a marvellous convergence of land and water, Mediterranean light, fishermen plying their dangerous trade in frighteningly small boats and many artists and writers as residents or visitors.’ There her creativity was freshly stirred by nature, and she became an avid walker, often pursuing inspiration on foot, carrying small notebooks to catch a phrase or a thought. Her poems are filled with imagery from her daily walks near her home: shore birds, water snakes, flowers and trees, the phases of the moon—and humpback whales. She wrote, ‘I go off to my woods, my ponds, my sun-filled harbour, no more than a blue comma on the map of the world but, to me, the emblem of everything.’ I wonder how many of us find in their own small natural world similar inspiration and deep delight.

Mary Oliver talks quietly to her universe, in a plain and direct way that makes it sound like our world. Which is perhaps why my attention was caught by her poem on Worry. You know, the kind of thing all of us do all the time, whether we’re worrying if the church has a future, if there is a God, if Donald Trump will destroy the harmony of nations, whether our children will get jobs or whether we will have enough to live on tomorrow.

Here is what she set down (she died at the beginning of this year, at the age of 83).

I WORRIED

I worried a lot. Will the garden grow, will the rivers
Run in the right direction, will the earth turn
As it was taught, and if not, how shall I correct it?

Was I right, was I wrong, will I be forgiven,
Can I do better?

Will I ever be able to sing? Even the sparrows
Can do it and I am, well, hopeless.

Is my eyesight fading or am I just imagining it,
Am I going to get rheumatism, lockjaw, dementia?

Finally I saw that worrying had come to nothing.
I gave it up. And took my old body
And went out into the morning,
And sang.

Can we bravely say with her, 'I will take my old body out into the morning
and sing?'

Colin Gibson