

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

24th January 2021

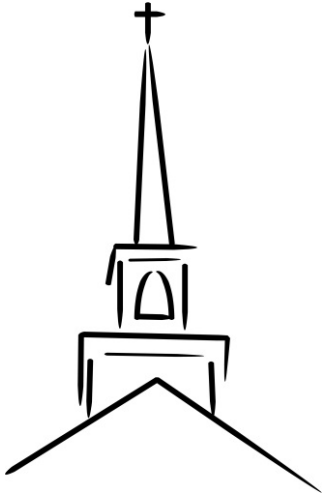
WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 31st January 2021

	Mornington	C/S @ Glenaven
	Mosgiel	C/S @ Glenaven
10.00am	Glenaven	H Watson-White
	St Kilda	TBA

DATES TO REMEMBER

Sun 31st January 2021 – 10.00am – Joint Service at Glenaven Church
 Sun 31st January 2021 – 2.30pm - Musical Offering @ Knox Church
 Wed 3rd February 2021 - 6.30-8.30pm – Harmony Dinner
 Sun 14 February 2021 @ 10.00am – Joint Service at Mornington Church

LEAVE - David will be on leave from Monday 25th January for a week.



COMBINED PARISH SERVICE 10am Sunday 31 January at Glenaven Methodist Church, 7 Chambers St North East Valley.

Please bring a plate of easy finger-food for a shared morning-tea afterwards. Put your covered dish or box on the round tables in the lounge, and after the service please don't expect to go into the kitchen unless you're serving, as it is too small to move around! We're asking for volunteers to pour tea, juice and coffee at 3 different tables, so that we don't have just one big line. Also asking everyone please to move away once you have your morning-tea, so that others can be served and not have to wait too long.


All ages are very welcome to our 115-year-old church, but there is limited parking right in front of the building; so if you are able, it might be best to park in North Road. Our street is the one with the dairy on the corner. We look forward to seeing you - Helen Watson White (preacher on that day) and John Watson (pianist). Inquiries to our phone 467 2936 (pm).

NB Because of this whole parish event, there will be no service at Mosgiel or Mornington on 31 Jan.

MORNINGTON CHURCH LEADERS' MEETING - Tuesday 2nd February at 7.30 p.m.

JOINT SERVICE - On Sunday 14th February there will be a joint service at 10.00am at Mornington. The President of MCNZ – THE Rev Andrew Doubleday – will be with us to lead worship and to induct Rachael Masterton and David Poultney as co – superintendents of Otago Southland

REQUEST - At Mornington we have the camera and computer with a special programme for live streaming of services which could be a great asset for situations like the Covid lockdown. We need people with the appropriate skills to operate the programme. If you can help please contact either Rod Mitchell 453 3310 or Marjorie Spittle 4811418.



A Musical Offering
In aid of the Dunedin Night Shelter

Sydney Manowitz (violin)
Fiona Pickering (flute)
Donald Cullington (piano)

JS Bach's 'Musical Offering' Trio Sonata
And pieces by Rameau, Couperin,
Chopin, Debussy, Prokofiev & Reinecke

2.30 pm, Sunday 31st January 2021
Knox Church, 449 George St, Dunedin
Entry by Koha – cash only

A MUSICAL OFFERING

Join us for **an afternoon of beautiful music** to raise money for the Dunedin Night Shelter. **Knox Church, 2:30pm, Sunday 31st January.**

We are very grateful for the generosity of **Sydney Manowitz, Fiona Pickering and Donald Cullington** for sharing their talents and their time in organising a musical offering! See the attached poster. **Entry is koha only**, with all proceeds going to the Dunedin Night Shelter.



STORIES FROM THE MISSION

Corrections *Intensive Literacy and Numeracy*

One of the ILN learners has been producing some wonderful poetry and prose both for his unit standards and for pleasure. Very rewarding. He even hopes to have some of his work published.

Ōtepoti YTH

Sonia, one of the YTH Supervisors had learnt Mandala Rock Dot painting as part of a wellbeing course she was on. The person who taught the course identified that this type of tribal art helped relieve stress and anxiety and provide focus. Sonia brought the idea to the YTH and two of the rakitahi were keen to participate and found the process peaceful and calming for them.



LUCKY or PROVIDENTIAL or?

Lately the John Clarke, a.k.a “Fred Dagg” song, “We don’t Know How Lucky We Are” from last century, has been jangling around in my head. And I wonder why? Who are the **‘WE’**? What have **‘WE’** to be lucky for, or about?

What has luck to do with who we are, or where we are, or what we do, what we believe?

What is luck, at any rate? I was lucky for a win in the lottery! I was lucky I missed the bus this morning as it was involved in an accident! You were

lucky you didn't go overseas when you first thought of going! She was lucky to get through the exam, she hasn't done much swot! He was lucky to be let off with a just a warning for speeding.

What about using another word in place of luck or lucky – fortunate, happy, godsend, karma, fate, providential? Those last two – fate implies that all things which happen were meant to happen, they could not have happened another way. Providential in Christian thinking is that all the affairs and events of human life is one of God's accomplishing, Godself's purpose, God directs all the affairs of human life.

Now in all our Christian thinking we are using the only language we have to think in, inadequate as it is - the language of humans. We try to think Godly thoughts, or perhaps how God is '*thinking*', during discussion, prayer, perhaps when writing Connections. We have our textbooks, the Bible, commentaries, reflections from others, and we have the thoughts of our preachers, and fellow Christians, this is how we learn and to think more widely.

But when we read and hear the stories from the Hebrew Bible – the “Old Testament”, where God is central to all that happens, and of course God is central, and we must remember it has been written or told by humans, by people, God's people. The same applies to the New Testament. In Biblical times, we read, that much was attributed to God's benevolence, or, to God's fury. Not so much in today's world, yet what we have seen and read of some happenings connected to the U.S. of A's Presidential elections has us baffled and wondering if God is present anymore? Or if only a select few have the knowledge?

Is God guiding the rampages where people attack and terrorise their fellow beings, or storm the places of Governance, trash shop fronts, set fire to public buildings? Is God telling people to shout obscene language at public figures, threaten to kill, is God taking sides in these atrocious happenings?

And elsewhere in the world – “God’s World” – who controls the earthquakes, the volcanic eruptions, the floods, the tidal waves? Is it our bad luck, fate, that we or someone close to us is involved? And, of course what about Corvid 19?

We can, of course, attribute much of the calamities, disturbances, atrocities, even so-called accidents, to our fellow human beings. And when someone goes mad and shoots or attacks another there are circumstances in that person’s life or in the nation’s culture that can take the rap.

We are all responsible – we were created responsible even if we may have been conceived by *mistake*. God, whom we believe, God, who created, continues to create, continues to inspire us to create and care for this creation – not to destroy – to care for those who have difficulty caring for themselves, to champion justice and mercy, to keep a good house – a clean earth, and have hope for the future. We each have been created with the freedom to choose our direction. It is through faith in our God in whom we all must work out our own life’s salvation, perhaps with some fear and trembling, but in hope.

Here is a story – a wise story. There was a young person who felt they must challenge the wisest person available that they knew of. So that young, smart person went to the one thought of to be clever and knowledgeable and said, “Wise one, I am holding a bird in my hand. Is it alive or dead?” The ‘wise one’ immediately saw that if they replied dead, the young person would immediately open their hand and the bird would fly away. If the ‘wise one’ replied that the bird was alive, the young person could crush it and it would be dead. So the ‘wise one’ replied, “Young one, the answer is in your hand.”

Gordon Abernethy



PLEASE JOIN US IN CELEBRATING THE GRADUATION OF

Tekitehi Heikoso



GRADUATION FROM
THE
UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO

Law Degree (BA LLB)

SATURDAY, THE 13th OF FEBRUARY 2021
ONE O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON

AT THE MORNINGTON PRESBYTARIAN CHURCH
HALL
16 MARYHILL TERRACE, MARYHILL,
DUNEDIN 9011

RSVP to Kanalapa at 02108081480





WORLD INTERFAITH HARMONY WEEK

The Official UN Observance in the 1st Week of February | Love of God & Love of the Neighbour

Celebration of Harmony Dinner 2021



Wednesday, 3 February, 6.30 pm - 8.30 pm

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Fenton Crescent, St Clair, Dunedin

Vegetarian Potluck: Bring a vegetarian meal or desert to share

Whanau-friendly: face-painting and other activities will be provided

Featuring: readings, stories, entertainment and more

Everyone is Welcome!

Organised by the Dunedin Interfaith Council. Any enquiries phone Ruth on 455 1777