

# 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**

|                               |                     |  |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|--|
| <b>Presbyters</b>             | Rev David Poultney  | 974 6172   |
|                               | Mobile phone        | 022 350 2263   |
|                               | Office phone        | 466 3023   |
|                               | Office email        | <a href="mailto:parish@mmsouth.org.nz">parish@mmsouth.org.nz</a>       |
|                               | Rev Dr Rod Mitchell | 027 647 7003   |
|                               |                     | <a href="mailto:roddieg@xtra.co.nz">roddieg@xtra.co.nz</a>             |
| <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 Prayer Convenor</b> | Elaine Merrett      | 489 7663   |
|                               |                     | <a href="mailto:elaineross@xtra.co.nz">elaineross@xtra.co.nz</a>       |
| <b>Pastoral Convenor</b>      | Beryl Neutze        | 477 7377   |
| <b>Mornington</b>             |                     |  |
| <b>Parish Office</b>          |                     | 466 4600   |
|                               |                     | <a href="mailto:bulletins@mmsouth.org.nz">bulletins@mmsouth.org.nz</a> |

## PARISH BULLETIN

7<sup>th</sup> February 2021

### WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 14<sup>th</sup> February 2021

|         |            |                     |
|---------|------------|---------------------|
| 10.00am | Mornington | The President       |
|         | Mosgiel    | Combined Mornington |
|         | Glenaven   | Combined Mornington |
|         | St Kilda   | TBA                 |

### DATES TO REMEMBER

|                                     |                                       |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Wed 10 <sup>th</sup> Feb – 7.30 pm  | Parish Council meeting                |
| Sun 14 <sup>th</sup> Feb – 10.00 am | Combined Service at Mornington Church |
| Sun 14 <sup>th</sup> Feb – 2.00 pm  | Dunedin Interfaith Council meeting    |
| 26-28 <sup>th</sup> Feb             | Otago Southland Synod                 |

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** to be held in the Mosgiel Methodist Church on **Wednesday 10 February 2021** at 7;30pm. If you have any items of business you wish the Council to deal with please send them to the secretary Fay Richardson at [malk.com@hotmail.com](mailto:malk.com@hotmail.com)

**JOINT SERVICE** - On Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> 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

**A WARM INVITATION TO ATTEND THE DUNEDIN INTERFAITH COUNCIL FEBRUARY MEETING** - Each month on the second Sunday afternoon the Dunedin Interfaith Council meets in a different place. The February meeting will be held in our Mornington Methodist Church from 2pm-4pm on Sunday 14th February. Our topic will be "Love" (Very appropriate for Valentine's Day !) We will be sharing reflections on love from many different religious perspectives. We will also reflect on our recent successful Interfaith Harmony dinner, and plan future events. Everyone is welcome. Our Methodist President Rev Andrew Doubleday plans to attend this meeting. Please bring a contribution towards afternoon tea.

Further information: Greg Hughson 027 212 1048

### **VIDEO RECORDING OF ANNUAL INTERFAITH PEACE CONVERSATION**

Our September 30th 2020 Annual Abrahamic Interfaith Group and Otago Tertiary Chaplaincy Peace conversation with the Rt Hon Helen Clark can now be viewed via :

<http://dunedininterfaith.net.nz/peaceLecture20.php>

Please share this link widely with friends, family and colleagues.

**OTAGO SOUTHLAND SYNOD** meeting and School of Theology is happening 26-28 February at Camp Columba, Pukerau, (near Gore). Starts around 3pm Friday and finishes with an early lunch on Sunday.

Heavily subsidised by the Synod, there is a cost of \$20 per person for the weekend or \$10 per person if coming for Saturday only. If you are interested in coming please contact Rachael Masterton on

[rmasterton@actrix.co.nz](mailto:rmasterton@actrix.co.nz)

If staying the weekend you will need to bring your own bedding/pillow/towels etc. Dorm style beds.

### **MORNINGTON METHODIST LEADERS' MEETING:**

Report from the meeting on 2nd February

- Two heat pumps have been installed in the church which should lead to cosier winters.
- We will contact the PFR committee expressing our wish to have the hall upgraded to meet seismic requirements.
- We could do with more people to write for Connections, even as a one off contribution. If you would like to contribute let David Poultney know.

**TRANSPORT** - If you need transport to a church event, do not hesitate to use a taxi. You can be reimbursed by contacting the Treasurer, Mary Thompson.

**PARISH REGISTER** - If you have a change in your contact details please let Marjorie Spittle know so that the Register can be kept up to date.

### **COVID 19**

At Parish Council this week I will raise the issue of Covid 19, I feel this remains an important issue we must engage with.

We have been at Level One for some time, and Level One means being prepared for the virus to surface in the community; it is not the same as saying there is no risk. It is too much relief that we see the rolling out of vaccines around the world yet we also see new more contagious mutations of the virus and a rates of infection spiking around the world.

We have even seen three cases of the South African variant here in New Zealand.

We must acknowledge the likelihood of further post quarantine infections, however much quarantine is tightened up. With this there is the likelihood of going up a level or even of a regional lockdown; at least.

At the same time, though the risks are currently minimal, there are people in the parish who have struggled to return to Sunday Worship and other parish activities since lockdown. To reduce any possible risk, however low, I encourage all of us to use the track and tracing app or fill in your contact details. Both in Church and in any service provider or shop you visit.

In Church I have, since we resumed services after lockdown, put all hymn lyrics in your order of service, to reduce handling. Also I have suspended the sign of the peace at the Eucharist for the time being and I do not ask you to join hands for the Grace. Nor am I the hand holding police though! If we have to go to Level Two new measures will be introduced. At Levels Three and Four services would be suspended.

**WHEN (OR IF) THE HISTORY** of Mornington Methodist Church and its people is written there must surely be a paragraph or two for mention of BEV SUTHERLAND. It will not be to detail the nature of her own particular disabilities, but of how she rose above them to be the vital, contributing, fun-loving person we know her to be. This is not the place to go into greater detail than that, but it's of more than passing interest for Bev's friends in the congregation to note that Colin Gibson with his typical mix of humour and musical dexterity has written a Christmas ballad inspired by the relationship between Bev and her beloved dog Jess. Members of the choir have taken great pleasure in singing Colin's creation and to mark the occasion, they invited Bev and Jess to come and listen to it. And as it happened, Andrea Mosley was there to snap a photo. Here it is, and some of the choice words from the Gibson ballad

It's horses and camels that get all the praise  
 For carrying kings on their way,  
 And a mother who rode up to town near her time  
 On a donkey, remembered today.  
 We're left under the table to fight for the scraps  
 That the wealthy, the over-fed, fling,  
 So it's time for the humans to grant us our due,  
 And put us in the carols they sing.

*It's dogs who are clever,  
 It's dogs who are smart,  
 It's dogs who are faithful  
 And loyal of heart.  
 Merry Christmas to Fido's,  
 Wherever they be,  
 With a big juicy bone  
 At the foot of their tree.*



**WHEN IS TOO MUCH** light creating an environment so we are unable to see?

On our recent trip to Lake Pukaki we were welcomed into our lodge accommodations with the instructions to pull our blinds when we turn on our lights. The following explanation for these actions were so our fellow guests in the lodge could enjoy the night sky without the pollution of our light. We were living in a dark sky zone which meant people tried to minimize the human constructed light.

So the more we light up our cities the less capacity we have for enjoying the spectacular natural environment of the starry skies. During our stay on holiday we were fortunate to see the starry skies and be able to see the human space station fly overhead. As we lay there looking up we were able to imagine what people in the space station were able to see here on earth.

As we were told more about space and the objects it contained like stars and black holes, we were also told that humans were increasingly using space as a scrapyard. One author has written that spaceflight is among humanity's crowning achievements, yet it seems that humankind takes their unenviable traits along for the ride wherever they go – including littering. Junk has accumulated from dead satellites, spent rocket stages, collisions between spacecraft, waste disposal (Russian cosmonauts of the Mir space station released over a hundred bags of rubbish into near-Earth orbit) and mishaps – for instance, Gemini 4 astronaut Edward White lost a glove during the first American space walk in 1965. It orbited Earth for a month, travelling at 28,000 km/h and becoming probably the most dangerous item of clothing ever.

So with this amount of rubbish being dumped in space I might be glad for the bright lights of our city so we are unable to see the spoiling of our natural environment. Yet this is simply closing my eyes to the much bigger problem facing humanity. How do we recycle our waste constructively?

Ponder the thought that stars that get destroyed have figured out a recycling program, they turn into star dust that turns into human life. Do you think we can learn from our distant relatives or are we going to continue to blindly pollute our world turning life back into dust?

Rod Mitchell.

## Conversations about Faith Reaching your world one conversation at a time.

Ever wanted to help someone discover Jesus, but not been confident about where to start?

This FREE workshop will help you have conversations about Jesus in natural, respectful ways.

Led by Dave Mann from  
The Hope Project, NZ.

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2021  
1-3pm

Oak Lounge, East Taieri Church  
12a Cemetery Road, Mosgiel

Please RSVP to East Taieri Church Office  
489 6308 or [office@etchurch.co.nz](mailto:office@etchurch.co.nz)



PLEASE JOIN US IN CELEBRATING THE GRADUATION OF

*Tekitehi Heikoso*



GRADUATION FROM  
THE  
UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO

*Law Degree (BA LLB)*

SATURDAY, THE 13<sup>th</sup> 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