



Dunedin Methodist Parish

Finding Good in everyone Finding God in everyone

www.dunedinmethodist.org.nz

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PARISH BULLETIN

16th October 2011

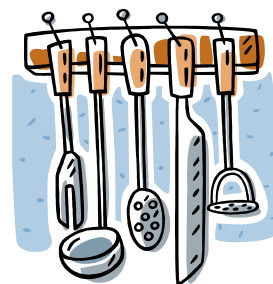
WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 23rd OCTOBER 2011

9.30am	Mornington	D Phillipps
9.30 am	Mosgiel	E Merrett
11.00 am	Glenaven	D Phillipps
11.00 am	Wesley	E Merrett
1.00pm	St Kilda	TBA
4.00pm	Broad Bay	No Service

THE KRAZY KITCHEN UTENSILS MEAL AND CONCERTINO

The much-used Mornington Methodist kitchen needs a variety of kitchen utensils, so we're offering a Judy Russell three-course meal with entertainment, on Wednesday, 19 October, starting at 6pm, to raise the necessary dosh. Cost \$15 single, \$25 for a family. Ring Judy (455 3727) or sign in

at Mornington. We need tongs, large and slotted serving spoons, an ice-cream scoop, jugs and basins, a fish slice, an egg beater (whisk), wooden spoons, a large saucepan and sharp kitchen knives. Any offers of new equipment welcome.



MOSGIEL MID-WEEK SERVICE Wednesday 19th October 2pm. All welcome.

MORNINGTON TOY AND GAMES LIBRARY ANNUAL TRUFFLES FUNDRAISER

Christmas is looming and it is time to start thinking about stocking your freezer and shelves for those unexpected guests and the many end-of-year "bring-a-plate" events. These yummy truffles are \$5.00 a dozen, and the funds go to supporting the Mornington Toy and Games Library. If you are interested in placing an order, please see Rebecca Neaves after church - orders will be delivered on Sunday, October 30th. Thanks to everyone for their ongoing support over the years.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR WORLD PEACE 16th-23rd October 2011

You are warmly invited to attend two events. Our annual Interfaith on-campus Peace Gathering will be held at the University, on **Tuesday October 18 at 12 noon-1pm** in the GAZEBO Lounge, upstairs in the University Union Building. Rev Greg Hughson will facilitate this gathering which will include prayers for peace and courage for students sitting exams.

Our public evening programme will take place on **Wednesday 19 October, 7.30pm** finishing with a shared supper before 9pm. (A plate is always appreciated). Rev. Helene Mann will facilitate the service. The Baha'i family have invited us to hold our service in their new centre at 196 Shetland Street, Wakari. Parking on Shetland Street.

Everyone is very welcome at both events.



CONGRATULATIONS

To Marion & David Kitchingman, who have been celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary this weekend. What an achievement, and what a contribution they make our Church and Parish. Family and friends from afar have been celebrating with them, and yesterday a Party was held at the home of Ginny, Richard, Fiona, David and Celia. A number of their special friends are expected at Mornington this morning, and we extend a warm welcome to them.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Caitlyn Elkins who celebrates a Birthday on 16th October.

ANNUAL MEETINGS make special demands on Chairpersons and Secretaries. George Davis and Joan Watkins doing their stuff at the Mornington AGM two Sunday's ago.



Here we are, well into October – normally the last ordinary month before plunging into end of year activities. But this October has not been normal. Little NZ has been hosting an international tournament for weeks, and at the time of writing I don't know if the final national mood will be jubilation or mourning, but regardless there have been high moments of celebration along the way. Celebrations are important mood lifters be they cultural or personal. I'm still on a high from my fabulous 70th birthday party - positively bobbing buoyed by masses of cards, greetings and blessings from family and friends.

A good gift from traditional Christianity is its regular festivals. My dictionary explains that *festival* can be *religious* or *secular* and its origin comes from *feast*. The Catholic saints all have their *feast days*. Many words synonymous with *festivity* have religious origins. *Jubilation* from *Jubal* the character of Genesis 4, said to be the ancestor of those who play musical instruments. *Mardi Gras* (Fr. *fat Tuesday*) and *Carnival* (Lt. *farewell to flesh*) originally marked the last day before the reflective fasting season of Lent. Secular use has altered the intention, the words now

relating far more to excess than holiness. But, perhaps Christians get too serious in religious practice?

The sacrament of *Holy Communion* is, in religious language, is *celebrated*. Parishioners seldom partake of same in celebratory mood. But I do recall once at Glenaven an open (to oldies) youth evening where participants sat on the floor of the lounge and had a Communion ritual based on sharing hot chips and tomato sauce, with some fish thrown in for good measure. I'm not advocating this become the universal way. My point is *celebrations are times of connection*, and more meaningful if the *celebrants* give some thought to what they are *celebrating*. If in taking Communion we are locked into revering a God who demanded the sacrifice of his son we are not likely to feel joyful. But if we are celebrating the life on an amazing man who gave teaching that is meaningful to us today, we may be more open to joy.

Enjoying fireworks with family and friends is enjoyable but is it ethical to celebrate an act of sectarian violence in England as a family festival in NZ? Wouldn't a festival that looks skywards in winter have more merit for us? If you agree take action - sound out aspiring MPs on replacing the sale of *Guy Fawkes* fireworks in Oct/Nov to *Matariki* fireworks in May/June. Then next year we could look at dressing up to joyfully hallow our ancestors rather than dressing up to demand treats!

Rosalie Sugrue