



# Dunedin Methodist Parish

*Finding Good in everyone Finding God in everyone*

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

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<b>Tongan Steward:</b>	Mr Palanite Taungapeau	456 3144
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## PARISH BULLETIN

**19 February 2012**

### WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 26 February 2012

9.30am	Mornington	C.Gibson
9.30 am	Mosgiel	G.Watson
11.00 am	Glenaven	C.Gibson
11.00 am	Wesley	G.Watson
1.00pm	St Kilda	TBA
6.00pm	Broad Bay	

### MORNINGTON WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Our first Meeting of the year will take place on the 22nd February in the Church Lounge & Sunday School. This will be held at 12 noon with a luncheon - so please bring along a tasty dish to share. The speaker will be Prof. Colin Gibson - the subject being "Music & Food". See you there. All welcome.

### Student looking for a room

A Tongan student attending Otago University this year is looking for a room to stay as a boarder. If anyone in Dunedin has a room for student to stay during academic year, please can you contact Siosifa at 455 2923.

### Explorers Group

Has its first meeting for 2012 on Sunday 26th, at 4-30 in the Mornington Church Lounge.

We will be talking about the possible focus of our discussions during the year. New members are most welcome to attend.

## **OPEN EDUCATION: YOUTH AT RISK**

The first of the Parish Open Education programmes offered this year at Mornington Methodist Church, Galloway Street, will deal with the disturbing problem of young people who physically harm themselves and in some cases commit suicide. Much more of this happens in our own community than is ever reported in newspapers or on television. We will bring some expert presenters who can offer information and suggest ways in which we might help to reduce the incidence of this troubling feature of modern youth culture. The session will be held at 7.30pm on Wednesday, March 21, in the church. The charge is \$5, which covers supper as well. As usual we offer a splendid pre-session meal catered by Judy Russell, commencing at 6pm, for a charge of \$15. Book a place by ringing Judy at 455 3727 or signing up (at Mornington only).

**ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL** is holding a Celtic-style Eucharist this Friday 24 February at 12.10 in the Crypt -- in memory of Revd Helene Mann, who died in December. (This is the same place and time, on the fourth Friday of the month, as she offered this unique communion service while she was alive.)

## **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER**

This year Mornington Methodist Church is hosting the Mornington Interchurch World Day of Prayer service. Members from Mornington Presbyterian, Anglican and Roman Catholic Churches will also be contributing to the service. The service will begin at **7.30 pm on Friday 2 March** at Mornington Methodist Church, Galloway St, with supper to follow. The Order of Service has been written by women from Malaysia with the theme 'Let Justice Prevail' and we hope to have some Malaysian students attending. Offerings will be given to projects in the Philippines, Sri Lanka and New Zealand. Everyone is welcome.

## **HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

Fiona Cannon who will be 13 years old on the 20<sup>th</sup>  
 Jenna Boyles who will 12 years old on the 20<sup>th</sup>  
 Solomon Pole who turned 20 on the 16<sup>th</sup>



## **Highlights from the Parish Council Meeting 15 February 2012**

- Laura Black from the Methodist Mission encouraged Parishoners to write submissions on the Government's Green Paper for Vulnerable Children. For further information go to:  
[www.childrensactionplan.govt.nz](http://www.childrensactionplan.govt.nz)

- As a result of the earthquakes in Christchurch the Parish will face severe financial challenges to meet increased insurance premiums and possible building-strengthening requirements.
- Books recommended at the *Healthy Church, Missional Church* workshop have been purchased and copies are available at Mornington and Mosgiel Churches.
- The Otago-Southland Synod will be held in Queenstown 17-18 March, to be followed by the School of Theology, all interested Parishoners are encouraged to attend. Contact Rachael Masterton for further details.



*And now it is nearly time for the news;  
We must listen to the weather report  
And the international catastrophies*  
-- T.S.Eliot (Chorus, end Scene I, *The Family Reunion*)

This summer, with its strange mixture of "good" and "bad" weather -- everything from droughts to floods -- I've been realizing how many kinds of stress some people are under in the so-called holidays. Eliot's "international catastrophes" don't of course let up, and the news of child-abuse doesn't stop either, once the courts resume. After the first Canterbury earthquake, we learned of a spike in domestic violence. Thousands more aftershocks -- including the December one, right in the middle of the Christmas rush -- have heaped stress upon stress for people, not just in their homes, schools and city facilities, but in their psyches.

I wrote a meditation about this for the 22 Jan service.

*Hope: A summer meditation*

They long for rain --  
the farmers who sowed and planted,  
the animals cropping short, frizzled grass,  
the fields, the rural streams  
all wait for rain

as those who've lived through earthquakes  
long for the peace they knew before,  
wait -- not always patiently --

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for an end to the shaking  
the calm of a quiet night  
the warmth of healing  
after pain

But it doesn't always come --  
there are not always many more  
to follow the first few tentative drops  
of rain on the roof  
on the path

And the peace we long for --  
an end to the violence  
the beginning of respite, of care:  
they remain in the air  
suspended like water in clouds  
in passing clouds

Perhaps it will rain tomorrow --  
It will certainly rain, perhaps  
sooner not later  
The children of summer, the  
holiday children will laugh it off,  
splashing in puddles, making  
water-works in sand  
They will, we hope, go home to a  
decent meal, a cuddle at bed-time  
-- or any time -- and news that a letter  
has come, offering someone a job  
to start in the New Year

Perhaps one day there'll be different things  
on the television news, and the family won't  
make their own soundtrack of argument  
to images of war -- bodies lying in blood --  
Perhaps peace will fall like rain  
on home front and far battlefield  
Next year  
Next year in Jerusalem  
-- Helen Watson Whit