



Dunedin Methodist Parish

Finding Good in everyone Finding God in everyone

www.dunedinmethodist.org.nz

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PARISH BULLETIN

1st SEPTEMBER 2013

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 8th SEPTEMBER

9.30am	Mornington	Y@M
9.30 am	Mosgiel	S Pole
11.00 am	Glenaven	Y@M
11.00 am	Wesley	S Pole
1.00pm	St Kilda	TBA
4.00pm	Broad Bay	No Service

MEDITATION WITH FATHER DONAGH O'SHEA

Fr Donagh O'Shea OP, an Irish Dominican retreat director and teacher of prayer and meditation, will be in Dunedin from 18-23 September.

Each morning from Wednesday to Saturday 18-21 September, Donagh will celebrate **MASS** (and give a talk about **PRAYER AND MEDITATION** after mass) at **HOLY NAME** church at 8.30 am. From Wednesday to Friday also at Holy Name, Donagh will give talks on **MEDITATION AND PRAYER** after each Mass; and in the evening at 5.15 pm, on these same days, there will be a talk and a time of meditation. (Together these events, morning and evening, may form a time of retreat)

Day of Retreat.

Donagh will lead a day of retreat at St Patrick's Centre, 42 Macandrew Road, South Dunedin on Saturday 21 September from 10.00am to 4.00pm. Numbers will be limited so if you wish to attend please email your name to alafair@kinect.co.nz and ask for a form to fill in.

REVELATION – Y@M SERVICES SUNDAY 8 SEPTEMBER

Youth at Mornington (Y@M) will be leading the services at Mornington and Glenaven on Sunday 8 September.

Be prepared to do something different – it will be a Revelation!

A HIGHLIGHT OF LAST SUNDAY’S YOUTH SUNDAY SERVICE AT MORNINGTON was two contributions from SEKONIA POLE and CHRISTINA WESTON.



As Deputy Head Boy and Captain of the 1st XV, Sekonia spoke of the privilege of holding both positions, and the recent celebration of the 150th anniversary of the School, where he had important roles to fill.

Christina also made a big impression with her infectious humour, speaking of recent events in her life and how they have deepened her conviction that she wants to make a difference for animals, especially those that are abused or mistreated.

Another welcome contribution was made by the St Kilda Childrens Choir - great singing, and sharing their joy with us all



OTAGO TERTIARY CHAPLAINCY TRUST BOARD 50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

You are warmly invited to attend the Otago Tertiary Chaplaincy 50th celebration dinner which will be held at Salmond College on Wednesday 27th November beginning at 6pm. The Chaplaincy Trust Board was established in 1963 and has worked to serve the University, the Polytechnic and the former College of Education throughout the last 50 years. For this reason the board is holding a special dinner featuring a variety of musical items and an after dinner speech by Colin Gibson who served on the Trust Board for many years. Tickets can be purchased from Carol Clarke. Please RSVP to Carol Clarke (contact details below) by October 15th, 2013. It would be wonderful to have you in attendance. Please forward this invitation on to others who may be interested in attending.

Ticket Secretary Contact details and ticket purchasing details

Tickets (\$65 each) can be obtained from Carol Clarke, Student Services Divisional Office, Clocktower, University of Otago, PO Box 56, Dunedin 9054. Ph 03 479 5752, email carol.clarke@otago.ac.nz. When you order your tickets please supply a residential address, by email, phone or post. Carol will post the ticket or tickets to you.

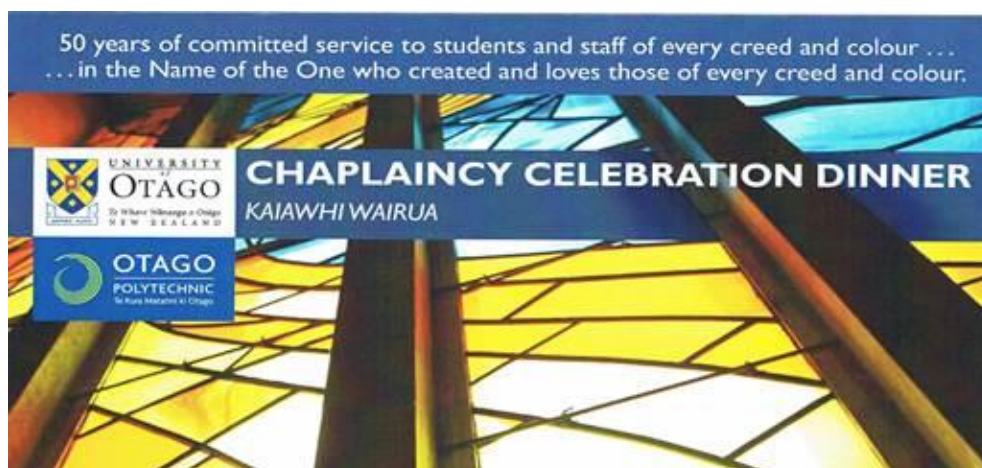
Payment options:

1. (preferable): electronically into the Otago Tertiary Chaplaincy Trust Board BNZ University of Otago bank account 02 0929 0132985 00 using the narration "50thDinner" to identify your payment.
2. Cheque made out to "Otago Tertiary Chaplaincy Board" to Carol Clarke.

Greg Hughson greg.hughson@otago.ac.nz

Mike Wright chaplain@op.ac.nz

www.otago.ac.nz/chaplain





HAPPY BIRTHDAY to;
Kakala Pole who turns 6 today

STORY FROM THE MISSION

From the Early Years Hub:

- There are now 3 registered Playgroups using the Hub.
Dunedin Korean Play Group: Pacific Playgroup: Salvation Army Playgroup
- Our new Toy Library will be up and running at the beginning of August.
- A new group of Mums has started a craft afternoon called “Crafternoon” where they plan to share crafting ideas. It will run the second and last Wednesdays in the month.



PACIFIC PERSPECTIVE EVENING

Recently I was invited to do the beginning prayer in an inter-school speech contest on ‘Pacific Perspective’ at Otago Girls High School on Thursday, the 15th of August 2013 at 6.30pm. This was an historical event because it was the first of its kind held in Dunedin. Because of the nature of the evening and the purpose of this event, I asked the organisers if I could say something important before I offered the beginning prayer. I told them when I was invited to come forward that I am not coming only to say a prayer and then go home. I want to

contribute to the significance of this event to the Pacific Community here in Dunedin.

So, here is an extract from a speech that I made before I continued on with a prayer. “Tena koutou, tena koutou, tena tatou katoa, Ta Lofa Lava, Bula Vinaka, Kia orana, Fakalofa Lahi atu, Taloha ni, Malo e lelei and warm Pacific greetings. It is indeed an honour and privilege to take part in this evening on this unique occasion for the Pacific students in Dunedin. My name is Siosifa Pole and I am from the Pacific. I was born in Tonga in the village of Fua’amotu, where Tonga International airport stands. When I grew up and did all my primary and high school education in Tonga, I was constantly told that Tonga is a dot in the world map. It is hard to recognise by those who have eye sight problem. Yes, we are a small island as other islands in the Pacific compared with the powerful nations in the world. This aspect of smallness disempowered me immediately and reduced my striving for educational success. I realised that I did not have the resources and facilities that could assist me to excel in my education. However, it is the perspective of one of our Pacific renowned scholars, the late Professor ‘Epeli Hau’ofa, a Tongan anthropologist, who inspired and motivated me with his article, entitled, “*Sea of Islands.*” In this article, he claims that we are not only islands, but islands in the sea. We live both in the islands and also in the sea. Both the islands and the sea are instrumental in resourcing and nurturing our people in the Pacific. Therefore, if we add together the landscape, the underground, and the Pacific Ocean, which is ours, our island nations in the Pacific are obviously bigger than the most powerful nations in the world! Perhaps tonight, on this Pacific Perspective Evening, we need to think big and beyond our smallness. We need to stretch our minds like an eagle’s wings and fly above our limitations. I read a book written by the Frank brothers, who are also All Blacks. It is an inspiring book for young people who strive for success in any field of their interest. They write in this book this unique phrase, “*We are all born to be equal but some are working hard during pre-season than others.*” Although, they wrote from a rugby perspective it can apply to any area of life. Indeed, God created each of us to be equal but what that means to you and to me will make the

difference in our lives. Don't let what others think of you diminish or discourage you in relation to your dreams to succeed in your studies and also your seeking of a career for the future. May God bless you all on this historical occasion." This is the end of my short speech but I continued on with a prayer before the MC came forward and called each contestant to share their speech. It was a long night but I was impressed with the speeches of these young students. I am sure all of us who were present were challenged and inspired.

All the speakers on that evening were of Pacific descent and I could feel that my introduction set the platform for each of them to build their speeches on. It was not planned to be that way but it did happen, which was impressive. Although, we came from different families and cultural backgrounds we all had something in common, i.e. our Pacificness and our smallness. We were trying that evening to encourage one another to come out of that cocoon and realise that opportunities are out there for them to grasp. They have the potential and the ability to grow big and think big. It was a couple of Sundays ago that I was impressed by a photo in our bulletin of Celia Cannon and Rachel Jones and Joy Clark with a title on the top, *The Power of One*. The title on this photo was referring to Celia Cannon as the only child in the children's talk and also in the Sunday School on that day. It was certainly powerful because Celia was able to draw the attention of the whole congregation to herself as a unique member of our church family. In the gospels, Jesus compares the Kingdom of God to a mustard seed, the smallest of all the seeds. He also compares the Kingdom of God to children, the most vulnerable people in our society. He valued the giving of the poor widow, although her offering was small comparing to the rich people. Why was smallness important to Jesus? What is it that smallness can offer? Should we value smallness?

Everything that is growing big started from smallness and that's why smallness is important. While anything or anyone is still small it/they requires special attention and careful consideration. This Sunday is Father's Day and we celebrate the significance of father's role in families

and homes. From a Tongan perspective, father's role is to provide for family's sustenance and for family's security. The growth and the health of the vulnerable members of the family are dependent on his compassion to nurture and cherish their lives. He has to ensure that the weak members of the family are secured and safe. I suppose this is a general expectation of all fathers in any community, to consider the importance and the uniqueness of the small ones. We can apply the same principle to other areas in our community and our role to protect the vulnerable ones and to hear to their voices. By listening to their voices and considering their points of view, we will enable them to grow beyond their set boundaries and their limitation.

Siosifa Pole