



Dunedin Methodist Parish

Finding Good in everyone Finding God in everyone

www.dunedinmethodist.org.nz

Presbyters:	Rev. Siosifa Pole	455 2923
	Rev. Dr. Rod Mitchell	477 3700
Parish Stewards:	Dr George Davis	453 6540
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PARISH BULLETIN

15th December 2013

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 22nd December

9.30am	Mornington	R Mitchell
9.30 am	Mosguel	R Masterton
11.00 am	Glenaven	R Mitchell
11.00 am	Wesley	R Masterton
1.00pm	St Kilda	TBA
6.00pm	Broad Bay	No Service

COMBINED MOSGIEL/WESLEY SERVICES OVER THE CHRISTMAS PERIOD

Please note service times for the following dates:

Christmas Day	9.00 am
Sunday 12 th January 2014	10.00 am
Sunday 19 th January 2014	10.00 am
Sunday 26 th January 2014	10.00 am

PASTORAL CARE (MORNINGTON/GLENAVEN)

Beryl Neutze has agreed to take up the position of Pastoral Care Co-ordinator previously held by Marion Kitchingman. Beryl's phone number is 476 7447; she advises that she will be out of town over the Christmas holiday period. Big thanks to both Marion and Beryl for their willingness to ensure that our congregations have a person to contact if the need arises to express our loving concern for each other. Our ministers remain available to deal with major pastoral situations.



SOUTH CITY COMMUNITY CAROLS

South Dunedin Churches organized Christmas carols for all people on the 18th of December outside St. Patricks, Macandrew Rd. It will start at 6.30 until 7.30. Come and join the people of South Dunedin.

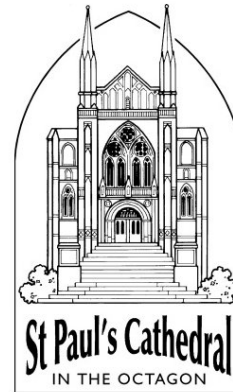
15 DECEMBER CAROLS IN THE GARDENS The North Dunedin churches (including Glenaven) have organized a Christmas celebration in the Sound Shell, Botanic Gardens, for 4pm Sunday 15 December, with story-telling, dance and choir items and everyone joining in the well-known carols. You are invited to come dressed as a character from the Bethlehem Christmas story, and take part in the biggest Nativity tableau ever! Venue if wet: Nga Maara Hall, Sacred Heart School, 63 North Rd.

MORNINGTON COMBINED CHURCHES CAROL SERVICE

The annual Mornington Churches Combined Carol Service will be held in St Francis Catholic Church, Benhar Street, at 7.00 this evening Our choir will be in attendance, joined by choir members from the Anglican, Presbyterian and Catholic congregations. We will follow an Advent service created by Joy Cowley, and there will be plenty of opportunity for singing old and new Christmas carols as well as celebrating our common faith. Do join us; a light supper follows the service, making another friendly and ecumenical occasion.

CAROL SINGING

On Saturday 21 December those who enjoy a sing are invited to meet at the Mornington Church at 6:30p.m. leaving from there on foot or other means to visit the houses of those who live close by to sing Christmas Carols and enjoy the company of fellow church members on route. Finally we will return to the Church to enjoy supper together. If coming please wear a Christmas decoration and bring a plate for the shared supper. Cam Weston 454 5600



Public invited to Attend Memorial Service for Nelson Mandela

Dunedin (Tuesday, 10 December) - His Worship the Mayor, Dave Cull, and Dean of Dunedin, the Very Reverend Dr Trevor James, invite the people of Dunedin to attend a memorial service for the late Nelson Mandela.

The service will be held at St Paul's Cathedral in the Octagon at noon on Sunday, 15 December.

Mayor Cull says, "Nelson Mandela's work and his words have resonated with people all over the world and it's fitting that Dunedin should mark his passing."

Dean James has invited community leaders to speak or contribute in some way to the service to ensure as many people can be involved as possible.

"Although we can't include everyone we want to celebrate that Madiba belongs to the world, that he reaches beyond the constraints of race, culture and creed to recall us to our shared humanity" says Dean James.

For more information

Mayor Dave Cull
Phone 027 434 6917

Dean Trevor James
Phone 027 430 4737

"Our human compassion binds us the one to the other - not in pity or patronisingly, but as human beings who have learnt how to turn our common suffering into hope for the future."

Nelson Mandela



In Wednesday's ODT, Elspeth McLean of our Broad Bay Church made the following comment about Mandela...

After 27 years of incarceration Mandela chose forgiveness and reconciliation rather than retribution. As hard as it might be for the rest of us mere mortals to grasp, he knew his behaviour meant real freedom: "As I walked out of the door toward the gate that would lead to my freedom, I knew if I didn't leave my bitterness and hatred behind, I'd still be in prison."

He also said, "Resentment is like drinking poison and then hoping it will kill your enemies."

A great life of example in the best footsteps of Jesus – a life worth celebrating.

Christmas Gifts on the Taieri

The Mosgiel Round Table, and the Mosgiel Community Food Bank, supported by BNZ Mosgiel and The Warehouse Mosgiel, wish to give kids, who may otherwise go without, some joy on Christmas morning.

A tree has been put up in the BNZ, with Christmas Cards stuck to it. On the card, you will find a sticker that gives the details of a child in need this Christmas, and instructions

By purchasing a gift for the boy or girl shown, putting the sticker on the wrapped present, and placing it under the tree at the Mosgiel BNZ by **4.30pm Monday 16th December**, we will ensure it is matched to the child.

To help make this a reality, The Warehouse Mosgiel has come to the party, and if you present the sticker, a 30% discount will be applied to the full retail price, for any present up to \$50 in full retail value.

Any presents that are not returned by the 16th December will be covered by the Mosgiel Round Table.

Any questions, please contact Grant Gibson on 0275 999 943

Lets bring some Christmas spirit to the Taieri!



PHILIPPINES TYPHOON APPEAL

As a result of the appeal launched three weeks ago following the huge typhoon that struck the Philippines, causing widespread damage, the Dunedin Methodist Parish has sent a cheque for \$2000 to Christian World Service to assist in the recovery of the islands from this major disaster. Thanks to all who contributed; your generosity is much appreciated.

STORY FROM THE MISSION

The younger children have been busy utilising the rocks at Arahina to make rock pets, which are all a work in progress. At the moment, we have a rock cow which is awaiting its very own bell, a purple zombie with a purple ribbon, a lovely multi coloured 'my little pony' and a number of other interesting characters. The children have agreed to display their wonderful creatures around the grounds at Arahina to add some colour and points of interest for future visitors. The children are VERY proud of their efforts and so they should be. We are all having fun creating these magnificent creatures.

All of the children have been involved with planning activities. We have recently found that separating the older group and adapting activities around the interests of each group has ensured the groups enjoy their time at Arahina.

ORDERS OF SERVICE & BULLETINS OVER CHRISTMAS BREAK

The Mission Office will be closed from midday Monday 23rd December until Monday 13th January. Could you please ensure your Orders of Service over this period are sent to Katrina (admin@dmm.org.nz) no later than 9.00 am Tuesday 17th December.



The final Bulletin for 2013 will be the 22nd December edition and the first Bulletin for 2014 will be 19th January.

THE CHRISTMAS CANDLE

Are there any members of the parish who would like to go to the movies as a group to see Max Lucado's "The Christmas Candle" with guest star Susan Boyle and several well known actors on Thursday 19th December at 7:15 pm at the Metro Theatre cost \$10:00. If so could you please phone Elaine on 489 7663 by Tuesday lunchtime as John at the theatre needs to know. He is putting this on especially for us at this time, please support this parish social event.



Last Thursday (12th December) I was privileged to conduct the funeral of Donna Rose McKay, at First Church here in Dunedin. Donna Rose was the manager of the

Disabilities Information and Support Centre at the University of Otago.

Here are some of the words I shared yesterday with the many hundreds of people who gathered to honour and farewell Donna Rose.

For the last 14 years I have served as a Chaplain at Otago University. Throughout this time I have grown to know, admire and greatly respect Donna as a colleague and as a friend. It is a huge privilege to have been asked by Donna Rose, a few days before she died, to conduct her funeral service.

For me personally it was a shock on Monday morning to hear that Donna Rose had died in hospital after a brief illness. I visited her in hospital last Thursday, and over the weekend we were all expecting her to recover. To Ross and Donna Rose's families, and to all close friends and colleagues I extend my deepest sympathy. For all of us, losing Donna Rose is hugely significant and hard to believe. The number of people who are here today indicates the amazing impact that Donna Rose has had on our city, our nation and world. She has touched and inspired so many people to show compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience and love to others. Her life has embodied so much good, challenging us all to be more understanding, more inclusive and more genuinely supportive of all people, especially people who are sometimes avoided or excluded from full participation in education or wider society through lack of understanding, and prejudice. Donna Rose lived a life which was committed to getting rid of prejudice. She worked constantly and effectively to create and oversee programmes which could enable all people to reach their full potential, just like Nelson Mandela.

Thank you to everyone who has responded to the invitation to attend our service today dressed in "full steam"

The last time I saw Donna Rose dressed up in full Steam Punk attire, she was with Ross at the Armeggedon gathering in the Edgar centre last year. It was wonderful to see them having so much fun together.

Donna Rose was a very compassionate person. I remember being alongside her and others from our University Disabilities support staff when we attended a funeral for Lee Gibson a few years ago. Donna Rose had known and supported Lee for years, and had a genuinely compassionate concern for her well-being, right up until Lee died. Donna Rose's compassion continued to flow to Lee's family after Lee died. During November 2012 Donna invited me to assist her with organising the blessing of a new disabilities room in the Health Sciences Library. We dedicated this room in memory of Lee Gibson. I remember many many times over the years when students have shared with me about the positive impact that Donna Rose has had on their lives. Andy Lyons was one of these students. Carol Tauroa is another. Donna Rose's

healing presence and ministry on campus has made a huge difference over the years, not only directly, but also through her management and leadership of Disability services. We will hear about this in more detail later in the service.

During May of this year the Dalai Lama visited Dunedin, including a visit to Otago University. Along with Donna Rose and 550 other people I obtained a ticket to hear the Dalai Lama speak in the St David Lecture Theatre on campus. When the Dalai Lama came into St David's accompanied by our Vice Chancellor Harlene Hayne, he saw Donna Rose in her wheel chair in the front row. Leaving our VC behind, he went straight to Donna Rose and knelt down beside her. He spoke to her and listened to her and after a precious minute or so, he placed a scarf around her neck to honour her. Here is the scarf. I spoke with Donna about this experience later. She was deeply moved by being honoured in this way. What the Dalai Lama was doing in a profoundly spiritual way was to show deep respect for Donna and to honour her courage, integrity and commitment to helping others. I will never forget that moment.

The Dalai Lama is known for his compassion. So too was Donna Rose. I would like to read now a few verses from the apostle Paul's letter to the Colossians. This is a reading about just some of the qualities we saw in Donna Rose, qualities which have blessed us and our communities :

Compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience and love.

“Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.” (Colossians 3 : 12-16)

Let us pray

Loving God we give you thanks for the life of Donna Rose McKay. We are all here today because on one way or another her life has touched our life. We come with deep sadness and heavy hearts, not wanting to accept that Donna Rose has died. Help us in our grief today to be reminded of all that was good in Donna Rose's life, help us to reach out to each other and to offer each other support and care. Be with us as we seek to learn from Donna Rose how to be more compassionate, kind, patient and loving people Thank you for Donna Rose's deep love for Ross and his deep love for Donna. Help us to surround Ross and all members of the wider family with compassion and love. May Ross and the family know the depth of our love and concern at this time. May this gathering today enable us all to celebrate Donna Rose's life, to honour her, to express our grief and to find the strength to carry on, inspired by Donna Rose's example. Thank you loving God for her courage, thank you for her persistence, her unique sense of humour, thank you for her care for us. These things we sincerely pray. Amen

Greg Hughson
University Chaplain