



Dunedin Methodist Parish

Finding Good in everyone Finding God in everyone

www.dunedinmethodist.org.nz

Presbyters:	Rev. Siosifa Pole	455 2923
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PARISH BULLETIN

2nd February 2014

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 9th February

9.30 am	Mornington	S Pole
9.30 am	Mosgiel	Mosgiel Lay Ministry Team
11.00 am	Glenaven	S Pole
11.00 am	Wesley	Mosgiel Lay Ministry Team
1.00 pm	St Kilda	TBA

MORNINGTON PASTORAL CARE GROUP LEADERS A meeting with Rod to discuss the purpose and working of the Pastoral Care Groups will be held in the lounge on Sunday 23rd February at 11.15am to be followed by a pot luck lunch. If unable to attend please let Beryl know Ph 4767447

THANK YOU

I would like to convey my thanks to Rod Mitchell and the Parish Stewards for assisting the parish while I was away on holiday. My family and I appreciated our time together at Omarama. We really had a good time in this place.
Siosifa Pole



MOSGIEL METHODIST WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP Tuesday 4th February at 1:30pm when we launch the "special project" all welcome.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Celia Cannon who turns 10 on the 5th February!



BROAD BAY CHURCH MEETING Just to remind the Broad Bay people that we will have a meeting at Broad Bay church on Wednesday the 5th of January 7.30pm, to finalise our option for the future of our church before the Parish Council meeting the following Wednesday evening.

STORY FROM THE MISSION

The SPAN Christmas Party on December 10th was a great success. There was a great turn out of people and everyone bought a plate of festive treats for Christmas Lunch. The lady who did the Christmas Hampers did a fantastic job of putting them altogether and there was a great variety of goodies and gifts all beautifully wrapped. A lot of time went into donating the goods and putting together the Christmas Party from all the members of the group. The tea ladies did a great job in catering for the event and everyone seemed to enjoy the festivities very much. The place was decorated with Christmas decorations and some members of the group dressed up in Christmas-themed hats and outfits, adorned with brooches and earring that fit the occasion. There were some members of the group which told stories and jokes and everyone discussed their Christmas plans. The Christmas Raffle went very well and the hampers were evenly distributed and the group who didn't win a Christmas Hamper left with a plate of food to take home.

INDUCTION SERVICE FOR CO-SUPERINTENDENTS

You are invited to attend the Induction Service for Rev Peter Taylor and Rachael Masterton as Co-Superintendents of the Otago/ Southland Synod. This will be held on Sunday 2 February 2014 at 3.30pm at the Lindisfarne Methodist Centre and will be led by the President of the Methodist Church, Rex Nathan and the Vice-President, Jan Tasker. There will be light refreshments prior to the Service for those who are travelling and following the service there will be a shared Pot Luck Tea to which all are invited.

PRAYER REQUEST

Please continue to pray for the sick people of our church. I discovered on my return to work that we have a few sick people who need the comfort of our prayers. Thanks to those who prayed for the people of the Ha'apai Island Group whose lives and livelihood were terrorised by Cyclone Ian. They still need our prayer and our help.



FANTASY AS IDEOLOGY - IDEOLOGY AS FANTASY

Recently I listened to an Australian economist interviewed on radio about the parlous state of the global economy.

He made the point that the neo-classical economic system was a “fantasy with no basis in reality.” This fantasy had been the dream of a wealthy man who managed to convince other wealthy men this was a great idea. These wealthy men had influence in universities, and soon it was being touted as the answer to the world's economic problems. Fantasy morphed into ideology and was taught to the future bankers and financiers as the ‘best thing since sliced bread.’ What I find unnerving is how someone's fantasy so readily became the accepted wisdom, seemingly under the radar of the unsuspecting western masses.

At the turn of this century, five young 'twenty-something' financiers fantasized, and created a 'product' allowing massive bundles of high risk mortgages to be sold on to other financial corporates who, in turn, dreamed up 'add-on' complex 'products' which they sold on to yet different Banks and Insurance Companies.

No one critiqued the fantasy.

No one was regulating this activity.

Indeed, it seems no one fully understood the processes or the downstream implications of this frenetic unregulated environment. This

could only end badly.....and it did. Wall St. crashed and a global financial crisis followed, leaving a trail of destruction.

Fantasy and the lure of untold wealth overwhelmed those in influential positions. Smoke and mirrors tricked those who should have been alert to the old adage, 'If it looks too good to be true, it probably is'.

Please, don't misunderstand. Fantasy is fantastic. Creative dreaming and fantasy have given birth to the evolution of culture and civilization. Fantasy-inspired creativity which nurtures the spirit of humanity and enhances the well being of society, especially the most vulnerable, is a sacred gift.

It seems to me, the problem arises when fantasy and creativity are motivated by greed. Many of our own politicians and economists are duped by the fantasy that wealth-creation can be achieved by making the wealthy even wealthier...it will simply trickle down unregulated and unaided, to the less fortunate!!!

The Oxford Dictionary defines ideology as....A set of ideas as the basis of a political or economic system....visionary speculation.

It seems we need to be forever vigilant and ready to critique any ideas dreamed up by powerful people, whether they be politicians, economists, financial planners or managers. We need to be asking questions like...who is to benefit from this latest visionary speculation, and to whose detriment?

This is Election year. Already the promises are being rolled out. Fantasy and election promises often inhabit the same space, so we need to be listening carefully to the rhetoric, passing it through our 'political spin-filter' (B..S.. filter) before committing ourselves. Let's be alert and alive, open to hearing what the spirit is saying to us this Election year.

Trish Patrick