



Dunedin Methodist Parish

Finding Good in everyone Finding God in everyone

www.dunedinmethodist.org.nz

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	Rev. Dr. Rod Mitchell	477 3700
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Mornington:		

PARISH BULLETIN

10th May 2015

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 17th May

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

OPEN EDUCATION 20 MAY

What really happened at the first Easter? The gospel accounts don't agree about many of the details. Donald Phillipps, a distinguished historian of the New Zealand Methodist Church, takes a look at the evidence of the texts. Enjoy an interesting evening with Donald prefaced by a scrumptious meal provided by Judy Russell. Mornington Methodist Church, Wednesday 20 May, meal at 6pm, the talk at 7.30pm. Ring Judy to book your place (455 3727). From the proceeds we hope to complete a gift of \$1000 to the child and family support services provided at the Mission's Hub.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

☺ Naomi Pole Jr who turns 7 on the 10th May!

**TERTIARY CHAPLAINCY SUNDAY**

Next Sunday (May 17th, 9.30am) our Mornington and Glenaven congregations will combine at Mornington for a "Tertiary Chaplaincy Sunday" service led by Greg Hughson. Come along and bring friends to learn about the role of tertiary chaplains here in Dunedin and to hear from a panel of University students who have links with our Parish. The Choir will be singing a special song from Ghana, as a result of Adjoa Banson being here to study for a Masters in Physiotherapy at Otago University. Sherrema Bower, a new addition to the Otago Chaplaincy team will share about her life as a PhD student in Anthropology and her experience as a Chaplaincy volunteer on campus. It will also be graduation weekend, so if you know anyone graduating please invite them to come along in the Graduation regalia.

GLENAVEN has no service on either Sunday the 17th or Sunday 31st May. On the 17th we go to Mornington at 9.30 (cnr Whitby/Galloway Sts) to combine for Greg Hughson's service on university chaplaincy, and on the fifth Sunday (31 May) we combine with the whole parish for a service at 10am at Wesley Hall (Wesley St, off Hillside Rd).

MESSAGE OF SYMPATHY

On behalf of the Wesley congregation and the whole of the Dunedin Methodist Parish I would like to convey to Claire, David, and the rest of the family our condolences and sympathy for the death of Neil Mcleod on Saturday the 2nd of May. Our prayers and thoughts are with you during your time of grief.

HONOURING NEIL MACLEOD

Neil's family honoured his wish by presenting his body to the Medical School for research purposes. It means, there will be no funeral service and there will be no memorial service. The family wishes for his friends and colleagues to remember him as a person of who he was. If anyone wishes to donate any financial support to the family, please give it to the Hospice, or please do something nice for someone else.

VISIT OF GEORGE ABDO TO DUNEDIN

Friday May 15th 12 noon - 1pm

Burns 5 Lecture Theatre, University of Otago,
Albany St.

ALL WELCOME – Please come and bring your
friends 😊



George Abdo

George Abdo is a Palestinian Christian from the West Bank. He is Deputy Director of “The Shepherd Society” and member of the Board, “House of Hope” in Bethlehem. George will speak about the work of the Church in the Middle East, the ministries they are involved in and some of the challenges they are facing just living where they are. Specifically he will talk about the work he is involved with in Palestine with the Shepherd Society, a humanitarian aid organisation that came out of the Bethlehem Bible College, and the “House of Hope” which is a school, a home and a hope for the blind and children with special needs in Palestine. George is also keen to answer your questions as best as he can.

For more details, contact :

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e mail greg.hughson@otago.ac.nz

<https://www.facebook.com/events/857215134346484/>

URGENT URGENT URGENT**DUNEDIN PARISH SUPPORTS CWS APPEAL FOR NEPAL**

Christian World Service has launched an appeal to provide relief supplies in Nepal. The magnitude 7.8 earthquake has caused widespread damage throughout most of the country. The death toll is approaching 2,000 people and continues to rise. Many people are remaining outside as large aftershocks continue. Rural areas were particularly badly hit and it will take some time for a full picture to emerge.

CWS is working with ACT Alliance (Action by Churches Together) of which it is a part. Members are based in Kathmandu and other parts of the country. They are mobilising life-saving relief: shelter, food, water, blankets and medications. They are working with the Nepalese government, the UN system and church partners to coordinate their response.

"We are confident in our partners who have been working in Nepal for many years. They are mounting a large scale operation to make sure those that need it most get the help they need," says Pauline McKay National Director. "We ask church people to remember the people of Nepal and if they can please donate to this urgent appeal," she adds.

Donations to the Nepal Earthquake Appeal for emergency relief can be made: on line at www.cws.org.nz/donate, sent to PO Box 22652, Christchurch 8140 or by calling 0800 74 73 72. For further information contact: CWS National Director, Pauline McKay. Phone: 021 289 1225 or 03 366 9274

Note: CWS is a member of ACT Alliance (Action by Churches Together), a global coalition of more than 140 churches and church-related organisations that work together in humanitarian assistance, advocacy and development in more than 140 countries.

WORKSHOP ON LEADING WORSHIP - I have invited Mission Resourcing to run a workshop on Leading Worship in 21st Century. This workshop is planning for either the Saturday 15th or 22nd of August 2015. Lay Preachers and Worship Leaders are invited to send me ideas and thoughts that you would like to include in this workshop. Once I received your thoughts I will send it to Mission Resourcing to include in their preparation. Thanks, Siosifa Pole.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING - Mornington church, 7.30pm Wed 13th May. Members of the council are required to be there.

STORY FROM THE MISSION...

From the Early Years Hub

Over the past month the old cupboards in one of the big rooms has had doors fitted to allow for more groups to have storage. The old Spa room has been transformed into another large storage space and Laundry Room.



We have had some wonderful donations of warm knitted jumpers, slippers and hats from the Peninsular Women's Institute just in time for the recent cold snap. The slippers have been a real hit. One family came in with several children, the smallest with no jumper. She left with a lovely warm jumper and hat.

In answer to the advertisement we had in Volunteering Otago, we have been contacted by someone who is involved in Boy's Brigade. He has offered to come and be one of the Cooking supporters and we will include him in the second half of the term. There are currently 9 volunteers at the mission with a further 2 ready to help with the Cooking Classes at Arahina and 1 to help out in the Creche at the Hub and Little Citizens.



THIS YEAR, both our Glenaven and Mornington congregations are facing the necessity for significant alterations to the properties in which they are housed.

The Glenaven church building, now 110 years old, will require reconstruction to bring its strength up to meet modern earthquake-resistance standards. At Mornington, an investigation is under way to decide how best to deal with the church hall, now 84 years old, by a similar process of strengthening, or by demolition and rebuilding as a new centre.

If the decision is made to completely replace the hall, the new building will be the third on the site, witness to the process of historical change which inexorably affects buildings as well as people.

According to Donald Phillipps' excellent history of Mornington Methodism, *Mornington Methodism 1876-1976*, the first proposal to build a separate hall to accommodate the church's flourishing Sunday School and Bible Classes came in 1895 from the Reverend J N Buttle, who suggested that such a hall be put up along the lines of the nearby Presbyterian School Hall. In the event, the decision was taken to extend the existing church building with transepts and the proposal lapsed.

When in 1905 a new brick church on the present site replaced the former wooden church building on the other side of the street, that 'old' building became the Sunday School Hall. Property Trust records show that as early as 1906 alterations had to be made to the Hall to better adapt a purpose-built worship structure to suit the needs of a thriving Sunday School. However, it became obvious that more than a decaying old church structure was needed for the education of the younger people in the congregation. In 1920 further major alterations were proposed, but the money could not be raised by the congregation nor made available from the Connexion.

So in 1921 the Ladies' Guild—how often such initiatives have come from the women in our congregations—bravely suggested that a new Sunday School Hall (that is, the present Hall) should be built. The nucleus of the money raised was a small surplus from the 1926 Church Jubilee Fund, added to by personal subscriptions, sales (all those cake stalls!), individual donations and a loan from the national church. The new Hall was opened in February 1931, during the national Conference being held at the time in Dunedin. The congregation was left with an outstanding debt of only £500, though clearing that took another 10 years.

To a large degree the driving force was A H Reed, known to many of us as an historian, a famous walker and founder of the Reed publishing house, who had moved to the church in 1929 and almost immediately became its dynamic Superintendent. As Donald Phillipps reports, the *New Zealand Methodist Times* of May 1931 commended the congregation on their vision and determination. 'Mornington Methodists have accomplished something which any church of its size and financial strength might be proud. Admirably planned to meet the requirements of modern religious education, and adequately equipped and furnished, it is in some respects perhaps the finest Sunday building of its size in the Dominion today.'

The Hall, which currently houses congregational gatherings and meals, MWF meetings, an Explorers group, Sunday School and Y@M activities, a community Toy Library, a photographic course, a physical fitness programme, a Judo club and much else, was once the home of Anniversary concerts, Bible Class dances, Christian Endeavour and Busy Bee groups, and above all a vigorous and completely up-to-date educational programme for generations of young people.

There is no recovering of the Hall's 'glory' days, but we may hope that its historical connections will be honoured and the consistently forward-thinking vision behind its building perpetuated in any new (or renewed) structure—so that a future faith community might say of us, theirs was an accomplishment of something which any church of its

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size and financial strength might be proud: admirably planned to meet the requirements of modern religious education—and (one might add) fully exploiting the previously undreamed of possibilities for community activities, networking and learning in this 21st and largely secular century.

Colin Gibson