



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
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Pastoral Convenor	Beryl Neutze	476 7447
Mornington:		

PARISH BULLETIN

11th September 2016

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 18th September

9.30 am	Mornington	R Mitchell
9.30 am	Mosgiel	S Pole
11.00 am	Glenaven	R Mitchell
11.00 am	Wesley	S Pole
1.00 pm	St Kilda	TBA

MOSGIEL MID-WEEK SERVICE, Wednesday 14th of September, 2pm. All are welcome.

MOSGIEL'S SPRING FLOWER SERVICE Sunday 18th September please bring your flowers already bunched.

MUSICAL SOCIETY CONCERT Sunday 18 September, 2.30pm at Mornington Methodist Church. Featuring Mornington Methodist Church Choir and bagpipe and piano items. All welcome. Cost \$2.

THE WISDOM TO SURVIVE - On Tuesday 20 September at 1.30pm in the Dunningham Suite, 4th floor, Dunedin Public Library, a showing of a powerful and important new 1 hour documentary film on climate change, featuring contemporary leaders and activists in the fields of science, economics and spirituality discussing how (and if) we can survive and evolve in the face of climate disruption.

OPEN EDUCATION: BEHIND BARS

At 7.30pm on Wednesday. 21 September, at Mornington Methodist Church, Galloway Street, Open Education welcomes as its speaker Phil McCarthy, National Director of the Prison Fellowship of New Zealand. For 10 years he managed the Department of Correction's national prison system, and now leads an organisation dedicated to the transformation, reconciliation and healing of the lives of New Zealand's 10,000 prisoners and their families, both through in-prison support and community-driven reintegration services. Don't miss this outstanding Christian leader talking about a world we know too little about. Koha \$15. The usual excellent pre-session meal provided by Judy Russell (\$15—ring 4553727); all proceeds to the Syrian refugee families now making new lives in Dunedin.



RADIO CHURCH

a weekly service presented by Dunedin Inner City Ministers' Assoc
Otago Access Radio 105.4FM & 1575AM and online www.oar.org.nz

8.30am Sunday

INVITATION TO BLESSING AND OPEN HOME: 2pm-5pm Sat 24th September.

We (Greg and Hilda) want to sincerely thank everyone who has been so supportive over the last 8 months. Now that repairs to our home have been completed, there will be a brief blessing ceremony led by Rev Siosifa Pole and Father Mark Chamberlain at 2pm on Saturday 24th September at 10 Corstorphine Rd, and an open home (including afternoon tea) through until 5pm. Please feel free to visit at any time between 2pm and 5pm, however briefly. If you are coming for the blessing, we will gather outside our home at 2pm. Please bring a small contribution for afternoon tea - check (if possible) with Cam or Kristen Weston what to bring. (Ph 454 5600)

Greg and Hilda Hughson. Ph 487 6226

STORY FROM THE MISSION

Early Years Hub: A mum with 2 children, the youngest now at school, attended the cooking class last winter, in part to get out of the house. She enjoyed the experience so much that she enrolled at Polytech catering department this year and did a 6 month introductory cooking course. Following the course she applied for a part-time job at Mercy Hospital working in food preparation in the café. The job had 97 applicants and she was one of 3 people to get an interview. (In the interview she told them she had done a cooking course at the Hub when they talked about the initiatives that Mercy Hospital supports). She got the job.



If you would like to support the Mission's work with a donation, please visit www.givealittle.co.nz and search for The Methodist Mission.

MOSGIEL FELLOWSHIP FRIENDSHIP DAY where we invite all other Mosgiel Church Women's Groups our speaker was Mrs. Wyn Barbazet who spoke to us about TRADEAID and her trips to Bangladesh & Peru.



FELLOWSHIP OF THE LEAST COIN - HOW AND WHEN IT BEGAN

The idea for the fellowship of the Least Coin emerged as a vision from God to Shanti Solomon of India.

She was part of the Pacific Mission Team of seven women from different countries that travelled in Asian countries after World War II, in September 1956. It was organized by Margaret Shannon on behalf of the women of the Presbyterian Church of the United States. Shanti Soloman, who was refused a visa to Korea, went to Manila, Philippines while the other members of the team proceeded to Korea. She

reflected on the experiences of their travel in war torn countries of Asia and was inspired to promote reconciliation, justice and peace.

On the return of the team, she suggested that prayer could transcend every national boundary. She challenged the Christian women of Asia and the women from the Presbyterian Church of the United States to combine their efforts and resources and launch a project of justice, peace and reconciliation on an international basis. It was to be a project of Christian prayer and positive action in which every Christian woman could participate, no matter what her economic position. Every time a woman prayed she has to set aside a “least coin” of her currency. It was an encouragement to the women of the team to demonstrate their unity in Christian faith, regardless of their country or economic circumstances. They all accepted it as their sincere desire to express their solidarity with suffering humanity and with women of every nation,

“The measure of our concern for unity is the degree to which we pray for it. We cannot expect God to give us unity unless we prepare ourselves to receive His gift by costly and purifying prayer. To pray together is to be drawn together.” It is 60 years since the Fellowship of the Least Coin first started in September 1956.



LAST THURSDAY I presented my annual report to the AGM of the Otago Tertiary Chaplaincy Board. Here are some portions of my report. Please let me know if you would like a full copy of my report.

“An integral part of our wellbeing is to feel that we belong. A quality, trusting relationship is the most basic thing that is needed” Jenny Munro, Senior Practitioner at Otago Youth Wellness Trust. (from *Restoring Wellbeing* article in ODT Saturday 3rd September 2016)

Demand for youth and mental health services grew 71% during the last decade. Government funded mental health and addiction spending is

now \$1.4 billion per annum. This is the context within we offer Chaplaincy. Chaplains can help provide the “most basic thing that is needed”.

The focus of my ministry is on pastoral care, spiritual support and educational resourcing. I am finding more and more that students are referring other students to me, and in some cases making appointments with me for their friends. I have found that anxiety and stress are key issues that students are presenting with. Networking and communication continue to also be central to my ministry.

Sadly there have been a number of Critical Incidents in the last 12 months which I have helped respond to. These events often lead to ongoing contact with many friends and family members. I have been involved recently with offering support following two suicides, including conducting the funeral for one of these.

The restructured Otago Combined Christian Groups network is in good heart. There are now two groups – a Ministry support group, and the Student Network. I am the go-between for the two groups, attending both sets of meetings. The fruit of this new arrangement was during Semester one this year was a Panel discussion entitled “Don’t they all hate each other?” Hopefully we disproved this thesis.



I joined the annual February OCF trip to Tunnel beach (photo), offered the prayer before the February Dunedin City Council and supported the SCM Book Exchange during O week. Revised and updated

Homesickness booklets were distributed to all students in all Colleges during mid-March.

The Otago Students Interfaith Group (OSIG) has been active this year, meeting every 2-3 weeks in the Upper Room, on Thursday nights, preparing for “Faith Festival” which was successfully held on campus on August 24th. Thank you to the Chairperson of OSIG George Elliott and all the members who have supported OSIG this year. I organised a successful Dunedin Abrahamic Interfaith Group visit to St Hilda’s and I chaired the May 2016 meeting of the Dunedin Interfaith Council, held at Knox Church. I helped organise the lecture by Dave Andrews (from Australia) on “The Jihad of Jesus - sacred non-violent struggle for justice” and Dave’s visit to the Mosque, where he was warmly received.

I am continuing on as a Trustee of the Life Matters Suicide Prevention Trust. I facilitated a “Breaking the Silence” forum held at the Salvation Army during February. This photo was taken at an Expo at Cumberland College, earlier this year. We are planning our third annual gathering on World Suicide Prevention day on Saturday 10th September from 1pm. I will MC this event. Once again, hundreds plan to attend. Last year, 400 people attended the service I conducted in St Paul’s Cathedral.

I recently completed a four year term as the ANZTCA representative on the International Association of Chaplains in Higher Education until the conclusion of the “Digging, Dialogue and Diversity” International IACHE Conference held La Trobe University in Bendigo, north of Melbourne during July. This required many hours of international Skype meetings, day and night over four years. I led two workshops at this Conference. One on “A Practical Theology of Suicide Prevention” and another on “Nurturing faith and interfaith on campus”. Following on from the IACHE Conference I led a one week post-conference tour of the South Island. Six Chaplains came on the tour.

I continue to organise Radio Church. Radio Church (more specifically a service led by Rev Dr Tokerau Joseph) received the “2015 Best Faith Programme award”.

During Islam Awareness week this year (Theme: Dunedin, City of Peace and Harmony) I organised a successful visit of Muslim students to St Pauls Cathedral. It was great to be present on this occasion and to hear the questions the students were asking during and after the visit. I was touched/surprised to be acknowledged by Hashmat Lafraie in a recent Critic article (<http://www.critic.co.nz/features/article/6180/individuals-creating-peaceful--harmonious-societie>) as someone who is perceived to be participating in the shared task of creating a peaceful and harmonious society here on campus, in Dunedin, and beyond. This fulfils one clause of our Chaplaincy Service Level Agreement with the University which is to “maintain religious harmony on campus”.

Last year I was appointed by the Vice Chancellor to our new University of Otago Healthy Campus Advisory Group (HUAG), chaired by Dr John Adams. I have attended monthly HUAG meetings, and monthly meetings of the HUAG Mental Health subcommittee. We are making progress slowly but surely.

I continue to prepare a quarterly article for the National Methodist newspaper “Touchstone” on the lectionary readings for the coming month and I continue to participate in monthly training sessions for the Otago Ethical behaviour Network.

I have been more intentional recently about using our Otago Tertiary Chaplaincy Facebook page to publicise and report on our events. If you have not already “Liked” our page, please do so:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/240133240093/> and follow it to keep in touch with what is happening.

Greg Hughson

University Chaplain

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