

## **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**

9<sup>th</sup> October 2016

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 16 <sup>th</sup> October			
9.30 am	Mornington	R Mitchell	
9.30 am	Mosgiel	G Hughson	
11.00 am	Glenaven	R Mitchell	
11.00 am	Wesley	G Hughson	
1.00 pm	St Kilda	TBA	

**MOSGIEL MWF FELLOWSHIP** Afternoon with Pe'tanque & Croquet all welcome 1:30pm in the hall.

**GAMES NIGHT** – For all the parish. 29<sup>th</sup> October, held at Wesley Hall 7.00pm. Mark it on your calendar. See you there for a fun night!



AIDING THE PRISONERS - Debbie Macklin, volunteer co-ordinator at Dunedin's Prisoners' Aid and Rehabilitation Society asks whether any of our congregation members would be interested in volunteering with the organisation. She lists the following roles as possible ways of assisting: Court workers, drivers, property moving and sorting helpers, receptionist/administrators, house cleaning helpers, community support people, home support people. If you are interested you can contact her at (03) 474 1811 (extension 704), or 022 377 1056 or <a href="mailto:debbie@parsotago.co.nz">debbie@parsotago.co.nz</a> Coming so soon after Phil McCarthy's Open Education talk about prisoner support, this seems almost like a divine follow-up!

# INTERNATIONAL WEEK OF PRAYER FOR WORLD PEACE 9<sup>th</sup> -16<sup>th</sup> October 2016 "ANNUAL INTERFAITH PEACE GATHERING"

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October 7.30pm-8.30pm followed by supper Quaker Meeting House, 15 Park Street Dunedin ALL WELCOME

Please bring a small vegetarian contribution towards supper Further information from Greg Hughson <a href="mailto:greg.hughson@otago.ac.nz">greg.hughson@otago.ac.nz</a> or Kristan Mouat <a href="mailto:kbm@lphs.school.nz">kbm@lphs.school.nz</a>

Organised by the Dunedin Interfaith Council <a href="mailto:dunedininterfaith@gmail.com">dunedininterfaith@gmail.com</a>
<a href="mailto:https://www.facebook.com/events/1018160178282002/">https://www.facebook.com/events/1018160178282002/</a>



#### **OPEN EDUCATION AND A FAMOUS WILDLIFE HAVEN**

On Wednesday 19 October, at 7.30pm in the Mornington Methodist Church, Galloway Street, Alyth Grant, wild-life photographer and regular volunteer at Orokonui, will give an illustrated talk on the work of the now famous wild-life haven outside Dunedin, where kaka, bellbirds, tuis and silver-eyes, takahe and kiwi, skinks and tuataras thrive in a regenerating natural environment under the protection of a predator-proof fence. Bring a friend to this final Open Education presentation for the year (koha \$5). Note there will be no pre-sessional meal this time: our chef will be away in the North Island.

IT WAS A POIGNANT REMINDER of the ghastly nature of the Battle of the Somme - which we're solemnly remembering 100 years later. Trooper John Robert Sutherland, who was associated with Mornington Methodist before he left for the Great War, was reported missing at the Somme 1 October, 1916. It was not until three months later that his family were officially advised of his death, although his body was never found. Such are many of the infinite casualties of war - as says the ancient book of Ecclesiasticus. "And some there be that have no memorial, who are perished as though they have never been..."

If nothing else, last week's remembrance of the Somme tragedy was recognition of the sacrifice of the likes of Trooper Sutherland.



THE LAMPEDUSA CROSS - On Sunday 9 October at 3pm in the Mornington Methodist Church, Galloway Street, we will dedicate a remarkable treasure, a wooden cross fashioned from the timbers of shattered refugee vessels by a carpenter living on the island of Lampedusa, the principal crossing point to Europe for refugees from the African mainland. It will become a symbol of our sympathy with and support for all refugees, especially the Syrian families now taken in by our city. Later the cross will he shared with other churches and organisations. The Mayor, the Red Cross, senior church leaders and representatives of the Mission, members of the Muslim community and others will be there to show our solidarity with the wretched and dispossessed of this world. Please join us for a very special occasion in the life of our parish. Come early; parking space will be under considerable pressure.

# WAKIOUAITI PRESBYTERIAN PARISH GARDEN DAY

Saturday October 15 2016 11.00 am – 4.30 pm, \$10.00

6 Gardens to visit and Devonshire teas Plant, cake and produce stalls

Tickets available from Ellen Taylor (03) 465 8428 Judy Irving (03) 465 8484 Victoria Hart (03) 465 7897





### **E or E - EQUALITY or EQUITY**

Are all waiting rooms equal? Many of you will have experienced a variety of waiting rooms, and, if you have time to fill, then you will have looked at the selection of magazines and hopefully by the time you have found one to your satisfaction you get your call.

Recently I have been waiting in a variety of waiting rooms at the Hospital. The selection of magazines, for me, was limited – women's mags, boating and fishing mags. I expect some women read fishing mags, and I expect some men read women's mags.

A week or two back while waiting, I found, after a search, a smallish book published by the hospital about the hospital from people that work there - cleaners, maintenance, office, nurses, doctors, managerial and in between. As I had two longish waits I made the booklet my choice – interesting reading!

Some contributors to the booklet alluded to the fairness of treating patients, and this is where the E & E comes in. There were also 'fill in' quotes from 'well-known' people, one took my eye because it was headed 'Equality or Equity' – same or different, I didn't recognise the 'well-known' author. After waiting and reading and . . . I went home, knowing I would be back and with E & E running around my head thinking I will search out that book again next time.

Quote, more or less, from that 'Equality or Equity' article in the booklet

"Two charity groups received requests for shoes for young people of a village in what had been a war zone. One group contacted their supplier and they were supplied with 600 pairs of shoes, all the same size and colour - Equality!

The second group were more precise in their order to their supplier and received 600 pairs of shoes also, but a range of sizes and colours - Equity!" Now that story helps to explain the difference.

We often mix those two words, EQUALITY and EQUITY, if we ever use the word equity. Equal access to shoes, or resources, or help, is an important necessity in life . But, some need more help to become equal.

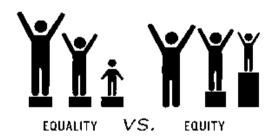
EQUALITY - INEQUALITY/ EQUITY - INEQUITY. All nouns (the English language!) - so where would we use these words?

Equality - the state of being equal in status, rights, opportunities.

Inequality – difference in size, amount, circumstances.

Equity – the quality of being fair and impartial.

Inequity – lack of fairness or justice.



Equity could be seen as "levelling the playing field"

Ethics, another 'E' word, often turns up in articles and opinions. Two that I spotted recently in the ODT concerned proposed revamps to tertiary education. Economic (another 'E' word) decisions are mentioned for the downsizing of departments at Otago University, specifically Humanities. Decisions based on economics often fail to

recognize human rights, natural justice and environmental issues, gender or indigenous issues – all equity matters.

Changes that have been implemented to the education system and more changes being considered do not appear to put **equality** and **equity** and **ethics** into the equation. And now, just this week, junior doctors go on strike and so patients and others lose patience. Also Government refuses to move on child poverty – perhaps they will make an announcement just prior to the next elections.

There is a lot more can be said regarding the lack of equity in many of government's decisions, both national and local.

Equity and ethics are often forgotten when we export goods that are produced at the expense of the environment and again when we import cheap clothing and other goods produced through child/slave labour, goods that all too quickly go to over-fill our rubbish tips.

Where is equity and ethics when cities in 'poorer' countries, are bombarded with munitions manufactured in 'richer' countries and innocent citizens – so many children – are killed and maimed, while diplomats huff and puff at each other somewhere safe in lavish surroundings.

The question for us is: How can we ensure equity in our lives?

Some quotes: "Law and equity are two things which God has joined, but man has put asunder." – Charles Caleb Colton. (19<sup>th</sup> century English cleric)

"Ethics and equity and the principles of justice do not change with the calendar." – D.H. Lawrence. (20<sup>th</sup> century writer)

"Do not pervert justice; do not show partiality to the poor or favouritism to the great, but judge your neighbour fairly." Leviticus 19:15.

"What is equity? It is the quality of citizens of a given society to relate to each other in fairness and impartiality." – Sunday Adelaja (Ukralinian Pastor)

"We all should know that diversity makes for a rich tapestry, and we must understand that all the threads of the tapestry are equal in value no matter what their colour." —Maya Angelou (USA writer)

Gordon Abernethy