



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:	Mrs Hilda Hughson	487 6226
	Mrs Earlene Owens	489 8146
Tongan Steward:	Mr Kaufusi Pole	455 0096
Parish Office:	Siosifa: parish@dmm.org.nz	466 4600
	Katrina: admin@dmm.org.nz	
Parish Prayer Convenor	Elaine Merrett: elaineross@xtra.co.nz	489 7663
Pastoral Convenor	Beryl Neutze	476 7447
Mornington:		

PARISH BULLETIN

23rd October 2016

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 30th October

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

CLOSING OF WESLEY CHURCH - With the sale of Wesley Church pending, the church's chattels are being offered to the other Dunedin Methodist churches. If there are any items you would like, please write to Ian Bartlett (28a Belgrave Crescent, Roslyn, Dunedin) who will facilitate the consideration of all requests.

EXPLORERS GROUP: No meeting this Sunday (Labour Weekend) nor even the following Sunday. The next meeting will be on Sunday 6 November.

OPEN EDUCATION - Now that the final Open Education session for the year has been held, and a further sum raised for the Red Cross Syrian Refugee Appeal (we have now raised nearly \$2000), I want to thank all those parish members and friends who attended throughout the 2016 sessions. Another exciting series is under preparation for 2017, beginning on Wednesday 15 March with a multimedia background to the Lampedusa Cross, which we expect to be attended by members of the Muslim community and associated Syrian families. Let's make this a big demonstration of interfaith respect and support.

MORNINGTON TOY & GAMES TRUFFLES: yes, it is that time of year again; Christmas is looming, and soon you'll be thinking, "what can I take to the next Christmas function" – well, your problem is solved...at \$6.00 a dozen, you'll be able to take a treat that is guaranteed to please everyone. Contact Rebecca Neaves, 488-4372, if you would like to order truffles (don't forget, they freeze brilliantly) – we are making them on November 11 and 12, so I will bring them to church on Sunday, November 13 (or I can deliver them to your house). Thanks to everyone for your continued support of the Toy Library!

FRIDAY 4TH NOVEMBER 2016 2pm COFFEE @ BLACKSTONE please phone 489 7663

Parish Links

MOSGIEL METHODIST CHURCH NEWS

It is pleasing to note more refugees are being welcomed into our community. To date 2 families have been settled in Mosgiel. Earlene Owens has been instrumental in facilitating the purchase of 21 new pillows and cases through donations from members of our congregation. These have been supplied to the Red Cross organisation, who are working hard to settle these families, some of whom have been living in camps in Lebanon for several years. We hope to continue with our donations. Well done Earlene for a great initiative!

On Saturday 15 October, 7 of our ladies attended a fund-raising event at Waikouaiti Presbyterian church. Proceeds were to help fund the building of a new office for their Minister. It was a memorable day with perfect weather for garden visits. There were 4 in Waikouaiti and 2 in Karitane, which were a credit to their owners. We had such fun, it was agreed we should get together more often. Plans are already in motion.

THANKS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I would like to express my sincere thanks to Professor David Tomb of the Otago University for the arrangement of Dr Katalina Tahaafe Williams from World Council of Churches to speak at our Mornington church on the theme: "Church Responses to Violence Against Women." Some of the university students and members of our church were challenged by the message.

I would like also to acknowledge the effort of both Campbell Weston and Colin Gibson on the dedication of the Lempedusa Cross. Leaders of the Catholic Church, Anglican Church, Presbyterian Church, and a representation from the Moslem community were taking part in this service. This joint effort shows our solidarity in our concern for the suffering of refugees. We have a duty to care for them.

THE ORDER OF SAINT LUKE THE PHYSICIAN - Following a visit by members of the Anglican Order of St Luke the Physician to the Mornington Methodist Church, we have been left pamphlets explaining the healing work of the Order and how it may be contacted. If you are interested in this aspect of Christ's healing ministry, email or phone the Secretary, Mrs Shirley Flower, phone 09 533 8743 or email <members@oslnz.org>.

SERVICE OF CELEBRATION FOR WESLEY METHODIST CHURCH, SOUTH DUNEDIN

The members of the Dunedin Methodist Parish will have a Service of Celebration with the members of the Wesley Methodist congregation on the **27th of November at 1:00pm**

The Purpose of this service is to celebrate the ministry of this Church over the years to its members and its community and the closing of this property for any use of worship.

The congregation is still in the process of deciding another venue for their Sunday services.

Therefore, we would like to invite past members and ministers to join us in this service of celebration.

Please contact us if you are planning to come:

Rev Siosifa Pole, parish@dmm.org.nz

(03) 4664600; or

Ian Bartlett (03) 4772349.



STORIES FROM THE MISSION

Incredible years programme: The is going well, with a very engaged group of parents who are participating enthusiastically in group discussions and activities. We have a focus on expressing ourselves positively, looking for the good things and turning our instructions from a negative command to a positive one. For example, instead of saying 'don't run in the house', one parent found that using the positive alternative of 'please walk inside' was much more effective. Looking for positive behaviours to praise, such as sharing or playing quietly, helped the parent see that her children were doing a lot of good things and reduced the need to correct them. Another parent said that her son wouldn't accept praise, even when he had done something well. After our session on Effective Praise and Encouragement, she found that when she 'labelled' the praise, that is, let him know exactly what it was that she liked about what he was doing, he really enjoyed the attention and encouragement. It's great to hear parents telling us how well their children have responded to attention, encouragement and reward programmes such as sticker charts to make progress and learn new skills. One parent said that her son had really struggled with his toilet training until she put in place a consistent reward programme, and he had now had a whole week dry.

Take 10 Streets: The last few weeks for the Take 10 Streets Project has been busy with meeting residents of the area despite the unpredictable weather, understandably, if it is cold and windy they do not want to

open the door. The type of resident has been wide and varied, from young, single parents, young families, someone on home detention, the elderly, some older families too; also a fairly high percentage of people who have lived in the South Dunedin area for a long time or returning from time away. The prospect of a Library coming into the area has caused quite a buzz of excitement to all. Dawn has been engaging with many of the residents who had previously expressed the need for a library as part of their desire for South Dunedin in conversations with her. She was working with them to encourage them to attend the council consultation meetings, to connect people who had similar ideas and views around the library to head together to the meetings, and to ensure they had access to all the council information before the meetings.

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.



CHILD POVERTY

At the MCNZ Conference in Pukekohe a couple of weeks ago the Public Issues Network put a resolution asking Conference to agree with the Children's Commissioner that the government should reduce the number of children in poverty by 10% from 150,000 by 2020.

To which some of us immediately objected. (I may have been one of them.) I know, you've all wondered for quite a while what it is that's wrong with me and now this!!

Let me explain.

In business the rule is "you manage what you measure" and right now there is no agreement to how many children are in poverty because there is no measure. But most of the estimates hover around 220-250,000.

So the first objection was that we were about to let the government off doing anything for maybe as much as 40% of the children in need, 100,000 of them. Even at a 10% reduction goal that would be 10,000 children who missed out on help.

Getting a poverty measure sorted - and there are several to pick from, it's not *that* hard - is the first step. Let's make sure we're counting **all** the kids in need. I'm really pleased Conference has now asked for an official poverty measure to be set.

The next thing that itched was: what, only 10%? That's it? In 2012 previous Children's Commissioner had an Expert Advisory Group that came up with 78 recommendations, 11 of them high priority, to reduce child poverty **drastically**.

(None of which have been picked up by government.)

10% is puny. 10% is 225,000 children STILL in poverty. 10% is Not. Good. Enough.

But 10% is fine if it is just a start, so the decision of Conference now says 10% sure, in the first couple of years, but 50% right after that and no slacking please.

And then there was a final thing. You know, centre-right governments aren't naturals at working with poverty. It's not really something they like to talk about, and it's a bit embarrassing; it doesn't fit their narrative about we're all individuals and there's no such thing as "society". So there's some ignorance there that has to be dealt with.

But we're Methodists, we're all about the Good Samaritan, we can help them over this hump with **how** they can reduce child poverty.

Which is why the decision of Conference now says: hey Government, use the 78 recommendations!

Timely too. Now that the Government has discovered a \$1.8bn surplus, they'll have the fiscal wiggle room to do things.

If we keep reminding them.

Laura Black