



Dunedin Methodist Parish

Finding Good in everyone Finding God in everyone

www.dunedinmethodist.org.nz

Find us on Facebook: **Dunedin Methodist Parish**

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@mmsouth.org.nz	466 4600
	Katrina: admin@mmsouth.org.nz	
Parish Prayer Convenor	Elaine Merrett: elaineros@xtra.co.nz	489 7663
Pastoral Convenor	Beryl Neutze	476 7447
Mornington:		

PARISH BULLETIN

30th April 2017

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 7th May

9.30 am	Mornington	R Mitchell
10.00 am	Mosgiel	S Pole
11.00 am	Glenaven	R Mitchell
11.30 am	St Kilda	S Pole

THANK YOU - I would like to thank the leadership of the Parish for taking care the Parish while I was away on Annual Leave. I really appreciate your effort, especially Rev Rod Mitchell, the Parish stewards, and leaders from all the congregations.

PASTORAL CARERS MORNINGTON: You are invited to meet over lunch at Fuschia House 5 Lees St after church on Sunday 7th May @ 11.00am. We will review our groups, and ways we can best support our church community and each other. Your attendance is important but if unable to come please notify Beryl. Transport is available if needed.



JOY CLARK - Has moved from Chatsford rest-home to Leslie Groves Dementia Care Unit at Wakari, Dunedin. Her address, 321 Taieri Road, Wakari, Dunedin 9010. Her phone number; 476-3000. You are welcome to visit Joy whenever is suitable.

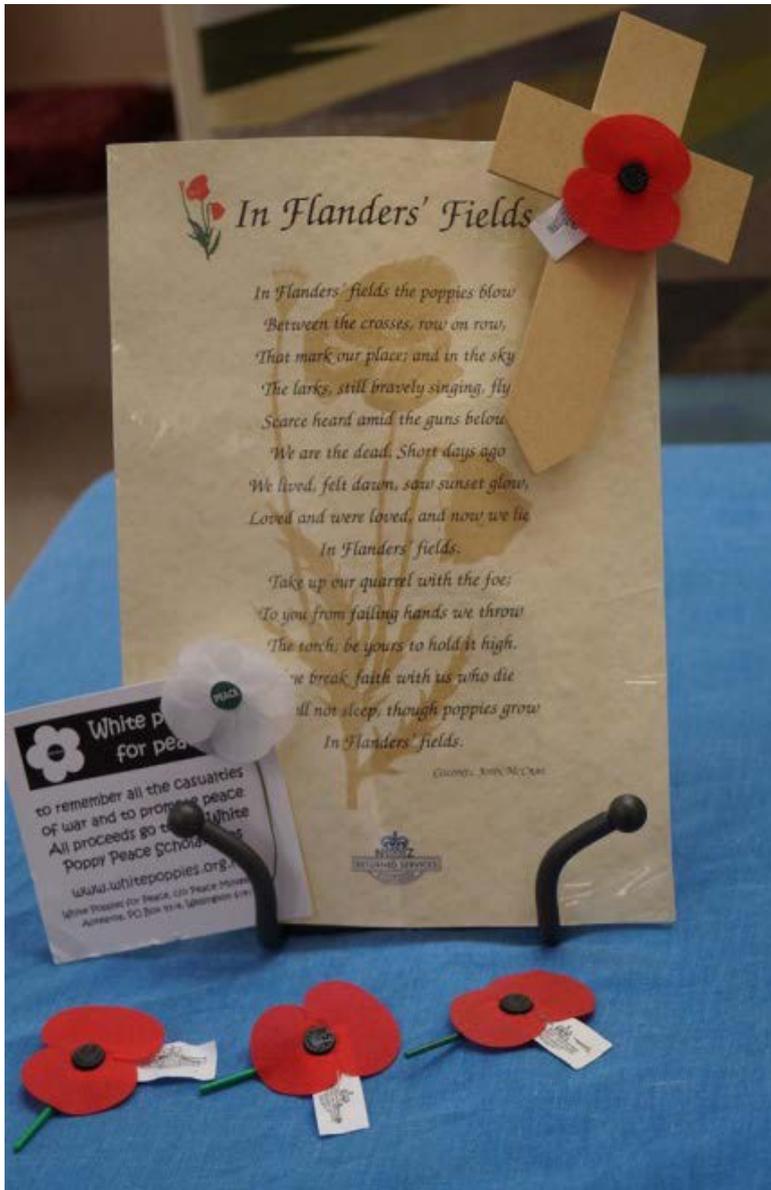
MOSGIEL MWF Tuesday 2nd May 1:30pm in the hall when Dorothy Finnie & Earlene Owens will speak to us about their trip to Molesworth Station & the Malborough Sounds.. ALL WELCOME.

ST KILDA Faka-Me CELEBRATION - The St Kilda Methodist Church will celebrate Faka-Me (Children Sunday) on May 7th at 1pm. The youth and the Sunday School will perform action songs, dramas, read Bible memory verses, and singing songs. It will finish the day with a shared lunch. All are welcome to this service.



NO SURPRISE that last Sunday's services carried symbols of the community's celebration of ANZAC DAY two days later. Subtle changes

have transformed Anzac Day commemorations over the years. On one hand the glorification of war is seldom heard. Maybe it's the cumulative effect of terrible images from Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan, and most of the human race wants no more of it. Or just as likely it's the contribution of today's youth, and their unmistakable investment in a peaceful world. At Mornington on Sunday, the traditional and the new were side by side on the communion table - the red poppy of remembrance and the white poppy for peace. They belong together.



*"On Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row"*
*"To remember all the casualties of war
And to promote peace"*

Our thanks for the effective way the red and white were brought together.

4

**TRUMPISM, BREXIT,
NEO-LIBERALISM,
THE GOSPEL AND THE
GENERAL ELECTION**

***A power-point presentation and
discussion led by Bishop Richard
Randerson***

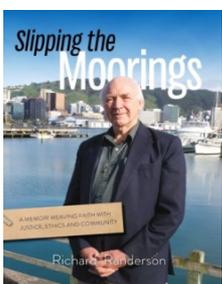


***7.30pm, Wednesday, 17 May 2017
Mornington Methodist Church, Galloway St, Dunedin***

A meal is available at 6pm for \$15: book with Judy Russell on
Tel 455 3727

About the Topic We live in troubled times with growing numbers in western society marginalised, and alienated, through poverty, homelessness and related causes. This seminar examines the socio-economic realities for New Zealand and offers a critique of the neo-liberal values which underpin them. By contrast, Gospel values of mutuality and well-being raise critical questions about choices for all Kiwis in the September election.

Richard Randerson is a retired Anglican bishop, now living in Wellington, whose 50 years in ministry have focused on the Church's engagement with the wider society, addressing issues of poverty and justice, ethics in the public square, and contemporary issues of theology and inter-faith. randersonjr@paradise.net.nz
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Slipping the Moorings: Richard's 2015 book addresses the above issues, along with same-sex relationships, ethics in the Public Square, God in the 21st century, and the future of the Church. It will be available on the night for \$25 (\$20 unwaged). Books may be invoiced if desired.



STORY FROM THE MISSION

Invercargill Brief Drink Driving Programme

Delivery of this programme was in Invercargill with a small group of 6. They were very responsive, and readily took part in all of the activities. The group were very quiet during some of the more confronting video clips, but said that they got a lot out of viewing them. They seemed to really enjoy the board game and the card games, there was quite a bit of joking and laughter during these. Invercargill as usual is a great venue with a good outdoor area for running the Booze Goggle activities, which are always much more successful when you have room to spread out.

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.



WHAT'S IN A LABEL?

Walking (following) down the aisle recently, supermarket, not church, wondering at the plenitude of labels and presentations of the 'millions' of goods arranged regimentally on the shelving, I wondered; wondered at the imagination, the artistry, the science, the effort that so many humans have made to elevate, in eye-catching array, otherwise ordinary, mundane consumables to the notice of the consumer, us buyers, we that keep the dollar rolling around the nation.

And what about the labels? That which tells us what's the best, what's our favourite. The advertising people tell us – "look for the LABEL!" The label tells all, persuading us which brand to buy – until they change the labelling then we are confused.

There's not just tins and packets and boxes and ... but everything we 'want' even if we don't necessarily need! The designer label is sooo.... Important. What we HAVE to have. Keeping the dollar rolling – a rolling dollar gathers no, well little, interest. (Who said that?)

But it's not just 'things' we label, we also label human beings. What does your personal logo look like? What do you/I want others to think? Try looking in the mirror, I know you do that every morning. Personally speaking, whatever others see, I see, beyond the wrinkles and receding hairline of a person with many labels. Working on compiling our family tree I catch labels like son and father, brother and uncle, husband and brother-in-law, nephew, grandfather; the list will be different for you

ladies, of course! And I still have difficulty with Reverend! I met a young man from the UK recently and he called me 'sir'!

We all have labels that define our beliefs, our politics, our interests, and sadly, at times, our class and status.

A jigsaw of labels that make up the picture of who we are, and with so many pieces still to be added and assembled, and so many lost forever.

The Bible is a good place to see people's labels displayed. Take a parable or three of Jesus'. I'm sure he didn't go out to label people, but they all had to be identified. Take the one where two people went to the temple to pray, "One was a Pharisee and the other a tax collector." If we hadn't previously heard this story, we would likely favour the Pharisee - the tax collector, well, a tax collector! The story of the 'Good Samaritan' is another. Labels.

But Jesus surprises us – you can't tell a person by their label – "Thank you that I'm not like that tax collector over there."

Is Jesus guilty here of labelling the Pharisee, and hence other Pharisees as being self-righteous?

Labelling people, other people, goes on all the time – give a dog a bad name. Better a good name! It's so easy to slip into the fashion of the times, buying what everyone else buys.

Many people of the world have suffered, and are suffering, or being punished, because of past happenings in their nation, the past bad actions of a faction. The Jewish people – what suffering they have endured. Then there's the many German people who were ostracized after the wars because of the actions of a certain section of their country-folk. It is obviously difficult for Syrians to resettle themselves, because a section of their nation has built up a bad reputation. And even the Irish get the stick. The colour of a person's skin can go against them, or their religion. Christians have been and are written off, partly because of their actions and behaviour in the past. Labelling people,

8

whether of nation or person can and does ostracize and stigmatize many innocent people.

If a product gets a bad name or we find we don't like the product, we can easily buy a different one, look for a different label. I suppose we could do that with people, but people have feelings - we have feelings, we can love, we can hurt, we can feel loved, we can feel hurt. To put a label that hurts on someone, or a group, or a nation, so ostracizing them, goes against decency and humanism.

Gordon Abernethy