

METHODIST PARISH

Finding Good in everyone Finding God in everyone

www.dunedinmethodist.org.nz



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Presbyters	Rev David Poultney	974 6172
	Mobile phone	022 350 2263
	Office phone	466 3023
	Office email	parish@mmsouth.org.nz
	Rev Dr Rod Mitchell	027 647 7003
		roddieg@xtra.co.nz
Parish Stewards	Mrs Jan Stewart	473 9141
	John Hardy	472 7377
	Ross Merrett	489 7663
Tongan Steward	Mr Kaufusi Pole	455 0096
Parish Prayer Convenor	Elaine Merrett	489 7663
		elaineross@xtra.co.nz
Pastoral Convenor	Beryl Neutze	477 7377
Mornington		
Parish Office		466 4600
		bulletins@mmsouth.org.nz

PARISH BULLETIN

20 June 2021

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 27 June 2021

9.30 am	Mornington	R Mitchell
10.00 am	Mosgiel	D Poultney
11.00 am	Glenaven	R Mitchell
	St Kilda	TBA

DATES TO REMEMBER

Wednesday 23rd June, 2.00 pm, Mornington MWF, Mornington Church

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the MORNINGTON METHODIST WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP Wednesday 23rd June, 2021 at 2pm at the Mornington Methodist Church.

All are invited to the AGM of the Mornington Methodist Women's Fellowship. The Rev David Poultney will lead the meeting and give the Reflection. A social gathering and afternoon tea will follow the meeting.



STORIES FROM THE MISSION

Ōtepoti YTH

A resident has been back to her counselling with her old doctor which she feels very comfortable and she also needed some clarification around her budgeting course payment with Youth Services. The resident booked the appointment, got herself to the appointment and also carried out the conversation in a logical process to convey what she needed from Youth Services. We are also looking at her disability allowance and how it would be effected if she started part time work.

One of our rangitahi, who was pregnant, has moved into independent accommodation. She has had the baby (all healthy and well) – both Mum and baby are doing well with lots of external supports.

One of our recent rangitahi to live with us in the house left her family around violence. The rangitahi was supported by Women's Refuge to move cities and was referred by them to the YTH. There is a protection order against the parents. The Rangitahi has settled in extremely well. They were a good student a school achieving high grades with a plan to study at University. They are currently searching for employment in Dunedin. This Rangitahi's culture is very important to them, and they

have been teaching the Supervisors and other Rangitahi at the house all about their culture and why this is important to them.

Parenting Through Separation

In March we held four courses, two in Dunedin and one each in Queenstown and Wanaka. We continue to have very good attendance rates of those who enrol on a course.

As an information service we are catering to people with a wide range of needs and feelings at a difficult time in their lives: There is a wide range of reasons for attending a course; for some attendees this is a course they have been told to do and it is a “tick the box exercise” as they are already going through the family court process; for some they are at an extremely emotional stage of the separation – for these people we talk about processes they can incorporate to focus them on the needs of the children and take some of the emotion out of the equation; for some they are perhaps further down the track seeking to get more formalized child arrangements in place; going onto perhaps mediation or the family court.

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



I HAVE BEEN REFLECTING on the state of our ecumenical relationships with other church traditions and wondering where the connecting points might be for building relationships. This has emerged as the various churches in North East Valley get smaller and are having to live with an increasingly older generation. So my mind goes back to the 1950’s, where after the two world wars there was a prompting to rethink how the world might work together. There was the formation of the United Nations and the increasing interest and development of the

World Council of Churches (WCC). In the early 1960's the Roman Catholic Church 2nd Vatican Council spread a ray of hope for co-operation and a renewed interest in ecumenism. Then we had out of this, here in New Zealand, a desire to try and put together united church under the Plan for Union. Much energy and a high level of expectation went into this proposal which sadly fell over at some of the later hurdles. Much energy and good leadership within the different denominational communities were burnt out, leaving churches struggling to find a new footing into the future. In recent times, I have begun to explore where the World Council of Churches might be today given the world issues of climate change, poverty, war, and increasingly refugees seeking asylum. This exploration sent me on a google search for WCC activities and planned future directions. They gave me the following insights. The WCC has been working with the theme of "development" [since the 1960's] with a shifting of emphasis over the decades. In the 1960's the focus was on 'economic development', in the hope of attending to the widening gap between rich and poor. Two decades later, in the early 1990's, it was acknowledged the program was not working; in fact the situation was deteriorating. This led to a rethink with the present emphasis shifting to an awareness that what is needed today is a transformed and renewed development of human beings. How we develop human beings who are caring and compassionate with each other in this global village has become the new focus with an invitation to local churches to participate in playing a part at the local level. I find this an exciting opportunity for local communities to work together to help co-create a better world. How we invite other churches to join might be a challenge but one worth taking.

I am also encouraged and delighted with the Methodist Missions proposals to develop programs for young learners so they are able to develop skills which will prepared them as adults to better face the world of the future confidently and creatively.

Rod Mitchell