

# DUNEDIN METHODIST PARISH

*Finding Good in everyone Finding God in everyone*

[www.dunedinmethodist.org.nz](http://www.dunedinmethodist.org.nz)



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

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## PARISH BULLETIN

4 July 2021

### WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 11 July 2021

9.30 am	Mornington	D Phillipps
10.00 am	Mosgiel	D Poultney
11.00 am	Glenaven	C Gibson
	St Kilda	TBA

### DATES TO REMEMBER

Tues 6 July 2021 @ 1.30pm – AGM - MOSGIEL METHODIST WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

## **PARISH BULLETIN AND ORDERS OF SERVICE**

Contact details remain the same for Parish Bulletins and Orders of Service [bulletins@mmsouth.org.nz](mailto:bulletins@mmsouth.org.nz)

Kaye and Pip will continue to assist you and can be contacted on 466 4600.

**MOSGIEL METHODIST WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP** - Meeting for July will be our A.G.M. & will be chaired by Rev. Donald Phillipps This will be held in the Hall Lounge on Tuesday 6th July 2021 at 1:30 p.m. Please remember the three Collections for this month - the Monthly Collection; Fellowship of the Least Coin; Special Project All Very Welcome.

**VOLUNTEER POSITIONS: For St Andrews Home in Kew, South Dunedin: Flower Arranger.** Do you have a love of flowers and people? Could you volunteer an hour or two or each week? We are looking for 3 volunteers that would be happy to refresh flowers in resident's rooms and lounge area. This would be a weekly visit and the volunteer would remove old flowers, change water in vases, tend pot plants and chat with residents. Three positions are available – one person per unit.

**Piano Player** – The home has pianos in various units. Come and play for the residents at a time that suits you.

**Van Outing Assistant** - Monday or Saturday afternoon from 2.15-3.30pm Can you give an hour and half of your time to help older people get out for a drive? We are looking for volunteers to accompany staff and residents on van outings. The van is driven by staff members, so you can relax and chat with residents. You will be working with a staff member at all times and responsible to that staff member. Role involves assisting and ensuring residents are safely transferred from St Andrews home and hospital into the van, sitting with residents and engaging with them during the van ride. Then assisting and transferring residents out of the van and back into the home. You will be working with residents from our

dementia unit. This role could be weekly or fortnightly depending on the day and your availability. We also need a volunteer to be on-call when there is a shortage.

For more information or expressions of interest:  
contact Jasmin Enright on 03 477 7115

### **CALL FOR PHOTOS FOR PARISH WEBSITE**

<http://www.dunedinmethodist.org.nz/>

The Photos section of our Parish website needs continual input. If it is kept up-to-date it becomes a valuable record of our Parish activities. So please remember to send any photos you have of events/people from your church that you would like to be added to the archive of Photos, even if already in the Bulletin, as a jpg file to [maryt@actrix.co.nz](mailto:maryt@actrix.co.nz)

Mary Thompson up-loads the Bulletin every week, and up-dates the Events and Articles and any photos you send in.

The webpage is worth checking out. If you have misplaced your Parish Bulletin and you want to check out what events are coming up, just go to the Parish website and look under Events. If you want to re-read any articles in the Bulletins search Articles or check out recent Bulletins under News. And hopefully new photos will appear under Photos, but only if you send them to me.

Mary

### **RECORDING OF SERVICES AT MORNINGTON IN JULY**

It is planned to record the services at Mornington during July and post them on YouTube at the channel **Mornington Methodist**. They will be put on YouTube some hours after the service and should be there by 7 pm on the Sunday. If you need help in finding **Mornington Methodist** you are welcome to contact me at 4822418 or [spittle727@gmail.com](mailto:spittle727@gmail.com). It is planned to review the situation at the Leaders Meeting on 3 August 2021. However, “The best-laid schemes o’ mice an’ men Gang aft agley” and we will need to see how it all goes.

**WEST PAPUA UPDATE** July 4, 2021

*The following letter has been sent to the Minister of Foreign Affairs on behalf of West Papua Support, Dunedin. (Letter slightly reduced here).*

KR

Tēnā koe Nanaia Mahuta

**West Papua**

We are members of West Papua Support Dunedin, a group which aims to increase awareness of the political, environmental and human right situation in West Papua and to support West Papuan people's struggle for self-determination.

We have become increasingly concerned about the recent escalation of conflict in West Papua, especially attacks by the Indonesian military on the resistance (Free West Papua) movement.

Reliable information is not always easily obtainable because foreign journalists and NGOs are normally excluded from the province, which has been under Indonesian occupation since 1963 and whose indigenous people have aspired to self-determination ever since. Phone and internet connections are often blocked.

*More recently* Indonesian President Joko Widodo has called for a military crackdown on West Papua and has little interest in human rights implications. Papuan people are having to cope with the loss of their homes resulting from attacks by government forces. Beatings, rape, torture, summary executions, disappearances, seizure of land, and illegal detention for lengthy periods without trial are common. The 'terrorist' label is increasingly and routinely used against them. Church leaders and others speak out where they can, but may be targeted for doing so. Both Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch have recently produced detailed reports on human rights abuses there.

The New Zealand government has appeared to accept, for decades now, Indonesia's assurances that its occupation of West Papua is justified and that allegations of human rights abuses there are satisfactorily investigated.

We argue that, in accordance with the United Nations 'Responsibility to protect' principle, adopted by all member states in 2005, New Zealand should use peaceful means to oppose the crimes being committed by the Indonesian government. Many New Zealanders, including a significant and growing number of parliamentarians, are recognising the moral imperative to avoid complicity in these crimes.

New Zealand has an international reputation for supporting human rights, and precedents exist in New Zealand's interventions in East Timor and Bougainville. We also note and applaud your generally positive approach to international relations, your advocacy of the use of indigenous models of conflict resolution, and your recent comments about the treatment of Uighur people in China.

Accordingly, we urge the New Zealand government to (1) recognise the illegality of Indonesia's occupation of West Papua (2) use its good offices with Indonesia to call for an end to unjustified military and police operations against West Papuan people (3) end defence ties, including the export of military goods, with Indonesia (4) advocate self-determination for West Papua in relevant international forums including Pacific organisations and the United Nations.

Ngā mihi nui

Barbara Frame (Convenor) Kenneth Russell

Marjorie Spittle and four others



**Tokomairiro Community Hub**

*Taituarā a Hāpori*

Two clients have been successfully in reconnecting with their whakapapa and registering for their iwi. Their sense of connection was almost immediate. One of the clients is now studying Māori and popping into the Hub to share her learnings (and gain further knowledge) around Tikanga, pronunciation and understanding tapu.

**If you would like to support the Mission's work with a donation, please visit [www.givealittle.co.nz](http://www.givealittle.co.nz) and search for The Methodist Mission**



## VISIONS OF THE FUTURE FOR THE MORNINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

A committee, chaired by Andrea Mosley, has been meeting in recent weeks to consider various visions of the future for the Mornington Methodist Church. They will report back with some bullet points to the Mornington Leaders meeting on 3 August 2021. The Mornington Church is also having a trial of placing its services during July on YouTube at **Mornington Methodist** and this will also be reviewed at the Leaders meeting.

During the Covid 19 lockdowns there was an increased use of meeting by Zoom and the developments in technology mean that church services can now be broadcast by live streaming and placement on YouTube which can be accessed by a smart TV or mobile phone. Live streaming allows a service to be seen in real time and for chat messages to be left and answered. The Mornington Church has a fibre internet connection at present and could live stream the services. The present trial will be of posting them on YouTube so that they are available at 7 pm on the Sunday they were recorded on.

Although taking part in a gathering or meeting by Zoom, viewing a live stream in real time or viewing later by YouTube may be better than not taking part at all, it may not be as satisfying as participating in person. Some groups have faltered when they were unable to meet face-to-face during the lockdown.

The question is ever present as to what is our purpose as the Mornington Methodist Church? What is the good news we will be disseminating via social media?

The President of the Mornington Methodist Church, Andrew Doubleday, spoke to us at Mornington some months ago and indicated that during his presidency he would continue to prepare a weekly reflection on the lectionary readings for the week and post it on YouTube. These can be accessed on YouTube at **Andrew Doubleday**. In his weekly sermons a consistent approach and his vision of the good news can be seen. In his homily for 20 June 2021 he read the Biblical accounts of the fishermen/disciples becoming alarmed by a severe storm on the Sea of Galilee and waking the sleeping Jesus because they were worried for their safety. Jesus intervened by quelling the storm. The Reverend Doubleday noted that God was present in the world and could not only tame the wind and waves but help those that came to Him in prayer for assistance in dealing with the storms in their lives. He relayed how he had encountered various personal storms that were beyond his ability to weather but when he came to the living Jesus, passed his insuperable personal situation over to him, and waited with expectancy, God communicated with him. The President said he did not hear the voice of God speaking but a still small voice in the form of a thought would come into his mind and provided a clear solution to the problem that had previously appeared insoluble. For Andrew, God was very much present in the world and that many things that happened were not by coincidence but the result of an intervention by God through the Holy Spirit and the living Jesus.

Just as the blind men describing an elephant after being able to touch only a part of it came up with widely differing accounts, so to, presbyters or ministers can respond in different ways to the same lectionary texts. David Poultney spoke at Mornington on 20 June on the same topic of the fury of a storm on the Sea of Galilee tossing the boat around and of the terrified companions of Jesus shaking him awake, when he was peacefully sleeping, because they were afraid that they were going to perish. David said the Bible then tells us that Jesus hushed the storm, bidding it to be still and that suddenly the lake was peaceful. David reflected that the human condition, life, is like a little boat and that,

although usually sturdy and resilient, it can be overtaken by an oncoming storm and be swamped, upturned, wrecked and sunk. He considered that although we may not be refugees or struggling with disability or chronic illness, we have experienced, in some way, the trial of a storm or personal pain and could connect empathically with the suffering of others. His view was that we could be humanity at its best by following the example of Jesus and bidding the storm be still by speaking peace. Although we cannot bid the storm of Covid or illness like muscular dystrophy to go away there are a host of ways in which we can act to make for smoother waters for refugees or persons in need with illness or inadequate housing. We are asked to have faith that the example of Jesus being compassionate and caring for those in need is the best way for us to live.

The Mornington church is thus reviewing its vision for the future while at the same time preparing to share its services more widely via YouTube. There are different views on what is the nature of the mystery we call God and the Kingdom of God but what unites the faithful is the vision that we should be compassionate towards those in need and suffering. How we do this will vary from age to age. John Wesley tried to tackle the problems afflicting his society in a variety of ways ranging from electrical therapy to ordered living and seeing one's body as a temple and guarding it from the effects of deleterious substances such as alcohol. Perhaps a modern equivalent is abstaining from harmful psychoactive substances and being able to identify the actual chemicals in the substances circulating in society. For the Mornington church new ways of caring for the community may emerge in addition to the many activities currently occurring. By providing a bricks and mortar building in the community that is warm, dry and seismically sound, the Mornington church provides a base from which compassion can be expressed.

Bruce Spittle