

DUNEDIN METHODIST PARISH

Finding Good in everyone Finding God in everyone

www.dunedinmethodist.org.nz



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

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|-------------------------------|---------------------|--|
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| | Office phone | 466 3023 |
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| | 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

11 July 2021

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY 18 July 2021

| | | |
|----------|------------|----------------|
| 9.30 am | Mornington | C Gibson |
| 10.00 am | Mosgiel | H Watson White |
| 11.00 am | Glenaven | R Mitchell |
| | St Kilda | TBA |

DATES TO REMEMBER

Wednesday 21st July

Open Education Programme (Mornington Methodist Church) – 7.30pm

OPEN EDUCATION

On Wednesday 21 July at 7.30pm in the Mornington Methodist Church we will have the honour to meet Wayne Te Kaawa. Recently appointed Lecturer in Maori Theology at the University of Otago, Wayne is an immensely friendly and personable man who has previously served as a University chaplain and as a minister in Auckland, Rotorua and Opotiki. As a parish—and especially in the month of Matiriki—we should welcome and affirm him in his new role. A former leader for 6 years of the Presbyterian Maori Synod, he is delighted to be back in his ‘second home’, Dunedin. ‘I love the architecture and the coffee shops, the lifestyle and the “small town” feel here.’ He has plenty to share (he has gained three degrees in theology at the University of Otago) and is an accomplished speaker. Your Koha of \$5 will go towards the education of one or more of his theological students.



TOKOMAIRO COMMUNITY HUB TAITUARĀ A HĀPORI

A very hard working client had her last session, she has been working on her relationship, and she has been in counselling at the Hub, which has helped build her confidence regarding her relationship. She has been working on her conflict skills and also what she wants in a relationship including whānau relationships. They have travelled such a journey that they feel confident, self-assured, and skilled to move forward and be in charge of their life and interactions.

LITTLE CITIZENS TAITUARĀ A HĀPORI

A client had been having a significant number of family issues which was impacting on their ability to keep up to date with their account fees. This client has been connected with a whānau ora navigator and a referral to Anglican Family Care for support. The client is developing a plan with these supports to move forward, and has been very grateful to have been connected back to her Māoridom.

WAIHOPAI YOUTH TRANSITION HOUSE

Client M had come from a women's refuge house and has achieved several small goals to get to where she is today. Fantastic work, focus, and problem solving by her. It is still incredibly tough for her and requested supports to help her sustain her tenancy – there were several factors impacting on this and several Invercargill community organisations came to support. Client M received a vacuum from MMS to help clean her house and keep it tidy. Salvation Army provided a food grant to allow her to save money to put a deposit on a small car – this has been enormously helpful as she has been able to purchase the vehicle which now allows her to be able to attend her range of appointments. Koha Kai provided readymade meals for 5 days to also assist her while settling into the new accommodation. A Private donor gave clothing for her to keep her warm for winter. With this community support and budgeting advice, Client M has successfully reached her outcomes, gained her independence, and sustained her accommodation

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

Faith Thinking - June-September 2021

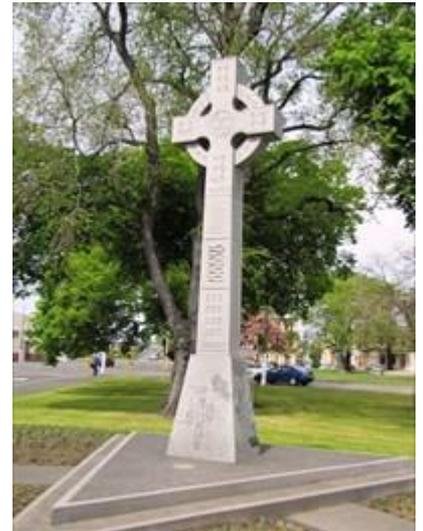
Short Courses jointly offered by the Theology Programme, University of Otago and some Dunedin Churches in conjunction with Continuing Education at the University of Otago.

PLEASE REGISTER ONLINE

AT www.otago.ac.nz/continuingeducation

Email: continuing.education@otago.ac.nz

Phone: +64 3 479 9181



FAITH THINKING ON ZOOM Wednesday August 18, 7.00-8.15pm

“It’s all Greek to me! The New Testament in Text & Translation”

Dr Katie Marcar, Theology Programme, University of Otago

COST: Free but please register to receive the Zoom link

FAITH THINKING ON ZOOM Tuesday September 14, 7.00-8.15pm

“Contours of an Ecological Theology for the 21stCentury”

Dr Andrew Shepherd, Theology Programme, University of Otago

COST: Free but please register to receive the Zoom link

FAITH THINKING IN PERSON

Friday September 17 (7-9pm) and Saturday September 18 (9am-12.30pm)

“Finding Faith in ‘Secular’ Times: What can we learn about Christian witness from the experiences of recent converts to Christianity?”

Dr Lynne Taylor, Theology Programme, University of Otago

Simpson Room, Dunedin City Baptist Church, 19 Main South Road, Concord, Dunedin

COST: \$20. Please register for this



A Glass and a half.....

Ads have the ability to irritate, amuse, confuse, inform, occasionally they give pause for thought. The example I use in this article certainly gave me pause for thought.

A little girl, possibly about five years old, is at the counter of a corner shop looking to buy a bar of chocolate, explaining that it was for her mum's birthday (her Mum can be seen in conversation with a friend at the shop entrance). The shopkeeper silently watches with a slightly quizzical expression as his diminutive customer, with great solemnity places her treasures on the counter, hesitating for a micro-second, she resignedly surrendered her last and clearly most treasured toy, a little pony and a pretty button. There was slight pause before the shopkeeper placed the bar of chocolate on the counter. The customer, with a grateful flicker of a smile said 'thankyou', picked up the chocolate and was about to leave when the shopkeeper with a kindly grin and nod handed back the little pony saying " your change".

The flicker of a smile on the little girl's face broadened to a smile of thanks and mutual understanding. The little girl was heard saying happy birthday as she gave her Mum the gift along with a big hug. The camera cuts to the shopkeeper who, with a little smile of amusement continues with his chores.

A heart warming vignette

'Ok,' one might say, 'it's only a jolly ad!'. That's true, an ad. funded by a corporate which did not cover itself with glory to the minds of many

Dunedin people, but whoever created the narrative, (probably a minion of the advertising agency) is no stranger to what is best in humanity.

Each of us as individuals has a set of values demonstrated in the choices we make. These can change over the course of time, influenced by a host of circumstances. Sometimes we consider our personal values as non negotiable, in other words they are our bottom line. A line we will never cross. Compromise is simply not an option. But life has a way of throwing us curve balls which require the ability to reflect and review our values. As a society we value democracy and the institutions that safeguard it. A number of countries are finding their democratic values under threat for a variety of reasons and are struggling to reassert these ideals with varying degrees of success.

Values are hugely important and we constantly need to be critically reviewing our own in the light of changing circumstances.

Back to our ad. As I reflected on this scenario a number of values stood out.

Firstly, the trust of the child. Clearly, in her mind this was going to be entirely possible.

She wanted to buy her Mum a birthday present and trusted this person would co-operate... after all she was paying for it in her currency, objects that, in her mind, were of value.

Secondly, she wasn't expecting something for nothing and was prepared to part with something that was particularly special to her, the little pony.

Thirdly, the shopkeeper although slightly taken aback took the child and her request seriously, treating her with respect and didn't at any point patronise her.

Fourthly, he observed her micro hesitation when proffering her pony, returning it as 'change' which she wasn't expecting, but of course surprised and delighted her.

Fifthly, the shopkeeper showed a spirit (value) of generosity. These days corner shops operate on very small margins and every transaction no matter how small, counts. But in the moment he chose to go with generous compassion... rather than the precise amount, no more, no less, his glass was full and running over.

While this advertisement is entirely fictional and all about selling product, it does reflect a set of values we can all recognise, namely compassion, kindness, respect and dignity, and a gift of love.

It also reflects a spirit of generosity especially on the part of the shopkeeper. This transaction was not just about supply and demand. The interactions characterised much more than that.

It was about values

Didn't Jesus say in Luke 6:38 Give and it will be given back to you in full measure, pressed down and overflowing?

A glass and a half perhaps.

It certainly was a moment of shared grace.

Trish Patrick