

DUNEDIN METHODIST PARISH

Finding Good in everyone Finding God in everyone

www.dunedinmethodist.org.nz



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PARISH BULLETIN

5 APRIL 2026

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY – 12 APRIL 2026

9.30AM	Mornington Church	Marcia Hardy
10.00AM	Mosgiel Church	Greg Hughson
11.00AM	Glenaven Church	Helen Watson White

RADIO CHURCH

8.30am		Tony Parrish – Seventh Day Adventist Church
	OAR 105.4FM	
	1575AM	
Live stream	oar.org.nz	

Please note you can now listen to RADIO CHURCH every Sunday on OAR 105.4FM, 1575AM or Livestream via oar.org.nz

Services at Mornington can be watched on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/@morningtonmethodist1598>



UPCOMING event dates

PARISH EVENTS COMING UP

15 April 2026 Gibson Talk Series 3 – Dr Graham Redding, Mornington Methodist Church 7PM

Gibson Talk Series 3, 2026

Speaker: Dr Graham Redding, University of Otago.

Topic: Religious violence and religious nationalism in a fragmenting world.

When: Wednesday April 15, 2026 at 7pm

Where: Mornington Methodist Church (corner of Galloway and Whitby Streets).

Admission: \$5 or other koha. All welcome.

In a time of growing division and conflict, religion is often seen as both a cause of violence and a source of hope. This talk will explore the myths of a just war and examine how religion can both fuel and resist violence.



This topic is extremely relevant today and should give us much to ponder upon. Mark the date in your diary, invite your friends along too.

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Connections –

150 days to our 150 years celebration for Mornington Methodist Church.

Mornington Methodist Church in Ōtepoti-Dunedin is preparing for its 150th anniversary celebration, scheduled for the weekend of September 10, 2026

To commemorate this milestone, the church has outlined a 150-day spiritual journey beginning April 12, 2026, which features weekly themes and stories that reflect the history, theology, and community impact of the Methodist movement.

The journey begins by exploring the foundations of faith, moving from the resurrection story of Mary Magdalene to the pivotal spiritual experiences of John Wesley.

The sources highlight Wesley's "strangely warmed" heart at Aldersgate on May 24, 1738, as a defining moment that moved him from doubt to a confident assurance of God's grace.

This theological foundation is built upon the Wesleyan Quadrilateral—Scripture, Tradition, Reason, and Experience—and a holistic understanding of grace through its prevenient, justifying, and sanctifying stages

A significant portion of the Methodist legacy involves missionary work and social action.

The church acknowledges the complex history of Methodist missions among New Zealand Māori, emphasising the need for cultural respect, community empowerment, and healing from colonial injustices.

Locally, Mornington Methodist has a strong record of social justice, supporting causes ranging from abolition and civil rights to nuclear testing protests and LGBTQ+ inclusion.

Today, the congregation identifies as a reconciling congregation, symbolised by the weekly lighting of a rainbow candle to affirm diversity, plus the presence of a rainbow flag on display in the church.

The church's influence extends into education, health care, and science.

Methodists have historically promoted education as a key to social development, a tradition continued locally through university chaplaincy and the Colin Gibson Lecture series.

In health care, the legacy includes the establishment of hospitals and community programs like those run in the Mornington Hall to improve public well-being.

Furthermore, the church fosters a positive relationship between faith and science, with leaders like Rev. Dr Rod Mitchell and Professor Colin Gibson exploring themes of evolution and environmental stewardship.

Worship and the arts are central to the Mornington church community.

The church celebrates the prolific hymnody of Charles Wesley alongside the internationally recognised contemporary hymns of local member Professor Colin Gibson, which focus on themes of justice and peace.

Visual arts also play a vital role, exemplified by the Jeanette Gibson tapestries and other "taonga" (treasures) displayed within the church to enhance spiritual reflection.

As the 150th year concludes, the church views this milestone not merely as a look backwards, but as a launchpad for renewal.

Inspired by Wesley's teachings, the congregation is encouraged to see themselves as "co-creators with God," recommitting to a journey of hope and service in an active, unfinished world.

This celebration serves to strengthen the bonds of community while inviting new growth and a continued commitment to love and justice.

Rod Mitchell