

# 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

**5 JULY 2026**

### WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY – 12 JULY 2026

9.30AM	Morningson Church	Sailosi Pole
10.00AM	Mosgiel Church	Adam Baker +
11.00AM	Glenaven Church	Helen Watson White
<b>Connections Article</b>		<b>Richard Cannon</b>

### RADIO CHURCH

<b>8.30am</b>	OAR 105.4FM	<b>Anne Thomson - Knox Church</b>
	1575AM	
	<a href="http://oar.org.nz">oar.org.nz</a>	
Live stream	<a href="http://oar.org.nz">oar.org.nz</a>	

Please note you can now listen to RADIO CHURCH every Sunday on OAR 105.4FM, 1575AM or Livestream via [oar.org.nz](http://oar.org.nz)

Services at Morningson can be watched on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/@morningsonmethodist1598>



# UPCOMING event Dates

8 July 26, Seniors – A Better Later Life, South Dunedin Community Hall, 1.00-3.00PM
12 July 26, Special Service at Mornington, Sailosi Pole, 9.30AM
19 July 26, Dunedin Interfaith Council Meeting, Mornington Methodist Church, 2.30-4.00PM
21 July 26, Bearing Witness, Dr Lamma Mansour, Mornington Methodist Church, 3.30-4.30PM
12-13 September 26, Mornington Methodist Church 150 year Celebrations

## Notices

### Weekly Parish Bulletins



If you have any items/events you would like advertised in the weekly Parish Bulletin please send these to [bulletins@mmsouth.org.nz](mailto:bulletins@mmsouth.org.nz) by close of business on Wednesdays.

If you would like to receive the weekly Bulletin via email please send your email address to the bulletins email (above) and we will add you to the mailing list.

### Mornington Fellowship

Thank you to everyone who attended our super-speedy Annual General Meeting.

The 'committee' also thanks the Fellowship for the gorgeous flowers—you really shouldn't have! It is all of you who come along that make these gatherings such enjoyable occasions.



Our special guest speaker was Yashi Li, a senior medical student at the University of Otago, who spoke on "*The Importance of Listening: What Medicine Has Taught Me About People and Health.*"

Yashi spoke about the importance of carefully listening to people and their stories, and of considering their health concerns in the context of their occupations and lifestyles. A lively discussion followed during question time, with many thoughtful questions and insights shared.

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## Mosgiel Church

Mosgiel Church received their new noticeboard which was kindly donated by an anonymous donor.

Our sincere thanks to the kind donor.

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## Mornington Methodist Church 150 year celebrations 12-13th September 2026



Please keep this weekend free for our 150 year Celebrations which will include a celebration meal and a Combined Parish worship service on Sunday 13th September at which the President of the Methodist Church of NZ, Aroha Rountree will preach.

Please invite any former members of Mornington Methodist Church to join us. More details to follow.

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## Dunedin Interfaith Council Meeting at Mornington Church

The July meeting of the Dunedin Interfaith Council will be hosted at Mornington Sunday 19th July 2.30-4pm. Everyone is welcome !

Our Council is planning a National Interfaith Forum to be held in Dunedin 12th-14th March 2027. The theme will be :

**"Seeds of Unity, Fruits of hope - *Poipoia te kākano kia puāwai - Nurture the seed and it will blossom*"**

We are looking for people to assist with the running of this conference, especially in relation to catering. Please volunteer to Greg Hughson if you can make a few hours available over this weekend. Also, if you would be able to billet someone attending the Conference, please let Greg know.

See <https://sites.google.com/view/nz-interfaith-forum-2027> for further information and to register.

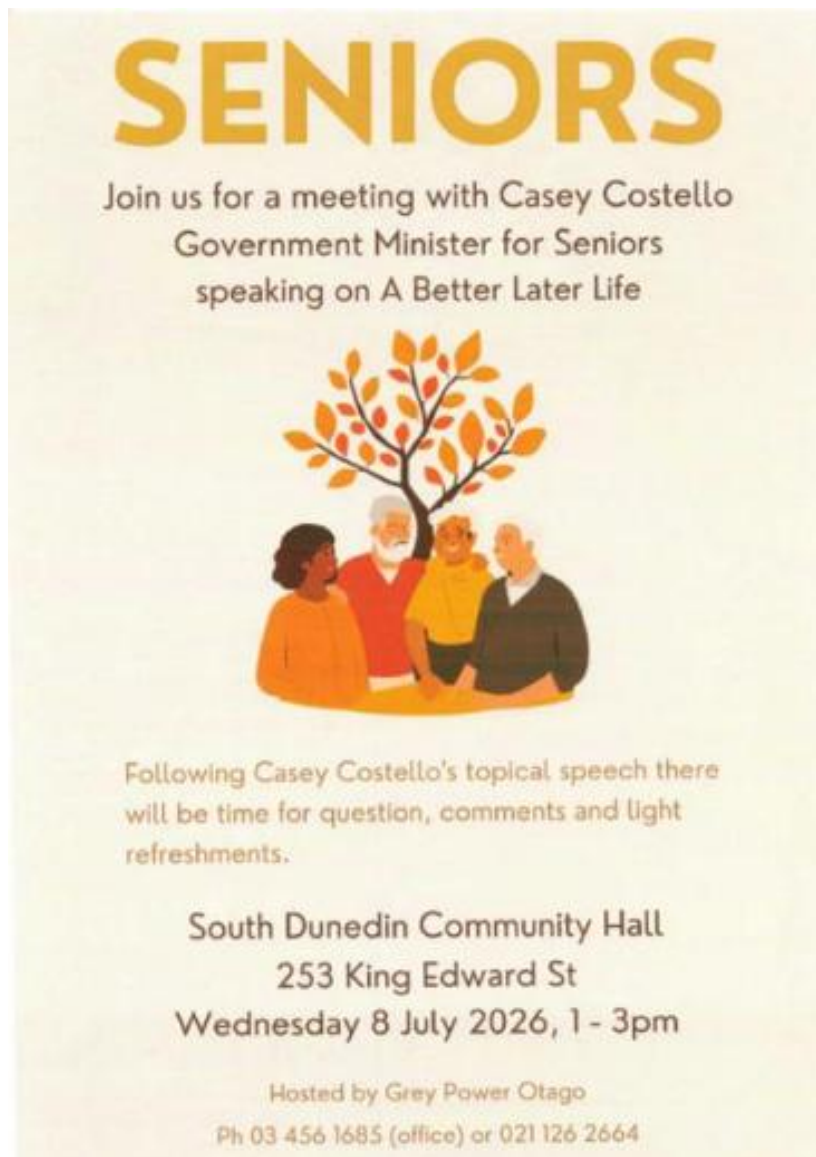
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## Special Service at Mornington Next Sunday 12th July 2026

Next Sunday Sailosi Pole will be preaching at Mornington. Sailosi and over 30 members of our Tongan Fellowship have just returned from celebrating 200 years since the arrival of Christianity in Tonga. Come along - and invite friends to hear from Sailosi and other young members of our Parish about their amazing experiences of worship and celebration during their recent trip !


Please pray for Sailosi, who is candidating this year to train for ordination as a Methodist Presbyterian in Te Hahi Weteriana, the Methodist Church of NZ. -

Greg Hughson



**SENIORS**

Join us for a meeting with Casey Costello  
Government Minister for Seniors  
speaking on A Better Later Life



Following Casey Costello's topical speech there  
will be time for question, comments and light  
refreshments.

South Dunedin Community Hall  
253 King Edward St  
Wednesday 8 July 2026, 1 - 3pm

Hosted by Grey Power Otago  
Ph 03 456 1685 (office) or 021 126 2664



Dr. Lamma Mansour  
NAZARETH

# *Bearing Witness.*

AOTEAROA TOUR • JULY 2026

## PALESTINIAN CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVES

*How should Christians respond to violence  
and injustice in the Holy Land?*

Dr. Lamma Mansour is a respected Palestinian Christian theologian bringing firsthand perspectives on faith, justice, and costly peace-making to churches across New Zealand. A Palestinian citizen of Israel, Lamma is also a writer and social policy scholar from Nazareth. Through her teaching, research, and lived experience she offers a thoughtful and deeply personal insight to the realities in the Holy Land today, and what courageous peace-making can look like from here in the Pacific.

**3.30-4.30pm Tuesday 21 July @  
Mornington Methodist Church, 1 Galloway St**

TOUR STOP

Tue 21 July  
2026, 7pm

# *Dunedin.*

VENUE

All Saints  
Anglican Church,  
786 Cumberland St

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## Connections

### The Poem called: "Don't Hesitate"

Rod Mitchell

*Mary Oliver's poem "If you suddenly and unexpectedly feel joy, don't hesitate" is a profound reflection on the human condition, the fleeting nature of joy, and the importance of embracing it.*

The Poem called: "Don't Hesitate".

If you suddenly and unexpectedly feel joy, don't hesitate.

Give in to it.

There are plenty of lives and whole towns destroyed or about to be.

We are not wise, and not very often kind.

And much can never be redeemed.

Still, life has some possibilities left.

Perhaps this is its way of fighting back, that sometimes something happened better than all the riches or power in the world.

It could be anything, but very likely you notice it in the instant when love begins.

Anyway, that's often the case.

Anyway, whatever it is, don't be afraid of its plenty.

Joy is not made to be a crumb.

Some reflection on this poem:

The poem begins with a direct command: "If you suddenly and unexpectedly feel joy, don't hesitate. Give in to it." This opening line is a powerful reminder that joy, like many other emotions, is often fleeting and unpredictable. It can strike at any moment, without warning, and it is up to us to acknowledge and embrace it. Oliver's use of the imperative "don't hesitate" is a call to action, urging readers to not let fear or hesitation stand in the way of experiencing joy.

The second stanza introduces a stark reality: "There are plenty of lives and whole towns destroyed or about to be." This line serves as a stark reminder of the harsh realities of the world. Oliver is not suggesting that joy is unimportant in the face of such destruction, but rather that joy is a precious commodity that should not be squandered. The poem acknowledges the suffering and despair that exist in the world, but it also emphasises that joy is not diminished by these realities. Instead, it suggests that joy can be a source of strength and resilience in the face of adversity.

Oliver then goes on to critique human nature, stating, "We are not wise, and not very often kind." This line serves to remind readers of their own limitations and shortcomings. It is a reminder that we are all human, prone to error and often lacking in wisdom and kindness. However, Oliver does not dwell on these shortcomings; instead, she uses them as a springboard to encourage readers to embrace the moments of joy that they do experience.

The poem then shifts to a more hopeful tone, stating, "And much can never be redeemed." This line suggests that while there are many things in life that cannot be changed or undone, joy is one of the things that can. It is a reminder that even in the face of loss and despair, there is always the possibility of joy. This idea is further reinforced in the next line, "Still, life has some possibility left." Oliver is suggesting that despite the hardships and tragedies of life, there is still room for hope and happiness.

The poem then offers a possible explanation for why joy exists: "Perhaps this is its way of fighting back, that sometimes something happens better than all the riches or power in the world." This line suggests that joy is not just a fleeting emotion, but a force that can challenge and even triumph over

the hardships of life. It is a reminder that joy is not just a passive experience, but an active force that can help us navigate the challenges of life.

The poem then shifts to a more personal level, suggesting that joy is often experienced in the moments of love: "It could be anything, but very likely you notice it in the instant when love begins." This line is a reminder that joy is often found in the most intimate and personal moments of life. It is a call to cherish and nurture these moments, to recognise and appreciate the love that exists in the world.

The final stanza of the poem is perhaps its most powerful: "Anyway, that's often the case. Anyway, whatever it is, don't be afraid." This line is a powerful reminder that joy is not something to be feared or avoided. It is a call to embrace the moments of happiness that life offers, to not let fear or despair stand in the way of experiencing joy. Oliver's use of the phrase "don't be afraid" is a powerful reminder that joy is a fundamental part of the human experience, and that it is something to be embraced and celebrated.

In conclusion, Mary Oliver's poem "If you suddenly and unexpectedly feel joy, don't hesitate" is a powerful reflection on the human condition, the fleeting nature of joy, and the importance of embracing it. The poem encourages readers to recognise and appreciate the moments of happiness that life offers, to not let fear or despair stand in the way of experiencing joy, and to recognize that joy is a force that can help us navigate the challenges of life. Through its direct and straightforward language, Oliver's poem is a call to live fully, to embrace the moments of joy that life offers, and to find hope and strength in the face of adversity.