

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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Parish Prayer Convenor	Elaine Merrett	489 7663 elaineross@xtra.co.nz
Pastoral Convenor Mornington	Susan Hamel	022 657 8303 sfh1959@gmail.com
Parish Office	bulletins@mmsouth.org.nz	466 4600

PARISH BULLETIN

19 JULY 2026

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY – 26 JULY 2026

9.30AM	Mornington Church	Adam Baker
10.00AM	Mosguel Church	TBC
11.00AM	Glenaven Church	Susan Hamel
Connections Article		Rev Greg Hughson

RADIO CHURCH

8.30am	OAR 105.4FM	Fr Vaughan Leslie St Joseph's
	1575AM	
	oar.org.nz	
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

21 July 26, Bearing Witness, Dr Lamma Mansour, Mornington Methodist Church, 3.30-4.30PM
22 July 26, Mornington Methodist Fellowship, Rev Adam Baker, Mornington Church, 2PM
12-13 September 26, Mornington Methodist Church 150 year Celebrations

Notices



Weekly Parish Bulletins

Please note Methodist Mission Southern will be moving offices. **The Administration Office will be closed from 3-7 August 2026 so there will be no bulletin for Sunday 9th August 2026.**

Normal administration service will resume for the Bulletin Sunday 16th August 2026.

Those that are taking services on **Sunday 9th August**, please have your service sheets into bulletins@mmsouth.org.nz by Tuesday 28th July or earlier to be picked up from the Stuart Street office on Friday 31st July 2026.

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.

TODAY: 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.

Mornington Methodist Fellowship

Galloway Street, Mornington, Dunedin

WEDNESDAY 22ND JULY 2026

2 PM

Our guest speaker is

REV. ADAM BAKER

**Strength To Strength:
Transition, Uncertainty,
and What Holds True**



All church members and friends are welcome to join us and for the social afternoon tea.

Mosgiel Methodist Church



On Sunday we welcomed Rev Adam, Jenn, Norris, Adelaide, Isla, & Duncan to our service for the first time in Mosgiel. What a huge blessing they all are. We all were photographed by our new sign. Which was made by Daniel at Graphic Design signage.



A new noticeboard for Mosgiel was kindly donated to the church by an anonymous donor. Sincerest thanks from the Mosgiel Parish.



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

Methodism's historic and ongoing role in the provision of education and tertiary chaplaincy

Methodism has played a significant role in the development of education, particularly in the 18th and 19th centuries, by promoting the idea that education is vital for both spiritual and social advancement. Founded by John Wesley, Methodism emphasised the importance of personal growth, moral integrity, and community service, which naturally extended to the realm of education.

One of the key contributions of Methodism to education was the establishment of schools and colleges aimed at providing accessible education to a broad segment of society. Early Methodists recognised that literacy was essential not only for personal salvation and understanding of the scriptures but also for engaging thoughtfully with the world.

The movement also emphasised the importance of education for women and marginalised groups, contributing to broader social reforms that advocated for equality and social justice. By championing the idea that education is a fundamental right, Methodism has left a lasting legacy on educational practices that prioritise inclusivity and community service.

Overall, Methodism's commitment to education has fostered generations of informed, compassionate individuals who are equipped to contribute positively to society, highlighting the powerful connection between education, faith, and social transformation. Note the contribution that Methodist people have given to the leadership of Chaplaincy in the University of Otago: Rev. Donald Phillipps, Rev. Dr. Rod Mitchell, Rev. Greg Hughson, Professor Colin Gibson. Professor Richard Cannon, Dr. George Davis and there may be others!

Rod Mitchell (from "150 days to Mornington Methodist Church 150 years celebration" resource)

Friends of the Otago Tertiary Chaplaincy

The Friends of Tertiary Chaplaincy at Otago are a group who support the various Chaplains at the University of Otago and Otago Polytechnic through their interest in their work, prayer, attendance at various events, and through financial support.

Friends:

- receive an occasional newsletter via email (quarterly or so) which tells them of significant forthcoming events (including graduation services), gives cameo-stories of the work of chaplaincy, and gives details about support
- attend services held by the Chaplains, and other events associated with Chaplaincy;
- are committed to pray for the work of the chaplains;
- are encouraged to give on a regular basis to support the work of Chaplaincy through automatic payment (eg \$10 per month).

Please contact Richard Cannon or Greg Hughson for further information .

<https://www.otago-tertiary-chaplaincy.nz/friends-of-the-chaplaincy>

Spiritual wellbeing is associated with the flourishing of the human spirit (from the Otago University website)

Spiritual wellbeing is about being secure in our sense of who we are and how we connect with others, the world in which we live, and, for many people, a transcendent realm.

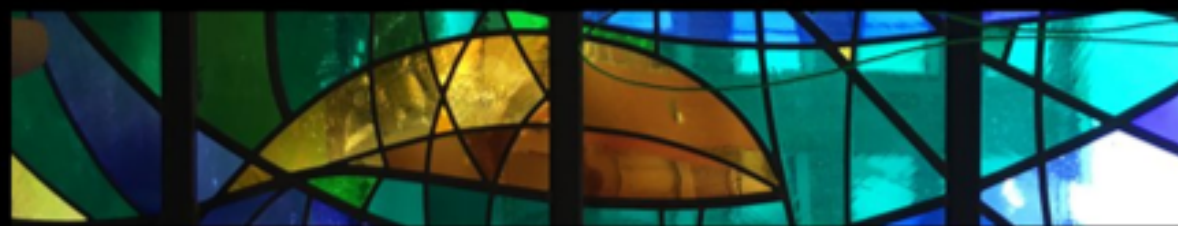
Spiritual wellbeing is nourished by habits and commitments that enable human flourishing at every level. It is strengthened by engagement with other perspectives and the integration of new experiences.

Spiritual wellbeing involves developing an inquisitive, open mind and a respect for truth wherever truth is found. Spiritual wellbeing truly embraces the University motto, Sapere Aude, Dare to be Wise!

Life at University is a time for learning about and practising spiritual wellbeing, and our chaplaincy team is available to support people in that exciting journey and in their task of nurturing the soul.

<https://www.otago.ac.nz/healthy-campus/spiritual>

OTAGO TERTIARY CHAPLAINS



The Otago Tertiary Chaplains offer pastoral care, spiritual support and educational resourcing to approximately 30,000 students and 4,800 staff at the University of Otago and Otago Polytechnic.

The Friends of the Otago Tertiary Chaplaincy support the chaplains at the University of Otago and Otago Polytechnic through interest in their work, prayer, attendance at various events, and/or by giving financial support.

To sign up to receive our occasional newsletter, go to <https://www.otago-tertiary-chaplaincy.nz/friends-newsletter>. This newsletter will provide information on the work of our chaplains, as well as keeping you informed about upcoming events.

The Otago Tertiary Chaplaincy Trust Board, which employs the chaplains, is an independent Charitable Trust. While we receive some generous funding from the University and Polytech, the majority of our funding comes from donations from trusts, churches and individuals.

To financially support the work of the Chaplains, you can set up a regular donation via online banking. For most banks, this will only take a couple of minutes. Our bank account details are:

Otago Tertiary Chaplaincy Trust Board

BNZ University of Otago

02-0929-0132985-00

Once you have set up an automatic payment, please email otagochaplaincy@gmail.com saying that you have done so. This will ensure you receive an annual receipt, in April each year, so that you can claim back one-third of your donation as a tax rebate.

Use this QR code to go to the Friends of the Otago Tertiary Chaplaincy website:



Connections - The best of friends

George Davis

John O'Donohue, Irish poet, author, priest and philosopher b. January 1956, died January 2008. He is best known for spreading knowledge of Celtic spirituality. He used the term *Anamchara* which means soul friend - an essential part of spiritual development. The Mother Saint of Ireland, Brigid of Kildare counselled a young cleric "that anyone without a soul friend is like a body without a head." A soul friend is a "compassionate presence."

This was used as a first or centering piece in Mornington Methodist Church service on Sunday morning, 14 June 2026. I agree with the sentiment expressed clearly by St. Brigid of Kildare. As a person who grew up as an only child in Outram then Mosgiel from 1945 but with loving parents who shunted me off to Cubs, then Scouts at 1st Mosgiel Troop in the building opposite the church. Rugby from the age of eight for the Taieri Rugby Club in Wickliffe Street on Saturday mornings in winter and at the same time to learn the violin from Mr Les Borrow. And all of this within easy reach of the Mosgiel Methodist Church each Sunday. I'm not sure what was behind all of this activity for a skinny weakling of a child. But I was never short of friends who shared in all the activities and ventures. That may have been my parents' aim of it all.

As I grew older the ranks of close friends slimmed down. Early in high school I remember a friend in the street – Denis Brown, the local constable's son we were very close through Standard 1 and up to the 4th form. Then in high school Pak Leng was what you might call a soul friend – he was slightly older, wiser, and immensely clever with school subjects. He and I were inseparable until he left high school at the end of the 5th form to take over his family's Bankside farm in Henley, growing vegetables. He had blitzed School Cert. as I expected while I received 197 marks out of 400 and spent another year growing up in the Upper 5th. I missed him greatly, but in the next year he approached my parents and asked he could learn the violin from me. Suddenly my world had been adjusted to an even keel. School proceeded on to the Upper 6th, and Wednesday nights were violin nights with Pak Leng.

Very good progress and in about two and a half years he was playing at a very good Royal Schools Grade 5 standard. I learned much later after he died that he had the violin of his grandfather Sam Young of Outram. Once I went to Varsity our contact was mostly in holidays when I picked Brussel sprouts in icy winter conditions for him. We had regular jokes – he would debate with me about whether subject brightness was intelligence or wisdom. We both knew where this was going and the whole thing would dissolve in laughter. A real friend with whom no subject was closed. We hit it off though from different cultures. He died early, too soon.

At university and later during teaching there were other friends but none with the “soul closeness” of Pak Leng. He was special and we shared knowledge freely. I was greatly privileged to meet him at school and there we had that bond of being strangers in a foreign land. No matter what you think of me now, I was a rather shy, somewhat nervous young man. Playing the violin in public terrified me though playing in an orchestra I enjoyed. It must have seemed odd to classmates that a skinny young rugby player scout was also keen on the violin. I was encouraged by great teachers – like Englishman Mr William Walden-Mills of the King Edward Tech staff whom I learned from on Saturday mornings, and then a fantastic private teacher ex-LSO player Mrs L. Challenger who ushered me up the grades. I remember her best for unloading on to me her copies of the British *Strad* magazine which she kept as a reward for bowing or fingering. She was stern but with an engaging smile. She died suddenly when I just turned 20 and tackling grade 8.

In my life I had the good fortune of having a few really close friends, real “soul friends” in the way described by St. Brigid – who buoyed me up, shared jokes, eaten meals with Judy and me and appreciated our different views of the world. As a married couple for almost 60 years, we share a very small company of close friends who have been constant since the 1960s. We went to and took part in their weddings, welcomed their children, many of whom have children of their own. Time is racing past. Not in a disturbing way, happily, if not always smoothly. But that doesn’t matter in the long run.

The end point for the life of all of us is the same. Like Sam Neill, the NZ actor we know we will face death, not as a disaster but an inconvenience. On the other hand, it will be a new start, a new opening into a world not understood which is around us in the spirit where we might in some unknown way rediscover soul friends. We have chosen the redemption offered by God, through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and with the support of the Holy Spirit. Our soul, best friend ultimately is Christ who guides us in this earthly path.