

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 BULLETIN 27 SEPTEMBER 2026

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY – 4 OCTOBER 2026

9.30AM	Mornington Church	Rod Mitchell
10.00AM	Mosgiel Church	Susan Hamel
11.00AM	Glenaven Church	Helen Watson White
Connections Article		Rod Mitchell

RADIO CHURCH

8.30am	OAR 105.4FM	Seventh-day Adventist Church – Tony Parrish
	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

27 September 26, Parish Luncheon – Equinox, 12.30PM – RSVP to Elaine Merrett.

28 October 26, Mornington Fellowship Meeting

Notices

PARISH LUNCHEON

Where: EQUINOX

When: TODAY at 12.30PM

All Parish Members Welcome.

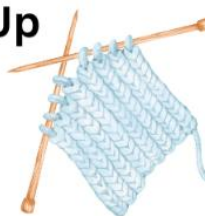


Mornington Methodist Fellowship

Operation Cover Up

Blanket for Ukraine

- 160 cm x 140 cm
- Use size 8 (4mm) needles
- 8ply or 2 strands of 4ply
- cast on 40 stitches and knit every row to 160 cm in length
- Use any number of colours
- Always change the colour on the right side of the strip
- Pure wool, not acrylic as it doesn't retain the same warmth



Any questions -
Julie 02102562277

Mornington Fellowship News

The Fellowship was pleased to welcome two guests this week. Margaret Larsen from Operation Cover Up (Mission without Borders) shared the background to the organisation's work and brought along the wool purchased by the Fellowship for our next Ukraine blanket. So, knitters, get ready – it's time to get those needles out again!



Christine Thomas from Methodist Mission Southern gave us an interesting and comprehensive insight into the work of the Mission, including the role of its Youth Transition Houses and wider community services. We were reminded just how important these services are, with Christine explaining that the Mission provides the only Youth Transition Houses serving young people from south of Christchurch right down to Bluff.

It certainly left us with a sense of *thank goodness for the Mission* and the practical support it provides for young people and others in our community who are facing difficult circumstances.

It was a very informative and worthwhile afternoon – and, for our knitters, there is now plenty to get started on!

Connections: Living Faith in a Dynamic Universe

What if the universe is not a finished painting, but a living canvas? What if the future is not simply a predetermined road that we must walk along, but a mysterious landscape filled with possibilities, surprises and invitations from God? For a Christian, this awareness can transform the way we understand faith and the journey of life.

We often live as though reality is fixed. We make plans, establish routines, form expectations and sometimes assume that tomorrow will simply be an extension of today. Yet the Christian story continually challenges this assumption. The Bible is filled with people whose futures were dramatically changed by unexpected encounters with God. Abraham was called to leave what was familiar. Moses encountered God in a burning bush. Mary received an astonishing invitation that changed the course of history. The disciples left their ordinary lives to follow Jesus. The resurrection itself stands as Christianity's ultimate declaration that God can bring something radically new out of what appears to be finished.

Seeing the universe as dynamic can therefore awaken a sense of holy curiosity. Instead of asking only, "What is going to happen to me?" we might begin asking, "What might God be inviting me into?" Every new day can become an opportunity to notice possibilities that we could not previously see.

This perspective can also change how Christians respond to uncertainty. Uncertainty is often frightening because we associate it with losing control. But faith invites us to see uncertainty differently. If creation is dynamic, then not knowing exactly what lies ahead does not necessarily mean that life is without direction. It may mean that there is room for discovery, growth, creativity and divine possibility.

Perhaps this is where hope becomes especially powerful. Christian hope is not merely optimism that everything will turn out exactly as we want. It is the confidence that God is present and that newness remains possible. The Apostle Paul speaks of creation “groaning” as it awaits transformation, while Revelation gives us the breathtaking image of God making “all things new.” Christianity is therefore deeply connected with the idea that reality can move towards something not yet fully visible.

For our faith journey, this means we do not have to be imprisoned by our past.

A mistake does not have to define our future. A closed door may create space for another opening. A season of disappointment may become the soil from which compassion, wisdom or a new calling grows.

Living with this awareness could make Christian discipleship more adventurous. Prayer becomes not only a request for God to bless our plans, but an openness to discovering possibilities beyond them. Faith becomes less about controlling the future and more about trusting God while participating creatively in its unfolding.

The dynamic universe therefore invites the Christian to live with expectant faith: feet grounded in God's love, eyes open to possibility, and hearts ready for surprise. Perhaps the greatest adventure of faith is discovering that the God who created the universe is still inviting us into a future that contains possibilities we have not yet imagined.

Rod Mitchell.
