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
15 NOVEMBER 2026

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY – 22 NOVEMBER 2026		
09.30AM	Mornington Church	George Davis
10.00AM	Mosgiel Church	Elaine Merrett
11.00AM	Glenaven Church	Greg Hughson
Connections Article		**Helen Watson White**
RADIO CHURCH		
8.30am	OAR 105.4FM	**Tony Parrish – Seventh-day Adventist Church**
	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

15 November 26, St Mary's Anglican Church, 3PM Closing Service - TODAY
18 November 26, Parish Council Meeting, Mornington Church, 7.30PM
22 November 26, Mornington AGM, after service at Mornington
25 November 26, Mornington Methodist Fellowship Meeting, Mornington Church, 2PM
29 November 26, Dunedin Methodist Parish AGM, after combined service at Mosgiel
5 December, St Martha's Carol Service, 26 Chingford Park Stable, 11AM

Notices



Message from Methodist Mission Southern

It is time to start thinking about the Christmas Break, the Mission office will be closed from **23 December 2026 to Monday 11 January 2027.**
For those taking services from **December 13th 2026 through to 17th January 2027** (including special Christmas services or Carrols), please send these to bulletins@mmsouth.org.nz **no later than midday Tuesday December 1st 2026.** There will be more news around this in the coming weeks.

St Mary's Anglican Church in Mornington is closing.

After many years of ministry, fellowship and witness, their final service will be held on **Sunday 15 November at 3:00 pm.** This will be a **Service of Thanksgiving and Secularisation**. We will give thanks for the life and ministry of St Mary's and celebrate Holy Communion together one final time before the church building is formally returned to secular use. Afternoon tea will follow in St Anne's Hall.
Leaders and members of Mornington Methodist Church are warmly invited to attend.

Mornington Church AGM

The AGM for Mornington Church will be held after the service on **Sunday 22 November.**



Dunedin Methodist Parish AGM

The Dunedin Methodist Parish will be holding an AGM after the combined service at Mosgiel on Sunday 29 November.



St Martha's Carol Service

St Martha's would like to invite the Glenaven Methodist congregation to join them for their Carol service.

It will be **11am Saturday December 5th, at the Chingford Park Stable.**

Please make a note of this now in your diaries. I will announce it this Sunday at Glenaven.

Connections – Making Space

Last week Susan wrote about her connection with the Society of Friends (Quakers) which I found really interesting and 'My heart was strangely warmed' by the simplicity of their practice.

As I get older, what is important for me regarding theology and my spiritual journey has become distilled into simple (not simplistic) core tenets, among them 'finding good in everyone, finding God in everyone'...AND all creation. All the strongly held finer points of theological discourse, while great topics for discussion and endlessly interesting, aid in my distillation process.

In the September Touchstone an article written by Rev Prof Nasili Vaka'uta entitled 'Who gets to name Theology?' is a topic speaking into the question 'whose culture gets to interpret the divine and how that will be expressed in language, ritual and liturgy.' Each culture is rich in its own myths, legends, wisdom and ritual which usually had to be abandoned with the introduction of Christianity. Sadly, many well-intentioned missionaries contributed to the loss of precious cultural and spiritual practices because they were functioning out of their own cultural background with accompanying biases and prejudices. Pluralism was not on the agenda.

I well remember going to hear Billy Graham in 1959 during his NZ crusade. This had a profound effect on church attendance...for a while. I can remember being very uneasy about the event and the build up to it. It was quite aggressive and demanding. The alter calls at the main event were considered the pinnacle of the crusade and, although only a teenager, I found it rather cringy, particularly the emphasis on sin. Thirty years later it was a relief to discover Matthew Fox, a theologian whose sense of God and the divine was one of Original Blessing and Creation as opposed to the theology of sin and Atonement. For me this made glorious sense and added balance
to my faith journey.

Everyone's faith journey and spiritual experience is uniquely theirs and shaped by their own life experience. Maybe it’s a function of getting older that a lot of things I once considered of vital significance have quietly receded and I'm left with way fewer 'bottom lines'. That's not to say I'm left with fewer questions....indeed I have many more! But the questions are more important than the answers...which possibly will never be revealed. But I'm okay with that.

For me, the quaker movement is onto something truly important, especially in today's fractious and turbulent world.... a space of quiet acceptance where each can allow the spirit to move in the stillness, where and when she sees fit, no matter what faith one adheres to.

I love the hymn 'O Threefold God of Tender Unity', especially the last verse which speaks to the
mystery of God and creation:

Oh, threefold God of tender unity,
Life's great unknown that binds and sets us free
felt in our loving, greater than our thought,
You are the mystery found, the mystery sought.

Bill Wallace.

Trish Patrick