

# 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**

<b>Presbyters</b>	Rev Ian Boddy	021 109 0454
	Office email	<a href="mailto:parish@mmsouth.org.nz">parish@mmsouth.org.nz</a>
<b>Parish Stewards</b>	Mrs Jan Stewart	473 9141
	Ross Merrett	489 7663
	Hilda Hughson	027 343 7770
<b>Tongan Steward</b>	Mr Kaufusi Pole	455 0096
<b>Parish Prayer Convenor</b>	Elaine Merrett	489 7663 <a href="mailto:elaineros@xtra.co.nz">elaineros@xtra.co.nz</a>
<b>Pastoral Convenor Mornington</b>	Susan Hamel	022 657 8303 <a href="mailto:sfh1959@gmail.com">sfh1959@gmail.com</a>
<b>Parish Office</b>	<a href="mailto:bulletins@mmsouth.org.nz">bulletins@mmsouth.org.nz</a>	466 4600

## PARISH BULLETIN

**12 APRIL 2026**

### WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY – 19 APRIL 2026

9.30AM	Mornington Church	Ian Boddy
10.00AM	Mosgiel Church	George Davis
11.00AM	Glenaven Church	Ian Boddy

### RADIO CHURCH

<b>8.30am</b>		<b>Michael Godfey – Anglican Diocese</b>
	OAR 105.4FM	
	1575AM	
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 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

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### **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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## Notices

When the printed copies of the 150-day journey booklet are available, they will represent the run-up to our 150th year celebrations to be held in September 2026.

**Rod Mitchell will have copies at church available for \$10. A bank account number will be given to anyone who pays by card.**

The money will go towards helping finance the Celebrations to be held in Sept. 2026. It is hoped to have copies ready to give out over the next two weeks. Many thanks for your patience as we undertake the task of getting the booklets available. These booklets have 150 Sunday themes and stories associated with the development of Methodism in New Zealand and particularly with reference to Mornington Methodism. One of the underlying themes in the booklet is the developing Spirituality of the Wesley brothers as they faced the split with the Anglican church of Britain at the time.

Those people reading this bulletin outside Mornington Methodist church who might like a copy, please get in touch with Rod Mitchell at email: [roddieg60@gmail.com](mailto:roddieg60@gmail.com) with details of address and contact details.

Rod Mitchell.

## Mornington Fellowship

Last year Euan Thomson commissioned May Thompson to paint his home and Parkhill Street in Mornington.

At our March meeting Mary presented her painting and explained her approach to the painting and the significant

features. Euan led us through an interesting story of the history of his family and their life in early Mornington. Many in the fellowship were delighted in being reminded of the old landmarks that have now gone.



## News from the Mission

# We Know Times Are Tough

At Little Citizens, we're here to help make things a little easier by offering:

- Nutritious meals provided each day
- Affordable fees
- Flexible enrolment options to suit your family
- Quality early childhood education

If you're looking for a supportive and caring environment for your tamariki, we'd love to hear from you.

Call **NOW** to enrol or for more information contact: [emiliem@mmsouth.org.nz](mailto:emiliem@mmsouth.org.nz)  
or tel: 027 545 5548



[www.littlecitizens.co.nz](http://www.littlecitizens.co.nz)

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## The Walk of the Cross, Good Friday

Over 80 people from 4 congregations in Mornington joined The Walk of the Cross starting at St Xaviers and ending at Mornington. It was a wonderful witness to Christian unity.

Robyn and Lynley provided a very striking reminder of the starkness of the day on Friday, followed by the joyous transformation on Sunday, with their floral displays. Beryl and Joyce worked as a well-oiled machine to provide tea, coffee and hot buttered hot-cross buns for the throng.

### Photos



Good Friday



Easter Sunday



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## Connections article for the Parish Bulletin 12 April 2026 The storm that changed Methodism forever

Before there were Methodist churches, there was a terrified young priest on a ship in a violent storm. That priest was John Wesley.

The year was 1736, John Wesley was sailing from England to the American colony of Georgia. He was a missionary, a Church of England clergyman, and very serious about his faith. But here's the thing — he didn't yet have the deep inner assurance of faith that he would later preach about.

During the voyage across the Atlantic, a massive storm hit the ship. Waves crashed over the deck. Sails tore. Everyone on board thought they might die. Everyone ... except one small group.

### The People Who Sang in the Storm

On board were a group of Moravian Christians (a Protestant group from Central Europe). While the English passengers screamed in fear, the Moravians calmly gathered together and they started to sing hymns. Not panicked singing. Not desperate praying. Just quiet, steady, peaceful worship — right in the middle of the chaos. Wesley was stunned. Later, he asked one of their leaders, "Were you not afraid?" The Moravian replied, "No." Wesley pressed further, "But weren't your women and children afraid?" The answer was: "No, our women and children are not afraid to die." That moment shook Wesley to the core.

### The Realisation

Wesley realised something painful but life-changing: He had religion ... but he didn't yet have that kind of faith. The kind that brings peace in a storm. That question stayed with him for years. It led to his famous experience at Aldersgate Street in 1738, when he wrote: "I felt my heart strangely warmed... I felt I did trust in Christ, Christ alone for

salvation.” That moment is often seen as the spiritual birth of the Methodist movement.

### Why This Matters for Methodists Today

Methodism didn't begin with power, buildings, or big crowds. It began with a man who knew about God but wanted a faith in God that transcended life's trials and tribulations. It began with ordinary believers whose quiet faith became a powerful witness.

### Worship in the Middle of a Storm

That's a beautiful image for a 150<sup>th</sup> celebration, because it reminds us: Methodism was born from real people, experiencing real struggles in a turbulent world who still managed to worship and celebrate. It spread because faith was lived, not just preached, and its heart has always been peace, assurance, and practical faithfulness.

This is the first of several powerful little stories as we countdown to our 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration here at Mornington Methodist Church in Sept 2026.

Richard Cannon, based on material provided by Rod Mitchell.