

Opoho Signal

August 2022

via email

Ōpoho Signal

50 Signal Hill Road, Ōpoho , Dunedin 9010

website: www.opohochurch.org

Facebook: [Opoho Presbyterian Church](https://www.facebook.com/OpohoPresbyterianChurch)

Newsletter of the Ōpoho Presbyterian Church



August 2022

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Editorial

You can't teach an old dog new tricks ... not wanting to change your ways or learn new things.

Dogs encourage people to spend more time outside, make people recognizable within their neighbourhood, provide a topic of conversation, and actively solicit the attention of strangers. Dogs help make people recognizable and identifiable to others, while also creating social distance.

Dogs and Practices of Community and Neighboring
Emma R. Power, *Anthrozoös*, vol. 26, issue 4, 2013, pp. 579-591

Dogs belong on farms – huntaways, heading dogs, dog whistles. I have a silver cup for winning a section at the Milburn Collie Club in 1970 with Blitz, my champion huntaway.

I never thought I'd have a town dog. In 2020 we became dog

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guardians of Ralphy, a bear-like gentle golden retriever/poodle. Our son and daughter-in-law were off to Melbourne, and we were to care for Ralphy until they settled and sent for him.

Falling in love with Ralphy wasn't on the agenda, but it happened. Walks around the neighbourhood, discovering a world of dogs and owners combined with weeks of Covid lockdown changed us. When Ralphy returned to his owners (Covid bringing them home to Dunedin) we were at a loss. The solution was our own dog.

Tinks arrived in February 2021 as a small puppy. Small house /now big dog – Tinks is a very long-legged and large goldendoodle (retriever/poodle). I can't imagine life without a dog. I've made a raft of new friends; Dusty, Tui, Charlie, Ra, Benji ...and their owners. We meet on Alhambra Park, Tannock Glen, and the Northern Cemetery morning, noon, night regardless of the weather. Dog discussions, sharing of local and world views. Our weekends involve trips to beaches, biking with a dog trailer. It's a new and different universe that was previously invisible.

Hard-held views have changed, new tricks are being learnt and I'm a better person for all this. I wonder what views and tricks have changed for you? I read this research article about the benefits of dog ownership and wondered if you could change the word for church?

Churches encourage people to spend more time outside, make people recognizable within their neighbourhood, provide a topic of conversation, and actively solicit the attention of strangers. **Churches** help make people recognizable and identifiable to others, while also creating social distance.



Miriam Vollweiler



Parish Council News

A very brief Parish Council report this month.

The Council met on 21 July and noted that Clare would be on leave from late July to mid-August – preachers have been arranged for the three Sundays she will be away.

It was noted that the Property and Finance Committee would be working on the budget at its August meeting, and the Annual Meeting has been set down for 16 October.

It was also decided to continue with not having morning tea after our services for at least another month. The position will be reviewed again at the August meeting of the Council.

Gregor Macaulay on behalf of the Parish Council



Property and Finance Committee News

At our July meeting we were pleased to note that the Opoho Church Health and Safety Policy had been approved by the Parish Council. It covers the range of risk management responsibility and practices that encompass our church activities. A copy of this document will be available in the Morrison Lounge.

On our meeting agenda we have accidents, incidents and security as standing items – we check if anything has been reported or brought to our attention over the preceding month.

- Please make sure you let us know of anything that occurs so we can address issues.
- Please let us know if there are any security, safety, or maintenance issues that you have become aware of.

Warm regards from the P & F team –

Miriam, John, Michael, Judy, Benjamin, Brian, and Sanel



Church DCC Candidate Meetings



It's that time again. We play host to the host of Dunedin City Council candidates at the church over two nights, Sunday 18 September and Monday 19 September from 7 p.m. to 9.10 p.m.

I'll be chairing the meeting as usual in my Cat in the Hat attire.

There will be a mask-wearing mandate, including for the candidates except when they are speaking. We will have to make sure the church is not overcrowded, and I hope it will be warm enough to open some of the windows for ventilation.

There will be a koha opportunity for the Dunedin Night Shelter Trust.

Philip Somerville



Poems Prayers Psalms Prose - a friendly writing group



For writers of all kinds from Opoho and beyond
Wednesday 10 August at 7 p.m.

Zoom link 92395184583

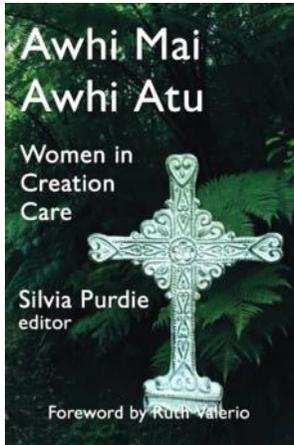
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For more information, please contact

Abby Smith: 027 606 3552, abigailmarionsmith@gmail.com



Book Launch



Awahi Mai Awahi Atu: Women in Creation Care, a compilation of the stories of 30 women in New Zealand from a wide diversity of cultural backgrounds about their involvement in environmental action, will be launched in Dunedin at a function at Toiora Cohousing (corner of High and Alva Streets) beginning at 3 p.m. on Saturday 6 August.

The editor is Sylvia Purdie, Presbyterian minister, counsellor, and sustainability consultant (she has preached at Opoho), who is part of A Rocha Aotearoa New Zealand and writes resources for Eco Church NZ.

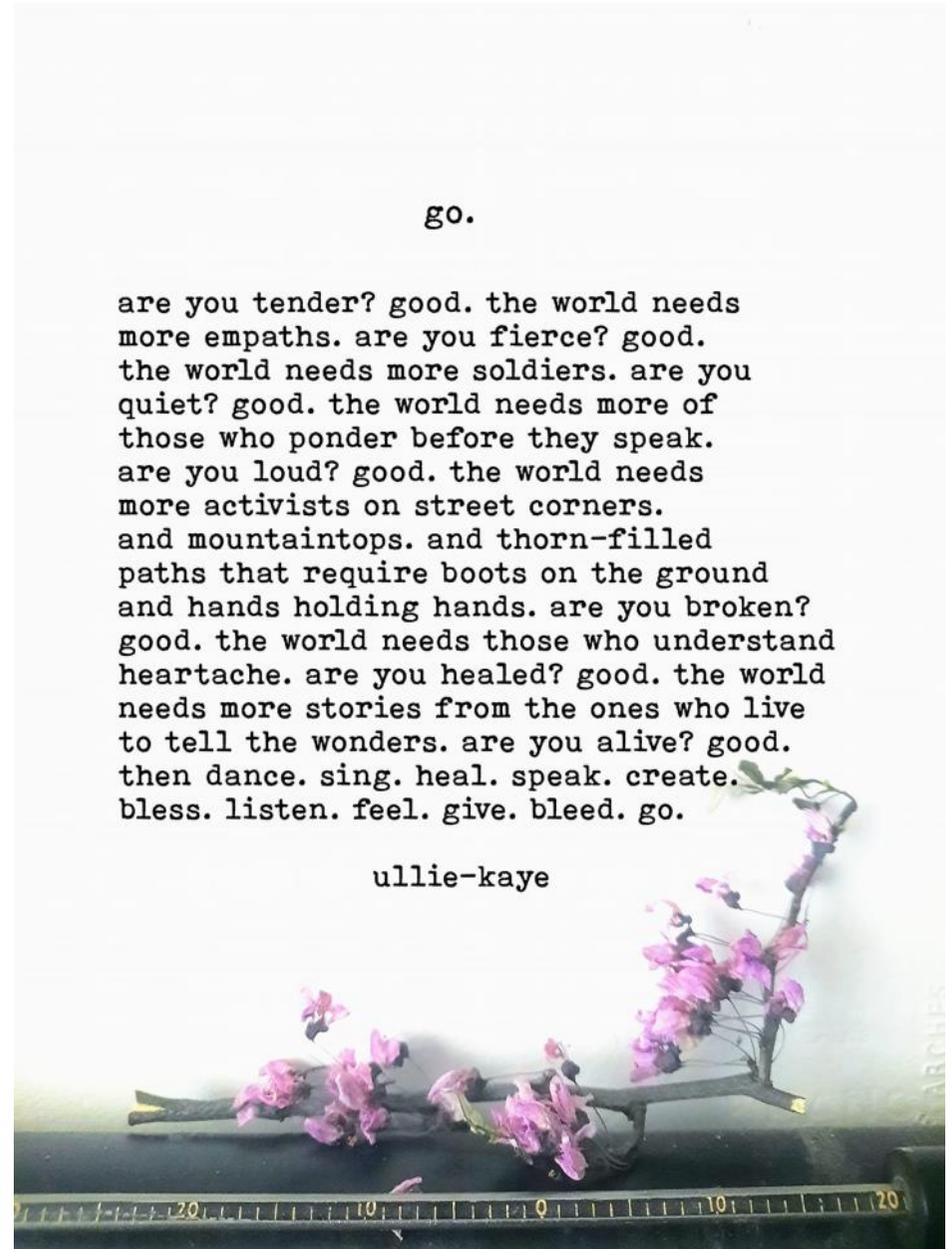
If you can't get to the launch, go to www.conversations.net.nz/awhi-women-in-creation-care.html for further information on the book and how to buy a copy in physical form or as an e-book.



Fellowship Group

Meetings of the Fellowship Group are suspended at present but are planned to resume in September.

Andrea Johnston



go.

are you tender? good. the world needs more empaths. are you fierce? good. the world needs more soldiers. are you quiet? good. the world needs more of those who ponder before they speak. are you loud? good. the world needs more activists on street corners. and mountaintops. and thorn-filled paths that require boots on the ground and hands holding hands. are you broken? good. the world needs those who understand heartache. are you healed? good. the world needs more stories from the ones who live to tell the wonders. are you alive? good. then dance. sing. heal. speak. create. bless. listen. feel. give. bleed. go.

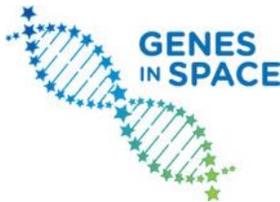
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Experiments

Among the routine items being carried to the International Space Station recently, there were some experiments that add information for man’s trip to the Moon and beyond that to Mars. The NASA Earth Mineral Dust Source Investigation is to study mineral dust that is blown across land and the sea. The make-up of the dust can either warm or cool the land it crosses. It can affect air pollution, vegetation, and phytoplankton in the sea. This experiment will run for one year and will improve human understanding of the effect of long-term breathing of dust.

Ageing is associated with changes in the immune response. Microgravity also works changes in the immune response in human cells, similar to this but effects are shown much quicker than ageing on Earth. The U.S. laboratory is studying the effects of microgravity using tissue chips and are interested too in whether or not the changes persist once the ‘flight’ is over. Tissue chips are human cells arranged in a 3D matrix, which are convenient for scientists to use.

Cell free technology is a platform for producing protein that does not have to be cultured. *Genes in Space-9* has demonstrated that cell-free production can take place in microgravity. It has also evaluated two biomarkers that can identify specific target molecules. This technology could mean, in the future, a simple, portable and low-cost tool for doctors: on-demand provision of medicines and vaccines.



It never ceases to amaze how much about God’s creation we do not know!

Jane Anderson



Smells and Memories



A bite of a madeleine cake and a sip of tea was all it took to send Marcel Proust tumbling back into the childhood memory of Sunday mornings with his aunt. This experience of a smell sparking a vivid memory will be familiar to many people. But how smells cause us to time travel in our minds and evoke emotion is not just of literary interest – it’s something that scientists are trying to decipher.

When we hear a sound, the signal goes from our ears to our brainstem and then to the thalamus before finally getting to our auditory centre. When we are sensing smells, neurons in the nose are directly connected with the smells centre in the brain – and from there they can be passed on to other areas of the brain, including areas that deal with memories.

We tend all of us to think of good smells but for someone with Traumatic Stress Disorder some smells can cause anguish. Clearly, smells have to do with our psychology. One study found that while people are resting, their hearing centre in the brain is in close touch with the hippocampus, an area known to deal with memories. The other senses, sight and touch, were not tied to the hippocampus and it would seem that our noses are more connected to our memories than any other sense.

Jane Anderson



Operation Cover Up



Please keep making peggy squares out of wool or a warm wool mix, 20cmx20cm, and drop them off at the church.

Wool and instructions are in the bag on the back pew. Contact me if you need help at 027 473 6026 or weavermariane@gmail.com

Marian Weaver





To make a cash donation for the Food Bank, visit www.psotago.org.nz

Keeping in Touch

Do you know...

Ōpoho Church has a website, www.opohochurch.org

On the website you will find (among other things) links to recent sermons, downloadable copies of the Orders of Service for the two most recent Sundays, downloadable versions of the newsletter, and an on-line version of the Church Calendar.

The church also has a Facebook page (you don't need to belong to Facebook to see the page) www.facebook.com/OpohoChurch

This newsletter is emailed to all who have requested to receive it this way. If you are not already on the email list, and would like to be, please send an email to Gregor gregor.macaulay@outlook.com

Opinions expressed in the *Ōpoho Signal* are those of individual authors, unless stated otherwise.

Deadline for next *Ōpoho Signal* - Saturday 20 August 2022

Please send all material for the next *Ōpoho Signal* to:
Gregor Macaulay, 88 Forfar Street, Mornington, Dunedin 9011
Email gregor.macaulay@outlook.com

Lectionary readings, 7 August to 25 September 2022 in Year C, the Year of Luke

Sunday 7 August - 9th Sunday after Pentecost

Is 1: 1, 10-20	Ps 33: 12-22	Heb 11: 1-3, 8-16	Lk 12: 32-40
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Sunday 14 August - 10th Sunday after Pentecost

Is 5: 1-11	Ps 82	Heb 11: 29- 12: 2	Lk 12: 49- 56
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Sunday 21 August - 11th Sunday after Pentecost

Jer 1: 4-10	Ps 103: 1-8	Heb 12: 18-29	Lk 13: 10-17
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Sunday 28 August - 12th Sunday after Pentecost

Jer 2: 4-13	Ps 112	Heb 13: 1-8, 15-16	Lk 14: 1, 7-14
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Season of Creation - Wisdom in Creation 1 September - 2 October

Sunday 4 September - 13th Sunday after Pentecost

Jer 18: 1-11	Ps 139: 1-6, 13-18	Philemon 1: 1-21	Lk 14: 25- 33
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Sunday 11 September - 14th Sunday after Pentecost¹

Jer 4: 11-12, 22-28	Ps 14	1 Tim 1: 12-17	Lk 15: 1-10
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Sunday 18 September - 15th Sunday after Pentecost

Jer 8: 18-9: 1	Ps 79: 1-9	1 Tim 2: 1-7	Lk 16: 1-13
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Sunday 25 September - 16th Sunday after Pentecost

Jer 32: 1-3a, 6-15	Ps 91: 1-6, 14-16	1 Tim 6: 6-19	Lk 16: 19- 31
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Coming up @ Opoho Presbyterian Church

Physical gatherings may be subject to Covid alert level restrictions.

August	
4 August ~ Thursday	7.30 p.m.: Christian Development Committee, Morrison Lounge
7 August ~ Sunday	10 a.m.: Worship, preacher the Rev. Professor Murray Rae, Communion
10 August ~ Wednesday	7 p.m.: Poems Prayers Psalms Prose – a friendly writing group, via Zoom (see elsewhere in this <i>Signal</i> for link) 7.30 p.m.: Property and Finance Committee, Morrison Lounge
14 August ~ Sunday	10 a.m.: Worship, the Rev. Anne Thomson
18 August ~ Thursday	7.30 p.m.: Parish Council, Morrison Lounge
20 August ~ Saturday	Material due for September <i>Opoho Signal</i>
21 August ~ Sunday	10 a.m.: Worship, the Rev. Clare Lind
28 August ~ Sunday	10 a.m.: Worship, the Rev. Clare Lind
September	
4 September ~ Sunday	10 a.m.: Worship, the Rev. Clare Lind, Quarterly Communion
7 September ~ Wednesday	7.30 p.m.: Property and Finance Committee, Morrison Lounge
8 September ~ Thursday	2 p.m.: Fellowship Group, Morrison Lounge (TBC)
11 September ~ Sunday	10 a.m.: Worship, Mary Somerville
15 September ~ Thursday	7.30 p.m.: Parish Council, Morrison Lounge
18 September ~ Sunday	10 a.m.: Worship, the Rev. Clare Lind 7-9 p.m.: DCC candidates' pre-election meeting
19 September ~ Monday	7-9 p.m.: DCC candidates' pre-election meeting
20 September ~ Tuesday	Material due for October <i>Opoho Signal</i>
25 September ~ Sunday	10 a.m.: Worship, the Rev. Clare Lind

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via email

For the week leading up to, and including, Sunday:

Opportunities for Service 7 August - 25 September 2022

	Morning Tea	Door Duty	Readers	Prayers	Sound and Data Projector	Music	Flowers	Hall Cleaning	Church Cleaning
August									
7 August	—	Jenny Bunce Jane Bloore	Abby Smith	--	Daniel Larsen	David Murray	—	Chris Young	Michael Ovens
14 August	—	Marian Weaver Andrew Smith	Jane Anderson	Abby Smith	Benjamin Thew	David Murray	—	Chris Young	Michael Ovens
21 August	—	Benjamin Thew Mark Ranby	Rudie Tomlinson	Mark Ranby	Sanel Tomlinson	Singers and Guitarists	—	Andrew Smith	Bronwen Strang
28 August	—	Michael Ovens Daniel Larsen	Gregor Macaulay	Marian Weaver	John Roxborough	Music Group	—	Andrew Smith	Bronwen Strang
September									
4 September	Judy Rodda Kirk Hamilton	Shona and Philip Somerville	Benjamin Thew	--	Kieran Somerville	David Murray	Judy Rodda	Benjamin Thew	Judy Rodda Kirk Hamilton
11 September	Sanel and Rudie Tomlinson	Mary and John Somerville	Andrew Smith	Meegan Cloughley	Daniel Larsen	David Murray	Judy Rodda	Benjamin Thew	Judy Rodda Kirk Hamilton
18 September	Meegan and Pam Cloughley	Rudie Tomlinson Gregor Macaulay	Shona Somerville	Daniel Larsen	Sanel Tomlinson	Singers and Guitarists	Shona Somerville	Christine Cleugh	Shona and Philip Somerville
25 September	Marian Weaver Jane Bloore	Jenny Bunce Jane Bloore	Sanel Tomlinson	Andrew Smith	Benjamin Thew	Music Group	Shona Somerville	Christine Cleugh	Shona and Philip Somerville

Thank you so much to all who contribute now, and have contributed in the past, to these activities.

If you find you are unable to do your rostered duty, please arrange for someone else to take your place. Let Gregor know of the change, so that he can update the Order of Service and contact the right people for readings and prayers.

Morning Tea: Please arrange for one person to bring milk, and to take it home again afterwards. There are biscuits in a drawer in the kitchen. Home baking is welcome, too.

Door duty: Before you leave, please make sure all the doors are locked; all the lights are turned off; and any candles have been put out.