

Opoho Signal

Newsletter of the Opoho Presbyterian Church

50 Signal Hill Road, Opoho, Dunedin 9010

website: www.opohochurch.org

Facebook: Opoho Presbyterian Church



October 2021

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Editorial: Lawnmower Musings – Grassroots Networking

In December 2019 I received a special Christmas gift: guardianship of a Lilliput Library that is perched on our fence at 38 Signal Hill Road. My LL merges into our overhanging camellia bush and is visible to people walking by. Ruth Arnison, from Dunedin, developed the concept of Lilliput Libraries in 2016 as a project extending from Poems in the Waiting Room – go to www.lilliputlibraries.wordpress.com. There are over 251 Lilliput Libraries and they are growing every week, extending around New Zealand.

The concept is delicious – the books are free for anyone to take away. You do not have to be a member or return the books. You can donate one later, return the book or pop it in another Lilliput

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Library. If you think a friend might enjoy the book, then pass it on. *It is all about the love of reading.*

Being a guardian gives me daily pleasure as I “curate” my library twice a day, changing books to keep it fresh. There are regular visitors to my Lilliput that I see from my kitchen table and I meet lots of people browsing as I come in and out my drive. I send emails out to friends when my stock gets low and they generously pass on their favourites.

One of my regular visitors is a woman who lives on the other side of town. She comes to Opoho once a week for a part-time job and tells me her treat is visit my Lilliput to collect a book. You can stroll around Opoho and the Valley and find these beautifully decorated libraries tucked in many places; each guardian chooses the décor and design.



Our family has a game where we spot the libraries on our travels and take photographs - I have a marvellous collection of Lilliput photos with my e-bike and dog. Franzi joined in the game and made these photos into a very cool poster while she was here at Opoho Church.

Other people play sport or do craft but I read – it is a lifelong passion which takes me into multiple worlds and experiences. The community concept of these libraries speaks to my heart.

Miriam Vollweiler



Parish Council and Church News

The Parish Council was masked and socially-distanced on 16 September but still met in person.

At the end of September the General Assembly met as a Zoom meeting. The Rev. Clare Lind was part of that meeting as our commissioner . (If a hui by zoom meeting is a zui, was this a General Zoombly?) Assembly hopes to meet again in 2022 in person to do business.

Philip, our Parish Clerk, and Shona Somerville will be away for two weeks from 1 October. The rest of us will cover for them.

John Roxborough, Benjamin Thew, and Miriam Vollweiler’s son Blair have met with Strawberry Sound to review our sound set-up and look at recommendations for future planning. The amplifiers, the mixer, the microphones and the microphone stand, and the projector are coming up for replacing. The current mixer John is using is on loan. The Parish Council has agreed to meet the cost of \$5,000 for new and improved equipment.

Direct giving has picked up. The draft budget for next year still contains a large deficit. The Council has approved in principle the draft budget to present to our Annual Meeting on 7 November.

There is a maintenance catch-up to be done around the church buildings: the vestry doors need replacing, windows need repairing, drainage and the garage will be an issue. Our Property and Finance people are doing a big amount of work. The Parish Council will look at revising the Giving for Life brochure to share with new people who are not on our automatic giving system yet.

Our weekly worship is organised to the end of 2021. Gregor Macaulay is working to organise the 16 Sundays in 2022 when Clare will not be preaching. Some of these Sunday services have already been allocated and we look forward to members of the congregation leading all or parts of some of the others.

The 2019 Annual Meeting agreed that “the Parish Council should

implement the inclusion in future reports of an indication of the environmental impact (especially carbon emissions) of parish operations.” The Parish Council is looking at what is possible and can be done to report to this year’s Annual Meeting.

The Council meets again on Thursday 21 October.

Andrew Smith



Tony Parry



During our service on 19 September, we remembered our friend Tony Parry with a candle and a vase of daffodils (thank you Fiona Stirling) on the communion table (photograph by Kirk Hamilton) and several people shared their memories of him, of his kindness, thoughtfulness, and gentle strength – and especially of his outstanding contribution to the success of church fairs, with his ability to identify and assess the value of white elephant items. Tony was a part of our congregation from at least 2014 until recently. He died unexpectedly but peacefully in early September in Wellington.



The Pentekon Bible (or, The Entire Bible in 50 Words)

God made, Adam bit, Noah arked, Abraham split, Joseph ruled, Jacob fooled, bush talked, Moses balked, Pharaoh plagued, people walked. Sea divided, Tablets guided, Promise landed. Saul freaked, David peeked, Prophets warned, Jesus born. God walked, love talked, anger crucified, hope died. Love rose, Spirit flamed, Word spread, God remained.

Dana Livesay

(Minister at Opoho 1988-1995)




WORKING BEE
Opoho Church Garden
Saturday 9 October 9 a.m. - 12 noon
(if wet, postponed to Saturday 16 October)

You are invited to be part of a working bee to do a tidy-up of the garden. The more people we have the better it will look.

Bring buckets, gardening and pruning tools and gadgets, and gloves.

Any queries contact Benjamin Thew 021 049 4264
benthew3@gmail.com

Coming Soon: Christmas Craft Fair at Opoho Church Hall



Hand-made goodies and gifts for sale just before Christmas
Saturday 4 December 10.30 a.m.-12.30 p.m. (set up at 9.30 a.m.)
Sunday 5 December 11.30 a.m.- 12.30 p.m. (after church)

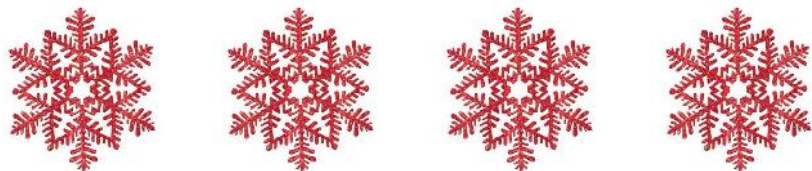
Opoho folks are encouraged to think about what they could make for sale – for example: knitting, painting, woodworking, drawing, crocheting, weaving, baking, jam-setting, curd-making, baking, ANYTHING that you can make yourself that would be a nice gift.

For people whose art/craft is their income, we are happy to make a deal where an artist/craftsperson sells her/his wares with a donation to Opoho at the end. Tell your crafty friends!

I am looking for a few helpers to make cups of tea/coffee during the Saturday fair.

If you have questions or great ideas, please contact Abby on 027 606 3552 or abigailmarionsmith@gmail.com

Abby Smith



Interfaith Matters



Week of Prayer for World Peace 10-17 October – all are warmly welcome to all functions:

Sunday 10 October 12.45 p.m. - 2.30 p.m.

Dunedin Interfaith vegetarian potluck lunch, All Saints' Church Hall, 786 Cumberland Street. Bring a vegetarian plate. For more information phone Ruth 020 410 6695.

Monday 11 October 6.30 - 8 p.m.

Annual Open Peace Lecture – Pursuing Peace: *Be Kind* – a conversation with David Swartz, at present the chair of the Wellington Jewish Council, who is very active in the fight against anti-Semitism. St David Lecture Theatre, Castle Street. Please register through the link:

www.eventbrite.com/e/18th-annual-open-peace-lecture-tickets-171533851367

Wednesday 13 October 7.30 - 8.30 p.m.

Annual Prayer Gathering with all Faith traditions contributing, followed by supper, at the Quaker Meeting House, 15 Park Street.

It would be great to see some of you at some of these – putting forward the crucial importance of World Peace and God's part in this.

Bronwen Strang



Fellowship Group

**2 p.m. on Thursday 14 October in the Morrison Lounge
(unless otherwise advised)**



Fellowship Group normally meets at 2 p.m. on the second Thursday of the month in the Morrison Lounge. Miriam or Chris will let people know if there is any change to the venue this month.

We are looking forward with hope to meeting again.

Please wear your mask and sign in – we will have a sign-in sheet available.

An important part of Fellowship Group meetings is our participation in the Fellowship of the Least Coin, as we bring along our least coins each month. The lotus image, formed of praying hands from around the world, is a symbol of the Fellowship of the Least Coin.

After a time of conversation, we have a cup of tea or coffee, accompanied by delicious baking (thank you Chris and Miriam), at around 3 p.m., and we finish by 4 p.m.

Andrea Johnston



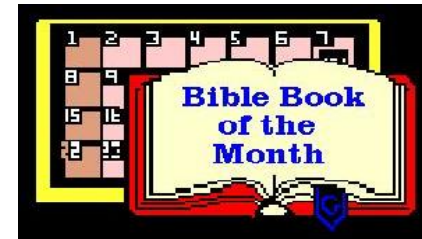
Poems Prayers Psalms Prose - a friendly writing group



Next meeting is Tuesday 12 October, 7-8 p.m., at the Salmond College Chapel, 19 Knox Street.

All are welcome.

For more information, please contact Abby Smith: 027 606 3552, abigailmarionsmith@gmail.com



Having worked its way through all the books of the Bible, there will be a final meeting of the group on Thursday 7 October to review the journey over the past 6½ years.

For more information please contact John Stenhouse at john.stenhouse@otago.ac.nz or Tui Bevin at 473 8677 or email mark.bevin@gmail.com

Tui Bevin





Operation Cover Up

Any time of the year is the right time to knit squares and/or sew them into blankets. Please use wool, not synthetic, as wool has more warmth.

Cast on 40 stitches in double knitting, knit 40 rows (or 20cm) in garter stitch and cast off. For other wool weights adjust to make 20 x 20cm squares.

A bag at the back of the church is topped up with wool if you need some. Money for shipping costs also gratefully accepted.

Contact Marian: weavermariane@gmail.com 027 473 6026

Marian Weaver

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### *Presbyterian Support Food Bank*

To make a cash donation for the Food Bank, visit [www.psotago.org.nz](http://www.psotago.org.nz)

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The Rubbish Challenge: 10 Steps to Less Waste in 10 Months

A resource for churches and whanau by the Rev. Silvia Purdie

More material and videos at

www.conversations.net.nz/rubbish-challenge.html

Step 9) October: Cleaning

Bible verse: 1 Corinthians 8:9 *Be careful, however, that the exercise of your rights does not become a stumbling block to the weak.*

‘Big Idea’

As Christians we try not to get caught up in lots of rules. Following Jesus is not about being ‘good’. We are free to eat and to buy what we choose. However, as Paul warns us, not everything is good for us or good for those around us. Could our freedom damage the environment around us? The chemicals we use can have a destructive effect ‘down-stream’. They are a ‘stumbling block to the weak’, not just people but fragile ecosystems and creatures.

Question – for reflection and discussion

In a global pandemic, of course we need good hygiene. But how does our human need for cleanliness impact on God’s creation?

Watch video at

www.conversations.net.nz/rubbish-challenge.html

Action Steps for October

What chemicals are used at your home, work, or church? Look on the labels. Find out what is in the stuff you handle.

Buy 'eco friendly' cleaning products, or make your own from safe ingredients.

At church or work talk to your cleaners about what they use, and work towards more environmentally safe alternatives.

Prayer

The Lord has set us free! We are free indeed!

Dear God, thank you for our freedom and for our responsibility.

Thank you for ethics that guide our choices.

May our actions not become a stumbling block for others.

May our choices protect the vulnerable,
both people and environments.

Amen.



Saturday 4 December 10.30 a.m.-12.30 p.m.

Sunday 5 December 11.30 a.m.- 12.30 p.m.



Keeping in Touch

Do you know...

Opoho 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 Andrea andrea.johnston@columba.co.nz



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

Deadline for next *Opoho Signal* - Wednesday 20 October 2021

Please send all material for the next *Opoho Signal* to:

Gregor Macaulay, 88 Forfar Street, Mornington, Dunedin 9011

Email gregor.macaulay@outlook.com



Lectionary readings, 3 October to 14 November 2021 in Year B, the Year of Mark			
Season of Creation 1 September to 4 October			
Sunday 3 October - 19th Sunday after Pentecost			
Job 1: 1, 2: 1-10	Ps 26	Heb 1: 1-4, 2: 5-12	Mk 10:2-16
Sunday 10 October - 20th Sunday after Pentecost			
Job 23: 1-9, 16-17	Ps 22: 1-15	Heb 4: 12-16	Mk 10: 17-31
Sunday 17 October 2021 - 21st Sunday after Pentecost			
Job 38: 1-7, (34-41)	Ps 104: 1-9, 24, 35c	Heb 5: 1-10	Mk 10: 35- 45
Sunday 24 October - 22nd Sunday after Pentecost			
Job 42: 1-6, 10-17	Ps 34: 1-8, (19-22)	Heb 7: 23-28	Mk 10: 46-52
Sunday 31 October - 23rd Sunday after Pentecost			
Ruth 1: 1-18	Ps 146	Heb 9: 11-14	Mk 12: 28-34
Monday 1 November - All Saints			
Wis Sol 3: 1-9 <i>or</i> Is 25: 6-9	Ps 24	Rev 21: 1-6a	Jn 11: 32-44
Sunday 7 November - 24th Sunday after Pentecost			
Ruth 3: 1-5, 4: 13-17	Ps 127	Heb 9: 24-28	Mk 12: 38-44
Sunday 14 November 2021 - 25th Sunday after Pentecost			
1 Sam 1: 4-20	1 Sam 2: 1- 10 <i>or</i> Ps 16	Heb 10: 11-14, (15-18), 19-25	Mk 13: 1-8

Coming up @ Opoho Presbyterian Church

All physical gatherings are subject to the lifting of lockdown restrictions.

October	
3 October ~ Sunday	10 a.m.: Worship, the Rev. Clare Lind, Communion
7 October ~ Thursday	7.30 p.m.: Bible Book of the Month: Reviewing Our 6½ Year Journey, 129 Signal Hill Road
10 October ~ Sunday	10 a.m.: Worship, Mary Somerville
13 October ~ Friday	7.30 p.m.: Property and Finance Committee, Morrison Lounge
14 October ~ Thursday	2 p.m.: Fellowship Group, Morrison Lounge
17 October ~ Sunday	10 a.m.: Worship, the Rev. Clare Lind
20 October ~ Wednesday	Material due for November <i>Opoho Signal</i>
21 October ~ Thursday	7.30 p.m.: Parish Council, Morrison Lounge
24 October ~ Sunday	10 a.m.: Worship, the Rev. Clare Lind
28 October ~ Thursday	7.30 p.m.: Christian Development Committee, Morrison Lounge
31 October ~ Sunday	10 a.m.: Worship, the Rev. Anne Thomson
November	
7 November ~ Sunday	10 a.m.: Worship, the Rev. Clare Lind, Communion, followed by Annual Meeting
11 November ~ Thursday	2 p.m.: Fellowship Group, Morrison Lounge
14 November ~ Sunday	10 a.m.: Worship, Gregor Macaulay
18 November ~ Thursday	7.30 p.m.: Parish Council, Morrison Lounge or via Zoom
20 November ~ Saturday	Material due for December - January <i>Opoho Signal</i>
21 November ~ Sunday	10 a.m.: Worship, the Rev. Clare Lind
28 November ~ Sunday	10 a.m.: Worship, the Rev. Clare Lind

Opportunities for Service 3 October - 28 November 2021

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

	Morning Tea	Door Duty	Readers	Prayers	Data Projector	Music	Flowers	Hall Cleaning	Church Cleaning
October									
3 October	Bronwen Strang Marian Weaver	Mary and John Somerville	Jenny Bunce	—	Judy Rodda	David Murray	Jane Bloore	Christine Cleugh	Jane Bloore
10 October	Jane Bloore Christine Cleugh	Sanel and Rudie Tomlinson	Julie-Ann Fleming	Benjamin Thew	—	Guitarists and Singers	Jane Bloore	Christine Cleugh	Jane Bloore
17 October	Hamish Spencer Abby Smith	Gregor Macaulay Mark Ranby	Lena Henderson	John Roxborough	Benjamin Thew	Gaynor Haig	Allison Mulder	Andrew Smith	Mulders
24 October	Daniel Larsen Shona Somerville	Andrew Smith Marian Weaver	Gaynor Haig	Mark Ranby	Kieran Somerville	David Murray	Allison Mulder	Andrew Smith	Mulders
31 October	Judy Rodda Kirk Hamilton	Hamish Spencer Abby Smith	Rudie Tomlinson	Marian Weaver	—	Music Group	Jenny and John Roxborough	Shona and Philip Somerville	Bronwen Strang
November									
7 November	Sanel and Rudie Tomlinson	Shona Somerville Daniel Larsen	Mark Ranby	—	Hamish Spencer	David Murray	Jenny and John Roxborough	Shona and Philip Somerville	Bronwen Strang
14 November	Meegan and Pam Cloughley	Jane Bloore Jenny Bunce	Sanel Tomlinson	John Roxborough	—	Gaynor Haig	Judy Rodda	Meegan Cloughley	Judy Rodda Kirk Hamilton
21 November	Bronwen Strang Christine Cleugh	Michael Ovens Benjamin Thew	Jane Bloore	Abby Smith	Sanel Tomlinson	Guitarists and Singers	Judy Rodda	Meegan Cloughley	Judy Rodda Kirk Hamilton
28 November	Marian Weaver Daniel Larsen	Mary and John Somerville	Hamish Spencer	Mary Somerville	Abby Smith	Music Group	Fiona Stirling	Benjamin Thew	Fiona Stirling

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.