

# Ministry

SOUTHERN PRESBYTERIANS

## March - April 2026

Children's Ministry  
Training Day  
2026



Children's Ministry leaders and volunteers from across the Southern Presbytery gathered on 14 February for a rich and encouraging Children's Ministry Training Day, held at First Church of Otago, Dunedin. It was a wonderful opportunity to connect, learn together, and be refreshed in our shared calling to serve children and families in our churches.

The workshop sessions were facilitated by three Scripture Union staff members, who presented thoughtful and practical training on a range of important topics.

Sessions explored neurodiversity, storytelling in ministry, and inter-generational ministry, equipping attendees with insights and tools to strengthen their local contexts.

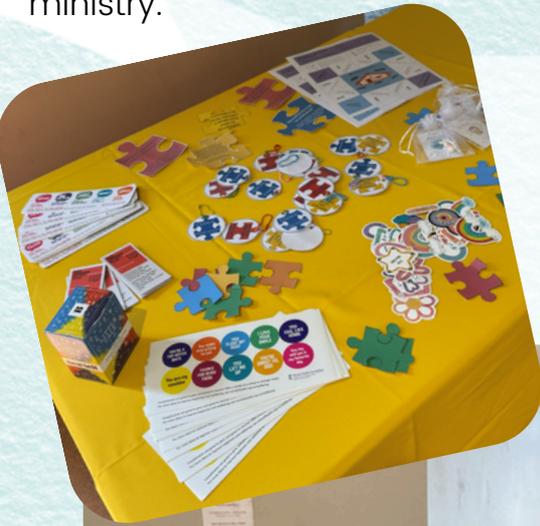


We extend our sincere thanks to Liz Eichler, Andrea Lukin, and Nigel Winder for their engaging and insightful presentations. Their experience and passion were deeply appreciated by all who attended.



The day was further enriched by a variety of ministry stalls. Manna Dunedin provided an opportunity for participants to purchase valuable resources, while Karo Wilson represented PCFM (Presbyterian Children and Families Ministry). We were also grateful for the presence of Larissa Pearce, SUNZ Otago and Southland Youth Consultant.

Additional stalls included Messy Church, the newly introduced Sensory Bible resource, Scripture Union, PCFM, and an information stall focusing on neurodiversity and mental health. These displays offered practical support and inspiration for those involved in ministry.



Overall, the day was marked by meaningful conversations, shared learning, and a strong sense of encouragement. We give thanks for the opportunity to gather as a presbytery and continue growing together in ministry to children and families.



Upcoming event



## Training Event DUNEDIN



2 May 2026

9.30am – 3.00pm

Mornington Presbyterian Church  
16 Maryhill Tce., Mornington

\$20 p/person

LUNCH: Bring your own

Morning and Afternoon tea provided



[www.messychurch.nz](http://www.messychurch.nz)

JOIN US

MESSY CHURCH SESSION  
SATURDAY 4-6PM

Invite your friends and family to experience  
Messy Church!

Any questions:

Mandi Geustyn ([mandi@messychurch.nz](mailto:mandi@messychurch.nz))

Have you ever wondered  
**'What is Messy Church'?**

What is its purpose, and why is it popping up all over Aotearoa New Zealand and around the globe?

What is it about Messy Church that keeps families and all ages coming back, learning about Jesus and finding a wonderful Christian community to belong to?

The Messy Church Training Day is an opportunity to learn from members of the MC National Team and discover the values of Messy Church and how to run it in your church context.

The training day will be from 9.30am to 3.00pm on Saturday, followed by a 'Messy Church' event at 4-6pm to experience what Messy Church is all about.

Bring your family, friends and church community to taste and see Messy Church.

PLEASE NOTE  
Change of  
venue



JOIN US AND  
EXPERIENCE  
MESSY CHURCH!

All ages welcome!

Parents must accompany their children.

2 May 2026

4-6 pm

Mornington Presbyterian Church  
16 Maryhill Tce., Mornington

Includes a meal  
Koha appreciated

Save the date



# NZ Masterclass 2026

Join us and Messy Churches from across Aotearoa NZ for our 2026 Masterclasses. Held 4 times a year on a Tuesday via zoom at 1pm and 7pm.

- 10 MARCH
- 12 MAY
- 25 AUGUST
- 27 OCTOBER

To register, email [jocelyn@messychurch.nz](mailto:jocelyn@messychurch.nz)

Please indicate which time Zoom session you are attending on your registration email.

[www.messychurch.nz](http://www.messychurch.nz)

# ANCHORED



## Retreat 2026

### BAPTISM & CONFIRMATION COURSE





**YOUNG PEOPLE**  
**YR 7 - 10**  
**11-13 SEP 2026**  
**CAMP COLUMBA**

[MORE INFO](#) 

[Our church is interested](#) 

General



- [WHAT, WHY & WHO](#) 
- [TEMPLATE DOCS](#) 
- [FAQ](#) 

*To book a training session for your church*

**Mandi Geustyn**  
**[mandi@southernpresbyterians.nz](mailto:mandi@southernpresbyterians.nz)**

FREE resources



BIBLE SOCIETY  
NGĀ RINGA HĀPAI | TE PAIPERA TAPU KI AOTEAROA

ORDER NOW

# ORDER YOUR **FREE** EASTER FLIP BOOK

Front Page  
Ages 6-10



Back Page  
Ages 2-6

EASTER  
2026



FREE EASTER RESOURCES

## WALKING IN JESUS' FINAL FOOTSTEPS

Journey with Jesus through His final days and celebrate the life-changing power of the resurrection with our free, downloadable resources for all ages.

Perfect for individuals and ministries!

DOWNLOAD ↓

# Easter Resources

## EASTER HE IS RISEN!

Online Resources

Library Resources

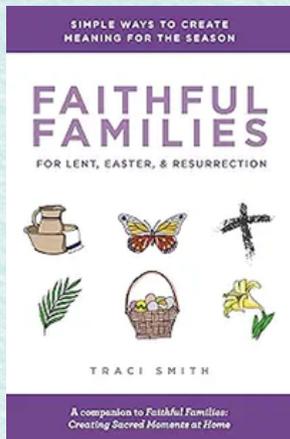


## Good read

Book



Article



How do you share the deep mysteries of Lent, Easter, and Resurrection with children? Parents, guardians, teachers, and ministers will find dozens of fun and easy practices for celebrating the Easter season with our kids. The practices and seasonal prayers are grouped into chapters titled Ash Wednesday, Symbols, Lenten Prayers, Lenten Refraining, Lenten Acts of Service, Holy Week, Easter Vigil and Easter Day, and the Season of Resurrection. Smith also offers theological notes guiding parents on addressing the violence of the crucifixion and the meaning of Jesus' death.

10 Easter Ideas to Spread the Good News of Jesus' Resurrection



LEARN MORE 