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SOUTH ISLAND MINISTRY CONFERENCE

MARK THE ILLUSTRATED GOSPEL
Greetings

Easter and beyond.

Huge congratulations to all our churches for the special and creative ministry you offered over the Easter weekend. I've heard of great experiences our people were offered as we gathered around the story of Easter as well as many occasions of local ecumenical cooperation. Well done good and faithful servants. The story continues and I pray for you all as you live out the reality of Easter in your lives and ministries.

I have also heard the reports of amazing Easter Youth Camps in Mosgiel and Camp Columba. Our youth are being very well served in these special times of spiritual growth. Our young people are a real treasure to the churches of the South.

The people of our Presbytery are generally in good heart and are staying focused on the call of the gospel to be the people of God in our communities – there is so much to celebrate. However there are few congregations who are going through heavy waters this year, so I ask you to remember other congregations in your congregational prayers and particularly to pray for those who you know need a double helping of God’s grace.

This is a big month for Southern Presbyterians having Synod and Presbytery General meetings and Presbytery Council and the Synod Executive too. This year Presbytery and Synod meet alongside each other on April 27th and 28th in Invercargill and there is a warm invitation for members of each body to attend the others meetings. The Synod gatherings include three addresses from Paul Trebilco sharing from a wealth of knowledge of the scriptures and the church.

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all

Alan
Coming Events

Presbytery Gathering
Friday 27th April
Knox Church, Invercargill
10am to 5pm

Synod AGM
Friday 27th April
Working Mens Club, Invercargill
5.30 pm – 9.00 pm

W.O.F - Health & Safety Training (Children & Youth Ministry)
Saturday 5th May
Wanaka Presbyterian Church
9:30am to 3:30pm

Teviot Union 150th Celebration
Sunday 13th May
Teviot Union Church, Roxburgh
9:30am - 3pm

South Island Ministry Conference
15th - 16th May
For Everyone in Ministry
East Taieri Presbyterian Church

Way2Go
Saturday 26th May
Childrens Ministry Training
Mosgiel Presbyterian Church

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND FOR MORE EVENTS - click here
Gillian Bremner Thanked
Outgoing PSO chief executive Gillian Bremner was thanked on the 20th March after almost 25 years leading PSO. Gillian will now depart for Botswana at the end of April, where husband Graeme has been appointed associate professor at a university in the town of Palapye.

Youth Leaders Gather For Training
On Saturday 3rd March, 80+ youth ministry leaders gathered at Calvin Church in Gore for a day of training and equipping. There was great food, speakers, workshops and worship. Topics ranged from suicide and mental health to practical areas like games and worship.

St Andrew’s Invercargill Seeing Growth
Not content with just looking inward, St Andrew’s Invercargill has been going out into their community doing various types of ministry. They have grown from 20 - 100 people, seeing new life in their congregation.

Cheryl Harray Reduces Hours
For eight years Cheryl Harray has served our churches promoting ministry to and with children. Cheryl continues to work in her role but has recently decided to reduce her hours to three-quarter time.

FOR MORE DETAILS AND TO READ MORE NEWS STORIES - click here
Childrens Ministry

ANZAC Day Childrens Ministry Resources

ANZAC Day has becoming increasingly significant for all ages in NZ society and is a great time to engage with young people and connect them to older generations. Kids Friendly has produced a resource full of ideas, resources and stories to help your congregation share ANZAC day with children. To download this resource, click here.

W.O.F

Childrens Ministry Leaders face ethical scenarios all the time. As well as trying to keep up with the latest health & safety laws, childrens ministry can at times be challenging and daunting. However, the PYM & Kids Friendly team have developed a 1 day workshop for all children and youth ministry leaders to equip them to do ministry safely and ethically. It’s fun, interactive and practical. You will know what to do after having done this workshop. For more info on the W.O.F training, click here.

2018 DATES: Wanaka 5th May, click here. Winton 9th June, click here. Dunedin...watch this space!

WAY2GO

WAY2GO is Scripture Union NZ's Children's Ministry Conference. A mix of inspirational speakers, practical workshops, and networking opportunities will equip you for your work with children and young people. Sat 26 May, 9:30am-4:00pm. Mosgiel Presbyterian Church. $90 per person (group discounts available). For more information, click here.
Youth Ministry

PYM’s Connect Conference

Connect is the annual gathering of youth ministry leaders in the Presbyterian Church from across the country. It is a fantastic weekend where you can expect to develop skills and competency for youth ministry as well as come away encouraged and inspired. There are inspiring keynotes, creative worship, insightful workshops, spiritual direction, regional hangouts and great kai! It’s in Wellington so travel is involved (travel subsidies available), which may limit how many people from your church can attend. But we strongly want to encourage your church to send 1 or 2 people involved in youth ministry as it is well worth the investment!

For more information, click here.

Youth Ministry Resources

There are so many youth ministry resources out there! Which is great...but how do you sort through the great resources from the not so great resources? Well we have done some of the work for you. Go to the “Youth” section on the “Our Resources” page of the Southern Presbyterians website and you will be able to easily navigate your way around relevant youth ministry resources.

Click here.
Synod AGM

The 2018 Annual Meeting of Synod will be held at Invercargill Working Men’s Club 154 Esk Street, Invercargill, Friday 27th April 5.30 pm – 9.00 pm and First Church Invercargill, 155 Tay Street, Invercargill, on Saturday 28th April 9.00 am – 3.00 pm. Our Guest speaker for the event is Paul Trebilco speaking on New Testament lessons for today’s church. The Friday evening programme will include worship and teaching, dinner and business. Saturday will include worship and teaching, business sessions, morning tea and lunch, with the programme concluding with a Communion Service followed by afternoon tea.

For more information and to register for the dinner, please contact Fergus Sime

03 477 7365; executiveofficer@synod.org.nz

Presbytery Gathering

The Autumn Presbytery Gathering will be held on Friday 27th April at Knox Church, Invercargill from 10am to 5pm. Knox is providing a lunch for those who book in for $12 each. You can book in by emailing Nardia on nardia.livingstone@gmail.com.

For more information, please contact Alan Judge, southernpresbytery@xtra.co.nz
South Island Ministry Conference

The annual South Island Ministry Conference is a place of real people sharing their story, both the joy & the pain. Experienced people in ministry sharing from their journey. Great opportunities for kicking around crunch issues and sharing good ideas. Heaps of fun and encouragement. Worshipping together & encouraging one another in prayer & fellowship.

- Wide range of workshops that are small enough for in depth discussion
- Great opportunity for team building—bring others from your church
- Celebration Dinner—appreciating all you give in serving Christ
- All Welcome—this is not just for Ministers and Pastors—invite your teams
- Manna Christian Stores Bookstall

East Taieri Church

Tues-Wed 15,16 May

For more information, click here.
Mark the Illustrated Gospel

Two years on from the successful Luke edition, the Illustrated Gospel Project returns with a new volume based around Mark’s Gospel. Built upon faithful scholarship, and centred on an all-new paraphrase of the entire book of Mark, this resource has collated artwork, music and poetry from around Aotearoa to bear witness that God’s Word is alive and well here at the ends of the earth.

It is a truly wonderful resource that can be used in a variety of ways, both corporately in your parish and individually.

Every church within the PCANZ is entitled to a complimentary copy of the resource. These can be ordered by emailing: malcolm@knoxcentre.ac.nz.
The Southern Presbyterians Newsletter is released monthly.

Any comments or concerns about the newsletter or the website, or to unsubscribe,

please email office@southernpresbyterians.nz

If you have news and stories of great things happening in your parish, others would love to hear and be inspired! Please feel free to send through any photos, videos and text and we will do our best to share it through our website with rest of our parishes.

email to: office@southernpresbyterians.nz

We are also on Facebook. Make sure you ‘LIKE’ us!

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