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Greetings

Dear Southern Presbyterians,

After a couple of weeks of cold, dark, southern winter days, back to back, there is nothing better than when the skies clear and the sun shines, and whilst it may only be 8 or 9 degrees outside, the warmth and the joy that being outside in the sun brings, is just amazing. After a recent cold spell, which led to conversations with my wife where I questioned why we ever moved to this part of the world, the sun eventually re-appeared and I made a beeline for St Clair beach where I was able to participate in the wonderful activity of drinking coffee and walking along the esplanade. We notice and enjoy the warmth of the sun so much more in winter.

I am fortunate in my role as Youth Advisor, that I get to go and visit different churches regularly, both on Sundays and during the week. And what I often see is such amazing hospitality and warmth shown by congregations in big towns and little towns all over our region. Even on the coldest Sunday you can walk into a church and be shown such warmth and welcome. And in our current cultural climate, where everyone is so connected all the time, but yet, there is such huge isolation and loneliness in our communities, we the church have the potential to be like a ray of warm sunshine in our communities, offering hospitality, relationship and community.

So whilst the weather may be cold, may we continue to be a warm presence in our communities.

Brad Kelderman - Youth Advisor

Coming Events



Continuum Conference

July 13-15
Windsor Church, Invercargill
www.continuumconference.com



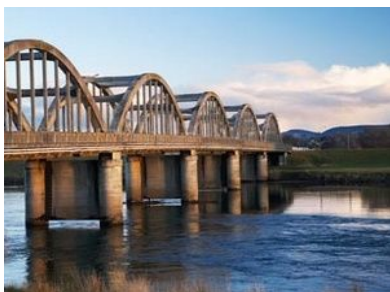
Love Reaches Out - Art Event

Saturday 21 July
10am - 3pm.
Flagstaff Church, Dunedin



DNO Resource Group

Tuesday 14 August
Knox Church, Dunedin
Guest Speaker: Prof. J Boston



Clutha & Mataura Resource Group

Tuesday 14 August
Tapanui Presbyterian Church
Guest Speaker: Rev Ian Hyslop



Presbytery Gathering

September 7-8
Dunedin
More information to come.



General Assembly

October 3-7
St Andrews College, CHCH
ga2018.nz

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND FOR MORE EVENTS - CLICK [HERE](#).

Latest News



‘Young Adult Commissioners’ Selected for General Assembly

This year is a General Assembly year for the church, which means the Southern Presbytery is able to appoint a group of young adults to attend general assembly. It’s a fantastic opportunity for each person involved, not only to get a glimpse of the national church in action but also to be able to speak into the life and direction of the church. The young adult commissioners from Southern Presbytery will connect with around 30+ other young adult commissioners from across the country and be a part of a national program, coordinated by PYM, in an effort to better incorporate young adults into the leadership and discernment processes of our church.

Southern Presbytery is sending Ryan Feng (Wakatipu Parish), Lucy Prestidge (Student Soul & Leith Valley), Caleb Griffith (East Taieri) and Amy Williams (Central Southland Parish).

Please keep them in your prayers! And if they go to your church, then give them a high-five on Sunday!

Women in Ministry Report

In 2015 the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand (PCANZ) celebrated 50 years since the first ordination of women ministers in New Zealand. Following this, the Leadership Sub Committee was approached for endorsement of the concept of conducting a study to determine the current perception of ordained women ministers. This important report should encourage, inspire, challenge, and motivate all who read it. It is an important piece of work which will help us reflect on where we are at as a church and will help guide us as we strive to grow and move forward. Please take the time to read and engage with this report. To read the report, click [here](#).

FOR MORE DETAILS AND TO READ MORE NEWS STORIES - CLICK [HERE](#).



Childrens Ministry



Love Reaches Out - Flagstaff Church, Dunedin. Sat 21 July

Kids Friendly and Presbyterian Support are running their annual art and writing competition. To make this easier and more fun, a family friendly art day is happening at Flagstaff Church in Dunedin. Pop in with your kids anytime and use the space and resources to create your entry for the competition. And it's free! More info, click [here](#).



Children's Ministry Network - Dunedin 2 Aug & Invercargill 5 Aug

The next Childrens Ministry Network gatherings are happening soon in both Dunedin & Invercargill. The focus for these next gatherings is "Games with a Purpose." So come and experience some great games and activities that help build stronger relationships and sense of community. We would love for you to bring your own games to share as well. Click on your nearest town for more info: [Dunedin](#) or [Invercargill](#)



Children's Ministry Resource Evening - Lumsden. Fri 3 Aug

Are you a leader or helper in your church's ministry with children? Do you want some fresh ideas and resources? Connect with others? Then come to this Kids Friendly workshop being hosted in Lumsden. Everyone and anyone is welcome. More info, click [here](#).



Youth Ministry

Want to support your youth leaders? Well here are two options...

First Year in Youth Ministry Coaching program

It's simple...if a new youth leader is coached by an experienced youth leader, they are more likely to lead a healthy and effective youth ministry. Our Youth Advisor, in collaboration with PYM, has put together a coaching program to help new key youth leaders (volunteer & paid) not only navigate their first year leading a youth ministry but also set them up for success in future years.

Interested? Contact [Brad Kelderman](#) and/or click [here](#) for more information.

Sustainable Practices

Sustainable Practices is a practical guide to help churches think through the key issues of either employing a youth worker or managing a key volunteer youth leader. This resource contains seven sustainable practices which we hope all churches will adopt. We believe these practices will greatly help to ensure the sustainability and longevity of youth ministry in your church if you put them into practice and review them regularly.

To read more about Sustainable Practices, click [here](#).

To discuss ways you could use Sustainable Practices in your context, contact [Brad Kelderman](#).

Upcoming Training Events



Ethics & Risk Management Workshop - Tuesday July 24

PCANZ Ethics and Risk Management Workshop

Location: Lawrence

For more information, click [here](#).



Childrens Ministry Network Training - "Games With a Purpose"

Come and experience some great games and activities that help build stronger relationships and sense of community.

Dunedin Event: Thursday August 2. For more info, click [here](#).

Invercargill Event: Sunday August 5. For more info, click [here](#).



Childrens Ministry Resource Evening - Friday August 3

Topics: Bible-based teaching resources and websites; Planning and preparation; Children's faith development; Sharing God's BIG story; Prayer; Songs; Involving children in church.

Lumsden Presbyterian Church. 7:30pm - 9:30pm For more info, click [here](#).



Parish Reviewer Training - Saturday August 11

For ministers, elders, and other church leaders.

Location: Mosgiel Presbyterian Church. 10:30am - 3:30pm

The training will cover all aspects of Parish Reviews from the planning and information gathering to practical resources and report writing, and much more. For more information, click [here](#).



Elders & Leadership Course - Saturday August 18

Facilitated by Deborah Bower and Geoff New

Location: Dunedin

For more information, please contact [Alan Judge](#)



Communion Ministry Training - Saturday September 22

Workshop for all Elders looking to lead communion in their parish

Location: Balclutha Presbyterian Church

More information coming soon.

The Southern Presbyterians Newsletter is released bi-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, don't be shy, 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 the rest of our parishes.

email to: office@southernpresbyterians.nz



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