

Comment



Why Hope?

We're looking at Hope this weekend – a convenient theme of the Christian faith. However, a Christian understanding of hope is quite different from what might be called the prevailing understanding. Our culture's use of the word tends to place it in the 'last ditch' category of meaning so that when we begin to talk about hope in this day and age, most will take from this that we do, in fact, have little hope in a positive outcome. In short 'hope' has come to mean its very opposite – hopeless, for only when a situation looks hopeless does this generation begin to talk about clinging to hope.

Christian hope is really quite different. For a start it is founded on something quite concrete – the love of God for all Creation and, especially, for humankind. And what is this based on? It is based on the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Because we know God loves us with a love so great that His own Son Jesus died for us we can be assured of God's love for us in any and every circumstance.

Secondly, Christian hope takes a much broader view of the outcome desired than the word implies today. Our hope looks beyond the specifics of our desire to a plan we cannot perhaps see but that we believe includes the very best for us. Now this best may include pain and loss but it always has an end that is good because God is good. We are, therefore, hopeful in the very worst of situations because we know that God has in mind a greater end than we could ever possibly imagine.

Finally, Christian hope calls us beyond ourselves and what is humanly possible, to what God can do and so it always calls us forward into greater things that we could hope for in ourselves. Our hope rests on God's possibilities so it is always a superior hope to that which sees only human possibilities. Christian hope calls us forward, whereas the hope our culture so often refers to is simply another word for a narrowing of possibilities.

We hope because God loves us. It is as simple as that.

Richard D



Leith Valley Church welcomes and includes Children and Youth

CHURCH OFFICE

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CHURCH BANK ACCOUNT NUMBER

030883 0620501-00

NEXT WEEK'S TEAM

Service Leader	Blessed Sola
Preacher	Richard Dawson
Worship	Latafale Auva'a
Prayers for Others	Waldir de Souza
Bible Reading	Nick Bates
Door & Offering	Elizabeth Butcher
Morning Tea	A & J Dawson Liz Dawson
Sound	Ged Forbes
Data	Bronwyn Bennington
Duty Elder	Barry Clearwater
Prayer Ministry	Nigel Jamieson
Welcome	Crossleys
Offering	Trudie C
Set up	Phil Scadden's team
Playground	Koh, Satake, Niblock families

LEITH VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday 27 January 2019



Welcome! It's great to have you with us this morning. If you are visiting today please help yourself to a WELCOME PACK from the back table. We'd love you to leave us a contact form so we can get back in touch. Hand this to an elder or the minister or leave on the table in the foyer.

Paul Trebilco is preaching today. His theme is 'The New Jerusalem' of Rev 21 and the Christian hope of eternity with God. Paul is Professor of New Testament in the Theology Department at Otago.

Church Picnic!

After the service today on the back lawn!



Kids Today:

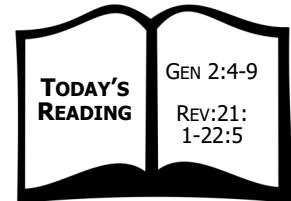
Kids can go out after Communion for a DVD in the hall. There are also colouring booklets available at the back of the church.

We will have morning tea as usual then will enjoy time together picnicking out the back. If you have not brought any food we have some sausages, buns and coleslaw, so please feel free to join in.



SERVICE LEADER:
RICHARD DAWSON
PREACHER:
PAUL TREBICO
WORSHIP:
PAULINE LOVELOCK

Communion Today



Today's Team

Welcome Team:	Fran Dawson	Set up Team:	n/a
Door Greeting:	Bronwyn Miller	Offering Counter:	Debbie Griffiths
Prayers for Others:	Bill Lee	Morning tea:	Bronwyn M
Bible Readings:	Miranda Fairmaid	Playground	n/a
Sound:	Ged Forbes	Supervision:	
Data Projection:	Janine Konings	Lock-up:	Dawsons
Prayer Ministry	tbc		

Seeking God's Kingdom Growing Great Community

Leith Notices

Change of Service Venue

This is our last Sunday worshipping here at 267 Malvern St. From next week we will be back at George St Normal School Hall, 989 George St at 10 am.



KidzTime (our Sunday morning children's programme) will begin next week, 3 February.

This term the children will be investigating the story of Joseph.



On Friday February 8th Miranda (Kidztime Coordinator) pictured right, is planning on having a *Family Movie* night to watch a movie about Joseph, to introduce the theme. This will be from 5.30-8pm

Sparklers is our new name for the Preschool programme (previously called Junior Kidztime) This term they will be looking at the story of Creation, starting next week when we are back at George St.



JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP

(Years 7-10) begins next Sunday Feb 3 during the 10 am service.

SENIOR YOUTH will kick off with a BBQ at Leith Valley Church on Tuesday evening February 5th.

More details to follow.



Olivia Dawson
Youth Pastor

Regular events at Leith in 2019

Senior Youth Group: *Tuesday evenings in term time 7-9pm*

Parents of Youth: Meet at Satterthwaites - 48 Patmos Ave, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month for prayer.

Men's Breakfast: *Wednesday mornings 6.30am-7.30am*

Foodshare: *Wednesday mornings 10-11.30am*

Parents and Toddlers Group: *Alternate Thursday mornings 11.30am at 98 Tanner Rd, Glenleith.* Contact Charlotte Smith 027 315 3620

Missions Prayer Meeting: *1st Sunday of the month at 5pm*

Breakfast Club: *Monthly, Saturdays, 8.30-9.30 am*

(Phone the Church Office for more information 467 9208)

Opportunities



Invitation To Join A Small Group

Fiona Cooper coordinates a small group which meets fortnightly on a Monday evening. New members are welcome to join. This group will have an introductory meeting on Monday 4th February at 304 Taieri Road, 6.30pm for a potluck tea (meeting beginning at 7.30pm.) Contact Fiona on 0272711507 if you are interested in joining the group. On 18 February they plan to start the DVD series 'God is Good' by Bill Johnson.

Orphans Aid International are looking for volunteers to help in their Opshops here in Dunedin, particularly in the North Dunedin shop on North Rd. There are gaps on Thursdays or Fridays, but any time you could give would be appreciated. Contact Robyn, the manager, on 021 253 7068.

Leith Valley Church



FELLOWSHIP CAMP

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

March 22-24, 2019

@ beautiful CAMP TIROHANGA