

# Comment

## Lordship



Aside from being a very old fashioned and rather religious word there are two problems with it that arise from a misunderstanding of its meaning. The first is that it seems to imply that God is responsible for everything and so everything that happens is God's fault. Aside from the interesting fact that we tend to ignore God when good things happen and then blame God when bad things do, the real problem here is that lordship doesn't refer primarily to control but to love.

That God is a God of love means that His lordship is all about love. All that God does, God does out of love and for love. We cannot know the beginning or end of that love for it is eternal. God gives Creation space to be itself and to express itself with a certain freedom and integrity. Above all else, love is never a forced thing. Love and freedom go together. Love is free or it is not love. God is Lord, not to enslave us but to free us through God's love. So, lordship is not control but freedom – freedom to be; freedom to love.

The second problem is that the word 'lordship' tends to suggest that we don't have free will – that God manages us and everything like a puppeteer and we are merely the puppets. Love does not, however, desire power or control. We were not made to be puppets, we were made to love; love God and love each other and we can't do that as puppets. We are not puppets but were made to express ourselves in loving and creative ways. This is the basis of a real partnership with God through which love may be expressed. That God is Lord does not make us puppets but creatures with freedom to be and to love.

*Richard D*



Leith Valley Church welcomes and includes Children and Youth

### CHURCH OFFICE

267 Malvern St, Leith Valley  
Phone: 467-9208  
Website: [www.leithvalley.org.nz](http://www.leithvalley.org.nz)

### MINISTER

Richard Dawson email: [richard.dawson@leithvalley.org.nz](mailto:richard.dawson@leithvalley.org.nz)  
027 224 2026

### STUDENTS/ SOUL

Tom Mepham 027 337 1703  
Lynne Taylor 027 304 6228

### CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Miranda Fairmaid 027 518 7360 Children  
Olivia Dawson 021 195 3023 Youth Pastor

### OFFICE STAFF

Bronwyn Miller, Manager [accounts@leithvalley.org.nz](mailto:accounts@leithvalley.org.nz)  
027 6099432

Hannah Thompson-Holloway, worship 027 9199310

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027 456 1188

### PARISH CLERK

Ged Forbes 021 852 291

### CHURCH BANK ACCOUNT NUMBER

030883 0620501-00

## NEXT week's Team

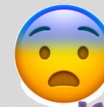
<b>Service Leader</b>	Richard D
<b>Preacher</b>	Richard D
<b>Worship</b>	Pauline L
<b>Prayers for Others</b>	Alan P
<b>Bible Reading</b>	tbc
<b>Door &amp; Offering</b>	Marc & Elizabeth
<b>Morning Tea</b>	Mal & Helen C Bronwyn D
<b>Sound</b>	Liam H
<b>Data</b>	Ruth P
<b>Duty Elder</b>	tbc
<b>Prayer Ministry</b>	Richard D
<b>Welcome</b>	Campbells
<b>Offering</b>	Debbie G
<b>Set up</b>	Craig
<b>Playground</b>	Ross, Niblock, Henderson

# LEITH VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

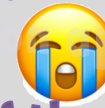
Sunday 22 September 2019



## WELCOME TO OUR ALL-AGE SERVICE



'Surely I am with you always



to the very end of the age.'



### SERVICE LEADER:

OLIVIA D

### PREACHER:

OLIVIA D

### WORSHIP:

HANNAH T-H

### DUTY ELDER:

PAULINE  
LOVELOCK



TODAY'S  
READING

MATTHEW  
28:20

## Today's Team

<b>Door Greeting:</b>	Satakes + youth	<b>Welcome:</b>	Mal & Helen
<b>Prayers for Others:</b>	N/A	<b>Set up Team:</b>	Phil S
<b>Bible Readings:</b>	N/A	<b>Offering Counter:</b>	Bronwyn B
<b>Children's Talk:</b>	N/A	<b>Morning tea:</b>	Jane & Andrew D Fran D
<b>Sound:</b>	Ged F	<b>Playground:</b>	Pettigrew, Koh, P Dawson families
<b>Data Projection:</b>	Bronwyn B	<b>Lock-up:</b>	Richard D
<b>Prayer Ministry:</b>	tbc		

Seeking God's Kingdom - Growing Great Community

# Notices

**Welcome** to worship with us this morning. A particular welcome to any Scouts 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 the Service Leader, or leave on the welcome table.



The Global Leadership Summit (GLS) is coming to Dunedin!

**4-5 October 2019**  
*St David's Lecture Theatre,  
University of Otago.*

To register visit:  
<https://events.eventzilla.net/e/gls-dunedin-2019-2138731749>

Share this with friends and work mates.  
Extra flyers available on the back table.

## Help needed with GLS!

1. To help serve morning and afternoon teas
2. To provide food for morning and afternoon teas

Clipboards will be going round today with the details. Please sign up if you can help. Thank you! 😊

## Kidztime NeWS

Grateful thanks to Marian Hill for leading Primary School age Kidztime during term 3, while Miranda was on leave. You did a great job, Marian! Thanks also to all the helpers.

Miranda will resume leading after the school holidays.

### **Kidztime during the holidays:**

**September 29:** Combined programme with Fran Dawson

**October 6:** Kids stay in church with activities provided

**October 13:** Combined programme with Bronwyn Miller.



## SCHOOL FAIR

George St Normal School had a very successful fair yesterday. Big thanks to those who came and helped clean up. - the school was very grateful!

# Opportunities

## UPDATE FROM PSO

### Donations:

Presbyterian Support Otago welcomes donations - anything except furniture or electrical goods. Donation bags can be ordered from [www.psotago.org.nz](http://www.psotago.org.nz) (under Get Involved) or call 03 477 7115. There are also some available on the admin table at the back of the church. Donations can be dropped off to Shop on Carroll at 10 Carroll St, Dunedin, or they can be picked up. Just phone 477 7115.



Donations will be passed to a family in need or sold to support PSO's work in the community.

**Shop Online:** You can now shop online at [www.shopon.org.nz](http://www.shopon.org.nz). There is a great selection of clothing, accessories and other homeware items available online. New items are added every week.

**Foodbank:** Food bank items that are needed if you wish to donate: toilet paper and spreads.

Thank you!

### \*\*\*Update on Kristin\*\*\*

Kristin has had a strep infection on his liver and spleen which is being treated with antibiotics so he is now feeling much better. He has said a meal roster for them was not necessary, but that the occasional meal dropped off was very much appreciated.

Contact details:

susan\_kristin@yahoo.com  
022 075 3286

## Save the Dates

**Light Party** Sunday 27th Oct, 2pm-5pm

**Christmas in the Stadium**  
Saturday Nov 30th, 2pm-5pm.

### Sympathy



We would like to extend sincere sympathy to Miranda Fairmaid, Rod Galloway and Craig Campbell, all of whom have lost fathers in recent weeks.



## PRE-CHRISTMAS SUMMER SCHOOL PAPER: Theology and the Environment (CHTH224/324).

In light of climate change, ocean acidification, and our over-use of plastics, to name a few ecological issues, this timely course investigates what Christian theology has to say about care for the environment. The course invites students to look at how theology can speak to these pressing issues. This will be taught by Dr. Andrew Shepherd.

Find out more here: <https://www.otago.ac.nz/summerschool/study/>