

# Comment

## To Live



Many of you will have been watching parliament closely over the last week as it debated the 3<sup>rd</sup> reading of the Euthanasia Bill. It passed, which means that it will go to a public referendum at the next election. Whatever your opinion there are a couple of things that, from a Christian point of view, should be noted.

Both of these are raised by the very common notion that death is just a natural extension of life – that somehow death – all death – is both good and right and therefore whether it comes early or late – it is natural.

The above statement contains a mistake that Christians have been very aware of for a long time and this is the idea that anything which is 'natural' is good. While this may sound and look right, just a small examination of it reveals this to be a very flawed idea.

Nature, or the world as it is, simply cannot be said to be 'good.' The death of babies from 'natural diseases,' the destruction of huge swathes of forest and fauna from 'natural fires,' the loss of life and limb from flesh-eating bacteria – all of these are, in some sense 'natural' but definitely not 'good.' Nature, as she is, is impervious to moral categorization. It is certainly not good and may well, from our point of view at least, be thought of more accurately as bad. Secondly, the idea that death is 'natural' is also greatly flawed. From a Christian point of view death is a usurper – something injected into a perfect world which was not supposed to be there. Much death – of children, of innocents in war, of people from starvation is simply not natural but the result of our inordinate activities and the action of evil people. All death represents loss and while we may imagine it to be a part of the natural world we live in, we should never make the leap from there to the notion that it is therefore good.

*Richard D*



Leith Valley Church welcomes and includes Children and Youth

### CHURCH OFFICE

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### MINISTER

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### OFFICE STAFF

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### 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>            | Andrew C                        |
| <b>Worship</b>             | Richard D                       |
| <b>Prayers for Others</b>  | Alan P                          |
| <b>Bible Reading</b>       | Clair S                         |
| <b>Door &amp; Offering</b> | Satake/Roberts                  |
| <b>Morning Tea</b>         | Mal C<br>Rachel & Russell E     |
| <b>Sound</b>               | Ged F                           |
| <b>Data</b>                | Fiona C                         |
| <b>Duty Elder</b>          | Janine K                        |
| <b>Prayer Ministry</b>     | Nigel J                         |
| <b>Welcome</b>             | Fran D                          |
| <b>Offering</b>            | Debbie G                        |
| <b>Set up</b>              | Millers                         |
| <b>Playground</b>          | Shotbolt, Thurlow,<br>Pettigrew |

# LEITH VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## Sunday 17 November 2019



Welcome to worship 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 the Service Leader, or leave on the welcome table.

**Today:**  
**Richard**  
**Dawson**

# Waiting

I wait for the Lord, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope.  
*Psalm 130 v 5*

### CHILDREN AND YOUTH at Leith



- ♦ Sparklers (ages 0-5) today in the staff room.
- ♦ Kidztime (years 1-6) today in the Learning Centre.
- ♦ Junior Youth (years 7-10) Meet in Room 18
- ♦ Senior Youth (years 9-13) Tuesdays 7pm-9pm @ Leith Valley

### SERVICE LEADER:

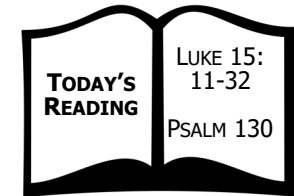
RICHARD D

### PREACHER:

RICHARD D

### WORSHIP:

PAULINE L



## Today's Team

|                            |                   |                          |                                   |
|----------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Door Greeting:</b>      | Graeme W/Debbie G | <b>Welcome:</b>          | Mal & Helen                       |
| <b>Prayers for Others:</b> | Bill L            | <b>Set up Team:</b>      | Jono D                            |
| <b>Bible Readings:</b>     | George B          | <b>Offering Counter:</b> | Camilla C                         |
| <b>Children's Talk:</b>    | Catriona S        | <b>Morning tea:</b>      | Andrew & Jane D                   |
| <b>Sound:</b>              | Barry C           |                          | Liz D                             |
| <b>Data Projection:</b>    | Rachel E          | <b>Playground:</b>       | Yeo, Caldwell,<br>Potter families |
| <b>Prayer Ministry:</b>    | Robyn & John W    | <b>Lock-up:</b>          | Bronwyn M                         |

Seeking God's Kingdom Growing Great Community

# Notices

## TODAY:

Ordination and induction of Janine Konings, our newly elected elder.



## Important Dates over next 3 months

**30 Nov (Sat):** Christmas in the Stadium

**1 Dec:** Commemoration Service

**3 Dec:** Senior Youth End of Year

**7 Dec:** Junior Youth End of Year BBQ

**1,8,15,22 Dec:** Sundays of Advent

**15 Dec:** Kidztime Breakup

**22 Dec:** Sunday Services move back to Leith (Communion)

**24 Dec:** Christmas Eve Service

**5 Jan:** No service at Leith. Hospital Bed pushing

**19 Jan:** Picnic Lunch after service at Leith

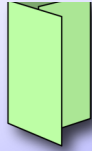
**2 Feb:** Return to George St for Sunday services

## Commemoration Service

We are planning to hold a service with space to acknowledge and celebrate significant people in our lives who have died. This will take place on December 1, 2019. All welcome.



## ROSTER



Your summer roster is available to pick up from the back table. Thank you!

## Junior Youth

For the next four weeks, Junior Youth will go out at the same time as Kidztime and do some practice for the Christmas service. They will have their regular session after that. Marian Hill will lead the group today.



## Christmas Eve Service - 24 Dec

If you can help on Christmas Eve, please sign the clipboard - thank you!



## ADVENT STUDIES



A set of Advent Daily Studies is available for download (PDF) free or they can be purchased, printed, for \$2 from the office. We will have them available each Sunday leading up to Advent as well. They are great studies done by a variety of excellent authors and I thoroughly recommend them. *Richard D*

# Notices

## Te Tumu Whakapono Foundations of Māori Theology:

Two day conference  
Otago University Business School, Ground floor  
Thursday 21 & Friday 22 November  
\$100 for full conference, day rates and student rates available.

Register at <https://www.otago.ac.nz/conferences/te-tumu-whakapono/>



## TAIZE -

with Brother Matthew:  
**Wednesday 20 November @**  
Mosgiel Presbyterian Church.  
4pm: Workshop with musicians and liturgists, 7pm: Evening Prayer  
**Thursday 21 November @**  
St Patrick's Basilica, South Dunedin.  
12pm: Midday Prayer and Lunch  
1.15pm: Workshop with Young People  
5.30pm Community Dinner  
**Thursday 21 November @**  
All Saints' Anglican Church.  
7pm: Evening Prayer  
See notice board for more details

## Christmas in the Stadium

The organisers are still looking for face-painters and people to help with bouncy castles. Please sign the clipboard if you can help.



If you would like to help out our families with new babies by providing a meal, there are still some spaces to fill. Here is the link <https://takethemameal.com/>



## Presbyterian Support and White Ribbon - White Ribbon Day is 25th November



PSO and PCANZ are both supporters of the White ribbon campaign - opposing violence against women and family violence. Family violence is preventable if we all play our part, together we can help stop family violence and build safer stronger families. At PSO they see the victims of family violence and walk alongside them, helping where needed. Parishes can also play a part by praying for their neighbourhood and creating a sense of belonging and a safe place for families dealing with violence or conflict. As individuals something simple like getting to know your neighbours helps create a sense of trust. If you would like to read more please ask your church or contact PSO for a copy of Justice and Action booklet.