

Baptism

When John the Baptist's followers started grumbling that more and more people were joining Jesus' group, and more people were getting baptised by him now, John's response was one of joy. He likened himself to the best man at a wedding, whose job is to prepare the way for the groom rather than hog the spotlight for themselves (John 3:22-30).

And in a way, a baptism is like a wedding ceremony. A wedding ceremony doesn't make us love the other person, and it doesn't magically make us 'one' with our partner, for that's a life-long process. Instead the ceremony is a public proclamation of, and a pointer to, the love that we have found, and to the life long commitment we are now making to our partner.

And this is also how baptism works. The event itself doesn't make us into a follower of Jesus, but it is a declaration that we want to be a disciple of his (Matthew 28:18-20). It is a public declaration, before witnesses, that we are responding to the incredible love that Jesus has shown us, and responding to the invitation he has given to "come follow me" (Matthew 4:19, John 1:39). We are declaring that we want to walk with Jesus, and partner with him in his loving work going on all around us. And as in a wedding ceremony, we are declaring before the world, creation and all the powers that be, that we intend this to be 'for richer or poorer, in sickness and in health, till death do us part'.

Except that with Jesus, not even death can pull us apart (Romans 8:28-39), but this new abundant life he has given us will go on and on forever, growing not weaker but stronger with time or adversity.

Kristin

Contacts

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OFFICE STAFF

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PARISH CLERK

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NEXT WEEK'S Team

Service Leader	Kristin Jack
Preachers	Andrew & Pascale Jones
Worship leader	Nick Bates
Prayers for Others	Judith Forbes
Bible Reading	Kent Rickerby
Door & Offering	Potter family
Morning Tea	Peter & Camilla, Esther Dale
Sound	Ged Forbes
Data	Sandi Jull
Duty Elder	Ged Forbes
Prayer Ministry	Nigel J, Fiona C
Welcome	Bruce & Pauline G
Offering Counter	Sandi Jull
Set up	Phil Scadden
Lock up	Ged Forbes
Playground	Pettigrew, Lokman, Ross

LEITH VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday 30 July 2017



Welcome to our All Age and Baptismal service today. A great celebration of a step of faith for three of our young people: Rebekah Hill, Caitlin O'Donnell and George Bates.

Welcome also to George, Caitlin and Rebekah's friends and family, it is wonderful to share this awesome day with you.

Today's Service will be followed by a shared lunch. Please feel free to stay, there will be plenty.

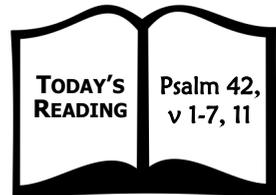


Shared Lunch today
here at George Street!

SERVICE LEADER
MIRANDA FAIRMAID
PREACHER
ALL AGE TEAM
WORSHIP
ROD GALLOWAY

DUTY ELDER

BRUCE GEDDES



TODAY'S READING Psalm 42, v 1-7, 11

Today's Team

Prayers: All Age Team
Bible Readings: Kidztime Kids
Door Greeting: Lokman family
Morning tea: Ged & Judith Forbes
Jan Satterthwaite
Fiona Cooper
Sound: Bronwyn Bennington
Data:
Welcome Team: Nick Bates

Prayer Ministry: Fiona C
Offering Counter: Bronwyn B
Set up Team: Nick's Team
Playground Supervision
Parents of the Mutch, Hill & Niblock families

Seeking God's Kingdom Growing Great Community

Opportunities

Faith thinking

A "Taster" course in New Testament Greek

Dr Katie Marcar, Dept of Theology and Religion, University of Otago

7:00 – 9:00 pm Wednesdays 16, 23, 30 August.

Burns 5 University of Otago

Each course costs only \$30 for 6 hours of high quality teaching.

To register go to <http://www.otago.ac.nz/theology/news/faith-thinking.html>

Conflict 101:

Facilitating and/or resolving conflict in our congregations. A workshop for congregations, ministers, elders and others, led by Ruth Chapman, Church member, former University of Otago Mediator, with others from the Dunedin Community Mediation Trust. To be held on Saturday 5 August 2017, 11am to 3pm at Mornington Presbyterian Church, 16 Maryhill Terrace. Cost: \$8 - lunch provided
RSVP: Julie admin@brockvillechurch.org.nz. Enquiries: Julie 022 670 1523

Charity Ball to support Johnstone family's work in Burkino Faso

The 11th Charity Ball - An Old Time Family Dance in Cromwell

Saturday 12 August, 8pm at the Memorial Hall in Cromwell.

Large Band, great music, supper and company. Come to dance or come to listen. Senior Citizens & Students \$20; Adults \$25; Family Deals.

Ladies a plate of finger food. Tickets are available from the Harringtons 03 445 3364 or the Buxtons 03 445 1036

A Rocha Dunedin - Caring for Creation

Our next gathering will be Sunday August 13th, 1.30pm or anytime after, with Save The Otago Peninsula (STOP) at Smith's Creek, (top end of Bacon St, Turnbolls Bay) for more tree planting and maintenance. Bring your gumboots! Afterwards, food, fellowship and reflection time at Portobello Presbyterian Church. Join us in a great opportunity for a bit of exercise, meeting new people, good conversations and a share in the healing of God's Earth.

For transport phone Phil Scadden 027 3463 185; or see us on Facebook.

House / Pet Sitting Opportunity

Looking for someone to care for a beloved miniature schnauzer and household for a month, while owners away in the USA. Dates are: September 16th to 17th October. House is close to St. Clair beach. If you're interested please contact Kirsten on 021 942 521.

Leith Notices

Congregational Meeting

A brief Congregational Meeting will be held after the Service on Sunday 13 August, to appoint 4 members to a ministry settlement board for appointing minister/s to Student Soul for 2018. Anyone is free to nominate one of these 4 members—they will need to agree to the nomination and a have recent / current involvement with Student Soul. Contact Ged Forbes for further information.

The **Excel Tour** Team will be in Dunedin from Sept 4 to 11 and are taking our morning service on the 10th. We require billets for 10 people. Please contact Rachel if you can help office@leithvalley.org.nz

Your chance to help a brave little Battler

Over the last few months, through the foodshare outreach we have got to know a family in Pine Hill - Kath, Stu and their three kids. Their youngest, Jack (now 3) was born with spina-bifida, which has meant multiple surgery's and constant trips to Auckland and Christchurch for treatment. Mark Lokman launched a Give-a-little page for little Jack. If you would like to donate and help Jack & his family go to: <https://givealittle.co.nz/cause/help4jackvernal/donate>. For more detail, just type "Jack Vernal" within the Givealittle site.

Alpha on Campus

Starting on Tuesday 1st of August, 7.00 - 9.00, at The Hub 71 Harrow Street, Kristin will be facilitating an Alpha Course along with Esther Holt, a student leader from Elim. If you are, or have a youngish person you want to bring along to learn more about following Jesus, this is great opportunity! (We also hope to run a series at Leith later in the year).

Taonga

Taonga will now be this Tuesday, 1st August 2pm at Chris and Colin Fitzpatrick's for afternoon tea. Please bring a treasure to share with everyone. Join us for Faith, Fun and Fellowship

