

Website: Those of you looking for the bulletins on our website and an updated Home Page will have found that that hasn't happened for a period. My apologies for that. I operate the website from a base of limited knowledge and generally manage what I need to do - that is until something goes wrong and I am flummoxed by an error message! A technician at the end of the telephone helpline was very patient with me (mind you I imagined eye rolls on her part at the other end of the line!) and hopefully it is all fine again now. I would love to hand the operation of our church website on to someone else or at least start familiarising someone with the workings of it because the day will come when I can no longer do it.

Lynn

Awaken the Divine – Jan. 17, 2019

“Sometimes we are astonished when we learn that although we did not actually “do” anything for a certain individual, our simply being present or showing up allowed something to shift in his or her inner landscape that made space for deeper healing. Sometimes we discover that in simply being present to another’s pain we experience the Divine in them that awakens the Divine in ourselves.”

-Killian Noe, *Descent into Love*

PRESBYTER: Rev Shelley Walker Ph. 07 8714453

Cell 0276948779 Email revshelleynz@gmail.com

PARISH STEWARDS

Nynke Piebenga 07 871 9595

Colin Pinkerton 07 8713554

CHURCH OFFICE 07 871 5376

Te Awamutu Methodist Church Website

http://www.methodist.org.nz/find_us/waikato/waiariki/te_awamutu

or just search 'Te Awamutu Methodist Church'

**Notices for next Sunday’s bulletin to Lynn please
Phone 07 871 3554 or email colinlyn@xtra.co.nz**

Weekly Newsletter – 7th June 2020

**METHODIST PARISH OF
TE AWAMUTU, PIRONGIA, OTOROHANGA**

Church address: 261 Bank Street, Te Awamutu



Welcome back to worship in our Church building!

In my bulletin editorial in week one of lockdown (March 29) I wrote of the song 'Morning Has Broken' and, in particular, the line 'God's re-creation of a new day'. Here we are, 10 weeks later, and restrictions have eased enough for our church building to reopen. Not everyone will feel comfortable enough yet to come along to church on a Sunday morning and that is absolutely fine. That is why my heading says 'welcome back to worship in our church building', because worship has continued through lockdown in various ways and will continue to do so. Thankyou to Rev Shelley in particular for helping that to happen, and to all in the wider church who make worship resources available online. Thankyou to the people who make pastoral telephone calls including sharing material with those of you who do not have computers. And a huge thankyou to everyone who has made our buildings ready to for people to return, especially Peter.

Apparently it takes 30 days to make a habit, and during lockdown we’ve all developed new behaviours - some good, some bad. Now we’re free, will we continue to live like we did in lockdown? What will we do both personally and collectively to be part of 'God's re-creation of a new day'?

Lynn

Lectionary Readings for this Sunday:

[Genesis 1.1-2.4a](#) This is the first Genesis account of creation, beginning with light on day one and ending with humans on day six. On day seven God rested.

[Psalm 8](#) A psalm by David in praise of the Lord, who is ruler and whose name is wonderful.

[2 Corinthians 13.11-13](#) Paul signs off his letter to the Corinthians with a final greeting and a Trinitarian blessing.

[Matthew 28.16-20](#) Jesus commissions his disciples to go to the people of all nations to make disciples, baptise them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit and teach them his commandments.

The service next Sunday 10am will be led by Rev Shelley. The Worship at Home resource will continue to be sent out.



Pray for others -

- for people we know grieving the suicide of a loved one
- for our country's leaders as they make vital decisions about easing restrictions
- for family members and friends feeling isolated by border closures
- for our people who are still in lockdown in resthomes

From Shelley -

Dear friends,

This Sunday sees us back in our worship space for the first time in what seems a very long time, and our thanks go to all the people who have worked hard to get the building ready for us to use. There are still restrictions in place, so the service will not look the same as 'usual', but it will be a joy to be able to gather in worship.

During Level 2 these 'Worship at home' resources will continue to arrive in your mailbox, and if you are unable to come to Bank St you may find them helpful – or simply use them as an additional reflection even if you do join us on Sundays.

This Sunday, even as we celebrate and give thanks for the blessings that have been shown to us over these past weeks, we recognise that there is much grief and uncertainty in our community and in the wider world. So many people have lost their job security, their livelihoods, have lost family members – and the world seems a bleak and frightening place. Let us pray that the knowledge of God's unending love, expressed in the relationship of the Trinity, may surround and comfort all those who fear, and may God use us as a channel of that love to those in need.

*May the blessing of the God of peace and justice be with us;
May the blessing of the Son who weeps the tears of the world's suffering
be with us;
And may the blessing of the Spirit who inspires us to reconciliation
and hope be with us; from now into eternity. Amen.*

Shelley

"Out of the mouths of babes"

After 4 weeks of level 4 lockdown Emily Writes, a parent editor, spoke to children and asked them how they were feeling. Here are some of the answers -

Maia, 12

I'm still OK. We've been going out to the hills so I don't feel too downhearted. Probably the social stuff like not being able to see friends and extended family has been the hardest. I feel a little bit different now. I feel more appreciative of everything.

Cohen, 8

I feel tired of it. Very tired. I think after this forests will be better because there won't be littering. So I think bush walks will be better. I want to go somewhere else for dinner.

Thea, 3

I love being home sometimes! I am home all day long! When I am home with my mum it makes me happy all day long!

Ronnie, 5

I feel bad because I don't get to see all my friends. When it is over it will be awesome but I don't know how old I will be.