



Our son sent us a link to their school's weekly newsletter as our two grandchildren were featured. The whole newsletter was interesting and I especially enjoyed this piece which stated that their teachers were becoming experts at Google Meets. This is an example given of a typical teacher's Google Meet -

"WHOA! Bob, darling, microphone off please; Sue video ON darling, thank you. Oh. lost her. Morena Moana. oh frozen; Bob mute your microphone please, Hey Tracy, oh where's your face. oh. ok. I'll just look out your window, maybe you can move your screen. John, no need to eat your kai we're in class, Bob your microphone darling. Welcome back Joanie are you able to turn your video on? Oh Doug, moving again, oh morning Josh, no no don't push him darling. ok are we ready.... where has Tracy gone? Ok. thank you Bob. we'll carry on with no video - Bob we can still hear you. Let's get started... John, we're not tik-toking darling, don't do that, yeah-no, don't do that?!"

I am so impressed with the way our grandchildren's teachers are organising and sending out the learning programmes and very proud of the parents and others who supervise, encourage and get involved.

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 or just search 'Te Awamutu Methodist Church'

**Notices for next Sunday's bulletin to Judith please
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Weekly Newsletter – 10th May 2020

METHODIST PARISH OF TE AWAMUTU, PIRONGIA, OTOROHANGA

Church address: 261 Bank Street, Te Awamutu



Home and Family Sunday

I find my thoughts going in many different directions this Sunday -

- I think of nuclear families - Mum, Dad and children
- I think of single parent families.
- I think of extended families living together.
- I think of childless families who have been unable to have children or have chosen not to.
- I think of step families, blended families and foster families
- I think of adopted families
- I think of grandparent families, with grandparents raising grandchildren.
- I think of families separated by distance.
- I think about families that include pets.
- I think of people who will have no connection with their families today because of abuse by a parent.
- I think of grieving families.
- I think of single person households.
- I think of same sex families
- I think of siblings families
- I think of families who live in poverty and struggle every day to survive.
- I think of workplace families, homeless shelter families

Today we honour all families as we celebrate Home and Family Sunday under the Covid19 lockdown 2020.

Lynn

Lectionary Readings for this Sunday:

[Acts 7.55-60](#) Stephen becomes the first Christian martyr. After he defends his faith before the Jewish Council they have him stoned to death.

[Psalm 31.1-5, 15-16](#) David prays to the Lord for protection. "You, Lord God,

are my mighty rock and my fortress."

[1 Peter 2.2-10](#) Peter encourages Christians by reminding them of their high calling. Even though their Lord was rejected he says, "you are God's chosen and special people.... Now you must tell all the wonderful things that he has done."

[John 14.1-14](#) Jesus explains that he is the way to the Father. "I am the way, the truth, and the life!"



Pray for others -

- for families and households that come to mind as you read today's editorial
- For our country's leaders as they make huge decisions about the way forward with our lockdown levels
- for people whose grief has been so much more acute because of strict rules under lockdown levels.



This photo, taken by our son, is a favourite of mine as we think of mothers this Sunday.

..... how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings Luke 13:34

Franché (a village in England) Primary School student Devon Simkin-Samways spent two days writing this poem, entitled 'Lockdown', in the hope of bringing joy to all who read it. He is asking anyone who smiles when they read it to please share it on so that he can achieve the smiles he so wants for others."

*"Lockdown is a scary time,
So I thought that I could write a rhyme,
To put a smile on lots of faces,
From around the world in lots of places.*

*"Lots of time with my family,
Fills me with enormous glee.
Home school teaching from my mum,
With my brother who's a pain in the bum.*

*"Missing my bike rides and playing out,
It really makes me want to shout.
Nannies and grandads can't see me,
But safety really is the key.*

*"Watching movies on Disney Plus,
Stops us making such a fuss.
Eating ice cream in the garden,
Makes us burp but we say pardon.*

*"Missing our friends and all our teachers,
Watching YouTube to see who features,
In the Franché videos that set us challenges.
Hope no one fails and ends up in bandages.*

*"One day when this will come to an end,
Hopefully we won't have driven mum round the bend.
We will look back and cherish the thought,
Of the lessons we learnt and the ones we were taught."*

Devon Simkin-Samways aged 8