

**Our Methodist Church of New Zealand Te Haahi Weteriana o Aotearoa Conference 2020** started yesterday.

Thanks to Covid-19 it is by invitation only, however there will be livestreaming sessions as detailed below.

The ordination service and induction of the new General Secretary will be livestreamed and this is an opportunity for those who don't usually get the opportunity to go to Conference and experience these services for themselves to actually be part of it.

**Livestreams** will be available from the MCNZ YouTube channel and will start 15 minutes early to give everybody time to get sorted.

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbbKcXwMM8Yb50RS\\_pS1Z1Q](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbbKcXwMM8Yb50RS_pS1Z1Q)

**Photos** will be made available from the following Flickr page.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/mcnzconference/>

**Updates** will be made available from the MCNZ Facebook page and MCNZ website

<https://www.facebook.com/pg/Methodist-Church-of-New-Zealand-Te-H%C4%81hi-Weteriana-o-Aotearoa-100793811573534/posts/>

<http://www.methodist.org.nz/conference/2020/index>

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**Te Awamutu Methodist Church Website**

[http://www.methodist.org.nz/find\\_us/waikato/waiariki/te\\_awamutu](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 Judith please  
Phone 07 870 5512 or email briceandjudith@hotmail.com**

**Weekly Newsletter – 8th November 2020**

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

**Church address: 261 Bank Street, Te Awamutu**



I have often struggled with the concept, meaning and reality of hope. So when I read this a while back it was a huge help. I have tried to learn the first bit off by heart and so be able to help myself and others by quoting it.

Lynn

*"Hope is the twin of faith and the mother of patience. Sure-footed and never afraid, hope goes before and behind with faith. Hope moves slowly with wisdom and courage, for it is not in a hurry. Hope shines a light - sometimes a penlight - into the darkness.*

*If you visited a field of daisies, hope would not be there. Hope is the seed in the dark, fertile soil of winter. Hope lives in hospital rooms; with the young couple who prays to conceive; with the social worker who, year after year, advocates for children. If God gave us the ability to see the future, to know the outcome of rehab or that, in nine months, a couple would have a baby, there would be no need for hope. If we knew that elections would yield results that would meet all the basic needs of children, we would not need to hope and work. If we could see into the future, patience would not develop and grow. It would be of little use. But God holds the future, short term and for all eternity.*

*Hope is not dreaming and scheming or romantic, soft-eyed wishful thinking. It is not crossing fingers and toes and waiting. Hope allows us to live with our eyes open even when confronted with the unthinkable or life issues that appear insurmountable. Hope points to the One who is our constant and steadfast companion. Repeatedly, hope motivates and energizes us for the creative life of freedom into which God calls us.*

Cynthia Langston Kirk Upper Room Disciplines 2008

## Lectionary Readings for this Sunday:

[Joshua 24.1-3a, 14-25](#) Joshua leads the way and helps Israel to make an agreement with the Lord at Shechem. "My family and I are going to worship and obey the Lord."

[Psalm 78.1-7](#) God gave his law to the people of Israel and told them to teach it to each subsequent generation so that they would trust and obey him and remember everything he had done.

[1 Thessalonians 4.13-18](#) Paul writes of the Lord's coming. Those who had faith in Christ before they died will be raised to life to meet him. Next those who are still alive will join them and live with the Lord forever.

[Matthew 25.1-13](#) Jesus tells a story about ten girls waiting for a bridegroom. When his coming was delayed five of the girls were ready and prepared but the other five had insufficient oil for their lamps and were not.

## Services coming up:

- Nov**     **8**   Combined service with Anglicans at St John's  
          **15**   Lynn Pinkerton  
          **22**   Rev Shelley  
          **29**   Rev Shelley - Advent 1
- Dec**     **6**    Rev Shelley - Communion - Advent 2  
          **13**   Choir - Advent 3  
          **20**   Rev Shelley - Advent 4  
          **7pm** - Rev Shelley - Blue Christmas service  
          **25**   Christmas Day - Rev Shelley

**Parish Council** this month is Tuesday November 17th at 2pm.



## Please pray for -

- Rev Jo's family, friends and the staff at the San Michele resthome.
- For our Methodist Church Conference, underway at present.

**It is with much sadness** that we grieve the death of our Rev Jo Durrant. Rev Jo came to us as our presbyter in 2015 but unfortunately her ministry came to an early end with her failing health issues. She remained as a member of our congregation and her stoicism and determination earned her the nickname 'Lazarus' as she managed to return to life on a number of occasions when it seemed her body was failing to the point of no return. This has given her bonus time with us and her family, especially her granddaughter Kaia who will have her 2nd birthday next month. The wonderful care that Jo has received at the San Michele Resthome has played a large part in the gift of this bonus time. Jo's funeral service will be at 11am this Thursday. It would be great to have some helpers to serve the refreshments. Please let Rev Shelley know if you are able to do this.

## Today - Sunday 8 November 2 pm at St John's Anglican Church

Music Federation Cello Concert featuring Hyein Kim and Isabella McDonald, promising talented students at the Conservatorium of Music, currently preparing for international competitions. Great!

**Thankyou!** I'm writing this before the event, but a big thankyou to all who have helped with our Fun, Food and Fellowship evening last night especially our chef Peter and helpers, and our Social convenors Rita and June and helpers.

**Well done and thankyou!** to all who had a hand in making last Sunday's service of thanksgiving for gifts and talents so special. There was much plotting, planning and preparation and the display of what you had brought along added wonderfully to setting the scene for a memorable morning. The buzz over morning tea was fantastic!

