

Rev Shelley is taking some well deserved annual leave and is away until October 19. In the event of urgent parish matters please contact the Parish Stewards.

'**Coffee on the Street**' is happening again now that we are back to level 1. All are welcome to meet at 10.30am Wednesdays at Gillz cafe.

From our national church Public Issues group -

Parishes: The Election - Wellbeing and Equality. 5 October 2020

An election check-in.

If we want to vote for more distribution of wealth and lower inequality these are topics to guide our voting:

Sufficient income to provide for the necessities of life of everyone

Tax justice – redistributing wealth to provide a safety net.

Fix the housing crisis.

Full partnership between Iwi/Māori and the Crown to fulfill Te Tiriti o Waitangi

Free health care

Increase funding to education and boost retraining and skills programmes

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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 Judith please
Phone 07 870 5512 or email briceandjudith@hotmail.com**

Weekly Newsletter – 11th October 2020

METHODIST PARISH OF TE AWAMUTU, PIRONGIA, OTOROHANGA

Church address: 261 Bank Street, Te Awamutu



A big welcome back to Elaine Diprose from Matamata. We are delighted to have you leading our worship this morning Elaine.

About 16 years ago two local couples had a vision to help farmers in Uganda and the Uganda Heifer scheme was born. It was based in and around the village of Mbarara where local families were gifted a heifer cow (sourced in Uganda) and taught how to look after it. It provided milk for the family and the surplus was sold to cover basic needs and school fees helping families to independence. The first heifer calf that each cow had was to be gifted to another family, chosen and overseen by an administrative committee. Each year a group of different people went over to support the scheme, families and schools in different ways. In 2007 Colin and I were part of a group of seven people who spent a month living and working with the scheme in Mbarara. It was a humbling and life-changing experience. The following year the group who travelled over included John and Meagan Ward and their daughter Lucy. They felt led to go back long term and subsequently lived for three years there working with the scheme, supported by what had now become quite a large group of supporters here in NZ.

Our church, and many of you as individuals, supported the scheme wonderfully. The Uganda Heifer Group always aimed to equip the locals to run the scheme themselves. I am delighted to report that, in spite of setbacks and challenges along the way, this has happened. Colin and I

attended a final Uganda Heifer Scheme meeting this last Friday where a large group of us reminisced, reflected, and gave thanks for the generous, insightful and hard work which has brought the scheme to this point. We prayed for the future of the scheme as the local Ugandan people continue to equip themselves and their communities independently. John and Meagan's mantra was always, "We have not come to give you things, but to give you ourselves and to do it **extravagantly**" (Ephesians 5:2) Thankyou to the many of you who have played a part in this! *Lynn*

Lectionary Readings for this Sunday:

[Exodus 32.1-14](#) While Moses is on the mountain speaking to the Lord the people make an idol in the shape of a bull and worship it. Moses then intercedes to avert the Lord's punishment.

[Psalm 106.1-6, 19-23](#) The psalmist calls the nation to worship the Lord for the mighty things he has done, and to ask for his forgiveness for their sin. A modern version of this psalm can be found in David R Grant's book "Grant us your Peace." (published by Chalice Press, St Louis Missouri, 1998)

[Philippians 4.1-9](#) Paul concludes his letter by encouraging the Philippians to pray about everything. "With thankful hearts offer up your prayers and requests to God."

[Matthew 22.1-14](#) Jesus tells a story of a king who put on a wedding feast for his son. After the invited guests refused to come, the king sent his servants to the street corners to bring everyone they could find, good and bad, into the banquet.

Services coming up:

Oct 11 Elaine Diprose
18 Michael Templer
25 Rev Shelley
Nov 1 Rev Shelley - Communion
7pm Reflective Service
8 Combined service with Anglicans at St John's
15 Lynn Pinkerton (Conference Sunday)
22 Rev Shelley
29 Rev Shelley - Advent 1

Rest Home Services

Oct 18 Tamahere Eventide - Lynn
25 Tamahere Eventide – Rev Shelley
30 Beattie Home
Nov 3 Highfield CHT

Our next **wwwexplore service and supplied meal** is Friday October 30th at 6pm.



Pray for others:

- for families, farmers, schools and communities in and around Mbarara, Uganda.
- for Rev Shelley for a rejuvenating, refreshing and restful time of leave.

Thankyou!! to everyone who helped in many different ways to make the Bread 'n Spread lunch happen last Sunday. It was yummy and fun 😊

CHOIR MEMBERS It is time to get together again and look at music for the weeks ahead. I look forward to seeing you next Wednesday October 14th at 4pm. I hope this will be a convenient time for you. June

Church library As Jill explained at the lunch last Sunday we have had lots of donations of books to our church library. Check it out! Just write your name in the supplied book and make use of this wonderful resource.

Methodist Women's Fellowship will meet October 22 at 1.45pm. This will be a catch-up after all the disruption and to authorise new financial arrangements.

Parish Council is Tuesday October 20 at 2pm in the lounge. A welcome to the changed line-up after last week's Annual Meeting.