

Call for Applications:

Each year the Chaplaincy Team based at Waikato Hospital offer a training programme for those interested in becoming Volunteer Chaplaincy Assistants. These are lay visitors that assist in providing Chaplaincy services in the Hospital and volunteer between two and four hours a week.

Within the hospital, chaplaincy is offered to all persons who wish to receive it, irrespective of a person's faith or lack of it, on an interdenominational, non-proselytising basis. A person with a call to spiritual and pastoral ministry is likely to have their skills and understanding greatly enhanced by an experience as a Voluntary Chaplaincy Assistant.

The dates have been finalised for the next intake of VCA Trainees for 2021. Accordingly, applications are now open through until the close off date of **11th April 2021**. It is anticipated that the interviews will be conducted mid-April and that the 10 week course will get underway on 5th May 2021.

There is a notice about this on our noticeboard. It would be wonderful to have someone from our parish join me as a VCA. I'm happy to talk about it and answer questions you may have. *Lynn*

PRESBYTER: Rev Shelley Walker Ph. 07 8714453

Cell 0276948779 Email revshelleynz@gmail.com

PARISH STEWARDS

Nynke Piebenga 07 871 9595 02108384265

Trevor Bayly 07 8724770 0275335106

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 lyncol.pinkerton@gmail.com

Weekly Newsletter – 11th April 2021

METHODIST PARISH OF TE AWAMUTU, PIRONGIA, OTOROHANGA

Church address: 261 Bank Street, Te Awamutu



A very special welcome today to Hayley, Shawn, Ryan and Bella Luxton and to all the Luxton and Cullen family members who are joining us on the occasion of Bella's baptism.

In baptism we are adopted into the world-wide Christian family and become part of a rich tradition passed on to us by all who have gone before us in the faith. Together with the parents, the church accepts the responsibility to nurture the growing child, and to value all children and young people and ensure that they always feel welcome and included in the worship and life of the church.

While God's faithfulness towards us never changes, our commitment to God needs to be renewed continually. The church gives us the opportunity to do this at every baptism and communion service, at the covenant service, at confirmation and, indeed, on every occasion we meet for worship.

(explanations from our Methodist service for the baptism of a child - Lynn)

Lectionary Readings for this Sunday:

[Acts 4.32-35](#) The followers of Jesus in Jerusalem shared their possessions and helped the needy. God greatly blessed them.

[Psalm 133](#) It is truly wonderful when brothers and sisters live together in unity, peace and harmony.

[1 John 1.1-2.2](#) God is light and we are to live in the light. "If we confess our sins to God, he can always be trusted to forgive us and take our sins away."

[John 20.19-31](#) The resurrected Christ appeared to the disciples, gave them the promised Holy Spirit, and sent them out. When they told Thomas, who was not there, that Jesus had appeared he did not believe them. Jesus appeared a second time and Thomas then believed.

Focus readings for today: Isaiah 43: 1-7 and Mark 10: 13-16

Services coming up:

- April 11** Rev Shelley – Baptism
April 18 Lynn Pinkerton
April 25 Rev Shelley – ANZAC
April 30 wwwexplore service and supplied meal 6pm
May 2 Rev Shelley – Communion
May 9 Combined Service with Anglicans hosted by us – Rev Julie preaching - Mother's Day - Song and closing Blessing by our choir

Rest Home Services coming up:

- April 18** Tamahere - Lynn
April 30 Beattie Home - Rev Shelley

Parish Council this month is Tuesday April 20 at 2pm.



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We pray for others:

- We pray with love for Bella and her family in their baptism commitment.
- We continue to hold Brice's family in prayer, love and comfort.
- We pray for the safety of families reuniting with the opening of the trans-Tasman bubble.

Choir members please note there is a change of date for getting back to practises. The new date is Wednesday April 21st at 4pm.

Parish Directory:

It is time for another update of our Parish Directory. If you have changed your address, or have a new phone number, please let Shelley know. If you are new to the parish, and we are missing some of your contact details, please ask for a form to fill in so we can include you in the new edition.

This week:

The new date for the Te Awamutu Day of Blessing:

It is now to be held this Thursday April 15 12 noon at the TA Sports Club rooms.

April 17 Saturday

Time for Spring cleaning our complex. There will be tasks small and large, lots of laughs, hopefully some morning tea, and at the end no cobwebs, shiny windows and a sense of a job well done. Do come along at 10am.

April 18 Sunday

A Bread and Spread lunch to raise funds for the MWF Special Project. Held over from last year the MWF are still working for St John Ambulance and refugees in Lebanon. After the service there will be lovely fancy breads provided and you just bring your favourite topping to go on the bread. There will be a basket for donations.