

Coming up:

The new date for the Te Awamutu Day of Blessing It is now to be held on 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.



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Te Awamutu Methodist Church

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Notices for next Sunday's bulletin to Lynn please. Phone 07 871 3554 or email lyncol.pinkerton@gmail.com

Weekly Newsletter – 4th April 2021

METHODIST PARISH OF TE AWAMUTU, PIRONGIA, OTOROHANGA

Church address: 261 Bank Street, Te Awamutu



Easter Day

I have various memories of Easter Sunday mornings - singing 'Christ the Lord is Risen Today' at church, eating the hard-boiled eggs we had decorated, dawn services at Easter Camps, being amongst the tulips at the Keukenhof Gardens in the Netherlands, climbing Mt Paku at Tairua early to watch the sun rise
What are your Easter memories?

For some there will be sad memories associated with Easter. It can be a reminder of loved ones who won't be around this year. Right now, as a church family, we are keenly feeling the loss of one of our own. So we come to Easter with such a mix of feelings from joy and celebration to loss and pain. In faith we know that God is in it all with us. Easter tells us that death did not have the last word and that God's unconditional love through Jesus is far, far more than we could ever hope for or imagine.

Therein lies the power and the empowering of Easter!

Lynn

Lectionary Readings for this Sunday:

[Isaiah 25.6-9](#) The Lord who saves will destroy the power of death and wipe away the tears from everyone's eyes.

[Psalm 118.1-2, 14-24](#) The psalmist praises the Lord whose mercy and strength bring salvation and victory.

[Acts 10.34-43](#) (or [1 Corinthians 15.1-11](#)) Peter takes the gospel to the Gentiles. He tells them, "Jesus was put to death on a cross. But three days later, God raised him to life"

[Mark 16.1-8](#) (or [John 20.1-18](#)) Mark's account of the resurrection has three women going to the tomb early on Sunday morning. They find the stone rolled away. A man in white tells them Jesus has risen and that they should go and tell the disciples. The rush away trembling and astonished.

Services coming up:

April 4 10am: Easter Sunday – Rev Shelley

April 11 Rev Shelley – Baptism (Cullen family)

April 18 Lynn Pinkerton

April 25 Rev Shelley – ANZAC

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 6 2pm CHT Highfield - Rev Shelley - see note below

April 18 Tamahere - Lynn

April 30 Beattie Home - Rev Shelley

Members from the Te Awamutu Methodist Church regularly lead a short worship service at CHT Highfield, taking turns with other churches around Te Awamutu. Our next visit is on Tuesday 6 April. If you would like to come along to help with the singing, you will be most welcome! 2 pm in the Dementia Unit, and at 2.30 in the main lounge - gather in the reception area at 1.55pm.

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



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We pray for others:

Lord of life

We pray for all who bring your word of life as a light to those in darkness

For those who bring your word of peace to those enslaved by fear

For those who bring your word of love

to those in need of comfort. Amen

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.

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*