

Foodie prayer

For food, glorious food and those who provide it

Let us praise God

For potatoes and pasta, crumbly cheese and juicy tomatoes

Let us praise God

For the smell of freshly baked bread, for butter and honey, jam and cream

Let us praise God

For colourful carrots and bendy bananas, peppers and peanuts and pears

Let us praise God

For sizzling sausages and bacon butties, for crunchy apples and seedless grapes

Let us praise God

For milk and for juice, for fish and for chips

Let us praise God

For chocolate and for biscuits, for cornflakes and toast

Let us praise God

For food, glorious food and those who provide it

Let us praise God Amen *FCN Farming Community Network site*

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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 – 14th March 2021

METHODIST PARISH OF TE AWAMUTU, PIRONGIA, OTOROHANGA

Church address: 261 Bank Street, Te Awamutu



Lent 4 Harvest Thanksgiving

Eating food is one of the few things common to all human experience. What type of food we consume and how readily available it is to us may vary widely. But we all eat. In our society the meals on our table will have been brought there through the contribution of many different people working in a variety of environments. This food chain typically involves farmers or fishermen, horticulturalists, processors, retailers and those who purchase and prepare the food to eat.

For those of us with nostalgic memories of harvest festival displays of old at the annual Harvest Festival service it may seem strange that we bring such things as tinned goods to decorate our place of worship, but these are a modern way of acknowledging our dependence on God and an opportunity to give through the Foodbank to those in need.

A harvest service is an opportunity to offer to God the contribution we make in bringing food to the table; to give thanks and pray for others in the chain upon whom we are dependent; and above all to praise God who starts off each chain by creating the sun's radiance and giving life to all living things.

Lynn

Lectionary Readings for this Sunday:

[Numbers 21.4-9](#) The Israelites complained against God and he sent snakes to bite them. When Moses interceded God told him to make a bronze snake and put it on a pole. Those who looked at the bronze snake lived.

[Psalm 107.1-3,17-22](#) The psalmist exhorts people to praise the Lord for his goodness shown in answering their prayers and rescuing them from trouble.

[Ephesians 2.1-10](#) We were dead because of our sins but God showed us overwhelming kindness and made us alive with Christ.

[John 3.14-21](#) The Israelites were saved by looking at the bronze snake that Moses lifted up. In the same way people are now saved by looking to Jesus. "God loved the people of this world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who has faith in him will have eternal life and never really die."

Services coming up:

March 14 10am: Rev Shelley - Harvest Service

March 21 10am: Robin, Peter and Choir (Service from last year's postponement)

March 28 10am: Rev Shelley – Palm Sunday – Choir singing

Holy Week Services: – Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday –
10am – Rev Shelley

April 1 7pm: Rev Shelley Maundy Thursday Service
and shared meal

April 2 10am: Good Friday – Rev Shelley

April 4 10am: Easter Sunday – Rev Shelley

Our **wwwexplore** services will resume Friday **March 26**

Our wwwexplore (we will worship and explore) service is held on the last Friday of each month and is an informal group service held in the lounge. Some of the group take turns to lead this service and it is followed by a supplied meal for which a koha is invited (a gold coin or \$5). What about giving it a try this year?

This month's **Parish Council Meeting** is this Tuesday March 16th at 2pm



Please pray for -

"For those struggling on their journey, Lord, offer your steady hand over the rough terrain they are facing today, and let them drink of your living water, pure and refreshing, soothing, restoring the weariest of souls."

John Birch



Hymn Fest:

Coming up is our celebration of music, with the service based on our favourite hymns. If you have a favourite we haven't sung for a while (or a favourite we sang quite recently) one that holds a special place in your heart please let Shelley know so it can be included.

Lenten Studies: A series of studies is being held for four weeks during March, They began on March 3 at 2.30pm in the Church Lounge. These are based on 'A Methodist way of life', and are exploring the ways we try to live our lives in response to God's love made known to us in Jesus.



Thankyou! to everyone for the harvest contributions today. They will be passed on to our local Foodbank.

Did you read the full page article about 'our' Nan in this latest issue of Touchstone? We know you a lot better now Nan! And 'our' Rev Susan has written a piece about her new role as chaplain of Tamahere Eventide home. Thankyou for your insightful sharing Susan.