



Parramatta  
Mission



uniting  
church  
in Australia,  
Synod of NSW & ACT

*OUR NEWS for 7th January 2018*



*Congregational life @ Westmead & Parramatta,  
Hospitality, Community and  
Mental Health Services across  
Greater Sydney, Central Coast, Hunter and  
Mid-North Coast*

*Our Vision  
A Community Transforming Lives  
Our Values, Grace, Inclusion,  
Dignity, Faith and Hope*

## HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Blessings for all as we enter a new month and a new year!  
May God's love and peace fill the earth.



# 2018

### THE SUMMER BREAK

Most of our regular Leigh Memorial groups & programs, including Sunday School, C & F, SPOW & Music Team, are currently on their annual break. Keep an eye out for return dates and please contact group leaders for further information or assistance during this 'down time'.

Pastoral care matters: Manas, ph: 0429 892 548.

LEIGH Congregation

### JANUARY & FEBRUARY @ LEIGH

**January services** (9.30am): 7<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> (Evening Congregation arrangements to be advised).

**Thursday 1 February:** Future Directions meeting (Clive)

**Sunday 4 February:** Sunday School Returns/ SPOW (Beverly)/ Leaders meeting (Manas/Bruce)

**Monday 5 February:** Couples & Friends (C & F leaders)

**Friday 9 February:** 'Food Safari' Dinner Outing (Moses)

**Sunday 11 February:** Pancakes Morning Tea (Sunday School)/ Worship Committee meeting

**Saturday 24 February:** Introductory 'Safe Church' Workshop (Rev. Christine)

### REMINDER – ALL USERS: HOLIDAY SECURITY

Please remember to turn off lights, fans, air con & other appliances plus lock doors and pack-up neatly when using the premises. Security or property concerns should be directed to the office: 9891-2277 or the Ministers/Leaders.

### ADVANCE NOTICE: SAFE CHURCH WORKSHOP – 24 FEBRUARY

A full day (9.15 – 3.30pm) Introductory Safe Church Workshop (for those who have not undertaken a previous workshop) will take place at Westmead Uniting on Saturday 24 February. For further information/registration details, please see Rev. Christine or go to Uniting Mission & Education at [safechurch@nswact.uca.org.au](mailto:safechurch@nswact.uca.org.au).

Leigh Memorial queries can sent to Liz.

NB: Attendance is necessary by all leaders – and those within our congregations who are working with children and other vulnerable people. This is both a church and legal requirement.



Do you want  
to make a  
difference in  
the life of a  
child?



## Local foster carers needed

Family and Community Services are seeking people who can provide short term and crisis foster care for children and young people 0 – 18 years that are unable to live with their own families.

Individuals, couples and families from varied backgrounds and cultural groups are required.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are encouraged to apply.

All carers receive training, ongoing support and financial assistance.

Carers needed in the following Local Government Areas: Lithgow, Blue Mountains, Penrith, Hawkesbury, St. Marys, Mount Druitt, Blacktown, Parramatta and Auburn.

If you are interested in making a difference and helping children reach their full potential, call (02) 9354 1800 or please email

[Carer.Support-NBM&WS@fac.s.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Carer.Support-NBM&WS@fac.s.nsw.gov.au)



Family &  
Community  
Services

***Foster your faith this week***

***1 Sm 3:1-10 (11-20) Ps 139:1-6, 13-18***

***1 Cor 6:12-20 Jm 1:43-51***

## **DEEPENING FAITH and RELATIONSHIPS with others Worship**

### **Sundays 9.45am**

Bible Study - Mondays 2.00 - 3.30pm

Fellowship - Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> Feb 2.00pm

Resumes 5<sup>th</sup> Feb

Next Meeting 6<sup>th</sup> Feb

### **MAKING A DIFFERENCE**

Time Out Café (TOC) -Tues/Thurs 11.00-1.30pm

Open Door - Wednesdays 1.00 - 3.30pm

Tai Chi - Fridays 10.00 - 11.00am

Resumes 30<sup>th</sup> Jan

Resumes 31<sup>st</sup> Jan

Dec resumes 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb

WESTMEAD Congregation

### **HAPPY NEW YEAR**

We have had some wonderful services over the Christmas Period and special thanks to those who helped in setting up, clearing up and welcoming people at the door, not to forget those who faithfully serve coffee and tea. We pray that this year there will be more people coming to connect with us and we look forward to offering hospitality to them all.

### **WAYS FOR GIVING**

At Westmead many people like to use envelopes for their giving to the church. These are now available for 2018. Each Sunday is marked to enable you to be organised and regular in giving. However, others can use Direct Debit and there are some instructions of how to do this. The Direct Debit enables a regular giving that is not dependent upon you being at church which enables us to come closer to meeting our budget.

### **WEDNESDAY MORNINGS**

During January Rev Christine will be at the church from 9.00 - 12.00 and anyone who would like to come and have a cuppa or a chat or play scrabble (the scrabble die-hards will be there)- are most welcome.

### **WELCOME TO REV DR AMELIA KOH-BUTLER**

A special welcome to Amelia who joins Parramatta Mission as the University Chaplain. We look forward to meeting her and her husband Terry in the near future.

### **WELCOME TO SARAH BISHOP**

Another special welcome to Sarah who begins soon as the PM Chaplain to the Children's Hospital at Westmead. We look forward to meeting her soon.

### **INDUCTION AND COMMISSIONING SERVICE**

There will be an Induction (for Amelia) and a Commissioning (for Sarah) coming up. This will be a joint service with the three PM congregations and the Parramatta Nepean Presbytery. It would be good if as many people as possible from Westmead were able to attend. Date and time to be confirmed.



*Eda kidavaka na yabaki vou ni 2018 ena vakanuini kei na vakabauta ni sa liutaka na noda i lakolako na Gone Turaga ko Jisu Karisito.*

## ***Veituvatuva eso***

7/1 Lotu Vula Vou, Veiyalayalati kei na Vakayakavi ni Turaga

### **Vunau Rev Viniana Ravetali**

14/1 Multicultural Worship

### **Vunau o Fil Kamotu. Veiliutaki na Youth**

21/1 Lotu Siga Tabu 11.15am

Veidigidigi ni tutu ni veiqaravi

25-28/1 Koniferedi Vakaviti e Salvation Army Collaroy Centre, Collaroy

***Kerei me sa saumi mai nai curucuru e \$150 ena gauna totolo***

2/2 Youth Program Starts. Sunday School starts on 4/2

4/2 Lotu Vulavou kei na Lotu ni Vakatikori ni tutu Vakalotu

Commissioning Service. **Vunau Rev Keith Hamilton.**

Kerei me vakavakarau na vei matamasumasu ena tuvatuva ni yabaki vou oqo. *Ni sai dola kei Lomalagi na masumasu.*

Ke o ni gadreva na veisiko, ni solia na yacamuni vei Fil Kamotu. E sa veisiko tiko ena noda I tikitiko.

***Me nomuni na Vakacegu ni noda Turaga.***

## Mark 1:4-11

4 John came, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for forgiveness of sins. 5 And all the country of Judea, and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem went out to him and were baptised by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins. 6 And John was clothed in hairs of a camel and a leather belt around his waist, and he was eating locusts and wild honey. 7 He proclaimed, "The one mightier than I is coming after me, of whom I am not worthy, having stooped down, to loosen the thong of his sandals. 8 I baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with Holy Spirit." 9 And it came to pass in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptised in the Jordan by John. 10 And immediately when he came up out of the water he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit as a dove descend upon him. And a voice came out of heaven, "You are my beloved son, in you I have taken delight".

Translation by Keith Hamilton



# Reflection

The twelve days of Christmas are now past. We have entered the season of Epiphany. Epiphany means manifestation or presence of God in Jesus, in the world. The first Sunday of Epiphany, today, is celebrated as the baptism of Jesus. Why was Jesus baptised? Jesus' baptism is not only his commissioning to do his work, it is also his identification with all humanity. Our spirit can connect with the Spirit of Jesus in a "knowing" that God is with us.

Some other features of the narrative in Mark are that the baptism happens in the wilderness, and with a lot of people. Mark says all of the country of Judea and all of Jerusalem, which must be an exaggeration, went out to this wilderness place where John, the person with a peculiar dress and diet, was baptising. Mark wrote his gospel in 66 of the Common Era, when the Roman's were bearing down on Jerusalem, and eventually destroyed it. Being a person of faith, Jew or Christian, was an experience not likely to extend one's life expectancy. It would seem like, particular after the Emperor set fire to Rome and partially destroyed Jerusalem, to be a wilderness experience. To know that Jesus, the Son of God, had walked this way of life even through dark experiences, was comforting. Note that in Mark's baptism narrative, "the heavens are torn apart" which is a way of saying that there is no separation between the creation and God. It would also be encouraging to consider that there were many people there together. Jesus was not alone.

When we baptise people today, whether a child or an adult, this is not into social isolation and self-absorption. It is into a community that is focused on social inclusion, and which is committed to being not only in the 'land of milk and honey' also in the wilderness places of life.

Blessings, Keith Hamilton

## **Let's forget Christmas and get ready for Easter!**

There was a reason for some furtive asides and smiles the week before Christmas. The service was one of carols and lessons. It is a great favorite for many people. We begin with a few lines of Isaiah and a rendering of 'O come, O come Emmanuel' (with the last verse usually omitted: it is sung on Christmas Day). We then listen to the stories of angels visiting Zechariah and Mary, the journey to Bethlehem, the birth of Jesus, the shepherds and the wise men. And, true to established custom, the service will end with a reading of the prologue from John's gospel (chapter 1, verses 1 to 14) and a singing of 'Joy to the world, the Lord has come'.

The smiles and stolen sideways looks came from those who had attended the two sessions of the Advent study on Mark. This coming year Mark is our companion gospel. It is the one that will serve as the scriptural basis for worship. Now and then there will be deviations but Mark is the one who provides us with the framework for understanding what it means for us to follow Christ for most of 2018.

So why the smiles and furtive asides? Have you ever noticed? The Christmas stories that Matthew and Luke tell are not the same. John has a prologue but no Christmas and Mark – well, if we were to take Mark seriously, we might have to 'cancel Christmas!' Imagine that. There is no prologue; there is no Christmas story at all.

This is serious business because we now think that Mark was the first gospel to be written down. Matthew, Luke and John came later – in that order. Imagine if only Mark had survived – there would not only have been no Christmas, there would also have been no (brace yourself) sermon on the mount (Matthew), no sermon on the plain (Luke), no parables of the good Samaritan or prodigal son (Luke), no Lord's Prayer (Matthew and Luke), no road to Emmaus story (Luke) and no resurrection appearances.

The way Mark tells the story of Jesus is full of surprises and secrets (more of that next week). The only way we can get a grip on what he is trying to tell us is to read his gospel right through – and maybe imagine that the other gospels do not exist. Our service of carols and lessons obscures his message – and, as a matter of fact, only came into being in the form we know with Francis of Assisi in the early 12<sup>th</sup> century.

It would seem as if Mark is really an Easter gospel. The writer of Mark's gospel has constructed out of oral traditions (and maybe some written ones) an account of the life of Jesus moving from Galilee to Jerusalem. It is a passion narrative. It is an Easter gospel and was probably designed to be read out loud in one sitting during Holy Week.

In Lent this year there will be two Saturday morning opportunities for us to explore how Mark gives us an account of Jesus' journey to the cross. Why not join us for the sake of a Lenten discipline this year and prepare for Easter? Maybe we can even organize a reading out loud of his gospel with many voices across ages. If the supermarkets are already selling hot cross buns, surely we can prepare for Lent and for Easter ahead of time as well!!

Clive Pearson

대강절 제3주(3rd Advent of Sunday) 2017년 12월 17일 오후 1시 30분

개회 찬송 (Entrance Hymn) 예배를 위한 묵상

예배의 부름 (Calling) 인도자

송영 (Gloria) **새 3 장** **통 2 장** 성부 성자 성령께 찬송 다함께

사도신경 신앙고백 (The Apostle's Creed) ..... 다함께

찬양/찬송 (Chorus & Hymns) 다함께

**새 105 장** **통 105 장** 오랫동안 기다리던

**새 151 장** **통 138 장** 만왕의 왕 내 주께서

기도 (Prayer) 주기도문송 **새 635장** 하늘에 계신 우리 아버지 다함께

성경 봉독 (Scripture Reading) **요한복음 7:14-18**

말씀(Preaching)- 전현구 목사 신앙인의 인생관

봉헌 송(Offertory Hymn)  
**새 122 장** **통122 장** 참 반가운 신도여

나눔과 알림 (Announcement & Notices)

1. 여름철 건강과 마음의 평강을 위해 함께 기도합니다
2. 매일 성경·말씀 묵상으로 주님과 친밀한 교제의 시간을 누리며 승리하시기 바랍니다
3. 기도제목: 전도와 선교에 앞장서는 하나님의 자녀로 살아갑시다.

폐회찬송(Final Hymn) **새502장** **통 259장** 빛의 사자들이여 어서가서 (1)

축도 전현구 담임목사

QT나눔 & 성경공부  
오후4:00

수요기도회 : 오후 7시  
이사야 9:1-7

새벽기도회 : 오전 5시  
스가랴 14:12~골로새서1:23



*Save the date  
for the 2018  
Golden Pancake Race*

Date: Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2018

Time: Race commences at 11:30am  
(Participants arrive at 11:00am for orientation and  
warm up-stretches)

Location: Centennial Square Parramatta

*We invite you to set up a team to compete in the  
2018 Golden Pancake Race.*

*Participants to take to the track on a mission to be  
crowned 2018 Pancake Race winners.*

**Not only will you take home the ultimate title of “*Pancake Race winner*” –  
but you will also take home (for a year) the “Gold fry pan” (pictured above)!**

Currently in possession of this Golden pan is  
RRT (Rapid Relief Team) – one of our dedicated supporters.  
They will be back to hold on to their title – will you be there to compete?

Please contact Donna Kelly on 9891 2277 or email  
donna.kelly@parramattamission.org.au  
if you have any enquiries relating to this race.

*Looking forward to seeing Teams throughout our  
PM represented on the day.*

# Prayer Points

**The Parramatta Mission congregations invite you to join in prayers for:**

- ◆ PM congregations at Parramatta and Westmead, and hospitality, community and clinical/mental health services that extend right across Greater Sydney to Blue Mountains, Central Coast and Hunter Valley, Mid-North Coast, and support services, and the residents, guests, visitors, consumers, clients whom we meet and journey with every day of the year. The establishment of the new HASI programs in the Hunter Valley and Mid-North Coast.
- ◆ For work of calling a chaplain to link PM with the WSU campuses, and a chaplain to link Wesley Apartments with the children's hospital at Westmead.
- ◆ PM Leigh Memorial: The Owen & Jackson families, Joan, Marcel, Hazel, Betty, Wilhemina, Col, Aunty Jo, Victoria & family, our Leaders team and Sunday School/ Youth teams.
- ◆ PM Leigh Fijian: Akisi Allison, Adriu Rogoimuri, Niko Balavu, Mili Sigani,
- ◆ PM Westmead: Sushila and Ariam, Eamonn, Nancy, Jean, Michels, Paula and Geoffrey, Garry, Chris and family, Rob, Jodie and Family, Rev Veitinia, Flora, May, Rajes (Sandra), Henry, Phyllis, Billie, Vita, Nancy, Caroline and David A, Col, Al, Jan and her family, Mrs G and family, Judy, Shanika and family, Ashima and Anusha Saxena, Lyn, Lena, Sheila W, Ruth and Lela, Max, Mr and Mrs S, Sophie and her family, Mark and his family.
- ◆ UC congregations of the Cumberland Zone: Dundas/Ermington, Northmead, North Rocks – today holding the closing service for Rev Phil Swain after 14 years, Carlingford, West Epping, Centenary, Wentworthville, Holroyd, Greystanes, Grantham Heights, Parramatta Mission, Auburn.
- ◆ For the worship, witness and service of Blackheath Uniting Church Congregation
- ◆ We join with churches around the world to pray for Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Oman, Yemen, Iran, Iraq

***Pastoral message for this week....***

**Happy New Year.**

**You cannot make a brand new start,  
but you can begin a brand new future.**

# Worship Services at Parramatta Mission

Open Church in recess until 22nd January 2018

Sunday 9.30am  
9.45am  
11.15am  
1.30pm  
7.00pm



Leigh Memorial Congregation @ Leigh  
Westmead Congregation @ Westmead  
Leigh Fijian Congregation @ Leigh  
Korean Faith Community @ Leigh  
Praise, Prayer, Cake & Coffee @ Leigh

## Contacts

**Leigh Memorial Congregation:** Rev Dr Manas Ghosh 0429 892 548

**Leigh Fijian Congregation:** 9891 2277

**Leigh Korean Faith Community Minister:** Rev Hyun Goo Jun 0433 320 588

**Leigh Memorial Church,** 119 Macquarie St, Parramatta

**Westmead Congregation:** Rev Christine Bayliss Kelly 0409 925 607

**Westmead Church:** 175 Hawkesbury Road Westmead: 9891 9354

**Senior Minister/Group CEO:** Rev Keith Hamilton 0417 487 446

**Church Office:** 9891 2277 **Email :** [wecare@parramattamission.org.au](mailto:wecare@parramattamission.org.au)



For all e-tree news follow the link below  
<http://www.parramattamission.org.au/etree>

 Parramatta Mission

 @parramission

 Parramatta Mission

Visit our website and blog [www.parramattamission.org.au](http://www.parramattamission.org.au)