

## OUR NEWS

22nd December 2019



Parramatta  
Mission



uniting  
church  
in Australia,  
Synod of NSW & ACT

### *Our Vision*

A Community Transforming Lives



Celebrate  
the SEASON  
& its true Gift  
with us.

### Our Values

Grace, Inclusion, Dignity, Faith and Hope

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

Parramatta Mission acknowledges that all of our work and our 36 sites are on the land of traditional owners. We pay respect to the traditional custodians of the land on which we gather, and acknowledge Elders past and present, and emerging leaders.

# Leigh Congregation

## **CAROLS SERVICE + MUSIC TEAM CELEBRATION!**

On **Sunday 22 December** from 9.30am, we are having a very special congregation celebration! Firstly, our Music Team will lead us in our annual Carols Service in the church, and then we'll enjoy a 'festive' morning tea together, celebrating the Music Team, plus thanking & farewelling our friends and long-term contributors: Malcolm & Robyn. A special tribute to Mal & Robyn and the Music Team is included in this newsletter.

### **BLUE CHRISTMAS: "COME & GO AS YOU PLEASE"**

On Sunday 22 December at 7.00pm, Rev. Manas will lead a 'Blue Christmas' time of prayer, quiet meditation & communion at Leigh Memorial. All needing solace, sanctuary, support - or a quiet moment in the lead-up to Christmas Day - are warmly invited to attend.

### **REMINDER: COMBINED CHRISTMAS WORSHIP**

Our Combined Christmas Day service at Leigh Memorial Church will start at 9.00am. All welcome.

### **THANK YOU – CONGREGATION HELPERS**

As our year together draws to a close, it's timely to acknowledge all the people who ensure that our worship services, events & groups function smoothly and thrive. This includes Rev. Manas, Coral, Tracey & Paul, our PA team, musicians and communion helpers, those who look after banners, flowers & candles, our stewards, the morning tea crew, group leaders, those who pop in 'after hours' to get jobs done, and those who welcome visitors or reach out to fellow members. Thank you all. You are valued. Happy Christmas! – the Leaders team.

### **OPEN CHURCH**

'Open Church' is now on a break between 13 December and 13 January. Thanks to our Open Church volunteers. Your service in keeping Leigh Memorial open each weekday during the year is greatly appreciated.

### **SYMPATHIES**

The Leigh Memorial congregation wishes to express its deepest sympathy & ongoing thoughts & prayers for Rev. Amelia and her family and friends following the recent passing of dear Terry.



## CHRISTMAS DAY HOSTS AND SONGSTERS

If you would like to join the festivities come along as a congregation 'host' or "songster" at the PM Christmas Day Lunch.  
Contact Reception ASAP (9891-2277).

## BALLOONS @ PARRAMATTA PARK

If you would like to be a volunteer on Australia Day for the Mission's Annual fundraiser 'tethered balloon flights', please contact Rev. Christine: [christine.baylisskelly@parramattamission.org.au](mailto:christine.baylisskelly@parramattamission.org.au)

## A LETTER TO THE LEIGH MEMORIAL CONGREGATION

From Nalini: "Thank you for giving us the blessed opportunity to light the Advent candle of JOY today...Together with my parents and mausi [aunty], we are enjoying and learning a lot at the Sunday Advent services at Parramatta Mission. The Nativity Play, so lovingly performed by the children as part of the service this morning was amazing...This December has been extra special to us as we spend the month of Advent including the evening of the interfaith peace dinner with you and your members. We are excited to attend the Advent service with the lighting of the candle of LOVE on this coming Sunday as we prepare for the coming of the Lord. We thank you (Rev. Manas), Nita and members of your congregation for your love and respect, for embracing us and making sure that we are included and comfortable at all times..."  
Blessings Nalini & family! Thank you!

## *Foster your faith this week*

### *Christmas 1*

*Is 63:7-9*

*Ps 148*

*Heb 2:10-18*

*Mt 2:13-23*



Rev Dr Manas Ghosh will be on leave through January.  
Rev Dr Clive Pearson will be available for pastoral care, if required.



## **CHRISTMAS CAROLLERS**

***Do you enjoy singing  
Christmas carols?***

It would be great to have you join Rev Keith Hamilton on  
Christmas Day at the Parramatta Mission  
community Christmas Day Lunch at the Fellowship Centre.

To sign up please contact  
Coral Harris via phone 9891-2277  
Email: coral.harris@parramattamission.org.au

# **Christmas Day LUNCH**

**Wednesday 25th December 2019**



**Parramatta  
Mission**



**uniting  
church**



Parramatta Mission and Meals Plus are hosting Christmas Day Lunch again this year.  
We welcome everyone to attend.  
**Lunch will be served from 11am until 2pm.**

If you would like to support the day through a donation  
please contact [christmas@parramattamission.org.au](mailto:christmas@parramattamission.org.au) or visit

**[www.parramattamission.org.au/christmasday](http://www.parramattamission.org.au/christmasday)**

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

Christmas 2019  
Celebrating the birth of Jesus  
Let's make heaven a place on earth  
Emmanuel - God with us.  
Quite simply, God loves you.

**네번째 대강절 (4th Advent of Sunday) 2019년 12월22일 오후 1시30분**

개회 찬송 (Entrance Hymn) 예배를 위한 묵상

예배의 부름 (Calling) 인도자

송영 (Gloria) **새 5장** **통 3장** 이 천지간 만물들아 다함께

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

찬양/찬송 (Chorus & Hymns) 다함께

**새 115장** **통 115장** 기쁘다 구주 오셨네  
**새 270장** **통 214장** 변함없는 주님의 사랑과

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

성경 봉독 (Scripture Reading) **고린도 전서 16:21-24**

말씀(Preaching)- 전현구 목사 우리의 주님 오시옵소서

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

**나눔과 알림 (Announcement & Notices)**

1. 매일 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  
오후 4:00

수요기도회 : 오후 7시  
계시록 22:6-21

새벽기도회 : 오전 6시  
계시록 21:9-시편 147:20

# Matthew 1:18-25

18 Now the birth of Jesus was like this. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; and before they came together she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit. 19 But her man, Joseph, being just and not wishing to shame her, decided to secretly release her. 20 And while he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream saying, "Joseph son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife; for that which is begotten in her is of the Holy Spirit. 21 For she will give birth to a son; and you shall call his name Jesus; for he shall save his people from their sins. 22 Now this has come about in order that he might fulfil the prophecy spoken by the Lord through the prophet saying 'Behold, the virgin will conceive and will have a son, and will name him Emmanuel'" (which translated means 'God with us'). 24 Then Joseph, waking from his sleep, did as he was ordered by the angel of the Lord and he took Mary as his wife 25 but he did not know her until she bore a son; and he called his name Jesus.

(Translation by Keith Hamilton)

## Reflections

It seems Christmas is big where Julie and I live. We are new to the area, and so it is a new experience for us. A lot of houses and townhouses have put up Christmas lights. More to the point, Christmas displays that take up the front yard. One house has been working on set up since October. Two street BBQs are being held, and people encouraged to make donations to charities. A note came through the letter box last week that the long-running tradition continues with Santa coming around the streets on Christmas Eve, handing out lollies to children, culminating in a gathering for people in the area to celebrate Christmas. People can make donations towards the costs, and a phone number is given.

Christmas has multiple meanings, but one of them is community. While we know that calls to Lifeline and domestic violence incidents increase, many others do take up the message from Luke's gospel of peace on earth and good will to all.

An important message of Christmas is God is with us. But what does this mean? Does God intervene, or hold back? Does God guide, or manipulate? Perhaps it is more complex, as life is complex that neither is it that God, if there is a God, does nothing, or that God directs every action. The dreams of Joseph, a feature of Matthew's Gospel, point to God being with Joseph, offering guidance through dreams. Rev Alan Jackson, former Superintendent of Parramatta Mission often says, "wherever there is goodwill there is God." Perhaps God is there in the inspiration to do good to others, particularly to those who face homelessness, hunger or thirst, or in the welcome of the stranger from another place, or walking beside a person with a lived experience of a mental illness in their recovery, or listening to someone who is lonely, and will include offering comfort to those who are grieving. Perhaps God is there in the work of bringing communities together.

God is there in inspiring people to make to a charity or church a donation that arrives just at the right time to assist a person with that particular need, as often happens at Parramatta Mission. In these are other ways, God might be with us.

That does leave us with the difficulty of understanding where God is for people who die of hunger or loneliness, or when Pacific Islands are flooded by rising sea levels. Where is God when people of faith go to war, or are closed-minded to racism or the climate emergency? However, to affirm God is with us does not equal God can manipulate situations or change the hearts and minds of people who have chosen to the closed. But the truth is even when we are close minded, God is still with us provoking us to open our ears, eyes, hearts and minds.





Thelma Brown Cottage, (TBC) provides accommodation for women and children escaping domestic violence. While the program is funded, additional funds are sought to provide such things as a space for children and mums, new bathroom fittings, furniture for mum's and children when they both arrive and move out. Our Fundraising and Marketing Team have been working with UADV (United Against Domestic Violence) and Parramatta Leagues Club to raise those extra funds. Recently a morning tea was held to thank our partners and to view the latest updates. You can see the new toys and equipment for children, and new computers for mums to use. PM presented UADV and Parramatta Leagues with certificates of appreciation. My thanks to Jo and Jenny for the great work of building these partnerships.



**ABOVE:** Jasmine, our caseworker, proudly showing our new computer desks and computers.





**LEFT:**  
Ebru and Nes  
from UADV



**RIGHT:**  
Maria from  
Parramatta Leagues



Merry Christmas and God's blessings to all, Keith Hamilton

## Celebration and Thanksgiving for the life of TERRY BUTLER.

22.4.1952 – 10.12.2019

**When:** Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> January 2020  
**Time:** 5pm-5.45pm  
**Where:** Janice Reid Pavilion (Western Sydney University)  
Western Sydney Uni - Parramatta South campus  
Off Victoria Road  
Rydalmere, NSW 2150

Join in the gathering to Commend Terry's spirit into God's care, support the family and share our experiences.

Terry planned much of this gathering himself and wanted to ensure children and storytellers, footballers and people of all ethnicities and people identifying as LGBTIQ+ would all be welcome and safe.



## VEIQARAVI ENA LOMA NI VULA O TISEBA/JANUERI

Vunau e Parramatta	
25/12	Combined Service Christmas Day
29/12	Combined Service
5/1	Combined Service
12/1	Combined Service

Hi everyone,

See below an amazing good news story from Karrikin, so wonderful to hear about one family willing to support another... also amazing to hear about the impact of the Karrikin program!!

Below is email correspondence between the Karrikin senior clinician (who is now the Service Manager for YESS!), and the father of a young person who was unable to attend school for two years before coming to our service, Karrikin Youth Mental Health in Northern Sydney.

**From Nicole:**

Hi Peter\*,

Thanks to both you & Jane\* for sending those forms across, really appreciate it.

Paul has actually asked me to get in contact to ask you a favour. We're currently working with a Dad whose son is having a challenging time getting back to school and he has expressed some interest in having a chat with a fellow dad who has been in a similar position in the past. We were just wondering whether you would be comfortable with us passing on your number to him so he might have the opportunity to give you a ring? Completely up to you, we just thought it might be a good opportunity for some shared experience and potentially learning.

Hope you have a great week! Jane\* mentioned that Ella\* was planning to start attending roll call and PDHPE so please let her know I'm still cheering her on!

Kind Regards,

Nicole

**This is the reply from Peter\*:**

Hi Nicole

I would like to thank you for your wonderful work with Ella\*. You were able to obtain her confidence and truly provide her with methods to reconnect with school and friends.

Please also pass on my thanks to Paul whom also made a very big difference in the life of Ella\* in helping her regain her ability to reconnect with school. I will always be grateful to you both.

I am more than pleased to have a chat with any fellow dad whom is experiencing the same issues. My mobile number is 04XX XXX XXX.

Just a little Ella\* update, roll call yes, PDHPE...work in progress. Ella\* has formed new friendships within her year at school. Ella\* has joined the Chatswood High School Choir, performed at a Remembrance Day ceremony and it seems will be travelling along with the CHS Orchestra for a series of performances in London, Manchester and Edinburgh April 2021. This is the Girl that only a few months ago was hiding behind trees across the street from the High School as she did not want to be seen by other students.

Hope you are well.

Eternally grateful.

Kind regards

Peter\*

😊😊 ...Well done team 😊😊

**Chantal Nagib**

General Manager, Clinical Services  
(headspace services, LikeMind, Karrikin, Warekila  
and Youth Enhanced Support Services)



## THANKYOU

Thankyou to all who have contributed to the Christmas celebrations over the last 2 weeks. The food has been wonderful, the amazing work of people behind the scenes in setting up and clearing up as well as time spent in the wash up room has been much appreciated. It is good to be able to gather together to share in the fun and joy of being together in the Christmas season.

## CONDOLENCES

The Westmead Congregation extends condolences to Rev Dr Amelia Koh-Butler on the death of Terry- an extraordinary person who served God, the Church and the community so very well.

A Thanksgiving service for Terry will be held on January 14<sup>th</sup> at the Parramatta South Campus of Western Sydney University (Rydalmere), 5.00pm.

## NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF COMPLEMENTARY MEDICINE (NICM) CELEBRATION

We had a wonderful time at the Opening of NICM on Wed 18<sup>th</sup> Dec. The Blessing service was led by Allison Forrest, one of the Deacon Candidates, and all of us were able to take a part in the celebration. Some good conversations were made with staff and we hope to build more connections across the coming years.

## END OF YEAR AND CHRISTMAS

As we move quickly to the end of the year and Christmas there will be a number of parties and Services.

- Carols and Lessons Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- Christmas Day Service 9.00am.

## JANUARY- OPEN CHURCH

The church will be open from 9.00-3.30 on Wed 8<sup>th</sup> January and each following Wednesday across January. We anticipate that families with children will come earlier in the day and those wanting a cuppa, scrabble or dominos or simply to chat will come afterwards. Please byo lunch but tea and coffee will be provided.

**Thought for the month:** *Preparation for Christmas includes the preparation in our hearts and lives for the advent of Jesus- Emmanuel- God with us. Are we being prepared?*

WESTMEAD  
Congregation

**DEEPENING FAITH and RELATIONSHIPS with others Worship**

**Sundays 9.45am**

Bible Study- Mondays 2.00-3.30pm

Fellowship

Returns Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January

Returns Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February

**MAKING A DIFFERENCE**

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

Play Group – Mondays and Wednesdays 9.15-10.45am Return Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb

Open Door -Wednesdays 1.00-3.30pm

Returns Wed 5<sup>th</sup> Feb

Tai Chi- Fridays 10.00-11.00am

Returns Friday 7<sup>th</sup> Feb



**Blessing Western Sydney Uni**







Sending Merry  
Christmas wishes your  
way in 2019

Enjoy the festive season;  
relax; stay safe &  
remember to be kind.

All the very best in  
2020 looking forward  
to a great year ahead

Tracey & Coral



Julie and I pray that Jesus  
**'God with us'**

Be with you this  
Christmas and through 2020  
Keith & Julie Hamilton

# Prayer Points

## **The people of Parramatta Mission invite you to pray for:**

- ♥ *PM congregations and staff. For headspace, the Parramatta redevelopment negotiations. The people we contact every day that we might exhibit the values of grace, inclusion, dignity, faith and hope.*
- ♥ *PM Leigh Memorial: Mae & Stephen, Jolame, Wilhelmina, Joan, Betty E, Hazel, Betty B, George, Neil & Darlene, plus grieving individuals & families including Beverly, and the Grays and de Relands. Also, Manas & Nita, the congregation leaders team, Open Church - and both leaders and members of the Music Team, SPOW, Couples & Friends, Sunday School & Youth Group. Please advise the Leaders' team of any additions to this listing.*
- ♥ *PM Leigh Fijian: Sosi Toa and family, Adriu Rogoimuri and Rogoimuri family, Niko Balavu, Mili Sigani, Terry Butler and Talatala Amelia Koh Butler, Ravetali family, Tuiloma family, Sunday School Ministry, Young Adults and their families, Bula Feeding Ministry, Soup Kitchen Ministry, Samu Sadrata.*
- ♥ *PM Westmead: Amelia and her family, Joanna and family, Shirley and family, Faith and her sisters, Yvonne, Rietha, Marly, Rita, Ruth, Wendy, Jan's neighbours, Sunny and family, Corey, Lara and James, Judy, Grace, Lisa, Reg and Heather, Robyne and Phil. All farmers and their communities, Sharon, Keith and Noeleen, Debbie and Michael, Kevin, Jean, Caroline and David A, Josh and his family (Kerryn, Peter and Ben), Mrs E and family, Mary and Aloy and the boys, Silvano, Jinky, Isabella and Gerard, Mary, Justice and family, Aravind and family, Tanzida, Paula and Geoffrey, Garry, Chris and family, Rob, Jodie and Family, May, Rajes (Sandra), Henry, Phyllis, Vita, Al, Mrs G and family, Judy, Shanika and family, Rebecca, Ashima and Anusha Saxena, Lyn, Ruth and Lela, Mr and Mrs S, Carmen and Rob, David and Christopher.*
- ♥ *UC congregations of the Cumberland Zone: Dundas/Ermington, Northmead, North Rocks, Carlingford, West Epping, Centenary, Wentworthville, Holroyd, Greystanes, Grantham Heights, Parramatta Mission, Auburn.*
- ♥ *We join the World Council of Churches in prayer Ghana, Nigeria*
- ♥ *We pray for Sydney Tamil - Congregation.*



# Worship Services at

**Mon to Fri 9.00am - 2.00pm**

**Tuesday 1.10pm**

**Sunday 9.30am**

**9.45am**

**11.15am**

**1.30pm**

**7.00pm**



**Open Church @ Leigh Memorial**

**Holy Communion @ Leigh**

**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:** Rev Dr Clive Pearson Supply Minister 0409 523 024

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

**Leigh Memorial Church,** 119 Macquarie St, Parramatta , 9891 2277

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

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

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


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

**Children's Hospital Chaplain :** Sarah Bishop 0429 912 943

**PM WSU Chaplain :** Rev Dr Amelia Koh Butler 0427 955 157



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

 Parramatta Mission

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