



Parramatta
Mission



uniting
church
in Australia,
Synod of NSW & ACT

OUR NEWS

15th March 2020

Our Vision

A Community Transforming Lives

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

'LENT EVENT': BUILD PEACE & BEAT POVERTY

Our second 'Bric-a-Brac' sale for Lent Event last weekend raised a further \$57.00 for the people of Ambon, Indonesia. Most Ambonese live on \$1 per day and the province has worked hard in recent years to emerge from a period of severe community division. Thanks to everyone who has kindly contributed to our fundraising so far. Our 'Ambonese' laminated bookmarks are still available for \$1 each. Please see Samantha/ Johana.

LENT & EASTER PROGRAM

Our Lent & Easter program for this year is in the weekly newsletters and on the website. Remember to save the dates for Rev. Clive's 3 x Saturday morning Lenten studies, commencing on 21 March. Also remember to check out the 'Stations of the Cross' art exhibition at Northmead Creative & Performing Arts High.

STAY WELL

Due to the spread of the COVID-19 virus, hand-shaking is not recommended at this time, and members and visitors are kindly reminded to keep using the sanitisers provided in the church and Coffee Shop – and to follow the relevant medical advice. At Leigh Memorial last Sunday, we used the 'Namaste' or 'Thai' greeting for each other during passing the peace and it was enjoyed by all. Thanks to those who have donated sanitiser.



SONGS FOR THE LENT & EASTER SEASON

Monday 16 March will be the final Lent & Easter singing practice with Rev. Amelia. When & where? 5.30 – 6.30pm at Leigh Memorial. Many thanks to Amelia and Alan for sharing their time and gifts as part of this Lenten program, and to all of our wonderful singers, whose voices are truly enriching our worship experience! “Come let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.” (Psalm 95:1).

CONGREGATION ROLL

Please assist in our current Roll update by confirming your name & contact details ASAP. Thank you.

COMBINED SERVICE

A Leigh Memorial + Leigh Fijian service will be held at 10.00am on Sunday 29 March and led by the combined Youth of the two congregations. Please come along and support our young people.

ANNIVERSARY

Wesley Apartments, Westmead, has just celebrated its 10th Anniversary - having been officially opened on 9 March 2010 by Her Excellency, the Governor of NSW, Marie Bashir. As an accessible accommodation service in the heart of Westmead's medical precinct, it has provided a remarkable level of care for children needing treatment at the Children's Hospital and their families over the past decade. Warmest thanks to the staff - and to all the PM congregation members and supporters who have faithfully sustained the Apartments' work over the years and given hope to innumerable others - the PM Heritage Committee.



Pastoral message for this week....

In times of uncertainty
We seek God's help
In Spirit & In Truth

LENT & EASTER

@ LEIGH MEMORIAL CHURCH, PARRAMATTA MISSION

All events/services will be held at Leigh Memorial, 119 Macquarie Street, Parramatta.



Songs for Lent & Easter with Rev. Amelia:

Mondays 16 March, 5.30-6.30pm.

Lenten Studies with Rev. Clive:

'Truly this man was God's son': Exploring the Easter story told by Matthew.

3 studies: Saturdays 21, 28 March and 4 April, 10.00 – 11.30am.

Palm Sunday Worship:

Sunday 5 April, 9.30am (Leigh Memorial) & 11.15am (Leigh Fijian).

NB: A 'Hosanna' palm walk will take place in Centenary Square from 9.15am.

Maundy Thursday/ Tenebrae (inc. Light Meal):

Thursday 9 April, 6.30pm.

Good Friday Worship:

Friday 10 April, 9.00am.

Easter Sunday Worship (inc. Easter Morning Tea):

Sunday 12 April, 10.00am.



ALL WELCOME! Further enquiries: 9891-2277.

Advance Notice

**‘Truly this man was God’s son’:
Exploring the Easter story told by Matthew.**

**3 studies, 90 minutes:
Saturday 21, 28 March and 4 April
Leigh Memorial Church,.**

1. Remembering the Passion Narrative:

How does Matthew tell the story of Jesus’ betrayal, his trials, his death on the cross? What roles do Judas, Peter and Pilate play?

2. The Empty Tomb:

In what ways does the way in which Matthew tell the story of the empty tomb and appearances differ from the other gospel writers? How does Matthew’s Easter story compare with the Qu’ran’s account of the ‘death’ of Jesus?

3. Stumbling Blocks and Follies:

The Easter events lie at the heart of the Christian faith. We explore different ways of understanding the ‘message’ of the cross and resurrection through the hymns we sing.

The Parramatta Nepean Presbytery will induct the
Rev Meredith Williams at Wentworthville Uniting Church.

Sunday 15th March at 2pm.

Wentworthville Uniting Church
115 Station St
Wentworthville.

All welcome.

Lenten Devotions

Lent began on Ash Wednesday, 26 February 2020, and continues to Easter. Lent is a season of preparation for Easter by the church. From Ash Wednesday to Easter is 40 days, not counting Sundays, and correlates with Jesus being in the wilderness for forty days after his baptism, tempted, yet found without sin. Christians the world over give attention during this time to their relationship with God, reflecting upon growth in faith, how the faith is expressed in relationship with others. This year the pastoral team are encouraging Lenten devotions through providing a daily set of Bible readings and reflections. These reflections are included in the insert.

COVID-19 or Corona Virus.

COVID-19 is a serious issue. It is not just that we can't shake hands, or that the economy is affected, or travel disrupted. It is a threat to health, and for some even to life. If you feel unwell, consult a doctor. Parramatta Mission staff and congregants have installed hand sanitiser, either affixed to walls or posts, or in pump action containers in our buildings. The advice from the World Health Organisation is to wash your hands, including the back of hands, and up above the wrist. Apparently, soap and water works best. Some people are singing happy birthday twice while washing. One church is encouraging people to say the Lord's Prayer while washing hands. Amen to that.

When it comes to worship, there are some practical things to consider. Some churches have refrained from using bread for communion, and instead are using wafers, handed out by people who have washed their hands, and even in some cases, wearing gloves. Some churches are still using the common cup, but ask people not to intinct (dipping bread in the wine). Passing of the peace has taken on new practices. Some, such as at Leigh Memorial last week, fold the hands with palms and fingers touching and fingers raised upward – as in hands folded for prayer, and greet the other with the words, "The peace of Christ be with you, accompanied by a shallow bow, and response. Others have suggested that you put one hand on your heart, then look the other person you are passing the peace in the eyes, and bow a little, making an offering of peace from the heart. The worship leader will provide the directions.

Michael Wright has been a wonderful servant of Parramatta Mission for close to 22 years. He has held many positions, including the Lifeline shops, the laundry, involvement at Lifeline, men's services, and more. His interview was conducted in the back seat of a car at Kingswood! Michael oversaw the building of Hope Hostel. Indeed, Michael led the development of the model, and project managed the building. It is his efforts that led to the building design that aligns with our values of grace, inclusion, dignity, faith and hope. Every man has their own room, there are multiple communal spaces. The building has a light and airy feel, which people comment on when they arrive. It is the state of the art crisis accommodation in Western Sydney. Michael also oversaw the revamping of Meals Plus. Over recent years Michael has assisted me in caretaking for property and housing. He has been Parramatta Mission through and through. It is now time for Michael to step into a new sphere of his life with retirement, and care of the grandchildren. Thank you is not enough yet more than anything else that can be said. Thank you, Michael. Well done. Best wishes and God's blessings for the future

Blessings, Keith Hamilton



WESTMEAD Congregation

BOARD AND CHURCH COUNCIL

Please continue to pray for the Board and Church Council members. Please continue to pray for Rev Geoff Stevenson as he continues the work of meeting with the congregations and working with the Church Council.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

As we journey through the season of Lent there will be a Lenten Bible Study which is open to anyone who would like to attend. **Wednesdays at Westmead- 7.00pm and Thursdays at Westmead 12.00pm.** Tea and Coffee provided. The Study will have a focus on understanding Christianity, Discipleship and how to share your faith in everyday ways. Enquiries Rev Christine.

EXTRA CARE

During the outbreak of the Covid 19 (Corona) Virus we are putting some extra steps into place at Westmead. Not only will we use the hand sanitiser during worship but we ask that everyone either wash their hands thoroughly OR use hand sanitiser as soon as they enter the building. There are signs showing the best way to wash hands, cough and sneeze (into elbow) however, as we deal with many people who are immuno-suppressed we ask for these extra precautions from everyone. During the passing of the peace we also suggest people greet each other with nods of heads rather than shaking hands. We will still use the hand sanitiser following the passing of the peace as we have done for several years. Thank you for your co-operation.

SUNDAY 22ND

Next Sunday 22nd of March we welcome Sarah Bishop, the chaplain at the Children's Hospital at Westmead. Sarah will be leading worship and preaching as Rev Christine will be away.

TOWELS

We are collecting clean towels in good condition for Meals Plus. New towels are OK but do need to be washed several times before use to enable them to be effective. Please see Rev Christine.

Thought for the month: *'Let today be the day you give up who you have been for who you can become'*

DEEPENING FAITH and RELATIONSHIPS with others Worship

Sundays 9.45am

Bible Study- Mondays 2.00-3.30pm

Fellowship- These meetings will occur occasionally.

Please stay tuned for information re bus trips.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Time Out Café (TOC)- Wednesdays 10.00-1.00pm

Play Group – Mondays and Thursdays 9.15-10.45am

Open Door -Wednesdays 1.00-3.30pm

Tai Chi- Fridays 10.00-11.00am

OPEN CHURCH VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking for committed volunteers to assist on a regular basis with opening, supervising and securing the Leigh Memorial Church building each weekday between 9.00am - 1.30pm.

Your role will include welcoming visitors, assisting with enquiries and showing care for those seeking the love of God.

If you want to find out more, or are interested, please contact
bianca.ferrari@parramattamission.org.au



The Galston Concerts 2020 Series



commences

**Sunday afternoon 22 March
in Galston Uniting Church
11 School Road - Galston**



1.30 pm: pre-concert organ prelude
on our heritage Fosters & Andrews pipe organ
with prize winner Young Performer
Emily Thompson
performing Mozart, J S Bach & more

2 pm

Three's Company

Narelle Yeo, soprano
Deborah de Graaff, clarinet
Tonya Lemoh, piano



performing popular Classical music of Vienna - Mozart, Beethoven (celebrating his 250th birthday) and Schubert (his *Shepherd on the Rock*, a 'top ten' Classical song setting), plus contrasts in music from England, Spain, Polish dances and cabaret songs, including strings cameos by our Directors - Robert Harris, viola; Dorit Herskovits, double bass.

Followed by afternoon tea

Series and single tickets available at
www.trybooking.com - search Galston
or at the door

Adults \$40.00 Seniors \$30.00 HS/Uni \$10.00
Enquiries to Galston Uniting Church 9653 2039

Foster your faith this week

1 Sm 16:1-13

Ps 23

Eph 5:8-14

Jn 9:1-41

Fijian Congregation

	Vunau e Parramatta	Vunau Lesi	Vunau Vakarau	Tu Vakarau Veiliutaki	Tali Vunau
15/3	Rooty Hill	S Toa-Campbelltown	S Qatu	M3	M1
22/3	S Qata	V Kamotu		M1	
29/3	COMBINED SERVICE WITH LEIGH				

LESONI NI MACAWA

Lako Yani 17:1-7 Same 95 Roma 5:1-11 Joni 4:5-42

**Lay Preachers—Introduction to Worship and continuing
Introduction to New Testament**

16/03 (7.00—8.30PM)	Working on Assignments for Intro to Worship (with Amelia)
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1. Sa vakabibitaki tikoga na noda masumasu vakavule ena kena gauna o ni sa lokuca vakavuvale.
2. Eda sa sureti tiko ena dua na vuli na **Easter study (combined kei na vakavavalagi)**. Ena qarava tiko nai talatala Clive. Na ulutaga ni vuli **“Truly this man was God’s son”**, e 90 miniti na balavu ni vuli ena qaravi tiko ena 21/03, 28/03 kei na 04/04. Ena vakayacori tikoga mai na 10am kina 11:30am ena choir vestry e valelotu e Parramatta.
3. Eda mai marautaka tiko vakaivavakoso na bula nei na qase Adriu Rogoimuri ni sa yacova mai na yabaki ni bula na 94.



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, Bruce S, Jolame, Betty E, Joan, Hazel, Beverly, Neil & Darlene, Betty B, George, Robyn & Malcolm, Rev. Manas & Nita, the Leaders team, Open Church, SPOW, Couples & Friends, Sunday School teachers, children and families, Youth Group, inc. this year's HSC students and first time uni students, and all those who are unwell, currently having medical tests or treatment, or grieving.*
- ♥ *PM Leigh Fijian: Adriu Rogoimuri Niko Balavu, 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: Matthew's mother, Nyema, Aunty Jean, William, Karishma and family, Isaac and family, Amelia and her family, Joanna and family, Shirley and family, Faith and her sisters, Yvonne, Rietha, Marly, Rita, Ruth, 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, 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 China, Hong Kong, Macao*
- ♥ *We pray for Cabramatta Uniting Church.*

Worship Services at

Mon to Fri 9.00am - 2.00pm Open Church @ Leigh
Tuesday 1.10pm Lunch time service @ Leigh
Sunday.....

9:30 am Leigh Memorial Congregation @ Leigh

9.45am Westmead Congregation @ Westmead

11:15 Leigh Fijian Congregation @ Leigh

1.30pm Korean Faith Community @ Leigh

7.00pm Praise, Prayer, Cake & Coffee @ Leigh



Pastoral 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

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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