



Parramatta
Mission



uniting
church
in Australia,
Synod of NSW & ACT

OUR NEWS

29th 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

STAYING CONNECTED

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, Leigh Memorial Church is closed for all worship services and other gatherings until further notice – however, various forms of community, worship and assistance remain readily available. Please let the pastoral team or congregation/group leaders know if you need support – including if in isolation or unwell. Also, please let us know if meals, shopping or other practical necessities are becoming a problem for you. Messages can be left at 9891-2277 or with Rev. Manas: 0429 892 548. Thanks for everyone's patience as we refine our new communication routines and help networks over coming weeks.

SMALL 'CARE' GROUPS



Leigh Memorial has established small 'care groups' within our congregation so that everyone is well-connected and informed at this time. Members are also asked to phone, text or email someone this week and simply have a chat. In a world with mandatory distancing, the littlest gestures can make a huge difference, or as Martin Luther King Jnr once put it, "If I cannot do great things, I can do small things in a great way."

WORSHIP RESOURCES AVAILABLE



Parramatta Mission is making weekly worship, bible studies, prayers and other resources available on its website: <https://www.parramattamission.org.au/> (follow the links through 'Congregations') – and also via traditional post. Contact 9891-2277 or wecare@parramattamission.com.au if you would like to be added to a contact or mailing list. Please note that our Leigh Memorial morning service was also conducted online for the first time last Sunday, using the wonderful technology of the 'Zoom' app. It was held at the same time as our regular service – and will happen again this Sunday. If you're interested in

participating but don't know how, please contact Rev. Amelia: 0427 955 157. Photo: 'Zoom' Church via iPhone at the Vulwalu household last week.

LENT EVENT 2020 – FUNDRAISING TOTAL

Our Leigh Memorial fundraising total for Lent Event 2020 was \$290.00! This has been sent to Uniting World and will undoubtedly make a positive difference to lives in Ambon, Indonesia – one of the many under-resourced countries in the world where COVID-19 is now adding a further strain to services. "Many thanks" to our members for their donations and to everyone who supported this year's program. NB: For Lent Event videos about Ambon Island and its community and culture, go to: <https://vimeo.com/showcase/6710131>

RESOURCES FOR KIDS



Parents & carers are reminded that Lent & Easter colouring-in pages and Sunday School learning material are readily available via email or post on request. Kids are welcome to scan and send us their colouring-in and we will display it online! Please contact our Sunday School teachers via

LeighMemorialUniting@gmail.com. A helpful UCA children's ministry site for 'at home' Sunday School

education and age appropriate kids' activities is:

<https://childrensministry.org.au/curriculum/>

MEALS PLUS – PLEASE DONATE

Parramatta Mission's Meals Plus program is now in desperate need of funds to keep it going at its current volume. Meals Plus provides meals and fundamental aid to a growing number of those in need. Its situation has been worsened by the impacts of the coronavirus. To help, go to

<https://www.parramattamission.org.au/donate/> or call 9891-2277.

Thanks to Paul & his team for their hard work & perseverance in trying times.

HEALING & HOPE



We are hearing a lot these days about the wonderful work of doctors, nurses and other emergency personnel on the frontline of the current coronavirus crisis. Did you know that one of the stained glass windows in Leigh Memorial Church is dedicated to two Christian doctors...Dr. Sydney Woolnough and his son, Dr. Ron Woolnough? The Woolnough window (1995) includes a medical symbol called the *Caduceus* (pictured – or a snake wrapped around a pole called the

rod of *asklepian*) and depicts the story of healing from Luke 8: 40-49. At one time, the Woolnough doctors and their families had a home and medical practice near Leigh Memorial Church (ie. 153 Macquarie Street – or the site of the new 'NAB' building) and were devoted leaders of the congregation. To see a photo of the Woolnough residence, check the Parramatta Heritage Centre: <http://arc.parracity.nsw.gov.au/blog/2016/05/03/dr-woolnoughs-residence-111-macquarie-street/> Not long after his graduation from the University of

Sydney, Dr. Sydney Woolnough was called on to treat Sydney-siders impacted by the catastrophic Spanish Flu pandemic that arrived in Australia with returning soldiers from WWI in early 1919 – and ultimately claimed thousands of lives: NB: Read more about the Woolnough doctors in our 2019 heritage booklet 'Luminous' – now available online via the Camden Theological Library's 'Illuminate' program: <https://illuminate.recollect.net.au/nodes/view/12949>

HAPPY 90th BIRTHDAY!



A very “Happy Birthday” to Leigh Memorial’s **Nell Tanswell** for 26 March! Nell is a faithful and very longstanding member of our congregation, whose contributions to the Mission - and love and commitment to other people, including late husband Ken and sons Peter and Graeme & family - have been greatly valued over the decades. Nell, your many friends in the congregation are hoping that your celebration was a pleasant one and a time of acknowledging the positive difference that you have made to many others. God’s richest blessings!

SPOW – SINGLE PEOPLE OF WORTH

Due to coronavirus restrictions, the next meeting of SPOW scheduled for Sunday 5 April has been cancelled. Enquiries: Beverly.

CLIVE’S NEXT EASTER STUDY

Rev. Clive’s next Easter study, ‘**The Passion of Jesus, Part 2**’ (**Mathew 27**) will be held online this Saturday 28 March between 10.00 – 11.30am (via the Microsoft Teams app) and is also available by email or post as requested. Those with email should look out for an “invitation” to join the ‘Teams’ meeting & other information. Don’t worry if accessing online meetings is new for you and a bit challenging. It is the same for many of us! Please contact Clive if you have any queries: clivepearson@gmail.com – or - leave a message at 9891-2277

LEIGH MEMORIAL CLOSED, SUNDAY 22 MARCH 2020

On our first Sunday morning of the coronavirus shutdown at Leigh Memorial, Revs. Manas & Keith plus Bruce and Robert did some safe social distancing while waiting to greet those who may not have received the news of the



church’s mandatory closure. A few people did arrive – so together, the group prayed and then dispersed. It may be of comfort to members to know that the church, although closed, is still being supervised and generally cared for during the suspension of worship and other gatherings. A sign on the door also provides an explanation to visitors.

LOOKING FOR A GOOD READ?

For those at home and looking for a good read to pass the time, please note the following: An e-version of our **Luminous** book (about the Leigh Memorial stained glass windows) is now part of the Camden Theological College's 'Illuminate' program – or what is described as “the Gateway to the History of our Churches”. It can be found at: <https://illuminate.recollect.net.au/nodes/view/12949>. Another online source is an essay about **Catherine Leigh** (wife of Samuel Leigh and a landmark, pioneer missionary, midwife and teacher – and interestingly in the context of our own time, one of many Parramatta victims of a severe 1831 epidemic). It is available at <https://stjohnscemeteryproject.org/bio/catherine-leigh/>. If you are interested in either borrowing or purchasing our Parramatta Mission 2018-2019 Heritage booklets about pioneer missionaries **Samuel Leigh** and **Walter Lawry**, this can also be arranged. We are happy to email, post, or drop them off to you on request. Please contact LeighMemorialUniting@gmail.com or leave a message at 9891-2277.

Pastoral message for this week....

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

Foster your faith this week

Is 50:4-9a Ps 118:1-2, 19-29

Phil 2:5-11 Mt 21:1-11

COVID-19

The world has changed. Forever. In this time of transition, we all have to adjust. There are new ways of working and communicating. Physical distance to save life is paramount, yet social connection is also paramount. Social isolation can lead to mental ill-health. We, each one of us, need to keep a lookout for each other. Phone, text, letter, card, internet, zoom, skype, teams, facebook and more. Some staff and congregant groups have established daily catchup using an electronic platform – phone, Microsoft teams, zoom. Many of Parramatta Mission's staff are working remotely. Many teams are sub-divided to ensure continuity of service, and mitigate risk of harm or shutdown of critical activities and programs. Some programs have become virtual, some are takeaway. Our concern is with people who are rough sleepers or at risk of homelessness, people with a mental illness who need a daily visit or support to ensure right medication and social connection, International students who have no employment and no benefits, congregants who live alone and have limited electronic means of connection, people who are sick and need accommodation near the hospital. These are the people who are our focus of attention, and our prayers.

Parramatta Mission is monitoring the situation and in communication with the Government, peak bodies, other congregations, other parish missions, Presbytery and Synod of the Uniting Church in Australia. Our challenge is that we are a diverse church, and one approach won't work in every location, program or congregation or ministry. That requires constant evaluation and adjustments. My thanks to all the leaders across PM who are doing this every day. These are long days.

Church services suspended

The church buildings are closed. Worship is by zoom – let reception know if you want to be added to the connection list. With this email are also the orders of worship for our three congregations, Lenten reflections, and a daily prayer guide. These can also be accessed through the Parramatta Mission website: parramattamission.org.au, then congregations, then newsletter and worship. We will get very good at this.

We need to be patient with each other. Treating each other with grace, inclusion and dignity, will help keep faith and hope.

Below is a pray from St Martin-in-the-Fields, London.

Lament for Coronavirus:

O God you search us and you know us;
you know our selfishness and potential for great good,
you know our fragility and anxiety.
Why do we need this time of pestilence and affliction
to show you what you already know about us?
You made us for glory and enjoyment;
why is there now such misery and constraint?

Our lives are a shadow of what they were a week or two ago.
We're fighting over interpretations of self-isolation,
over toilet rolls, over redundancy payments and social distancing;
and we're missing the gatherings and companionship,
the sports and performances that gave life so much joy.
It feels like the whole world is discovering what it's like to be mentally ill,
as we lose all sense of control and feel the building blocks of society
crashing down around us like a burning barn.
Everything that was good seems now to be illegal.
People are in misery with the virus,
in fear about contracting the virus,
cooped up to protect others against the virus.
Those who aren't part of the online revolution
are isolated like never before.

Come among us in your Spirit.
Show us new ways to be human and to be community.
Lift our hearts from gloom and give us gratitude for what we have.
Turn our anger into kindness, our fear into cooperation,
and our loneliness into new ways to find and cherish one another.
And renew our trust in you. Amen

Rev Dr Sam Wells

Blessings, Keith Hamilton

HEALTH ANXIETY

Global epidemics, public health warnings and the outbreak of a disease like the coronavirus (COVID-19) can sometimes appear frightening. With continuous media coverage, unverified stories on social media and uncertain outcomes, it's common to feel overwhelmed and worried about yours, or your family's health and wellbeing. While these feelings are understandable, if they start to interfere with your everyday life, you may be experiencing health anxiety. How you can help yourself While it's reasonable to be concerned about the coronavirus, there are simple and effective steps you can take to help take care of yourself, and the people around you.

1 KNOW THE FACTS

Get information or updates from reputable sources. Avoid getting information from social media or second-hand information from people who aren't experts in the field. Instead, look at official government websites, such as:

• www.health.gov.au • www.health.govt.nz • www.who.int

2 KNOW WHEN TO SWITCH OFF

Every day we're exposed to new information or updates about the coronavirus. We see and hear it on the morning news, radio, social media or conversations with friends, family or colleagues. While it's important to be informed and kept up to date, over-exposure to this type of content can lead to increased feelings of anxiety or worry. If you notice yourself becoming more anxious, switch off and take a break from the news to focus on the things in your life you have more control of, like your self-care.

3 KEEP THINGS IN PERSPECTIVE

People who take care of their health and practice good self-care are more resistant to the virus. And, while it's understandable to be concerned about the number of those affected worldwide, it's important to remember that most people who contract the virus, make a full recovery. Keeping things in perspective will help you stay calm.

4 AVOID MAKING ASSUMPTIONS

Remember, anyone can be affected by coronavirus, regardless of their ethnicity, age or gender. Avoid making assumptions against certain communities such as those who originate from countries heavily impacted by the virus. We need to get through this together, by being our best selves and coming together during these challenging times.

5 PRACTICE GOOD HYGIENE

Follow official advice and practice good hygiene. Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20-seconds, use alcohol-based hand sanitisers and cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze. If you develop flu-like symptoms see your doctor and avoid work or public spaces. It's also important to alert the hospital or clinic in advance that you are coming in.

다섯 번째 사순절 주일(5th Lent of Sunday) 2020년 03월 29일 오후 1시30분

개회 찬송 (Entrance Hymn) 예배를 위한 묵상

예배의 부름 (Calling) 인도자

송영 (Gloria) **새 1 장** **통 1 장** 만복의 근원 하나님 다함께

사도신경 신앙고백 (The Apostle's Creed) 다함께

찬양/찬송 (Chorus & Hymns) 다함께

새 35장 **통 50 장** 큰 영화로신 구

새 270 장 **통 214 장** 변함없는 주님의 사랑과

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

성경 봉독 (Scripture Reading) **요한복음 14:25-31**

말씀(Preaching)- 전현구 목사 **일어나 여기를 떠나자?**

봉헌 송(Offeratory Hymn)
새 449 장 **통 377 장** 예수 따라가면

나눔과 알림 (Announcement & Notices)

1. 오늘 함께 예배 드린 여러분을 주님의 이름으로 환영합니다. 
2. '매일 성경' 말씀으로 주님과 교제의 시간(QT)을 갖고 적용하는 훈련을 합니다.
3. 말씀, 기도, 전도 생활로 하나님이 기뻐하시는 삶을 사는 성도님들이 되시기 바랍니다.

폐회찬송(Final Hymn) **새502장** **통 259장** 너 시온아 이소식 전파하라 (1절)

축도 전현구 담임목사

QT나눔 & 성경공부
오후4:00

수요기도회 : 오후 7시
마가복음13:1-13

새벽기도회 : 오전 5시
마가복음 12:18-14:21

WESTMEAD Congregation

SUSPENSION OF ACTIVITIES DURING COVID 19 OUTBREAK

During this last week we have made the difficult but sensible decision to suspend all Westmead Congregation activities except worship. Please see communication from Rev Christine. Rev Christine is still available but will be working from home.

WORSHIP

During the suspension of worship for during the Covid 19 pandemic in NSW Rev Christine will continue to provide worship materials. For some, this will be via emails and other digital technology. For others it will be via printed material. Most members of the congregation will receive a 'worship pack', which includes material, stones, cross and candles. We encourage you to use these materials at our usual time of worship if possible, or at another time as you are able. Each pack will also include a small set of envelopes for your offering. This practice does not cease just because we are not in the same room however, some people's income will be affected so please give what you are able.

COMMUNION

The next time we are due to have communion is Easter Sunday. As we will not be present together on that day Rev Christine will arrange for communion elements to be delivered (where possible) and there will be a youtube link for you to connect with or a written order of service you may follow. The elements will be blessed before you receive them, but it is one way we can share together even when we are apart. Rev Amelia has also written a service for the sacrament of the empty hands which you can also use. These will be made available early next week.

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.

CALL TO PRAYER

We ask everyone to pray as they are able each day for the world, for Australia and especially for medical staff and others in dealing with Covid 19 Pandemic. May God be with all of us at this time.

DEEPENING FAITH and RELATIONSHIPS with others Worship

Sundays 9.45am

Bible Study- **On hold until early May**

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 **On hold until early May**

Play Group – Mondays and Thursdays 9.15-10.45am **On hold until early May**

Open Door -Wednesdays 1.00-3.30pm **On hold until early May**

Tai Chi- Fridays 10.00-11.00am **On hold until early May**

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 Brunei, Malaysia, Singapore*
- ♥ *We pray for Camden Uniting Church.*



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>