



Parramatta
Mission



uniting
church
in Australia,
Synod of NSW & ACT

OUR NEWS

7th June 2020

A Church-based 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,

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

WELCOME TO WINTER



“Then winter...cold and bare as nature takes stock, rests, unwinds, sleeps until the time is right. An endless cycle and yet a perfect model. We need a winter in our lives – a time of rest, a time to stand still, a time to reacquaint ourselves with the faith in which we live. It is only then that we can draw strength from the one in whom we are rooted, take time to grow and rise through the darkness into the warm glow of your springtime, to blossom and flourish – to bring colour and vitality into this world – your garden. Thank you God for the seasons of our lives. Amen.” (John Birch, 2016,

https://www.faithandworship.com/Prayers_Winter.htm).

PASTORAL MESSAGE

A very warm “hello” to all our members and supporters in this first week of winter. We send our greetings, prayers and hopes that you are keeping well – and that you will continue to do so over the cooler months ahead. Please let us know if you need any assistance, and thank you for your loyalty, commitment and kind support of our church and others within our congregation and community during these challenging times. ‘LEAP’ Prayer requests may be conveyed to Rev. Manas on 0429 892 548, or via 9891-2277.

OFFERINGS

Please consider regular giving. Congregation offerings to the life, witness & work of our Church can be made by direct electronic transfer. Bank Account name: Parramatta Mission Giving Direct. Acct. number: 100025901. BSB: 634 634. Thank you. For assistance, chat to Coral or Tracey, 9891-2277.

FUTURE PLANNING

The Leigh Memorial Leaders’ team are currently engaged in various planning processes. When worship services resume, public health/COVID-19 safety measures will need to be in place, in addition to technologies and other measures to ensure a smooth transition back to regular routines. Meetings are also currently taking place to determine the future structure of the Mission and its services. Please continue to pray for the Leaders team, the Church Council & all our leaders, reps and advisors at this important decision-making time.

CONGREGATION PRAYERS

Our congregation’s continued thoughts and prayers are with Rev. Manas & Nita, and with all our PM ministers, their families and our fellow Mission congregations. Queries regarding the recently announced ministry changes and other key developments at PM may be directed to Keith or Ian.

THANK YOU

A final delivery of donations to PM – including clothing and hand-knitted items from the people of Hazelbrook Uniting/ the Central Blue Mountains – has taken place. Many thanks again for your generosity!

HERITAGE 2020-2021



2020: Parramatta Mission's 'Heritage Sunday' for this year will take place on Sunday, 21 June. It will acknowledge a few significant anniversaries, including the 43rd anniversary of the Uniting Church in Australia and the 10th anniversary of Wesley Apartments; 2021: All current and past Leigh Memorial members and past Sunday School teachers, students & families are asked to look out for further details regarding the 200th anniversary of our Sunday School & the first Chapel at our Macquarie Street site – both of which will take place next year. Please also note that the next UCNHS Conference (Uniting Church National

History Society) will take place on the weekend of 11 – 13 June, 2021, at the Centre for Ministry, Nth Parramatta. Updates to follow.

Pastoral message for this week....

As covid and racism exposes existing chaos,
#togetherwecan work for reconciliation

Foster your faith this week

Gn 18:1-15, (21:1-7)

Ps 116:1-2, 12-19

Rom 5:1-8

Mt 9:35-10:8, (9-23)

Fijian Congregation

Advance Notice:

'Living faithfully in the midst of many religions'

Encountering Other Faiths
Types of Christian Responses.
'Shared Stories, Rival Tellings': The Abrahamic Faiths
Jesus, the *Qu'ran* and Muhammad.

You are welcome to join into this online study.

Saturday 20, 27, June: 4, 11, July: 10am to 11:30 am.

Thursday 25, 2, 9, 16 July: 7pm to 8pm
(Fijian congregation)

Fijian Youth Fellowship

Friday 26 June and 3 July. 7:30pm-9:00pm

Contact: cliverpearson@gmail.com Tel: 0409 523 024

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3602745736>





Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, women and children are more at risk than ever from domestic violence and abuse*. Essential measures such as Physical-Distancing and Self-Isolation are crucial to manage the spread of the virus but, tragically, they also put many women and children at a significantly increased risk.

Fact, since the first recorded case of COVID-19 in NSW, Google searches about domestic violence have risen by an alarming 75%.

During this difficult time, it's vital that women and children fleeing violence have somewhere safe to go. Our [Thelma Brown Refuge](#) offers families immediate essentials – a safe place to stay, some food to eat and a change of clothes. We also provide the support and counselling a woman needs to build a future free from violence for herself and her children.

Due to the coronavirus we have been forced to cancel many of our fundraising activities. This has significantly impacted the funding available for essential services like Thelma Brown Cottage.

We must raise \$224,000 by 30th June to keep our refuge open.

Last year, 10yr old Maddy arrived at Thelma Brown Cottage with mum Jen and younger brother, Ben. At first, she was quiet and withdrawn but, as she opened up, it became clear that not only had she witnessed horrific acts of violence against her mum, she was also a victim of physical abuse by her dad.

Support from people just like you, meant we could help Maddy and her family build a safe, happy future.

Women and children like Maddy need your help now more than ever.

Please, help give families fleeing violence a safe refuge.

Donate online at our website

<https://www.parramattamission.org.au/donate/single-donation/>

or phone the office on

9891 2277

Genesis 1:1-5, 31-2:4 RSV

1 In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, 2 the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. 3 Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. 4 And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. 5 God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

31 God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day. 2:1 Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. 2 And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. 3 So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation. 4 These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created. In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens. NRSV

Reflection

The Hebrew scriptures have two creation myths. One features Adam and Eve and their failure. The other, excerpts above, tells of God making a good creation and resting on the seventh day. The second creation myth ends with Adam and Eve, who have sinned, being sent out of the garden to work. The first creation myth ends with God resting on the Sabbath Day. Note that the Sabbath rest does not end. There is no eighth day. The people of the first creation myth envisage people living and delighting in God's Sabbath rest. It makes for an interesting contrast, grace and rest of the first myth, hard labour and estrangement of the second myth. The bridge between the two is repentance and healing of human brokenness. Even in the second myth, God is gracious and makes clothing for Adam and Eve who have become embarrassed by their nakedness.

Another creation myth is the Babylonian creation myth. It is a contrast. In this myth, Marduk became god of the gods through killing the goddess Tiamat. Marduk divided her body into two parts. Half of it he lifted up high, and it became the sky. He created the sun, moon, and stars to shine in the sky. From the other half of Tiamat's body, Marduk made the earth. Her bones became its rocks, and her blood became its rivers and streams. Then the god's held a banquet in honour of Marduk. But they needed creatures to serve them.

. So they created man and woman, so that they could grow food for the gods. Here we have a violent creation story that leaves man and woman as slaves to the gods.

I was reminded of these different creation stories this week as I watched and reflected on the news both here and overseas. The Babylonian creation story is one of might is right. Issues are resolved by force. The bigger the opponent, the more force that is required. We saw that in the killing of a George Floyd and aftermath response by a political leader, and also in the brutal arrest of an indigenous teenager in Sydney this week.

Many people, even many Christians, live the Babylonian creation stories, even if they don't know them.

The context of the first Genesis creation myth is important. It was written down when the Hebrew people were slaves in Babylon in the midst of a people who worshiped a foreign god, Marduk, and who taunted the Hebrew people about their seemingly weak God and the Babylonian's seemingly stronger god. The Hebrew priests wanted their people not to be ignorant, nor led astray, nor to lose hope. They wrote the creation story about a peace-loving God who saw that everything was good and gave humanity the task of caring and looking after the creation. The Babylonian creation story, by contrast, is of a god who uses and abuses humans. It is a story where might is right. Where violence is there at the heart of creation, at the heart of the god Marduk. The Babylonian's were violent. The Hebrew priests were declaring that God, Yahweh, is a good God, who created a good world, who is delighted with the world and all that is therein. A God who is involved in the world. A God who is gracious.

This is a God who is in the world. A God who did the impossible in raising up a dispirited people. A God who gave hope to people who were in a difficult place.

Blessing, Keith Hamilton

WESTMEAD Congregation

BIBLE STUDY and WORSHIP

Bible Study has recommenced via an online platform called zoom. Please contact Rev Christine for the link to the zoom meetings. Worship will commence via Zoom as of Sunday 7th June. Worship materials will continue to be available for printed format as well as via email. The zoom link for each week will be made available for all who have computer access.

SUSPENSION OF WORSHIP AND ACTIVITIES DURING COVID 19 OUTBREAK

As Covid 19 restrictions begin to lift different activities will recommence. Rev Christine is still available but will be working from home. Worship is still happening with printed orders of service and sermons able to be mailed out or emailed out. If you are not receiving them already please contact Rev Christine. You can also access them on the Parramatta Mission website at <https://www.parramattamission.org.au/faith-and-worship/westmead/> The Uniting Church Synod of NSW and ACT is still supporting the suspension of activities and worship as the duty of care is very high in relation to sanitisation, social distancing etc. It is likely this will continue for a longer time than many expected. A separate communication will be sent out soon.

OFFERING

Offerings are able to be dropped off at 175 reception or can be done electronically. Please see Rev Christine for bank account details for Westmead.

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.

May God especially be with those who are involved medically, cleaning, serving, in supermarkets, Chemists or other businesses and all the unseen people making a difference to keep us all safe.

Thought for the month: *Just as Jesus told his disciples he would send a comforter the Holy Spirit comes to us in our times of need. May we continue to live as Jesus' witnesses.*

DEEPENING FAITH and RELATIONSHIPS with others Worship

Sundays 9.45am via zoom from 7th June

Bible Study- Via Zoom Mondays 2.00pm

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**

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

Open Door -Wednesdays 1.00-3.30pm **On hold**

Tai Chi- Fridays 10.00-11.00am **On hold**

성령강림후 1주일 (1st Pentecost of Sunday) 2020년 6월 7일 오후 1시30분

개회 찬송 (Entrance Hymn) 예배를 위한 묵상

예배의 부름 (Calling) 인도자

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

사도신경 신앙고백 (The Apostle's Creed) 다함께

찬양/찬송 (Chorus & Hymns) 다함께

새 10장 **통 34장** 건능왕 오셔서

새 270장 **통 214장** 변함없는 주님의 사랑과

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

성경 봉독 (Scripture Reading) **사도행전 11:19-26**

말씀(Preaching)- 전현구 목사 누가 그리스도인인가?

봉헌 송(Offeratory Hymn)
새 336장 **통 383장** 환난과 압박 중에도

나눔과 알림 (Announcement & Notices)

1. 전 세계가 전염병으로 힘들 때 주님과 동행하시는 성도가 됩시다.
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 시은아 이소식 전파하라 (1절)

축도 전현구 담임목사

QT나눔 & 성경공부
오후 4:00

수요기도회 : 오후 7시
고전 6:12-20

새벽기도회 : 오전 5시
고전 5:1-8:13

COVID-19 Restrictions and Worship

At this time, and during the winter 'flu season, the congregations of Parramatta Mission will continue to worship via zoom and other means. It has been wonderfully heartening to see the church as the people of God wherever you are. God sees you expressing encouragement and doing acts of kindness and your pastoral team are inspired by you.

As COVID-19 restrictions are lifting, we are able to engage in more activities. Still with caution. It is now possible to hold a wedding or funeral, though with limited numbers attending. The legal requirements for public worship to ensure safety continue to be, rightfully, stringent. At this time, the pastoral team are gathering information and developing protocols for the use of the worship spaces in both Westmead and Parramatta. We will continue to assess when it is possible to resume worship in person. We will keep everyone informed. Our priority is to ensure everyone is safe. We are working on ways to support your worship and spiritual life. When we do gather, some of the guidelines we need to consider state:

- we will need to keep detailed attendance records for the sake of potential contact tracing
- we will need to maintain distancing and ensure traffic flow within spaces is managed carefully
- we need careful and detailed protocols regarding toilet facilities and refreshments
- we are unlikely to be able to undertake some of our traditional activities in the same way (e.g. how we participate in music and how we participate in Communion)

We may need to stage our responses to these and other Guidelines to support you with the safest possible worship and service environment. For those who will still be unable to join us, we will continue to provide support from a distance.

We will provide a further update next week.

Grace and peace

Keith Hamilton, on behalf of the Pastoral Team

ZOOM Services: Weekly services for Leigh Memorial 9:30 am and Leigh Fijian 11:15 am are on Zoom.

Join

Zoom [https://zoom.us/j/5450786355?](https://zoom.us/j/5450786355?pwd=THZJSmY5ZFBIQ0pEbDZKeFJkZmxQUT09)

[pwd=THZJSmY5ZFBIQ0pEbDZKeFJkZmxQUT09](https://zoom.us/j/5450786355?pwd=THZJSmY5ZFBIQ0pEbDZKeFJkZmxQUT09)

Meeting ID: 545 078 6355. **Password: 647303**

Prayer Points

The people of Parramatta Mission invite you to pray for:

- ♥ *PM congregants and staff. The people we contact every day that we might exhibit the values of grace, inclusion, dignity, faith and hope.*
- ♥ *PM Leigh Memorial: Rev. Manas & Nita, Mae & Stephen, Liz & family, Bruce S, Jolame, Betty E, Joan, Hazel, Beverly, Neil & Darlene, Betty B, George, Robyn & Malcolm, the Leigh Memorial Leaders team, the Church Council, our fellow PM congregations, Open Church, SPOW, Couples & Friends, our Sunday School teachers and children, Youth Group, and those who are unwell, currently having medical tests or treatment, or grieving – plus – all those impacted by COVID-19, inc. community members who are unwell, unemployed or at the frontline of medical, mental health, pharmacy and scientific care.*
- ♥ *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: Carol, Karen and Kath, Rosemary and Peter and families, Matthew's mother, Nyema, Carol, Aunty Jean, 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, Heather and family, 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 Parramatta-Nepean Presbytery that extends from Galston to Bargo, Lidcombe to Blackheath.*
- ♥ *We pray for Glenbrook (St Andrews) Uniting Church. More Prayers for Glenbrook (St Andrews) Uniting Church - We give thanks - that living in a beautiful part of the world makes isolation more bearable; for technology that helps to keep us connected; that our capacity to adapt and innovate has been more than we thought possible; for the commitment of all the congregation to remaining connected and especially those who stay in touch with and deliver material to members who don't have internet access. We pray for - those who are living with a heightened level of anxiety and fear; those who have family and friends in countries where the virus is more active than here in Australia; for those whose lives have been directly touched by COVID 19; for any who, despite our efforts, are feeling disconnected from our community.*

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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 Parramatta Mission

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