



Parramatta
Mission



uniting
church
in Australia,
Synod of NSW & ACT

OUR NEWS
15th November
2020

Comfort me with the

TRUTH

NO FEAR

who is always with me.

is too big for the



GREAT ONE

am never alone.

CALMING GOD, BRING COURAGE

TENDER SPIRIT, BREATHE PEACE

GENTLE JESUS, BE CLOSE

Amen

A Church-Based Community Transforming Lives

Our Values Grace, Inclusion, Dignity, Faith & 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.

NAIDOC WEEK

Theme: *Always Was, Always Will be*, 18 November, 2020

Lodged out of place

Introduction

Always was, Always will be. This 2020 NAIDOC WEEK theme quietly yet proudly speaks of the resilience, survival and adaptability of Indigenous peoples. Over my many years of walking together with and working for many Indigenous peoples and their organisations – from 1996 to 2018 – I have been privileged to witness this.

They have adapted to Western culture which was forcefully introduced into their many nations through contact and colonisation. Today they are partners with all of us as diverse peoples seeking to *progress* this nation; they are now engaged in every arena of public, business and professional life.

Lodged out of place

Yet, tragically, those who control social and political power are too cautious to *progress* the rights and real equality of Indigenous peoples, nationally or locally. Rights and equality such as treaty and sovereignty. And the church, always a cautious and conservative organisation, indirectly supports mainstream power, and itself can avoid sharing power with them.

The Rev Ken Sumner, former State Director, Victorian Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress, a member of the Ngarrindjeri people of the lower Murray River, shared with the Victoria-Tasmania Uniting Church Synod that he experienced being “out of place”. I was Ken’s Resource Worker for 6 years, and experienced first-hand how Indigenous people felt *out of place*.

In my long journey with Indigenous peoples across Australia I hear them lamenting that they are *lodged out of place*.

What does the word “lodged” mean? The Cambridge Dictionary presents one disturbing meaning: to cause to become stuck in a place or position.

Robert Frost’s poem “*Lodged*” deepens our understanding of the image *lodged* and is most expressive of Ken’s being *lodged out of place*. Frost wrote this poem out of great losses, the death of his children, the suicide of his son.

Listen to the images Frost runs close together, humanising nature into a cruel force of powers that in sword-like manner, smites, cuts through the garden bed (a bed is a place of rest) and brings nature’s vulnerable flowering to near-death, death in life.

The rain to the wind said,
‘You push and I’ll pelt.’
They so smote the garden bed
That the flowers actually knelt,
And lay lodged—though not dead.
I know how the flowers felt.

I ring Ken regularly, only to hear of another death, a suicide in his community. We all hear of such great losses from our Indigenous people, including Black deaths in custody.

What causes this being *lodged out of place*?

What continues to cause Indigenous peoples across Australia *to become lodged, stuck in a place or position*?

Ken Sumner shared these words with the Victoria-Tasmania Uniting Church Synod in 2016:

My sense of being “out of place” ... is that practicing covenanting requires a deeper re-cognition that, while it has produced respectful relationships, it has not really dealt with the many structural issues in Synod and settler-colonial society that greatly impacts on us; that we exist in unequal structural relationships.

Paul Gilroy in his book *Postcolonial Melancholia* writes that:

During colonial history, race thinking *lodged* non-Western peoples globally “between animal and human” and concluded that “their lives are best administered under flexible governance produced by special emergency rules and exceptional ... laws”.

19th and early 20th century Western society, its human sciences and its governments, with the assistance of the church, *lodged* Indigenous peoples around the world into a social and cultural system as primitive and needing control, to cause them to become stuck in this inferior place and position. And this means, there are times when they continue to be viewed through this form of social and cultural “seeing”. It is not what they are, but what our “seeing” makes them.

The *Black Lives Matter* movement in America offers evidence for us that in our Western societies racism and inequality has always bubbled away deep within society, at many levels.

Lodging ourselves “out of place” in the way of Jesus, for equality and justice for all, Blind Bartimaeus!

In Mark 10:45-52 Jesus challenged the way power was set up in his society; his actions upset the social and cultural structures, rules and power of his time. This un-settling was the only way to heal blind Bartimaeus. Jesus lodges himself “out of place”. Later crucified “out of place”, outside society, on a rubbish dump.

In that social, cultural and religious system, Bartimaeus was invisible to them. Buried in the dust of his culture. He is stuck. Lodged, by someone, on his mat, at the gates of that rich city, as pilgrims joyfully departed for Jerusalem with silver and gold to be offered for worship, while he feeds on the dust of pilgrims. Ability to offer Love to him was limited by his being structured unclean, “out of place”. His culture made him an outsider, with no way out!

This is why many in the crowd demanded he be silent when he yelled out to Jesus.

They are the conservers! Society wants to keep Bartimaeus in his place, lodged out of place, to maintain society, comfortable and un-disturbed.

They were reminding him of his place, that he could not engage with a person of Jesus' higher class.

Jesus contradicts the power and truths of society, with its fixed, loveless culture. He loves this other human being, which means? Relating to him as equal, his neighbour. A social impossibility! To do so means Jesus disrupts, overturns the ideal of honour, where equal can only meet equal, otherwise, the one who is higher on the social ladder is shamed.

Jesus humbles himself; accepts to meet him, challenging the class structure. In this act he offers Bartimaeus social equality and Jesus sacrifices his social power.

Contradicting his societies structure, Jesus is faithful to God's love for the world, and operates with the power of compassion, mercy and justice for all people, especially the poor and marginalized.

Finally, what is profound is that Jesus invites Bartimaeus to be an active participant in his own transformation. When he asks "let me see again", naming his extensive physical challenge, Jesus responds: "Go; your faith has made you well," signaling that Bartimaeus's faith, not only Jesus' power, is an active factor in his healing. Jesus thus reveals to Bartimaeus his true place: a place of human finitude as well as creative power, the place of a created co-creator with God of his own life-experience and relationships. Shared-equal-power in ministry! As he follows Jesus, will his disciples be able to allow him an equal space? Or will they enslave him and remain masters of his destiny? You know the answer!

This story asks us to examine ourselves in our world: who is really blind, and who can truly see; see ourselves, how our society is unequally structured? What does love of neighbour mean in our world? Who is my neighbour? Shared power?

We are neighbours together! Let's take a spiritual journey to see how we see our neighbour: do we see them or are we just seeing ourselves from our own culture, or are we seeing them from out of their culture, all equal?

It is time for each of us to consider how we may further the progress of our Indigenous sisters and brothers for justice, equality; and how we will address the reality of racism and unequal treatment that remains in various forms, always bubbling away within our society.

Vladimir Korotkov

Parramatta Mission, Interim Lead Minister

REMEMBRANCE DAY



During the week, Australia commemorated Remembrance Day (11 November) – acknowledging the World War I armistice and all the men and women who have given their lives to uphold our peace and freedom. Many members of the Leigh Memorial congregation served in Australia's world wars, including as chaplains, medics and dedicated homeland volunteers. *Lest We Forget*.

'INTERFAITH ON THE FRONTLINES'

This year's Abraham Conference will be held via Zoom on Sunday 15 November from 2pm. Frontline medical workers from the Jewish, Islamic and Christian faiths will share their experiences during the intense challenges of 2020. Please see the enclosed flyer for registration details.

OUR MULTICULTURAL CHURCH

Membership of the Leigh Memorial congregation currently consists of people from a diverse range of backgrounds, including Darug, Chinese, Fijian, Tamil, Arabic, Anglo-Celtic, Tongan, Filipino, European, Indian and Mauritian. As such, we are a multicultural/CALD (culturally and linguistically diverse) congregation, closely reflecting the demographics of Parramatta Mission and our city and region. To find out more about the Uniting Church in Australia's policies, goals, recommendations and guidelines regarding relationship-building, worship, witness and language in CALD environments, go to: <https://assembly.uca.org.au/mcm>

THE VIRAL CITY

This highly recommended 'webinar' on the impacts of COVID-19 (led by the 'Centre for Faith and Public Issues'), will take place from 7.00pm via Zoom on Thurs. 19 November. Paul from PM's Meals Plus and Suguta from Bula Feeding will speak along with local community and business representatives. See the flyer for details.

PASTORAL CARE

We continue to hold all those who serve us on the Pastoral Team, CCLM and Mission Council in our prayers, along with staff, community & congregation members who are unwell, challenged by studies or work, experiencing a crisis or otherwise in need of additional care at this time. We also remain mindful of members who have recently suffered the loss of a loved one. Please know that our prayers are with you.

'MAKING READY FOR ADVENT!'

Clive's online Advent study series for this year is called 'Making Ready for Advent!' The series will commence at 10.00am next Saturday 21 November. All are welcome and encouraged to join in, and there are various options for participation. Please also keep an eye on the PM website and our newsletters for information regarding the Mission's seasonal program, including all the ways that congregation members can help and participate. Please note that there will be no Leigh Memorial 'Giving Tree' this year. Members wishing to donate gifts, food or money to PM this Christmas are encouraged to speak with Coral and Tracey: 9891-2277.

NAIDOC WEEK 2020

The theme of this year's NAIDOC Week (National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee), 8 – 15 November, is: "Always was, Always will be." To find out more about this theme, and the history and aspirations of Australia's First Nations people, please see <https://www.naidoc.org.au/about/history>

DIRECT GIVING

Offerings to support our Church & Mission may be made by direct electronic transfer.
Bank acct. name: *Parramatta Mission Giving Direct*.
Acct. number: 100025901. BSB: 634 634.
Many thanks!



THE VIRAL CITY



Centre for Faith
& Public Issues

Thursday, 19th November 2020
7.00pm – 8.30pm via Zoom

On behalf of the Centre for Faith and Public Issues, a webinar has been organised on the topic of "The Viral City". The conversations relate to COVID-19 in the City, and will be addressing these important questions :

- How has COVID-19 affected your personal work schedule ?
- How has COVID-19 affected your workplace / office space ?
- How has COVID-19 affected the city ?
- What do you predict will happen in the future ?

What does this mean for the making of a good city ?

Our speakers will include:

- **David Borger**, Executive Director, Western Sydney Business Chamber
- **Melissa Monteiro**, CEO, Community Migrant Resource Centre
- **Billie Sankovich**, CEO, Western Sydney Community Forum

Some church based responses also from:

- **Paul Moussa**, Meals Plus, Parramatta Mission
- **Suguta Rogoimuri**, Bula Feeding Ministry

Please RSVP your attendance to : Amelia.Pereira@parramattamission.org.au

Zoom Details

<https://zoom.us/j/4399152776> Password : 124622

WESTMEAD Congregation

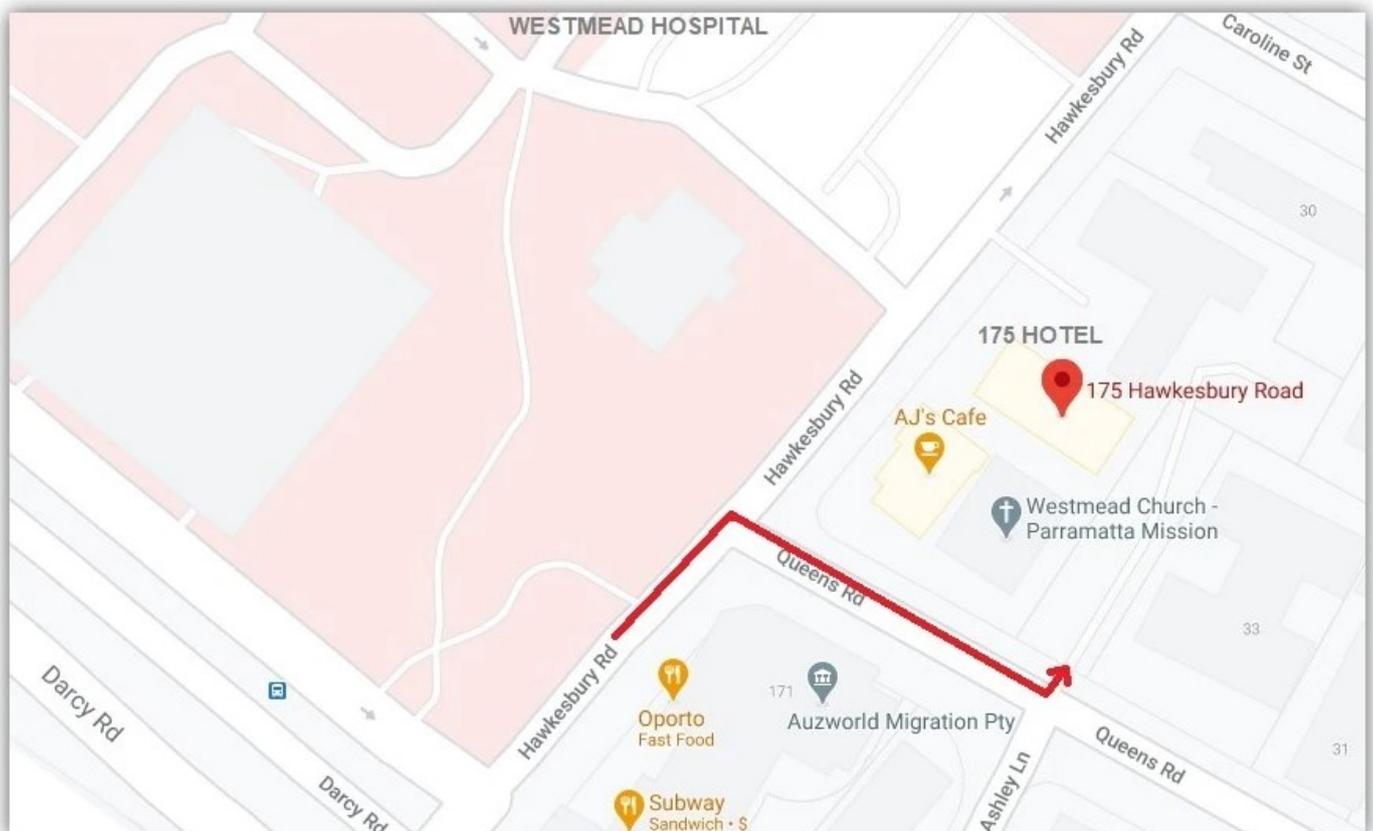
ZOOM: <https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/3958336709>

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT WESTMEAD today, when Karen Banfield, Chairperson of Westmead congregation will lead the service and the sermon will be from Rev. Vladimir Korotov. Westmead congregation is most appreciative of the support and assistance we, and the other Congregations of Parramatta Mission are receiving from the Interim Ministry Team. Rev. Vladimir Korotov, Rev. Amelia Koh-Butler and Rev. Clive Pearson are all working very hard to prepare zoom services, conduct/attend many meetings, training up people to manage zoom, pastoral care, meeting with leaders, bible study, and many more tasks. Please know that you are all appreciated.

Finally, With Love to the World has arrived and is now available at Reception of 175 Hotel. You can collect your book from there, and \$5 can be left there, in an envelope.. If you are unable to collect it, Lorna will post one out to you, if you let her know.

There was confusion with Australia Post and the books were left at Westmead Hospital Reception, perhaps because of the property seeming to be inaccessible at 175.

IMPORTANT information for anyone accessing the 175 property. Cameron has advised that over the next 3 weeks, there will be NO ACCESS from Hawkesbury Road. The Queens Road exit, will be the ONLY access and exit for the property. There will be someone on duty at all times to assist you with this process. The light rail is progressing and lines are being laid in Hawkesbury Road during this time. (See diagram below)



ANGEL TREE donations are being collected now and the final day for collection is Friday 27th November, to enable time for purchasing and wrapping and delivering the gifts to the children involved. Your donation may be left at Reception at 175 , in an envelope marked for Angel Tree. If you are unable to go to 175 and you wish to donate, please call an elder and we will arrange to collect from you.

WESLEY APARTMENTS: Groceries have been purchased from your Gold Coin donations, and have been delivered to Wesley Apartments, ready to distribute in welcome packs to new families as they arrive. Belinda at Wesley Apartments wishes to thank everyone who contributes and supports the families in this way. Your Gold Coin donations are so much appreciated.

Elders of Westmead Congregation are: KAREN BANFIELD (CHAIRPERSON), LORNA PORTER, BIJU CHAKO, MERE VULAONO (NO. 28), AND JAN ROBSON.

Pastoral Care contact person , and also contact person for Prayer Chain for Westmead

Congregation is JAN ROBSON phone number 0418 438 901.

KAREN BANFIELD is contact person for Worship - 0488 101 469

LORNA PORTER is contact person for Administration and Finance - 0408 365 478

Please do not hesitate to call your Elder if you have any concerns during this Covid-19 time.

We are continuing to support families at Wesley Apartments, supplying a voucher for their use and also welcome packs to new families on arrival.. Thank you for your continued support.

Offerings may be dropped off at reception at the 175 Motel between 9am and 3p.m. each week day, and they will be collected by Lorna for processing. **OR** offerings may be made electronically, details as follows:

Account name: PM Direct Westmead

BSB634634

Account number: 100046885

STAMPS. Please keep collecting any stamps you may receive on your mail, especially with Christmas drawing near. The stamps need to be cut with a good border around them so as not to damage them. They will be collected and sent to the department of the church where they are sold and the proceeds are made good use of, for various needs

During this week Karen, Lorna and Jan were able to meet with **Rev. Christine Bayliss Kelly** for the first time since Christine left Westmead congregation at the end of September. She is now minister in the Penrith region, and it was wonderful to hear about her new ministry there, and how it is progressing. It was the opportunity to give Christine the gifts which you, the congregation gave to her as a thank you for her dedication to this congregation and the work in the Community around Westmead.

The painting is the wedding in Cana by Paolo Veronese (1563) from the gospel of John. The original is shown in the Louvre in Paris. Rev. Christine saw the original over 10 years ago but the symbolism of people gathered, wedding guests, servants, animals, birds all gathered around a meal reminds her very much of the Westmead Congregation. The print will be on the wall in her new office at Penrith and will always remind her of her time with the wonderful people of Westmead and 175.

DEEPENING FAITH AND RELATIONSHIPS with others.

WORSHIP: Sundays via zoom at 9.45am (link on top of Westmead page)

(Next Sunday Pastor/Chaplain Sarah Bishop will bring the message.)

BIBLE STUDY: Mondays via zoom at 2.00pm (link will be sent)

The Stole was made by Alison Friend at Contemporary Vestments. Called **Walking Together**

The design for the stole features the footprints of different peoples walking together in community and celebration.





ANGEL TREE 2020

On Christmas Day, thousands of children in Australia open a present from their father or mother or grandparent or other significant adult in their lives who is not there – they are in prison. Angel Tree, an international program of Prison Fellowship, makes this possible. Incarcerated relatives, through the Chaplain in their prison, nominate their children for the program, including basic details of each child as well as carer's contact details.

WESTMEAD CONGREGATION

Over the past 10 years Westmead Congregation has supported the ministry of Angel Tree through generous donations from congregation members and friends. Over this time we have purchased gifts for more than 100 children and provided Christmas hampers for their families.

We enjoy purchasing and wrapping the gifts, and the privilege of being able to make contact with families in our local area when we deliver the gifts.

COVID 19 is affecting everything, and that of course includes fund raising for the various ministries. We would like to extend an invitation to all congregations and friends of Parramatta Mission to join us and help families keep relationships and connections alive in spite of difficult times.

Donations can be dropped off between now and the end of November, in an envelope marked 'Angel Tree donation', to reception at 175 motel. Or, if it is difficult for you to get to 175, please don't hesitate to contact Lorna (0408 365 478) or Karen (0488 101 469) and they will make an arrangement with you to collect your donation.

THANK YOU!



성령강림후 24주일(24th Pentecost of Sunday) 2020년 11월 15일 오후 1시 30분

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 14 장 **통 30 장** 주 우리 하나님

새 270 장 **통 214 장** 변함없는 주님의 사랑과

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

성경 봉독 (Scripture Reading) **시편 138:1-8; 빌립보서 1:3-6**

말씀 (Preaching) - 전현구 목사 **새 힘주시는 하나님!**

봉헌 송 (Offertory Hymn)
새 359 장 **통 401 장** 천성을 향해 가는 성도들아

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) **새 502 장** **통 259 장** 너 시온아 이소식 전파하라 (1절)

축도 전현구 담임목사

QT나눔 & 성경공부
오후 4:00

수요기도회 : 오후 7시
역대하 15:1-19

새벽기도회 : 오전 5시
역대하 13:1-18:11

Parramatta Nepean Presbytery

Retreat via zoom

For Lay Leaders



Wednesday 18th Nov evening–

for preparation– 7-8.30pm

Saturday 21st Nov day

9.00am—2.00pm

Tuesday 24th Nov evening–

for debriefing and follow up (if desired) – 7.8.30pm

The opening and closing sessions will be via Zoom with periods of time in the middle of the day for individual reflection.

(The link will be available on registering)

The retreat is an opportunity for Lay Leaders (including those leading worship or groups) within the Parramatta Nepean Presbytery to join with others in a day of refreshment, reflection and engaging in a time together.

There are limited places so please reply to Rev Christine Bayliss Kelly cbaykel@gmail.com to register your place. (0409 925 607)



Foster your faith this week

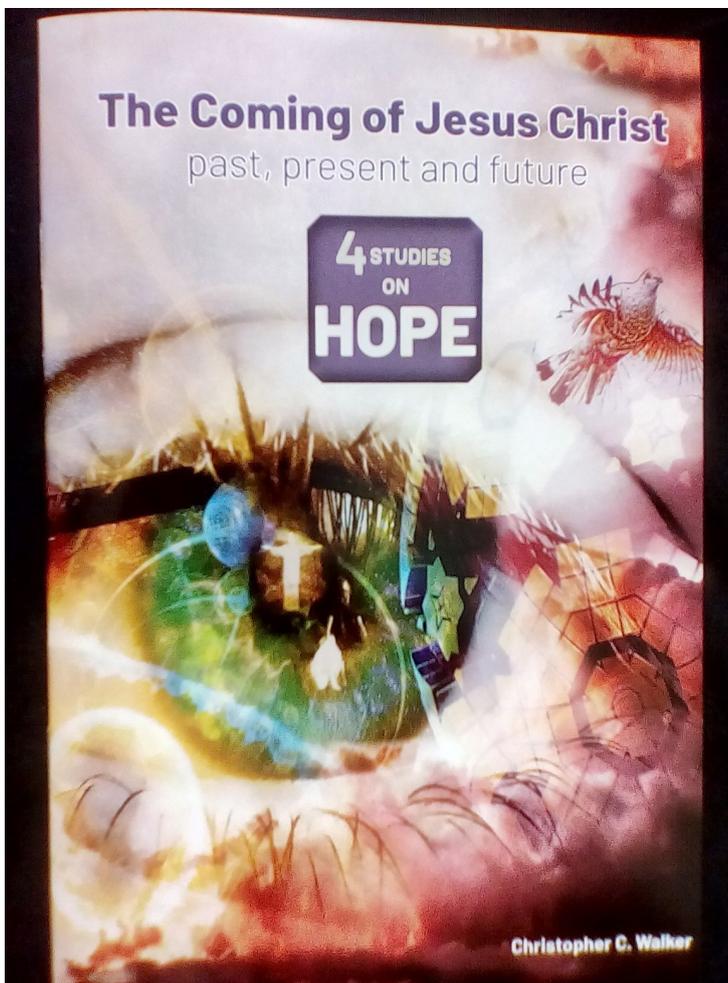
Ez 34:11-16, 20-24 ps 100

1 Thes 5:1-11 Mt 25:14-30

PASTORAL MESSAGE

Always was, always will be!

We walk on sacred land and pay our respect to First Peoples



The Coming of Jesus Christ

*past, present
and future.*

4 studies on Hope.

Available from
MediaCom
1800 811 311



ABRAHAM CONFERENCE 2020

INTERFAITH ON THE FRONTLINES



Rachael Kohn
Facilitator



Renata Ieremias
Jewish Care



Dan Fleming
St Vincent's Health



Haroon Kasim
Medical Hospitalist

JEWISH, CHRISTIAN AND MUSLIM FRONTLINE WORKERS SHARE THEIR STORIES OF HARDSHIP AND HOPE IN UNCERTAIN TIMES

SUNDAY | 15 NOVEMBER | 2PM-3.30PM



THE ABRAHAM CONFERENCE WILL LIVE STREAM ON ZOOM

To receive the Zoom link, register for FREE at 

<https://events.humanitix.com/abraham-conference-2020-interfaith-on-the-frontlines>



INDIAN CRESCENT SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA INC

THOUGHTS IN OUR CHANGING TIMES Mary Pearson

What a week and more it has been! There can't be many people who have not been caught up in the ongoing drama of the Presidential election results. There were many emotions expressed beforehand – many fears about what would happen, whichever way the vote went. Then scenes of rejoicing in the streets in many cities, while around the world, bells rang out in Germany and France. At the time of writing this, on Monday, while we have heard Joe Biden talking of time of healing of divisions and using words that have been aimed at drawing people together in common hope for the good of the country, Trump is still proclaiming that the vote has been rigged and is filing lawsuits. The divisions in the country and between these two characters is stark. Over the last 4 years, and continuing now, we how a personality cult has been created which has built up enormous support among people who seem to accept everything Trump says as being true, regardless of the facts. The impact that this one man has had has been enormous, not just in USA but around the world. Yet we can see how his days, the days of divisive and derogatory rhetoric, of disregard for truthfulness are numbered.

We might also pause and think about the continuing influence of another one man whose words spoke of a deep truth, founded on respect and care for all people. regardless of their race, their status, or their wealth. We might remember how he called people together and spoke of humility, of just living, of not being caught up with worry about how we look, where we live or what we possess. We recall how he called people to follow in his way and to know that if and when they did so, they would discover that their lives were blessed with hope and joyfulness they had never imagined possible – and which continued even when the going got really tough. We discover that this a way that is blind to skin colour or to different learned ways of doing things, because Christ's over-riding way of being made no judgements based on such things. The shared goal for all people was to be focused, not on ourselves, but on God and how God's good creation is there for all people equally. That means being aware of when things are going wrong for the creation and for any people and then reaching out to help.

These times are a wake-up call for us all as we re-evaluate the things that shape our lives and how the values we treasure are embedded in the life and teaching of Jesus, the exemplar of our faith. We cannot be, and are not meant to be all the same. God created us with our differences. But those differences should not be barriers between us. They can be ways of broadening our understanding of one another and of ourselves as we are open to each other. We then try to "see" one another, to see the Christ in the other (Matthew 25: 40), imaging how we believe God sees everyone - in love. Then we discover the release that God's forgiveness of our sinfulness means for us all. This is what the world is hoping for just now. We might name it as the kingdom of God. It calls to mind the words of Brian Wren's hymn that really point to how the world can find healing. Here again are some verses. (It is 468 in TiS)

*We are your people; Spirit of grace, you dare to make us, to all our neighbours,
Christ's living voice, hands and face.*

*Rich in diversity, help us to live, closer than neighbours, open to strangers, able to clash
and forgive.*

*Give, as we venture justice and care (peaceful, resisting, waiting or risking), wisdom to
know when and where.*

FUJIAN Congregation

1. Vakavinavinaka levu ena nodra veiqaravi na tabagone ena lotu ni sigatabu sa oti 08/11.

E da na lotu cokovata tiko kei na lotu vakavavalagi ena I na 29 ni Noveba. Nai tuvatuva ni lotu ena qai vakarautaka mai nai talatala Rev Clive Pearson.

Ena dua tiko vei ira na vakaitavi ena zoom webinar, **'The Viral City'** na radini tuirara Suguta Rogoimuri. Ena vakayacori tiko ena siga Lotulevu nai 19 ni Noveba. Na kena tukutuku matata sa tiko ga ena news letter ni macawa qo.

E a qaravi ena yakavi ni siga Tusiti (10 ni Noveba) na bose ni Parramatta Mission Council. E a vakarautaki kina na ripote ni nodrau veiqaravi vaka I talatala ko nai Talatala Amelia K kei Sarah Bishop.

Na bose ni combined congregational worship committee ena qaravi tiko ena yakavi ni siga Tusiti nai ka 17 ni Noveba. E tolu tiko na nodatou mata na vavakoso vakaviti.

6. Na sota tiko na Presbytery ena yakavi ni siga Vukelulu nai ka 18 ni Noveba.

7. **Veinanumi ena Masu:**

Kerei meda veinanumi tiko ga ena veimasulaki vei ira na nodatou qase Aqriu Rogoimuri, Vilikesa kei Mereoni Kamotu, S Qata, ratou na veiliutaki tiko ena nodatou vavakoso vaka viti kei na veivuvale kece sara ena loma ni nodatou vavakoso. Me nanumi tale tiko ena noda masu na veiqaravi ni Bula Feed.



Enacting a Public Theology is an anthology edited by Clive Pearson. It is available from Reception at Parramatta Mission (9891 2277) [or from Clive - 0409 523 024] at a cost of \$20. It deals with such diverse things as indigenous Australia, faith and democracy, faith and climate change, the importance of compassion, what is home and how do we belong.

Making Ready for Advent!

Making Ready for Advent!

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

Phone: 0409 523 024 (Clive).

Every Christmas Day it seems as if we finish the service with a reading of the prologue to John's Gospel (1:1-14) -and then sing, 'Joy to the world'!. Sound familiar? But.

What does this reading from John mean?

How does it fit in with the whole of John's Gospel?

And.

Why is this Gospel so different from the other 3 gospels?

This Advent we make ready for Christmas and the seasons beyond through a study of John's Gospel.

For purposes of preparation, why not read John right through from beginning to end. Come prepared!

Our studies will happen on-line at the following times:

Saturday morning: 10am to 11:30 am
21, 28 November; 5, 12 December.

All welcome

Thursday evening: 7:00pm to 8:00 pm.
26 November, 3, 10 and 17 December

Fijian.

The 4 themes are:

John 1-5	The Divine Emigrant
John 6-11	The Sign
John 11-17	The Farewell
John 18-21	The Crucified and Risen Christ



Lets Get Heat-Wise

Prepare for extreme heat

- You can prepare for extreme heat by:
- Stocking up on food, water and medicines so you don't have to go out in the heat. Visit your doctor to check if changes are needed to your medicines during extreme heat.
- Storing medicines safely at the recommended temperature.
- Checking that your fan or air-conditioner works well. Have your air-conditioner serviced if necessary.
- Looking at the things you can do to make your home cooler such as installing window coverings, shade cloths or external blinds on the sides of

Prepare for a power failure

Power failures can happen during times of extremely hot weather. Some things you can do to prepare for a power failure are:

- Ensure you have a torch, fully charged mobile phone, a battery operated radio and some spare batteries.
- Stock up on food items that do not require refrigeration or cooking such as tinned fruit and vegetables, tinned meats or fish, bread and fruit.
- Have plenty of drinking water available.
- Stock up on medications and other essential items.

Prayer Points

The people of Parramatta Mission invite you to pray for

Our Community

- We pray for all HSC students as they continue exams this week, especially our HSC families and teachers
- We give thanks that some small gatherings are starting to take place. We give thanks for welcoming cafes and the disciplines we have learnt to help keep us all safe
- We give thanks for coffee, tea, muffins and spiritually encouraging conversations.

PM Westmead

- We pray for chaplain Sarah and the ministry at the Children's hospital, for the teams and guests at 175 and Wesley Apartments, for those who are contemplating life changes, for those who grieve, especially Karen, Kath and Amelia. We pray for the researchers and health care responders at Westmead WSU campus.

PM Korean Faith Community

- We pray for the Korean community in Western Sydney and for Rev Hyung Goo and Hannah.

PM Leigh Memorial

- We pray especially for those whose health is not the best. We ask for calmness for people having treatments for illnesses and for the courage of their carers,
- For those who are experiencing anxiety around home, work or life changes, we pray for supportive community. We continue to pray for those unable to gather, community members who are unwell, people who are unable to work and those who are lonely or depressed.

PM Fijian

- We pray for those who are going through transitions from school to beyond.
- We pray for the Synod Pulse Team and Ofa's role as a newly commissioned Pastor in the Team, resourcing youth ministry across NSW/ACT.
- We pray for the guests at the Bula Feeding Ministry and Meals Plus and our wonderful volunteers. We pray for those who are unable to meet because of rain or storms and for those who have been sleeping rough.

Wider Work

We pray for **Richmond** Uniting Church

- for the Chaplaincy at Westmead and the transition of the Team as people come and go - we pray especially for Sarah as she continues while others change
- UC leaders doing the DIGITAL MINISTRY training with Rev Amelia, learning how to use technology to hold communities together during COVID times.

For Our Combined Parramatta Mission Team

May God guide all our workers and volunteers to live out our values of grace, inclusion, dignity, faith and hope.

Rev Vladimir, Rev Mary, Rev Clive, Chaplain Sarah, Sunil, Robert, Coral, Rev Amelia, Rev Hyung Goo - and their families, as they support us to serve in mission.

We ask for God's help to bless the world. AMEN

Pastoral Contacts

Prayer Points may be sent to

wecare@parramattamission.org.au

For a conversation or to contact a Minister, please call

Parramatta Mission Reception (9am-3pm)

119 Macquarie Street Parramatta NSW 2150

9891 2277

Leigh Memorial Church

119 Macquarie Street Parramatta NSW 2150

9891 2277

Westmead Church

175 Hawkesbury Road Westmead NSW 2145

9891 9354

IN TIME OF PASTORAL NEED

Our three ministers, Amelia Koh-Butler, Clive Pearson and Vladimir Korotkov are available to each congregation and members and your friends; their contact details are listed below.

Rev Vladimir Korotkov (Interim Lead Minister) 0431 759 573

Rev Dr Amelia Koh-Butler 0427 955 157

Rev Dr Clive Pearson (Supply) 0409 523 024

YOU CAN ALSO CONTACT THESE PEOPLE FOR PASTORAL ISSUES

Rev Hyun Goo Jun (Korean Faith Community) 0433 320 588

Pr Sarah Bishop (Children's Hospital) 0429 912 943



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