



Parramatta
Mission



uniting
church
in Australia,
Synod of NSW & ACT

OUR NEWS

4th April 2021

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.

Parramatta Mission Leigh Worship

Time: Sundays 9.30am

<https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/5199089657>

Meeting ID: 519 908 9657

Or Dial by your location +61 2 8015 6011 Australia

Westmead Uniting Church Worship

Time: Sundays, service starts at 9.45am...
please join anytime from 9.20am

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

Meeting ID: 395 833 6709

Or Dial in by phone +61 2 8015 6011 Australia

Westmead UC Bible Study

Time: Mondays 2pm

<https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/95043695512>

Meeting ID: 950 4369 5512

Or phone in +61 2 8015 6011 Australia

Parramatta Mission Leigh Fijian Worship

Time: Sundays 11.15am

Join Zoom Meeting <https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/9134913679>

Meeting ID: 913 491 3679

Holy Week and Easter Services

The following services have been set down for Holy Week / Easter.

The zoom site is: <https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/5199089657>

Maundy Thursday 01 April	Combined Leigh Memorial Church	7:00 pm.	Onsite online
Good Friday: 02 April	Westmead	9:00 am	onsite
	Leigh Memorial / Leigh Fijian combined	10:00 am	onsite online
Easter Sunday: 04 April	Westmead	9:45 am	onsite
	Leigh Memorial / Leigh Fijian combined	10:00 am	onsite online

From Monday 29 March the restrictions on religious gatherings, including singing in church, are being eased. We still need to take care and sign in to QR codes or leave contact details on the form provided in the foyer. We should also continue to sanitise our hands and wipe down the pews after the service - at least for a little while longer. We will be able to enter and exit from the same door. In due course the pew cushions will return to Leigh Memorial. Services will continue online and onsite in the meantime. Thank you for your patience and compliance.

FROM THE INTERIM LEAD MINISTER

Good Friday B, 2 April, 2021

John 20:1-18

Vladimir Korotkov

Weeping our truth

1. She wept her truth

My mother always wept in Russian Orthodox services when she heard the story of the suffering and passion of Jesus, when I was a child and later as a teenager in the Slavic Evangelical services. Then, I never really “understood” why she wept. Which is never a matter of understanding at an intellectual level, as I have learnt.

The drive for “meaning”, to intellectually grasp an experience, can arise from anxiety and the need to control one’s own and the feelings of the other; we are uncomfortable about the unsayable, unthinkable, the unacceptable. And if we were able to speak it, too often it becomes the anxiety of the listener, to fix, to avoid, to quickly move to share one’s own story.

Rather than providing “understanding”, my mother’s perennial tears in a public space deeply moved me in my inner being. In my body, with my senses, I identified with her unspoken pain, I as a child of the intergenerational transmission of trauma.

And, I naturally identified with her faith and deep identification with the suffering of Jesus for the innocent, unjust suffering of the oppressed.

Over the years I learnt that my mother wept her story that she could and did not speak; trauma affects the memory, what happened is stuck and unseen in the darkness of memory. Herded together with countless other innocent teenagers from the Ukrainian city of Kiev somewhere around 1941 or 1942, this fifteen-year-old girl disappeared for five years into National Socialist Germany by train. She resurfaced in Salzburg, Austria, in 1945 as a displaced, stateless young woman, finding herself unwanted by any other country, a young woman refugee for another long period of time.

My siblings and I would never hear her story about being in captivity. Only her body narrated the unsayable in her emotions. The story of Good Friday enabled her to weep. She wept her story as she identified with the suffering of Jesus. And the weeping “spoke” the powerlessness of the innocent sufferer, the millions in that time, and the countless innocents throughout human history. What words were unable to say, the body expressed!

And in her weeping, she was unknowingly protesting against the many expressions of the inhumanity of the powerful who mistreated her and others; this was the power of powerlessness.

In captivity, as with Israel in captivity in Babylon, weeping was the only form of indirect public protest against any unjust, oppressive, cruel regime, whether it was the Soviets or National Socialist Germany. Weeping was the way to be most human in the face of the inhumanity of their oppressors.

The Jesus of unjust treatment, the innocent human being sent by God to live amongst us to love, care and empower us even if it meant his innocent suffering and death, this Jesus was the only One with whom my mother could identify. He too was taken forcefully. He was ridiculed, stripped and abused by an Empire and the colluders who assisted each power.

This was the only One who legitimately, actually, physically, psychically (in one's mind) shared her death-in-life. She was not concerned with atonement or appeasement theories. And in his suffering, she knew that God identified with my mother's suffering and all innocent sufferers throughout history.

2. The body expresses what is unable to be said

Christine van Boheem-Saaf builds on my notion that "we weep our truth". She argues for a new approach to listening to the truth of innocent suffering created by imperial power other than our rational, conventional approaches. She "claims us" to resolve to undertake "the ethical obligation to hear the pain which may not be expressed in so many words."

She learnt this new way of dealing with suffering from the postmodern theorist Jean-Francois Lyotard, who wrote that language, putting a story into words, could not express the reality of the atrocity of the Holocaust.⁷ Trauma, the death-in-life of innocent suffering, cannot be simplified or trivialized in mere descriptions.

The African American experience of slavery in US history illustrates van Boheem-Saaf's argument. African Americans approached and survived their captivity in their American "Babylon" in their indirect and careful protest in tears and songs.

Conclusion

My mother could relate to Jesus' life, teaching and particularly his innocent, unjust and inhuman suffering. She not only identified with him and his solidarity with her unnameable trauma, but she felt safe enough to open her heart to God: she shared the shame, brokenness and lostness which she could not share with others, even her family.

Over the years I witnessed that she discovered a new name and intimacy with God which soothed the sense of deep alienation. When human beings are treated inhumanly and are abused by other human beings, they “see” the inner darkness that haunts each of us, that alienation, separation from God who is love and compassion; and when the inner darkness appears and our hearts are open to the story of Jesus, God who is love brings light and connection to another form of Life; there will always be aspects of alienation, but always quietened with light, love and desire for justice.

Our *ethical obligation* is to hear, express, walk alongside, without attempting to rescue those who suffer, and in this way to release the pain and suffering which is unable to find expression in words and language, in ourselves and particularly in those who are poor, marginalised, refugees, and experienced trauma. While we may not be steeped in trauma, at times we all sense that alienation at the core of our human-being. We can’t address it intellectually or rationally, but we can listen to it in our bodies, through our senses, in our weeping, fears, anxieties and quiet suffering and desire for well-being.

As we address our own body and weeping, we will find greater solidarity with those who suffer silently and anonymously within trauma and alienation.

Let us journey towards the empty tomb and the light of Easter.

Foster your faith this week

Acts 4:32-35

Ps 133

1 Jn 1:1-2:2

Jn 20:19-31

Northmead Uniting Church, in partnership with Northmead High School, is hosting their 13th year of Stations of the Cross. The exhibition is held at Northmead Creative and Performing Arts High School, 28 Campbell St, Northmead. Further details ... <https://fb.me/e/yIHQSuo3>

Art Exhibition



Leading artists reflect upon
**Suffering and the human spirit:
Stations of The Cross 2021**

Harrie Fisher	Chris Wyatt
James Drinkwater	Joe Furlonger
Lesley Salem	Chris Auckett
Toni Hassan	Jeanette Siebels
Jennifer Little	John Forrester Clark
Douglas Purcell	Rag Mombassa
Matthew Calandra	Euan Moleod
Tony Mighell	

March 22 - April 4
28 Campbell Street Northmead



Image: Northmead, Arden County 2021 artwork by John Moleod, 41 x 61cm

Hours, tours, opening night and events please call **0424 444 631**



Leigh Congregation

EASTER BLESSINGS!



Please join us on Good Friday & Easter Sunday for combined worship services at Leigh Memorial at 10am, and via Zoom. Details of the full Easter program are included in the newsletter. Featured artwork: 'Easter = New Life' (paper collage by Liz & Charlotte) – and please check other Easter-inspired art at the 'Suffering and the Human Spirit' Stations of the Cross exhibition at Northmead Creative & Performing Arts High School (Campbell Street, Northmead) until 4 April (presented

annually in conjunction with Northmead UC). Blessings for all this Easter week-end. Drive safely, enjoy quality time with friends and family, and cherish the promise of this special season: Jesus said – "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me, will never die." (John 11: 25).

COVID RESTRICTIONS EASED

A number of COVID restrictions in NSW have been eased over the past couple of weeks, including those applying to church services. Last Sunday we were allowed to sing without masks for the first time! In addition to other changes, we are also now permitted to enter and exit via the same door, however 1.5m social distancing, QR codes/ sign-ins and the recommendation of regular hand washing etc remain in place. Similarly, members who are unwell this Autumn-Winter are kindly asked to stay at home & participate via zoom. A COVID marshal will remain on duty for services. Morning teas (with safety precautions in place) will resume shortly. *Thank you for everyone's patience and support during this time of ongoing review and adaptation with regard to the pandemic, and prayers for all those (locally, nationally and internationally) who remain deeply impacted by the virus.*

THANK YOU IAN

"Many thanks" to Ian Gray, Chairperson of the Mission Council, for his dedication to recent and long term matters pertaining to our transition process towards a "new" Parramatta Mission, and his additional efforts towards the physical reinvention of the Macquarie Street site. These are greatly valued. Ian's latest report/update for congregation members appeared in last week's newsletter.

PASTORAL CARE

We continue to hold everyone in our thoughts & prayers, including PM staff, Mission & congregation leaders and all who are in need of extra care at this time. Our warmest “hellos” and Easter blessings are conveyed to members who we haven’t seen in a while – and we hope to see you again very soon. Please also remember those effected by recent floods in the Greater West/Hawkesbury areas and elsewhere along the eastern seaboard of Australia. Members please note: Revs. Clive and Vladimir may be contacted for additional support/assistance as needed – further information in the newsletter.

SYMPATHY NOTICE: MRS HILDA MACKENZIE

We were saddened last week to learn of the passing of Hilda Mackenzie, aged 93. Hilda and her husband John were dedicated members of the Leigh Memorial congregation last century and strong supporters of many early Parramatta ‘Regional’ Mission initiatives. In addition to their membership of Couples & Friends, Hilda and John were active in many aspects of congregational life and devoted to their family. Hilda is remembered for her cheerful and positive outlook in the face of adversity, and her warm and caring outreach to others in need. We hold Hilda’s children, grandchildren and friends in our prayers at this time.



DIARY DATE REMINDER: UCNHS (Uniting Church National History Society) CONFERENCE: 11 – 13 June @ the Centre for Ministry, North Parramatta.

Tickets: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/growing-up-uniting-tickets-13818882549>

LAWRY CHAPEL – 200th ANNIVERSARY: GOOD FRIDAY, 2021



This Good Friday represents 200 years since Parramatta’s first Wesleyan Methodist Chapel (Parramatta Mission’s first Chapel, pictured) opened on our Macquarie Street site (in the location of the current Leigh Memorial car park). It was built by convict labour, on land granted by Gov. Lachlan Macquarie and was personally funded by devoted missionaries Rev. Walter Lawry and Mrs. Mary Lawry

(nee Hassall). The Chapel’s commencement also included the start of Parramatta Mission’s first Sunday School. On Heritage Sunday in June we will more fully celebrate this unique anniversary and launch our anniversary book, *All Loves Excelling*.

WESTMEAD NEWSLETTER FOR EASTER PERIOD - APRIL, 2021

Sharing the hospitality of Jesus Christ

WARM WELCOME TO ALL WHO ATTEND THESE EASTER SERVICES - YOUR PRESENCE IS VALUED.

EASTER SERVICES WILL BE HELD ON SITE AT WESTMEAD

There will be no zoom services available at Westmead.

For zoom services please see Leigh Memorial. Zoom site is

<https://uca-nswact.us/j/5199089657>

ALL WELCOME

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE at Westmead:

9 A.M Minister: Rev. Clive Pearson

EASTER SUNDAY service at Westmead:

9.45 A.M. Minister: Rev. Vladimir Korotkov

Covid safe practices will be in place. Masks are not essential.

Singing is permitted.

BIBLE STUDY.

There will be no Bible Study on Easter Monday.

Study will resume on Monday 12th April, 2021. Zoom site is:

<https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/9504369512>

Members of all three congregations are warmly invited to participate.

WESTMEAD LEADERS

Karen Banfield, Worship and Bible Study. 0488 101 469

Lorna Porter, Finances and Administration. 0408 365 478

Jan Robson, Paswtoral Matters & Prayer Chain. 0418 438 901

Biju Chako, 0420 275 396

Mere Vulaono, - No. 28,- 0448 137 067

Alysa Biju, technology support, 0467 674 251

YOUR WEEKLY OFFERING can be made electronically:

Account Name: PM DIRECT WESTMEAD, BSB634634,

Account Number: 100046885



Seeking God's Good News – in a time of Covid 19

WEBINAR 2



Centre for Faith
& Public Issues

Thursday 22 April, 7pm-8:30pm

Zoom : <https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/91229449611>

Writing on the pandemic, Pope Francis reminded us that we do not belong to ourselves: we belong to God. The present is a time of 'sifting' what is in our hearts. It is a time for 'reflection'. What do we 'see', 'hear' and 'do'? The Oxford theologian, Angela Tilby, wondered what is our 'message' in a time of compliance and constraints and what can be done online.

What are we 'thinking'? *Following the first webinar we want to hear from you!*

We would like you to bring along a biblical text or hymn that has spoken to you through this time of Covid 19. Be prepared to share with others and say why this text has stood out for you.

Dr. Janice McRandal from The Co-operative in Brisbane will speak.

There will be time for facilitated discussion.

Please register with amelia.pereira@parramattamission.org.au



Parramatta
Mission



uniting
church
in faith,
love & service

Fijian Congregation

- 1. Lotu ni Siga ni Mate 02/04 kei na Lotu ni Tucake Tale 04/04:**
⇒ Na lotu ena siga ni mate kei na lotu ena sigatabu siga ni tucake tale eda na lotu cokovata tiko kina e valelotu ena 10am. Ena caka tale tiko ga na zoom ke o sega ni rawa yani e valelotu.
- 2. Lotu ena sigatabu mai oqo 11/04:** Na lotu ena macawa mai oqo e ratou na veiliutaki tiko kina na tabagone.
- 3. Lesoni ena macawa mai oqo – Cakacaka 4:32-35, Same 133, 1 Joni 1:1 –2:2, Joni 20:19-31.**
- 4. Lolo kei na Masumasu -** Veinanumi tikoga ena lolo kei na masumasu ena veisiga Vukelulu 6am – 12am kei na 6am – 6pm.
- 5. Veinanumi ena Masu :** Kerei meda veinanumi tikoga ena veimasulaki vei ira na nodatou qase Adriu Rogoimuri, Vilikesa kei Mereoni Kamotu, S Qata, ratou na veiliutaki tiko ena nodatou vavakoso vaka viti kei na veivu vale kece sara ena loma ni nodatou vavakoso. Na nodratou vuli talatala o Filikesa Kamotu, Samu Sadrata kei Ofa Foiakau. Na nodratou veiqaravi ni Bula Feeding.



시드니 조은 교회 Sydney Jo-Eun Church

20-15

부활주일 (Easter of Sunday) 2021년04월04일 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 159 장 **통 149 장** 기뻐 찬송하세

새 415 장 **통 471 장** 십자가 그늘 아래

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

성경 봉독 (Scripture Reading) **요한복음20:24-29**

말씀(Preaching)- 전현구 목사 **의심과 믿음 사이**

봉헌 송(Offertory Hymn)

새 160 장 **통 150 장** 무덤에 머물러

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
오후4:00

수요기도회 : 오후 7시
출애굽기 1:1-23

새벽기도회 : 오전 5시
누가복음24:13-출3:12

Prayer Points

The people of Parramatta Mission invite you to pray for

Our Community

- 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 all who have been through the recent floods, and for those who are still suffering great losses, the terrible clean up, and trying to put their lives together again. We give thanks for the many neighbours and friends and the many volunteers who continue to help.
- We pray for all affected by the covid virus in our country, and countries the world over. We pray for the front line workers, doctors, nurses, ambulance, police, and all who work for the safety and well-being of our nation.
- We pray for all who grieve the loss of loved ones.
- We pray for our congregations as we slowly resume worshipping together after along period of time of not gathering because of covid. We pray for courage and wisdom strengthened faith, and for our ministers and leaders as we look to the future.

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
- We particularly remember - Betty E (who is doing well and singing along to Songs of Praise on Sunday mornings) Himmi and family, Liz and family and Jolame.
- 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.

Prayer Points

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 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 Cawdor Uniting Church.

More Prayers for Cawdor Uniting Church ...

Cawdor UC is doing well under the circumstances we have been living through. Thank you to Rev Len Kingston who takes services on a regular basis. During the bad Covid times he was running a Drive-In for Prayer on a Wednesday morning, and quite a few people took advantage of this. We have an IN and OUT drive at the church so Len parked himself at the top - people would drive in - open their window - and Len would offer them a Bible reading and a prayer - and they would drive out and make room for someone else. People really appreciated this extension of ministry. We have had quite a few people come to us from other Churches which were closed at the time. We have been having socially distanced services in the Hall - and it has worked well. God is blessing us, and we are thankful for evidence of His blessing.

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, Robert, Coral, 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 two ministers, 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 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

Anare Vocea (Fijian Vakatawa) 0432 772 852