

OUR NEWS

27th June 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.

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 safety and calmness as we are facing further restrictions because of new Covid outbreaks around our city. We pray for the well being of all people in our congregations and wherever we are. Help us all to consider our neighbour.
- We give thanks that the wonderful celebration of last week, for the 200th anniversary, was able to take place without event. We thank the Lord for all of the people who have contributed to His work in the past, and came together, and acknowledged one another. We pray all of us who are now in this place, will be led to proceed with God's work, where we are, to His Glory.
- We pray for all who are mourning, give them peace. We pray for all who are suffering serious illness. Bless them and the families who care for them, and the medical staff who monitor them.
- We pray for Parramatta Mission in this new phase. We ask God's blessing on those of our staff who have, or are moving on to Uniting, with the services, or those of our staff who are moving on to other places. We give thanks for their loyal and loving care.
- We pray for guidance and leadership and wisdom as we proceed in new ways of being God's people in Westmead, and reaching out to those in need in our community.

PM Korean Faith Community

- We pray for the Korean community in Western Sydney and for the revival of the church.
- We pray especially for Nak Su Baik, Kyeong Ok Hyeon (Those who are not in good health).

PM Leigh Memorial

- We pray for all PM congregation members, leaders and staff who are unwell, or having tests or procedures - and/or suffering from anxieties surrounding work, study, family life or health.
- We particularly remember Betty, Bruce, Himmi, Liz, Jolame and others in need of additional support at this time, including those who are separated from their families or grieving. We also remember those within our congregation who are devoted carers.

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 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

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 Hyun Goo - and their families, as they support us to serve in mission.
- We ask for God's help to bless the world. AMEN

Service & Zoom Information

Parramatta Mission Leigh Memorial Worship

Time: Sunday 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...

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

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 Memorial Fijian Worship

Time: Sundays 11.15am

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

Meeting ID: 913 491 3679

Pentecost 5B, 2021 • Mark 5. 21-43

She steals her well-being

Rev Vladimir Korotkov

1. “She steals her healing”, this woman in our reading today.

In our text, “she steals her healing”, this woman with a 12-year-old persistent bleeding condition, writes Dorothy Lee, a UCA New Testament scholar. Like a robber, she sneaks up behind Jesus and secretly touches the edge of his cloak. She does this “because she is not free for it openly...” (Dorothy Lee 1993: 66)



She is a thief because she breaks the purity laws and codes of her religious society. Her religion taught that a woman in her condition made every place and person she contacted “ceremonially unclean and would convey uncleanness to all who came in contact with her (cf. Leviticus 15.35)”. (Vincent Taylor, *The Gospel According to Mark*, 290)

Added to this, we know that in those ancient times, all space was rigidly gendered - a woman was not allowed to approach a male in public. Jairus, the Jewish father of the 12-year-old girl who was critically ill, placed alongside this story, could approach Jesus. This woman obviously did not have one person who could approach Jesus for her! She was alone in this as well.

So, we find her in the midst of her desperate life. A dread-ful life brimming over with multiple challenges: unable to attend religious gatherings for so many years; in poverty because she spent all her money on doctors, and it seems even they ripped her off; alone and without a community; and most probably sensing that even God had abandoned her! Well she could have prayed the prayer of Jesus on the cross, “My God, My God, why have you forsaken me!”

She exists as if in a boat battered by a storm, living a life beaten by the unceasing waves of strife, like the disciples in their boat in last week's story. Yet, this woman is nothing like the disciples in the boat in the storm in last week's in Mark 4:35-41, where they fear for their well-being and survival. These experienced fishermen, driven by their anxiety and fear, "emptied themselves of the inner resources to deal with the storm". (Walter Wink. *Wink/LookSmart web site*)

2. What kind of healing is this?

What makes this woman totally different from the disciples is her inner spirit of hope and her desire for well-being. Yes, like them, she would have been anxious, fearful and despairing, as we all are when faced with illness and its overwhelming issues. Yet, as Dorothy Lee writes:



"She is not a timid character, but extraordinarily courageous. By being present in the crowd and by touching Jesus, she is taking a great risk. She steals her healing because she is not free for it openly..." (Dorothy Lee, 1993: 66).

Jesus affirms her thief-like approach, her courage and her faith with the words, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease." (Mk 5:34)

There is great depth in this response by Jesus. Within this response exist Mark's reasons in sharing this story with all readers throughout time.

By calling this woman "daughter", he informs the surrounding witnesses, including us as readers, that God values and loves, as God has always valued and loved, this woman, this woman whom that society and its cultural patterns had permanently excluded and made outcast.

And as Jesus constantly does in Mark's Gospel, "Jesus ... both violates and reverses the contagion by his 'touching'" (Ched Myers, *Binding the Strong Man*, 201) and by relating to and accepting this woman's touch and approach. The God of Jesus is a counter-cultural God! One who disrupts our structured life. formerly excluded.

3. Healing the psychic/social self

I suggest that Jesus knew she may face ongoing discrimination and isolation. So Jesus sought to empower this woman for her new challenges. When he sensed the woman had touched him, he engaged her in dialogue. This was to deal with her identity and meaning system. He wanted to enable a strong identity so that her faith would be healthy.

In this event, Jesus models how each human person and society needs to be open to change. Jesus, as an example, sacrifices male privilege and power to allow a new power relation. This new power relation gives her the opportunity to create a new self, an identity as equal.

So she is “healed” or “saved” from her former social, religious self. Or, to use Paul words for her, she dies to this self created by patriarchy, (I am no longer a Jew or Gentile, male nor female.) and is liberated as Jesus himself changes the way he is.

We read that she told him her whole story: to a male, as non-family member, as stranger. Healing involves meaningful conversation which grows community!

4. Healing involves changing power relations

In and by her actions this woman destabilised the “self”, the identity as unclean woman, which that ancient Jewish society had constructed for her.

But, she did not become co-dependent on Jesus, unlike the disciples in the storm who emptied themselves of their power as seasoned sea folk to weather the storm.

She had already began the journey of empowerment by stealing her healing: not just physical healing, but the strength of character, possessing the inner desire to be healed, and quietly challenging society’s right to stop her from being in public and approaching a male stranger.

5. What does this story say to us today?

In ancient and modern societies, Michel Foucault’s work (*Discipline and Punish*) reminds us, that we are all constructed as conforming citizens, and accept identities and learn to conform to society’s values and patterns.

Michel Foucault’s work suggests that power is the effect of our culture to incorporate us “into line with norms and proprieties that culture itself constructs.” (Catherine Belsey, *Poststructuralism*, 53)

Yet, as we see in our story, the woman must challenge the way life and roles are set up. She must steal her healing. This is a resistance. Resistance is always possible to relations of power:

“Foucault insists: Crime itself is a refusal of the law; eccentricity is a repudiation of the norm; ‘vice’ is a rejection of conventional ethics. Power is not a thing or a quantity we possess or lose, but a relation of struggle.” (Belsey, p54f)

This is the prophetic urge that all concerned Christians and citizen’s should express. How do we learn to listen to those whom our society excludes? Our story invites us to learn from Jesus as he responded sensitively in his relationship with those who struggled with ill-health.

We are challenged to listen and hear others without comparing and evaluating them according to our own experience and culture. Our first task, suggests the psychoanalyst Bruce Fink, is to listen carefully to others when we engage them. But, he notes that there are surprisingly few good listeners. One key reason “is that we tend to hear everything in relation to ourselves.” (Bruce Fink, *Fundamentals of Psychoanalytic Technique*, 1) When we meet another “we tend to locate experiences, feelings, and perspectives of our own that resemble the other person’s” (Fink, 1). If we do not understand the other we usually find them strange or even irrational. What we need to learn is to “stop trying to understand so quickly”, Fink suggests.

We, the least and those from the dominant culture, gender, class, sexuality... we take the initiative, approach Jesus in faith. Jesus returns our approach with his, and does so with that searching look, the compassionate connection (touch), the intimate dialogue. Jesus in this story meets us “in the midst of storm and strife”, and empowers us to enter into new forms of inclusive community; the least into creative acts of resistance, upward to be equals; the dominant to give up/let go of false privilege and enter new power relations of equality; one and equal.

"She is not a timid character, but extraordinarily courageous. By being present in the crowd and by touching Jesus, she is taking a great risk. She steals her healing because she is not free for it openly..." (Dorothy Lee 1993: 66).

As always, Jesus means freedom!

Leigh Congregation

“FOR EVERYTHING THERE IS A SEASON” – Sunday 27 June



This Sunday at Leigh Memorial (9.30am), our worship time will include an acknowledgement and thank you to PM staff and programs, and a ‘handover’ of services to ‘Uniting.’ Further gestures of appreciation will also be made, and over morning tea we will have the opportunity to farewell Revs. Clive & Mary Pearson. Those wishing to make a donation towards gifts presented on the day can see Liz or Samantha on Sunday. Members are invited to bring a

plate of food to share for morning tea (individual portions, ie. cup-cakes, muffins, small chip/cracker packets etc are preferred due to current covid conditions). ALL WELCOME! We look forward to seeing you. NB: Masks are currently mandatory in indoor spaces, including churches, however please look out for further updates via the newsletter/email.

FAREWELL CORAL & TRACEY!



On 30 June, Tracey & Coral will finish up at PM after a long period of faithful service to the congregations. We reiterate our thanks to them for their help, their friendship, and their efforts with the multiple people & programs associated with our Mission life. As they leave us, we wish them all the best in their future endeavours, as we do all the staff of PM who will be departing us or changing direction. Thanks all – we acknowledge your dedication and wish you all the best. Take care T & C! Our prayers go with you. Photo: Tracey & Coral with their certificates of appreciation.

200th ANNIVERSARY REPORT



Our combined 200th anniversary service and luncheon was held at Leigh Memorial last Sunday with 140 attendees plus special guests. The worship portion of our program included guest preacher, Rev. Simon Hansford, UCA Moderator, Synod NSW/ACT, some great old music and a wonderful performance by the Sunday School children! Thanks again to Robert (task group convener), Revs. Clive & Vladimir, PM staff

(Tracey, Paul & the marketing team) – and the whole organising and helping crew from the congregations – who provided considerable support, time and talent in the lead-up and running of the event. It was a happy & positive celebration of what has already been achieved, and an inspiration for future possibilities! Thank you also to past ministers who attended (inc. Revs. Alan Jackson, Trevor Jennings, Keith Hamilton & Manas Ghosh), plus staff and retired or past congregation members, who also shared the day with us.

PASTORAL MESSAGE

We continue to hold PM staff and Mission/ congregation leaders & the CCLM in our prayers, and send our thoughts to everyone in our congregations who is in need of extra care and support at this time. Please contact the pastoral team or the congregation leaders as needed, and let us know if you need a pastoral visit, practical assistance, or wish to be added to the prayer list. For further information about up & coming changes at PM from 1 July, please see the pastoral team/leaders. Those planning to attend the Parramatta Mission & Northmead-Centenary 'Retreat' at the CFM on Saturday 3 July and have questions – please see Vladimir, Bruce or Ian. Further information in the newsletter.

200th ANNIVERSARY BOOKS FOR SALE – LIMITED COPIES!

Copies of our soon to be released 200th Anniversary book – **'All Loves Excelling – Celebratory Edition'** will be on sale again this Sunday at a cost of **\$20**. The books contain a history of our first Chapel, a 200 year overview of Sunday School/ Youth programs, our current congregation photos and lots of other special features. Enquiries: Liz, or call 9891-2277 to order & pay over the phone.



ANNIVERSARY FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS

"Many thanks" to Akisi of the Leigh Fijian congregation for the 2 magnificent floral arrangements that she made for our 200th Anniversary service at Leigh Memorial last Sunday – one for the church & one for the vestibule. The arrangements added colour and beauty to the proceedings and were also part of our luncheon decorations. Floral arrangements are a long-term tradition at Leigh Memorial, and have been used in various forms for two centuries to enliven our worship spaces and remind us of the beauty of God's creation – the Anniversary Task Group & Heritage Committee.

HEALTH MESSAGE

A case of suspected shingles was unknowingly present at last Sunday's anniversary service and luncheon. Shingles is contagious and may be of concern in pregnant women, people who are immune-suppressed and the elderly. If anyone who was in attendance becomes unwell, especially in association with a rash, please check with your GP.

THANK YOU CLIVE & MARY



Our deepest appreciation is expressed to Revs. Clive and Mary Pearson for their many years of service to Parramatta Mission in various capacities, including Rev. Clive's recent supply ministry position with the PM congregations. Clive has worked tirelessly with the Leigh Memorial & Leigh Fijian congregations' Worship

Committees, Bula Feeding, Sunday School & Youth, plus the Centre for Faith & Public Issues, the Mission Council, and has provided multiple Bible studies for members, including those in 'dual mode' since 2020. Clive has also led and guided our "inSpiring the common good" vision and objectives, including the theological vision imbedded into the redevelopment brief for our Macquarie Street site. Clive's insight and wisdom have helped to shape our plans, with PM's development vision being shared across the Synod as the benchmark for establishing theological vision/direction for major building projects. This list only touches on a very small portion of Clive's broader contributions, and those of Mary, who has contributed both practical and spiritual support and nurture at PM over an extended period. Clive's & Mary's roles conclude on 30 June and they will be leaving us to fulfil a supply appointment in Bowral. They will return to Parramatta at the end of the year. We thank them and wish them well over the coming weeks and months.

A decorative graphic with the words 'Thank you' written in a cursive, black font. The text is surrounded by small, light-colored dots and flourishes.



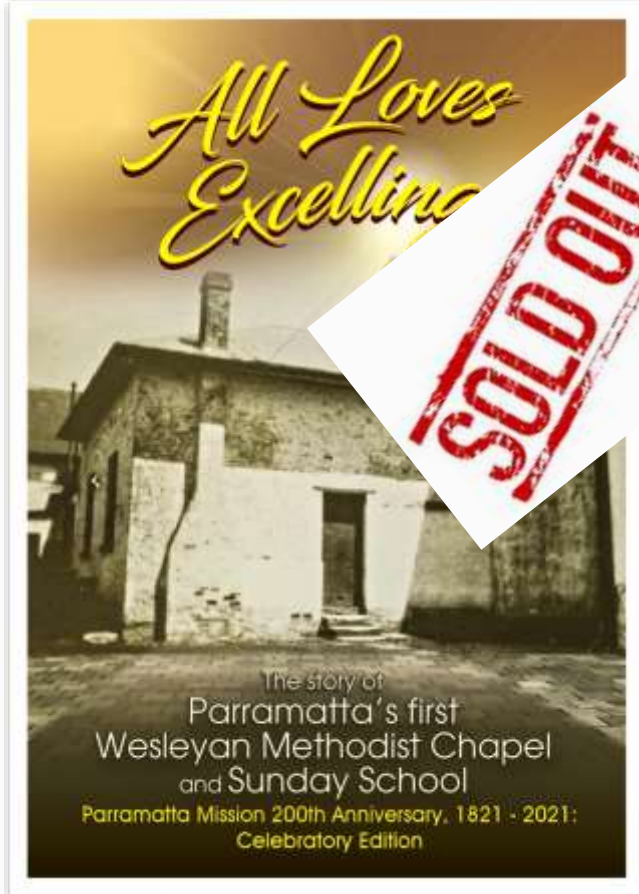
Foster your faith this week

2Sm 1:1, 17-27

Ps 48

2Co 12:2-10

Mk 6:1-13



**PARRAMATTA MISSION
200th ANNIVERSARY BOOK –
*ALL LOVES EXCELLING***

\$20 per copy

** Includes Leigh Memorial, Leigh Fijian & Westmead anniversary information + latest congregation photos **

Pre-orders available: phone 9891-2277.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT WESTMEAD
SUNDAY 27TH JUNE, 2021- 9.45AM
Sharing the Hospitality of Jesus Christ

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

COVID safety: Important Message. NEW

1. New safety measures. MASKS must be worn
 2. Please sanitise your hands as you come into the building
 3. There will be NO singing (unless 5 people may sing from the front)
 4. Register using the QR code, or ask for help from a leader.
 5. Remember social distancing. Back to 4sq. Metres. Leave one empty chair between others, except families.
- Thank you for helping to keep us all safe.

The service today will be led by Rev. Vladimir Korotkov, assisted by leaders.

Thank you to Mario for taking Westmead people to Parramatta for the 200 yr. Celebrations, and also for bringing them back to Westmead. It was a wonderful day, in spite of the cold winter weather.

If you wish to purchase a Parramatta Mission 200th Anniversary Book, the cost will be \$20 each. You may like to order one and it will be available next week.

Please speak with Lorna for further details.



SATURDAY 3RD JULY At the Centre for Ministry at North Parramatta, a Day Retreat, with the Northmead and Centenary congregations. If you can attend, this will be a perfect opportunity to further explore the proposal which will be put to Parramatta Council on 6th July.

SAVE THE DAY, SUNDAY, 25TH JULY, 2012 - WESTMEAD 30TH ANNIVERSARY.

It is planned to have a special service, followed by a light lunch. Watch out for further information, but make sure to save the date.

OPEN DOOR will not be meeting at Westmead, Queens Road in the future. There has been very little response since returning after Covid closed us down. It is hoped that it will be possible to meet at Uniting, 1 Caroline Street Westmead in the near future, and this will be a wonderful opportunity for the Westmead Congregation to connect with people now in Independent Living, All will be welcome. There will be further information in the coming weeks.

BIBLE STUDY will meet on Monday on
ZOOM: <https://uca-nswact.zoom.us/j/95043695512> 2P.M. All Welcome.

TAI CHI will meet next Friday at Uniting,
1 Caroline Street, Westmead. 10 - 11am

WESTMEAD LEADERS:

Karen Banfield - Worship and Bible Study 0488 101 469
Lorna Porter - Finance and Administration 0408 365 478
Jan Robson - Pastoral Matters and Prayer Chain 0418 438 901
Biju Chako - 0420 275 396
Mere Vulaono - No. 28 - 0488 137 067
Alysa Biju - Technology Support - 0467 674 251

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION on Zoom, led by Pastor Sarah Bishop
Tuesdays and Thursdays. Time - 6.25 am

Contact Sarah for zoom link

Email: sarah@bluetardis.com.au Phone: 0412 606 049

Your weekly offering can be made electronically:

Account Name: PM DIRECT WESTMEAD BSB 634634
Account Number: 100046885

REV. CLIVE PEARSON, AND REV. MARY PEARSON.

Westmead congregation thanks you for your participation and encouragement in Bible Study and also in preparing and leading many of our worship services over these past many months. We have very much appreciated your support.

We would ask that God goes with you, as you travel to see family, and in all you do for the future. **BLESSINGS.**

Fijian Congregation

1. **Lotu ena sigatabu oqo 27/06:** Na lotu ena sigatabu oqo na lotu ni veitalatala vei talatala Clive kei Mary. Sa mai cava tiko na nona vei qaravi veikedatou na vavakoso vakaviti. Eratou na vei qaravi tiko kina na Matasiga naba 3. Me vaka ni sa vakaukauwa taki tale na lawa ni Covid-19 e NSW. Sa gadrevi meda muria nai vakaro me sa da vaka mask, sa sega na lagasere. Sa ratou na lewe lima ga na laga sere.
2. Lotu ena sigatabu mai oqo 04/07 : Na lotu ena sigatabu mai oqo na lotu ni vu avou ena qaravi tiko kina na sakaramede.
3. Lesoni ena macawa mai oqo : 2 Samuela 5:1-5, 9-10, Same 48, 2 Koronica 12:2-10, Marika 6:1-13
4. Vakavinavakataki levu ni committee ni 200th Anniversary ena noda Cakacaka vata ena kena qaravi na soqo.
5. O ira era vinakata me laki embroid taki nodra kote loaloa kei na sote vulavula, kerei me karua ni macawa ni vula Jiulai me sa soli mai vei tuirara me rawa ni laki caka rawa. Kenai sau ena via tiko beka \$4.00-\$5.00 per piece.
6. Vakavinavinaka vei Suli Sadrata nona sa passout ena RAF. Sa Vakavinavinaka taki tiko na lotu ena veimasulaki ena sasaga nei Suli.

Lolo kei Na masumasu - Veinanumi ena lolo kei na masumasu ena vei Vukelulu mai na 6am – 12pm se 6am – 6pm. Soli tu na galala ke o rawa ni qarava.

Masumasu Sema - Na noda masumasu sema vakai vavakoso ena matai ni veivakarauwai ni veivula mai na 7pm – 7am

Veinanumi ena Masu : Kerei meda veinanumi tikoga ena veimasulaki vei ira na nodatou qase Aqriu Rogoimuri, Vilikesa kei Mereoni Kamotu, S Qata, Violet Cama. Ko iratou na veiliutaki tiko ena nodatou vavakoso vaka viti kei na veivuvale kece sara ena loma ni nodatou vavakoso. Na nodrau vuli talatala ko Filikesa Kamotu kei Samu Sadrata. Na nodratou vei qaravi na Bula Feeding.

Wiliwili ni lotu ena sigatabu: 06/06 – 45, 13/06 – 19, 20/06 – Combine service



다섯 번째 성령강림주일 (5rd Pentecost Sunday) 21년 06월27일 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 23장 **통 23장** **만입이 내게 있으면**

새 415장 **통 471장** **십자가 그늘 아래**

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

성경 봉독 (Scripture Reading) **창세기13:8-18**

말씀(Preaching)- 전현구 목사 **선한 것을 선택한 사람**

봉헌 송(Offeratory Hymn)

새 220장 **통 278장** **사랑하는 주님 앞에**

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 시온아 이소식 전파하라 (1절)**

축도 전현구 담임목사

QT나눔 & 성경공부
오후4:00

수요기도회 : 오후 7시
잠언31:10-31

새벽기도회 : 오전 5시
잠언30:18-야고보서1:27

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

As Clive Pearson concludes his time with us, which we have greatly appreciated, please contact our minister Vladimir Korotkov for any pastoral needs.

Rev Vladimir Korotkov (Interim Lead Minister) 0431 759 573

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