

OUR NEWS

14th August 2022

Our Vision

A Community Transforming Lives



Our Values

Grace,

Inclusion,

Dignity,

Faith and Hope

**Congregational life at Westmead & Parramatta,
Hospitality Services at 175 Hotel and Wesley Apartments
Meals Plus Services providing for those in need across the
Parramatta LGA**

**Parramatta Mission acknowledges that all of our work takes
place on the land of traditional owners.**

**We pay respect to the original custodians of the land on
which we gather, and acknowledge their elders past and
present, and their emerging leaders.**

WEEKLY REFLECTION
Pentecost 10C, 2022
Luke 12:49-56

*Beyond harmony,
peace at all costs ...
in family, church,
community & culture*
Bill Loader



This is not a text one would choose for a sermon on ecumenism - or is it? 'Harmony' is one of those soft words which people sometimes use to plea for

peace. The peace is often a shallow calm of suppressed fears and conflicts which are bound to emerge from under their marshmallow captivity. Orderliness and harmony were great Stoic themes. At worst it meant everyone in their place, an unchanged and unchanging status quo. For many people Christian peace is still seen as that kind of harmony, if not achievable outwardly, then at least achievable inwardly. The gospel then takes up its stall beside all the others offering serenity of life and 'feel good' spiritualities.

If there is a place for 'harmony' in the teaching of Jesus, it is about unity with God and what God is doing in the world and a sense of solidarity with those travelling that path. In Jesus' conversation with the ambitious James and John in Mark 10:35-40 Jesus uses the image of baptism to speak of his death. Water, flood, was a disaster, just as a fire storm is a disaster. Jesus is walking into disaster and 'Peace at all costs' has no place here. That kind of harmony gilds oppression with respectability and rewards wrong. Instead we face a full scale conflict, taken right into the heart of human formation: the family. The family is being dethroned from its absolute

taking others with him. Matthew's version of the Q saying spells it out less tactfully: Jesus has come not to bring peace but a sword (Luke has: 'division'). While Mark sees Jesus entering the treacherous waters of that Jerusalem Passover, Luke directs our attention to family.

'Peace at all costs' has no place here. That kind of harmony gilds oppression with respectability and rewards wrong. Instead we face a full scale conflict, taken right into the heart of human formation: the family. The family is being dethroned from its absolute claims. It is not an invitation to the kind of fanaticism which dislocates sectarians from family and friends and all else for obsession with an unrelated cause. Rather this passion springs from the heart of the human condition. It is the passion for love, for change, for justice, for renewal. These are not the fanatical tenets of a cult, but the foundations of hope. So Jesus is confronting the gods of family and warning that this is very dangerous territory.

It was not that Jesus sought to subvert families as such. It was rather that he espoused a vision of God and God's agenda for change which often stood in direct conflict with other absolute claims, like wealth, possessions, land, culture,

religion and family. He appears to have deliberately encouraged some to dislocate by leaving behind the claims of their local communities, clan, and family. Like him they travelled with him as a kind of entourage of protest against the prevailing systems. But he also encouraged others who stayed where they were to put the kingdom first. Everything else has its place but falls into proper perspective when the 'God part' is taken care of. That is not a guarantee of peace and harmony, but an involvement in change which will have its own rewards. It will encounter resistance and rejection from the powerbrokers of the gods of family and tradition.

As Christians remembered and retold these sayings, they might have been consoled by the warnings as they reflected on their own painful experiences. Some may have used such predictions to rationalise their ineptitude at relationships. Nothing much has changed in this regard. There is a fascination, even a stimulus, which people can get from such pain. The real thing can so easily be twisted into another form of self indulgence.

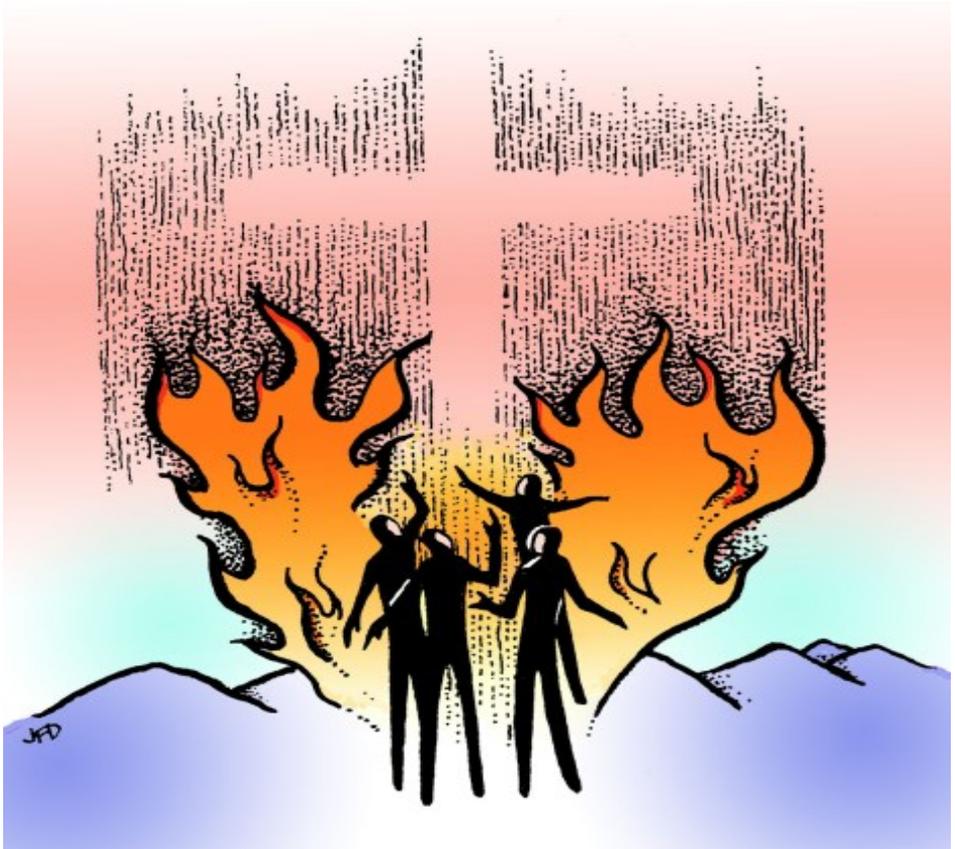
The passage ends by talking about the weather, as conversations sometimes do when they run out of steam. This is not the case here. In its present context the exhortation focuses on looking for signs of danger of conflict.

Perhaps originally the perspective was wider than this. Reading the signs of the times is a way of saying: recognising what is really going on and likely to happen. It is very much a prophetic role. Today it means helping people probe beneath the surface of events, to recognise the gods and hidden agenda which drives the world in which we live. The same caution about families applies to all other systems.

A passage like this provides an opportunity for reflection on centres of powerful influence in our local communities. What are these gods? We need to name them. For some they will still be in families. Liberation will come as they learn to say no to family authorities, whether in real life outside or in the real life of the mind. Grace invites us to stand on our own two feet, to say No, to grow up, to be born again. If you touch on this, be prepared to ensure there is support for those who dare such a change. It can be lonely and painful.

For others the gods run them in their workplace or across the counters of commerce or in the obsessions of advertising. Gods are always bigger than particular people. This is about more than addressing individual loyalties. Ultimately it is about the vision of justice and peace for all which we celebrate in the feast of the eucharist. The radical inclusiveness of that meal and that vision is a fellowship of sacrifice in which we nourish ourselves from a broken and poured out life. Perhaps the best commentary on today's passage is, indeed, the breaking of the bread.

Reading the signs of the times is a way of saying: recognising what is really going on and likely to happen. It is very much a prophetic role. Today it means helping people probe beneath the surface of events, to recognise the gods and hidden agenda which drives the



Foster your faith this week

Is 5:1-7

Ps 80:1-2, 8-19

Heb 11:29-12:2

Lk 12:49-56

HUMANITY STARTS WITH CHARITY

MAKE A DIFFERENCE.



Help us give
Parra a good
night's sleep!

**SHEETS &
PILLOWS**

Donate Now!



(02) 9891 2277



119 Macquarie St, Parramatta NSW 2150

Leigh Memorial Congregation

WORSHIP @ LEIGH MEMORIAL – LIVING WITH DIFFERENCE

We look forward to seeing everyone at Leigh this Sunday, 14 August @ 9.30am – Onsite + Zoom. The service will be followed by morning tea. All welcome!

INVITATION: PCUC ‘VISION’ MORNING – SATURDAY 20th AUGUST

A second get-together for the PCUC congregations will take place at Centenary Uniting on 20th August from 9.00am – Noon (followed by lunch). It will be a great opportunity for exploration, inspiration, information-sharing and good company. Enquiries: David, Bruce or Fiona.

CONGREGATION PASTORAL MESSAGE

Our warm support remains with members in need of healing and strength at this time, and we continue to pray for those who are unwell, having tests, recuperating or grieving. We especially pray for Mae who is having surgery this week – and for Lalaja, Beverly, Jolame and Neil & Darlene. Please let us know if you or others would like to be added to our congregation prayer list.

THANK YOU & FAREWELL

“Blessings” for PM/Meals Plus volunteer Silvia, who has retired after 10 years of selfless contribution. A ‘thank you’ morning tea was held in Silvia’s honour this week & the congregations’ appreciation was included among with many other acknowledgements. Thanks again Silvia!

COVID SAFETY

Masks remain strongly recommended during our time together, as does physical distancing.

BAPTISMS LAST SUNDAY

The baptisms of baby Isabelle and 10 year old Lachie (pictured with Baptisms Elder, Margie), were very happy aspects of our worship time last Sunday. Conducted by Rev Ben Gilmour – and in the company of many visitors, including some on Zoom all the way from Canada – this special service also included communion. Thanks to everyone who helped with preparations or on the morning itself – and ongoing blessings for Isabelle, Lachie and their families.



AUGUST DONATIONS DRIVE: MEALS PLUS

During August, Leigh Memorial is collecting donations for Meals Plus. These include:

(1) **Toiletries:** toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, disposable wipes, combs, disposable shavers, small tissue packs, shampoo, sunscreen, deodorant, sanitiser etc;

(2) **Non-perishable groceries:** particularly tinned spaghetti, baked beans & tuna in small, 'self-pull' tins that don't require a can opener;

(3) **Linen:** Clean, new or second-hand sheets, pillows, blankets & towels.

** Please bring all donations to the Coffee Shop after worship on Sunday mornings or contact LeighMemorialUniting@gmail.com to arrange a pick-up.

Enquiries: Liz.

COUPLES & FRIENDS UPDATE

The C & F is no longer meeting formally, however the group is still gathering for informal social outings on a regular basis and remains involved in offering pastoral care to others, plus supporting Helen & Robert's knitted rugs project for women's services. Included are a few photos from a recent outing, supplied by Ruth Cameron. Thanks Ruth – and many thanks for the dedicated & caring way in which you keep in touch with Leigh members who are unwell or unable to attend worship in person. Enquiries: Robert.



Westmead Congregation

Sharing the Hospitality of Jesus Christ

Sunday 14th August 2022 – 9.30am – ON-SITE and ZOOM

Zoom Link: <https://uca-nswact.us/j/93615534553>

Our Worship Service today will be led by Pastor Fil – thank you Fil for your leadership and we extend a very warm welcome back to you.

Thank you Pastor Sarah, for conducting last Sunday's Holy Communion service-your personal experiences at the recent retreat you attended were very interesting.

A reminder that 20th August Saturday, a Parramatta City Uniting Church (PCUC) Vision Day No.2, will take place at Centenary Church. An interesting day is promised, with insight into the way forward of our combined congregations – everyone welcome. (Details below).

Please continue to follow covid and Flu guidelines of physical distancing, hand hygiene with sanitisers, and wearing a mask in Church and other Church gatherings. If you are unwell, please stay at home and recover.

Dates

20th August Saturday – PCUC Vision Day 2 at 46 Sorrell St, North Parramatta 9am – 12noon (lunch to follow on). Please join if you can for an interesting day.

Roster for Readers.

14-08-22

Bible Reader: Sue

Prayers of The People: Jan

ACTIVITIES YOU CAN JOIN

BIBLE STUDY: Monday afternoons, **2pm** - All are welcome.

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

TAI CHI: Friday at Uniting Westmead 10am - 11am \$10

Christian Meditation on Zoom led by Pastor Sarah Bishop - Tuesdays, and Thursdays at **6.20am**. Contact Sarah for Zoom Link.

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

ENQUIRIES:

Chairperson:	Jan Robson	0418 438 901
Liturgy and Administration Co-ordinator:	Lorna Porter	0408 365 478
Prayer Chain Requests:	Ruth Geggie	0430 271 205
Technology:	Alysa Biju	
	e-mail: westmead.uca@gmail.com	
Newsletter:	Cheryl Shyam:	0432 436 999



In Memory of Dr. Henry Alexander.

Henry lived in Mayflower retirement village for many years, transferring to the new building of Uniting in the last couple of years. Henry previously attended Centenary Uniting Church, and had attended Westmead church for many years. Whenever possible, Henry liked to attend church, and would walk, rarely accepting a lift, then riding up on his motorised chariot.

Henry formed a very good friendship with Arun Gopal and his wife (dec.) Madhu. This friendship continued with Arun often surprising him with food to his liking, but most of all, spending time talking with him, about their homeland of Fiji. Thank you Arun, for keeping us connected with Henry.

Henry resided in the same area as Jean Mitchell, Lorraine Green, and Vita Terado, all from the Westmead congregation. Prior to Jean's passing this year, she and Henry and Lorraine played dominoes when possible, they ate at the same table, and showed caring for one another.

Henry will be missed, and all who knew him will remember him for the fine, gentleman he was.

To Henry's family, please accept the condolences of the Westmead Congregation.

Leigh Fijian Congregation

1. Lotu ena macawa oqo 14/08: Na lotu ena macawa oqo ena vunau tiko kina ko Josefa Foiakau kei tuirara Emosi Rogoimuri. Tu vakarau na veiliutaki mata-masumasu naba 1. Vunau vakarau na chairman Sosiceni Toa kei Epeli Semani.

2. Lotu ena macawa mai oqo 21/08: Na lotu ena macawa mai oqo ena vunau tiko kina na chairman Sosiceni Toa kei Epeli Semani. Tu vakarau na vunau vakatawa Anare Vocea kei Serupepeli Nagatalevu. Tu vakarau na veiliutaki mata-masumasu naba 2.

3. Lesoni ni macawa oqo 08/08 - 14/08: Aisea 5:1-7 Same 80:1-2,8-19 Iperiu 11: 29, 12:2 Luke 12:49-56.

4. Lesoni ni macawa mai oqo 15/08 – 21/08: Jeremaia 1:4-10 Same 71:1-6 Iperiu 12:18-29 Luke 13:10-17.

5. Sa mai tekivu tale e dua na tabana ni veiqaravi ni bula feeding, na **Bula Sisterhood Shed**. Ke dua na vakatataro me baleta na tabana oqo qai vei taratara vei Suguta Rogoimuri.

6. Vakalesui tikoga na vakavinavinaka levu vei keda na vavakoso ena noda veit-okoni tiko vei Isei Rabebenivalu Tabucavu ena masu kei na vosa ni veivakayaloqataki.

7. Vakavinavinaka talega ena vakasigalevu totoka eda mai veiwasei kina kei na Deputy Party Leader ni Peoples Allince Party ko Manoa Kamikamica ena sigatabu sa oti.

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

Veinanumi ena Masu : Kerei meda veinanumi tikoga ena veimasulaki vei ira na nodatou qase Mereoni Kamotu, S Qata kei Akisi Baranski Dovibua. ratou na veiliutaki tiko ena nodatou vavakoso vaka viti kei na veivuvale kece sara ena loma ni nodatou vavakoso. Na nodratou veiqaravi na Bula Feeding.

Gadrevi na noda veinanumi ena masu vei ira na lewe ni vavakoso era mai sasaga kei na nanumi talega ni nodra vuvale mai Viti.



Bula Sisterhood Shed

DAY	DATE	ACTIVITY
MONDAY	8/8/2022	COFFEE CHAT
TUESDAY	16/08/2022	ART
TUESDAY	23/8/2022	Craft
TUESDAY	30/8/2022	Making Terrarium

성령강림 후10주일 (10th Pentecost Sunday) 2022년 08월14일 오후 1시30분

개회 찬송 (Entrance Hymn) 예배를 위한 묵상

예배의 부름 (Calling) 인도자

송영 (Gloria) **새 2 장** **통 6 장** 찬양 성부 성자 성령 다함께

사도신경 신앙고백 (The Apostle's Creed) 다함께

찬양/찬송 (Chorus & Hymns) 다함께

새 33 장 **통 12 장** 영광스런 주를 보라

새 250 장 **통 182 장** 구주의 십자가 보혈로

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

성경 봉독 (Scripture Reading) **요한복음 20:24-29**

말씀(Preaching)- 전현구 목사 나의 주님 나의 하나님

봉헌 송(Offeratory Hymn)
새 446 장 **통 500 장** 주 음성 외에는

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 501장 **통 255장** 너 시온아 이소식 전파하라 (1절)

축도 전현구 담임목사

QT나눔 & 성경공부
오후 4:00

수요기도회 : 오후 7시
레위기 26:1-13

새벽기도회 : 오전 5시
레위기 25:23-26:46

Electric Vehicle Information Forum

September 7 | 7pm-8.30pm

Free Online Event

If you've ever considered buying an electric vehicle or are just curious to learn more about them, join us at our **Electric Vehicle Information Forum**.



Cars are responsible for about **half** of all **transport emissions** in Australia. Could switching to an electric vehicle be the right investment for you and the planet?

Come along to hear from guest speaker Dr Jake Whitehead, Head of Policy at the **Electric Vehicle Council** and get answers about the benefits of EVs, how they work, the factors that influence their uptake and more.

This forum is aimed at any in the wider church community but open to all
Click the link below to register:

[Register on Eventbrite](#)

Jake is Head of Policy at the Electric Vehicle Council of Australia. He was formerly a Lead Author for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), a member of the International Electric Vehicle Policy Council at the University of California, Davis, and also runs his own mobility-as-a-service company in Queensland, ODIN PASS.



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

- For those that are unwell by reasons of health, grief, or other circumstances – Lord place Your hands of comfort, understanding and health on them.
- For health care professionals who heal us, for the teachers who educate, for the service people around us, for Ministers of Your Word – Lord we give thanks to You and ask Your grace upon them.
- For peace in our World – Lord be with those struggling for survival in war zones – May they be able to experience Your peace somehow. We pray for an end to wars, misunderstandings, and conflicts.
- For the struggles of people who try to cope with economic changes, for those without shelter, food or water. Lord we pray for them.
- For those experiencing loneliness or isolation due to circumstances beyond their control, Lord we ask for You to be their Friend and Protector.
- For those who are encountering changes in their lives – Lord we pray that You guide them on the road they need to travel and steady them for a safe journey.

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.

Prayer Points

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 congregation members, leaders and staff who are unwell, or having tests or procedures, and those experiencing anxiety surrounding work, study, family life or health. We particularly remember our members in need of additional support at this time, including those who are separated from their families or grieving. We also remember those within our congregations who are devoted carers to others in their family or within the community;
- We pray for wisdom and inspiration to infuse all current and forthcoming decision-making processes and actions by our dedicated ministers, leaders, managers and staff – and specifically pray for Paul and the team at Meals Plus, Cameron and his team at Westmead, the Bula Feeding ministry, and the life and witness of our fellow Parramatta Mission & Parramatta City Uniting Church congregations;
- We also pray for greater mutual respect, compassion and care within our local communities, and for the realisation of a community-wide spirit of inclusion and love for all people.

Wider Work

For our Combined Parramatta Mission Team

- May God guide all our staff and volunteers to live out our values of grace, inclusion, dignity, faith and hope;
- Rev. Vladimir, Rev. Hyun Goo, Chaplain Sarah, PMC Chairperson, David and Secretary Robert and all those who lead and serve.

Service & Zoom Information

Leigh Memorial Congregation

Time: Sunday 9.30am on site & Zoom

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

Meeting ID: 519 908 9657

Westmead Congregation

Time: Sunday 9.30am on site & Zoom

<https://uca-nswact.us/j/93615534553>

Leigh Fijian Congregation

Time: Sundays 11.15am on site

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 2277

IN TIME OF PASTORAL NEED

Please contact our minister Vladimir Korotkov for any pastoral needs.

Rev Vladimir Korotkov (Transition Minister)	0431 759 573
Rev John Barr	0457 879 099
Pastor Fil Kamotu	0404 552 915

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



Parramatta Mission



@parramission



Parramatta Mission

Visit our website and blog www.parramattamission.org.au