

# OUR NEWS

30th October 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 21C, 2022

Luke 19.1-10

*The excluded thieving accountant  
And the inclusive grace of Jesus*

**William Loader**

We are nearing the end of the journey to Jerusalem. The last anecdote which Mark tells also related to Jericho: the healing of blind Bartimaeus as he left town. Luke knows another story and so rearranges the itinerary slightly. The encounter with the blind man now occurs on the way into town. This enables him to slip in the story of Zacchaeus as an event which took place while he was passing through. It also enables Luke to make it a fitting climax to Jesus' ministry: a conversion of the greatest order and

to have Jesus declare: 'The Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost' (19:10). This 'conversion' also echoes the conversion of Levi, the toll collector, in 5:27-32. There Jesus declares that he has come not to call the righteous but sinners to repentance ('to repentance' being Luke's addition to what he found in Mark). Luke is fond of such echoes. Both conversions have a financial theme.

The story is dramatic and lends itself to being acted out. Perhaps it was remembered in part because of the distinctive physical features: Zacchaeus' small stature, climbing a tree. Just as striking would have been Jesus' willingness to invite himself to be guest of such a person. Jesus did get into trouble for his meal companions, including his eating with toll collectors and their doubtful associates (see also 7:31-35; 15:1-2). Luke reproduces the three way tension which doubtless played a role in the ministry of the historical Jesus. The three reappear constantly; Jesus; someone whom Jesus befriends; and the critics.

Perhaps the rather odd sounding, 'For he too is a son of Abraham' (19:9b), goes back to Jesus. It is odd sounding to a Gentile audience. It may reflect the Jewish focus of Jesus' ministry. The Gentile focus of the church developed only later. The point within that context is that Zacchaeus is not a nobody. He is also a human being - in that context, a child of Abraham, 'one of us Jews'. Among his people Jesus would write no one off. It was this basic attitude which later, almost of necessity, spawned the mission to the Gentiles. They, too, had to be included. At one level, therefore, the story is another celebration of Jesus' radical application of God's love. God keeps an open table. Jesus expresses this by challenging Zacchaeus' hospitality. This is not unlike what Jesus tells his disciples to do in Luke 10: turn up on their doorstep for a meal and see what happens!

The criticism is the same as what we find earlier in Jesus' ministry according to Luke and to which Jesus often responded with parables (for instance, in Luke 15). Luke is not disputing that Zacchaeus is a sinner, although some have read Zacchaeus' comments





about restitution as a refutation of such an assumption. That would run contrary to the way Luke frames the story and links it to other such stories. Zacchaeus is a sinner. It was almost a 'given' because of the kind of trade he was engaged in and would be the assumption both of Luke's hearers and of the people of Jesus' time. Nothing indicates that issues of food or purity laws are to the fore, such as whether Jesus would be eating untithed foods or be entering unclean areas. The focus is moral sinfulness (which may well have been linked with the other concerns). Jesus' critics believe he should value people according to their compliance with scripture's laws and keep his distance if they don't. Jesus, for whom scripture's laws also matter (see Luke 16:17!), values people because they are people. It is a matter of priority.

Luke's story may be wanting to deal with the problem which such generosity creates or is believed to create. Paul's Christian critics would have poured in their anxieties at this point and perhaps pointed their finger at Corinth to prove their point. 'Love must be conditional; otherwise people will just go off the rails!' Luke's story is wanting to show that the response of Zacchaeus to Jesus' initiative of acceptance is to make major changes. It is almost as though we should be listening to Romans 8:3-4. What the Law was not able to achieve, God has achieved by sending his Son, with the result that the just demands of the Law are now more than met. Zacchaeus is now prepared to give half his wealth to the poor and to make fourfold restitution (an echo of Exod 22:1's requirement). I hope he did his sums; it assumes only an eighth of his income came through embezzlement! Oversimplified, the anecdote does provide a vehicle for arguing that morality can be the fruit of attitudinal change, conversion, a changed relationship to God.

It is just as likely that Luke also has in mind Christians who need a better understanding of salvation. It is one of his constant themes. Change, conversion, needs to incorporate a changed attitude and behaviour in relation to wealth. In fact it is striking that Jesus' declaration that 'salvation' had come to Zacchaeus' house follows immediately after the report of his new 'financial management plan'. This is a fitting climax to Jesus' public ministry - at least Luke must have thought so. Did he, too, have many Christians in mind who saw salvation as a ticket to heaven or as a recipe for inner tranquillity with little or no thought for social justice, for distribution of resources, and especially for the poor? It is also possible that some had used the story who were rich and claimed the story assured them that there was also a place for them in the kingdom. Luke would not disagree, provided their attitudes and actions had now been converted towards a passion for social justice. Just a few verses back Jesus had been warning of the

deceitfulness of wealth and depressing a would-be follower who apparently got everything right except this (18:18-23)!

We do an injustice to the story if we reduce it to the cheap category of a wonder-conversion and fail to bring out that conversion here means transformation which includes the budget. It is not about a soul being saved, as one popular translation puts it, but about revolution with revolutionary implications. While they were fast becoming respectable by Luke's time, these are anecdotes preserved by people who cried out for justice. They are heavily biased towards compassion and change. The issues have not gone away in today's world and we reap the whirlwind from our inattention to these cries. We are the Zacchaeuses and our eucharistic feast is the model and food of transformation. It will be against the grain of prevailing values in our own society that we need to retell the story. Our hope, however, is that people still do climb trees!

### **PCUC vote results**

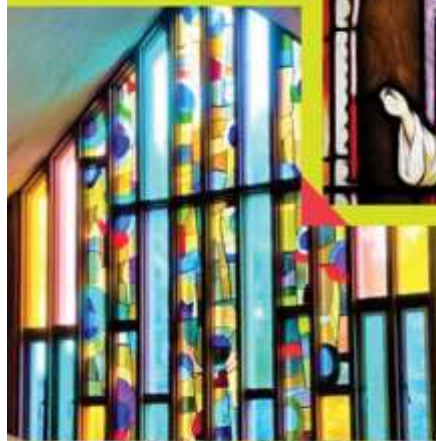
On Sunday 23 October 2022 the Leigh Fijian, Leigh Memorial, Northmead, Parramatta Centenary and Westmead congregations of the Uniting Church each voted overwhelmingly to join together as one entity, worshipping at various sites (to be provisionally called Parramatta City Uniting Church). The combined aggregate vote was 151 to 7 in favour of the proposal. Over the coming months there will be opportunities for everyone to participate in planning for our future together, while we continue the process of calling a ministry team and look at how our governance arrangements, finances, etc will be brought together. VSAG will continue its role of co-ordinating all of this and we already have a joint CCLM in place, which will continue to plan our congregational life.

On Sunday 30 October, we will be celebrating at a PCUC combined service at Leigh Memorial, commencing at 10am. This will be followed by a brunch.

*David Norris*

***Chairperson, Parramatta Mission Council***

# Parramatta City Uniting Church



Parramatta  
Mission



uniting  
church  
in Australia  
Specialist WMA ACT

# Leigh Memorial Congregation

## **WORSHIP @ LEIGH MEMORIAL – PCUC COMBINED SERVICE**

We look forward to seeing everyone at Leigh this **Sunday, 30 October @ 10.00am** (Onsite + Zoom) for the Parramatta City Uniting Church Combined Service.

## **WORKING BEE**

Everyone is welcome to join us for a 'working bee' at the Fellowship Centre on Saturday 29 October – time: 10.00am – midday). Come & go as you please. Enquiries: [LeighMemorialUniting@gmail.com](mailto:LeighMemorialUniting@gmail.com)

## **PASTORAL NEWS**

Our warmest prayers remain with Bev, Mae, Darlene & Neil, Jolame, Nell and everyone in our congregation who needs additional support and uplift at this time. We're thinking of you often. Please note that contact numbers for the ministry team are included in the newsletter.

## **TOUR GROUP AT LEIGH**

On Tuesday, Robert, Liz and Callum hosted a tour of Leigh Memorial by Chinese-speaking members of Eastwood Uniting Church. They and their interpreter enjoyed a talk on the history of our church and site – and the services provided by Meals Plus/Parramatta Mission on a daily basis.

## **NEW HERITAGE BOOK**

At the Combined PCUC Service on 30 October, the Heritage Committee will be releasing a new book, *Lawry – Third Edition: Pacific Connections*, which includes an acknowledgement of this year's 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Walter Lawry's landmark mission to Tonga – and the subsequent commencement of the Mission's 'Pacific' links, including via the Leigh Fijian congregation. The books will be on sale for \$20 during Brunch. Many thanks to Ken for another wonderful book cover.

## **RUGS DONATIONS UPDATE**

We have some incredibly generous and gifted knitters and crochet artists helping Parramatta Mission! Robert & Helen report that over the past month, one bag of rugs has been delivered to Meals Plus as well as some clothing, three bags of knitted rugs have been delivered to 175 Hotel – and an assortment of clothes, toys and three bags of knitted rugs were sent to Thelma Brown Cottages via Hope Hostel. That's a total of 49 rugs contributed by the Leigh Congregation, Couples & Friends and Constitution Hill supporters. **THANK YOU** everyone!!!

## **BIBLE SOCIETY AUSTRALIA – SUPPORTING UKRAINE**

The Bible Society (Australia) is seeking donations towards the distribution of Bibles and other ongoing Christian support efforts in the Ukrainian war zone. For further information, please go to:

<https://www.biblesociety.org.au/>

## **FLOOD APPEAL**

Prayers for all those impacted by recent flooding and storm damage in Victoria and NSW, including farmers and isolated people and communities, and churches. A number of organisations are providing support to flood victims, as is the UCA Synod. For further details, please see the website or call 8267-4382.

<https://nswact.uca.org.au/giving/moderators-appeal/>



### ***Foster your faith this week***

*Hab 1:1-4, 2:1-4*

*Ps 119:137-144*

*2 Thes 1:1-4, 11-12*

*Lk 19:1-10*

# Westmead Congregation

## Sharing the Hospitality of Jesus Christ

Sunday 30th October 2022 – 10.00am

### COMBINED PCUC WORSHIP

at Leigh Memorial Church, Parramatta.

NO ON-SITE WORSHIP AT WESTMEAD TODAY.

We look forward to gathering today with fellow members of our Parramatta City Uniting Church (PCUC) for a combined service at Leigh Memorial Church, where we will join in fellowship with one another.

For those who are unable to attend the combined service in person at Leigh today, the Zoom link is available:

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

**Gold Coin Donation** – Next Sunday we will resume our Gold Coin Donation. These donations help to support families and people in need.



**Volunteer Information**  
**gathering and Morning Tea to**  
**be held at Uniting Westmead.**

Date: Wednesday, 2nd November 2022

Time: 10.30am to 11.30pm

Venue: Uniting Westmead - 1 Caroline Street, Westmead

Uniting are seeking to further relationships with local congregations with an aim to growing their volunteer support base in aged care villages. (See letter below).

The gathering/morning tea will be a good opportunity for anyone interested in volunteering, in any of the various ways of support, at Westmead Residential Aged Care.



# Uniting

Dear Uniting Church member,

In Uniting we have over 75 Residential Aged Care homes that provide 24-hour care to thousands of residents across NSW and ACT.

Core to our service delivery are vital volunteers that provide invaluable support to the wellbeing of our residents, through incredible acts of service such as offering friendship; pastoral support; providing help in our logistics for outings; blessing us with their musical abilities and much more.

Since Covid has affected many of our homes, many aged care residents struggle with increasing levels of isolation, particularly if they do not benefit from regular visits from loved ones.

We need your help. We are looking for more volunteers to join this important work and bless our residents and walk alongside them in many ways a service cannot provide. We accept applications to volunteer from all people who want to make a difference, regardless of education, background, or skill set. We have volunteer opportunities available to match a range of interests, skills and availabilities.

If this sounds like you or someone from the community you know, we would love to see you at the morning tea to give more information. We will be in contact with you again to confirm possible dates and times to hold this morning tea.

If you cannot make the morning tea due to short notice, you can contact us at [volunteering@uniting.org](mailto:volunteering@uniting.org) or leave your name and number on the 'Volunteering expressions clipboard' we will leave at your local congregation, and someone will make contact and give you more information. We promise to walk you through the process of volunteering in ways that will make it easier for you.

#### The benefits of volunteering

Volunteering provides a shared opportunity for learning and social connection. Volunteers enjoy getting to know residential aged care residents and engaging with them over shared interests. All you need is a few hours a week.

Volunteer, Eveline, shares "Volunteering gives me an immense sense of purpose. I am bringing my lifetime of experience to attend to other people's needs, and I'm also bringing positivity to people who may find themselves isolated for stretches of time. It gives you the opportunity to make new friends. I would strongly encourage anyone who has spare time, a positive outlook on life, and patience, to experience the fulfillment that volunteering brings."

#### Head Office

ABN 78722 539 923  
Level 4 / 222 Pitt Street  
Sydney NSW 2000  
PO Box A2178

Sydney South NSW 1235  
T 1800 864 846  
E [ask@uniting.org](mailto:ask@uniting.org)

If you are interested in learning more, we would love to see you at the morning tea. You can also contact Uniting's Volunteer team at [volunteering@uniting.org](mailto:volunteering@uniting.org) or Rev Mel Pouvalu, Uniting Church Engagement Leader on 0439 310 031.

Kind regards,



Gail Yap, Uniting Volunteer Lead

Flood Appeal – UCA synod is helping with flood affected individuals as are other organizations - Please see the website or phone for more details: 8267 4382 <https://nswact.uca.org.au/giving/moderators-appeal/>

We hold close in our prayers, Carolyn, Georgie, Bev, May, as well as others who are unwell - May God's love and care be upon you.

## **ACTIVITIES YOU CAN JOIN**

### **ENQUIRIES:**

Chairperson:	Jan Robson	0418 438 901
Administration:	Lorna Porter	0408 365 478
Prayer Chain Requests:	Ruth Geggie	0430 271 205
Technology:	Alysa Biju	<a href="mailto:wesmead@uca.gmail.com">wesmead@uca.gmail.com</a>
Newsletter:	Cheryl Shyam	0432 436 999

Representatives from Parramatta City Uniting Church (PCUC) attended a Parramatta Nepean Presbytery Uniting Church Adult Fellowship gathering at Grantham Heights UC on Saturday, 22 October. The quest speaker at this gathering was Rebecca Andrews, who gave a very interesting and informative talk on 'Building Water Wells in West Papua.'

Rebecca spoke of villages where so many children and adults die from the lack of clean water. The progress to build clean water wells for villages from donated money has been amazing, but many more wells for villages are needed.

Rebecca is a wonderful speaker and we thank her and the many people who were involved in both the planning and presentation of this day.

Further information on 'Building Water Wells in West Papua' is available in the September, 2022 edition of 'Insights.'

<https://www.insights.uca.org.au/clean-water-wells-for-west-papua/>



**Well under construction in West Papua**



**Construction of well completed – and a happy community**

# Leigh Fijian Congregation

**1. Lotu ena macawa oqo 30/10:** Na lotu ena sigatabu oqo eda na lotu cokovata tiko kina na Parramatta City Uniting Church (PCUC). Oqo sa qai matai ni gauna meda lotu vata kina na valenilotu e lima. Na lotu ena tekivu tiko ena 10:00am. Eda na mai vakayagataka vata e so na kakana vakarautaki ni suka na lotu.

**2. Lesoni ni macawa oqo: 30/10 – 06/11:** Apakuki 1:1-4, 2:1-4 Same 119:137-144 2 Cesalonaika 1:1-4, 11-12 Luke 19:1-10

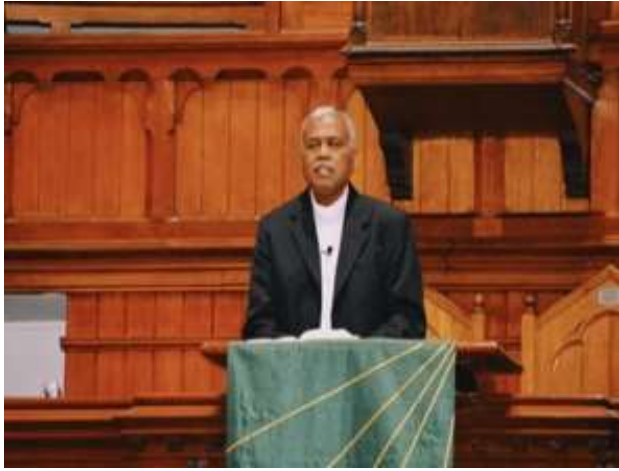
**3.** Sa mai qaravi oti na veidigidigi ni kena vakadonui se sega ni vakadonui meda cokovata na vavakoso e lima ko Leigh Fijian, Leigh Memorial, Northmead, Parramatta Centenary kei Westmead ena sigatabu sa oti 23 Okotava 2022. Lewe levu era sa toqa meda sa cokovata (151 to 7) ka sa nanumi tiko me sa yacana na Parramatta City Uniting Church (PCUC).

**4.** Vakavinavinakataki tikoga na veiyalo yadudua ena veiqaravi ena sigatabu sa oti vua na Vunivola ni Lotu Wesele e Viti kei Rotuma Rev Semisi Turagavou. Totoka na yalovata kei na duavata kei na vavakoso ni tolu Campbelltown, St Mary kei Berala.

**Lolo kei Na masumasu** - Veinanumi ena lolo kei na masumasu ena vei matai ni Vukelulu ena vei vula mai na 6am – 12pm se 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 kei na vuvale ra sotava tiko na dredre ko Mereoni Kamotu, S Qata, Akisi Dovibua Baranski, Dia Allison Lotawa Family Satala Family Tuiloma Family. Ko 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.





# 시드니 조은 교회 Sydney Jo-Eun Church

21-43

성령강림 후 20주일 (20th Pentecost Sunday) 2022년 10월23일    오후 1시30분

개회 찬송 (Entrance Hymn) 예배를 위한 묵상

예배의 부름 (Calling) 인도자

송영 (Gloria)    **새 3 장**    **통 2 장**    **성부 성자와 성령**    다함께

사도신경 신앙고백 (The Apostle's Creed) ..... 다함께

찬양/찬송 (Chorus & Hymns) 다함께

**새 20 장**    **통 41 장**    **큰 영광 중에 계신 주**

**새 250 장**    **통 182 장**    **구주의 십자가 보혈로**

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

성경 봉독 (Scripture Reading) 디도서 2:11-15

말씀(Preaching)- 전현구 목사 은혜 안에서 열심과 직망

봉헌 송(Offeratory Hymn)

**새 310 장**    **통 410장**    **아 하나님의 은혜로**

**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 하나님께서 기뻐하시는 삶을 사는 성도님들이 되시기 바랍니다.

폐회찬송(Final Hymn)

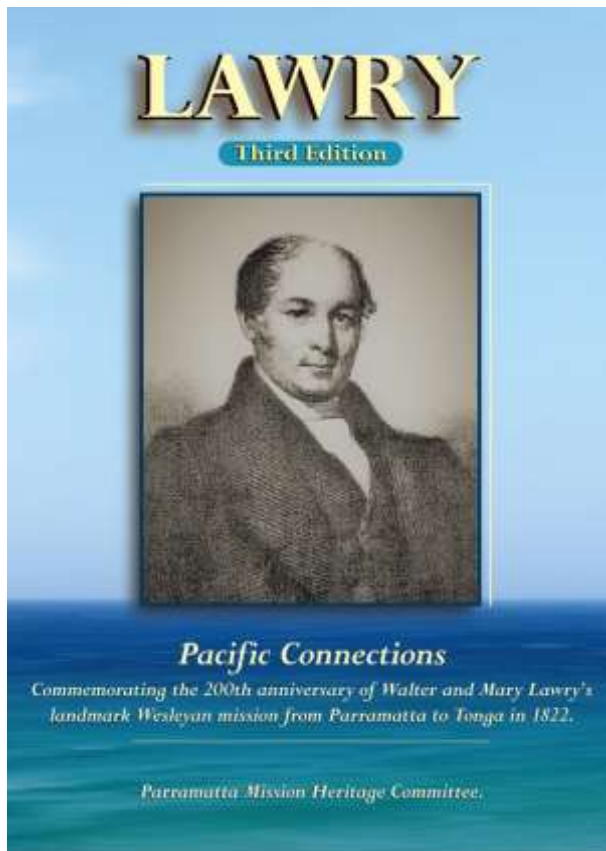
**새501장**    **통 255장**    **너 시온아 이소식 전파하라 (1절)**

축도 전현구 담임목사

QT나눔 & 성경공부  
오후 4:00

수요기도회 : 오후 7시  
사무엘하 22:1-25

새벽기도회 : 오전 5시  
삼하21:1-23:39



**LAWRY: Third Edition – Pacific Connections** is our latest Parramatta Mission Heritage Committee book. It will be on sale this Sunday, 30th October at the Combined PCUC Service at Leigh Memorial Uniting Church @ 10.00am. Cost – \$20 per book (cash only). Not for profit.

The book explores Parramatta Mission's 'Pacific Connections', inc with Fiji, Tonga and New Zealand – plus takes a close look at Rev & Mrs Lawry's landmark mission to Tonga in 1822.

Cover design by Ken Morgan. *Thanks for everyone's ongoing support!*

Enquiries: Liz – [LeighMemorialUniting@gmail.com](mailto:LeighMemorialUniting@gmail.com)



# HUMANITY STARTS WITH CHARITY

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November, Meals  
Plus asks for  
**TOILETRIES**

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(02) 9891 2277



119 Macquarie St, Parramatta NSW 2150

# 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 within the congregation as well as others in hospital or at home unwell – Lord we pray that Your love, care, and healing be upon them.
- For those affected by the flooding both now and in the past months here in Australia – Lord we pray for the salvage efforts. We pray for Your Almighty strength to be bestowed upon them and for Your Holy Spirit to give them hope and encouragement as they face disaster.
- For war torn Ukraine and other countries – Lord we ask for Your mercy and plead for peace to arrive. May those creating war zones be stopped by Your divine intervention.
- For volunteers, aid agencies and those helping in disaster areas both here and overseas, we give thanks, Lord. May You sustain and protect them and allow proper aid to be reached where it is needed most.
- For the homeless, the hungry and thirsty – Lord let the right resources become available to them. May those around them and those in Government reach out to support them.
- For those facing unemployment, rising costs of living or challenges with mental health – Lord we pray for help and a change for the better to their circumstance.

### **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.

### **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).

# Prayer Points

## **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**

**Combined Service at**

**Leigh Memorial Congregation**

**Time: Sunday 10:00am on site & Zoom**

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

**Meeting ID: 519 908 9657**

# Pastoral Contacts

Prayer Points may be sent to  
[wecare@parramattamission.org.au](mailto: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

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## 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



Visit our website and blog [www.parramattamission.org.au](http://www.parramattamission.org.au)