

OUR NEWS

15th January 2023

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
Epiphany 2, 2023
John 1: 29-42

Rev Dr William Loader

So there is a kind of theological politics going on in the passage which could obscure other main features, as theological politics often do. The main feature is Jesus, portrayed here as the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. 'Look, the lamb of God' occurs twice: 1:29 and 35. But what did it mean? It depends what you had for breakfast, so to speak. If you have been feeding on traditional ideas of

messiahship (and they have been on the table since 1:19 in many shapes and sizes and

will continue to dominate for the rest of the chapter) then you might most naturally think of the image of the lamb or sometimes, the ram, who will emerge victorious over God's enemies and drive out sin. The Book of Revelation assumes such associations when it hails Jesus as the lamb, even as the slain lamb (5:6,12). John's gospel uses messianic imagery to underline its message that the Father sent the Son to overcome evil and darkness with light and truth.

Someone coming from thoughts about Jewish sacrifices and feasts might think of the Passover lamb. Those hearing the fourth gospel many times would remember that it alone portrays Jesus as dying at the time when the Passover lambs were killed (18:28; 19:31) and describes his dying in terms which echo Passover imagery (19:29,36). The link would be that Jesus brings an act of deliverance. Others might think of the daily sacrifice or generally of sacrifices, which increasingly came to be interpreted as dealing with sin, though most had other functions originally. Or the ram caught in the thicket might come to mind from Gen 22 and thus provide a link between God's beloved son and Abraham's beloved son, Isaac. If we can guess at the author's intent, I think it was more likely to have been the messianic imagery given what we have heard so far, but perhaps with a hint of the Passover.

Imagery in John is always subordinate to the main theme. The main theme is that in Jesus we are to see and hear the Son whom the Father sent to offer us a relationship which will bring life to us and our world. That is the melody which is played throughout whatever the instrument. Messianic instruments in John reflect their origins in royal courts, but the theme is now the same as from those which have their origin in the lofty traditions of wisdom and the divine word with which the gospel began.



Behold the Lamb of God

There is always a lot happening in John's gospel with multiple meanings and layers of interpretation. But out of the complexity emerges a clear theme. It is in this Jesus that we encounter the being of God in invitation to us to belong. That belonging is not something static but a relationship with an agenda: 'that they might have life and have it in abundance'. Its obverse is also clear: taking away, getting rid of, confronting, disempowering the sin of the world. 'The sin' by definition is what destroys life and relationship. When we let that note linger, we can hear through it not only the cries of the human heart but also the cries of all humanity in the pain of violence, injustice and evil. John's gospel is like that: giving us key central themes of life and light, death and darkness, but we have to unpack them if they are not to remain remote and abstract. The theme of incarnation also becomes our hermeneutical task if we want to rescue John from being relegated to pious trivia and sectarian assurance. Left to itself without the canon this is often its fate.

Foster your faith this week

Is 49:1-7

Ps 40:1-11

1 Cor 1:1-9

Jn 1:29-42

Leigh Memorial Congregation

WORSHIP @ LEIGH MEMORIAL

We look forward to seeing you onsite or via Zoom this Sunday, **15 January**, for combined worship with **Pastor Fil Kamotu** – commencing at 10.00am.



Holiday sketch at Coogee by Tom Roberts (1888), Art Gallery of NSW.

ROCKPOOL

Creator God – in these warm, sandy days of summer,
fill our minds with quietness and sunny restoration;
Lead us to the salty waters of renewal and preparation
and nestle our hearts in the echoing shell of your Spirit;
Wash our anxious souls with waves of gentle relinquishment
and bring us – barefoot and open – to the sheltered rockpool of your love.
(Liz, 15. 01. 2023)

COMBINED LEIGH MEMORIAL & LEIGH FIJIAN WORSHIP

15 January – 10.00am @ Leigh with Pastor Fil

22 January – 10.00am @ Leigh with Rev John

29 January – 10.00am @ Centenary Uniting Church – PCUC Combined Service (ie. there will be NO 9.30am service at Leigh Memorial on the 29th)

PASTORAL MESSAGE

Our warm support remains with members in need of prayer, solace, healing and strength at this time, and everyone who is unwell, needing additional support or receiving medical care. Contact details for the pastoral team (Revs Vladimir & John and Pastors Fil & Sarah) are in the newsletter. The congregation leaders/ worship team can be reached via LeighMemorialUniting@gmail.com

NEW CENTENARY HERITAGE DISPLAY

A new heritage wall display, including restored photos and an information poster, has recently been installed in the foyer at Centenary Uniting. Many thanks to those from the PM/PCUC Heritage Committee and the considerable graphic arts, framing and photo restoration talents of Ken Morgan and his son, Thomas, for facilitating this upgrade. Centenary UC represents the coming together of the three Uniting Church denominational traditions and three local churches: the original Centenary Methodist Church, St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church and St. Peter's Congregational Church. Photos of these churches and key dates in their history are now available at Centenary.

FRIENDSHIP GROUP

Ruth has kindly sent through another lovely photo of the Friendship Group having lunch this week. Everyone looks very happy to be gathering together & welcoming in the new year!



ORDINATION OF REV SAMUELA SADRATA
SATURDAY 7th JANUARY, 2023
LEIGH MEMORIAL UNITING CHURCH

Photos by Mario de Réland







Message from Uniting re transfer of Parramatta Mission services

Just before Christmas I received a letter from Heather Watson, Chair of the Board of Uniting NSW.ACT. Heather said that it was hard to believe that it had now been more than a year since the transition of specialised Parramatta Mission programs to Uniting. These programs were now known as the Uniting Recovery portfolio of services. (This is significant because Uniting Recovery was the name formerly used by us for our Mental Health programs). Heather wanted to take the time to reflect back to us some of the journey that Uniting had undertaken in relation to the services and to celebrate the overall success of the transfer. She also spoke of the ongoing development and evolution of these vital services and noted some of the challenges that had been presented.

Heather said:

We would like to begin by giving thanks to the Parramatta Mission congregation for nurturing such a powerful and impactful suite of services. The many years of dedication and faithful commitment of the Congregation is reflected in not only the delivery and practice of each service, but also the myriad of opportunities that continue to present themselves. These opportunities are based on the well-established history of relationships, impact and success these services have provided over the years within Parramatta Mission. We are humbled to have the opportunity to support and evolve these services moving forward, recognising the efforts of you all. Thank you!"

Heather indicated that the philosophy and values underlying the Mission's services perfectly aligned with Uniting's belief that "everyone deserves to lead a flourishing life: to be physically and psychologically safe and healthy, to develop well, to enjoy their full rights as citizens, and to live in families and communities that promote their wellbeing".

Heather acknowledged the perseverance and commitment of our staff throughout the transition to Uniting, particularly having regard to State-wide lockdowns. She said:

" ... we acknowledge the dedication and commitment of all staff, those that transitioned to Uniting and those that supported the transition. The transition has created shared learnings and development opportunities for Uniting. These learnings are supporting Uniting, as a whole, to continue to develop as both a provider of services for people who require the support of mental health services and as an overarching organisation.

If anyone would like a full copy of Heather's detailed letter, please contact me at david.norris@parramattamission.org.au.

David Norris

Westmead Congregation

Sharing the Hospitality of Jesus Christ

Sunday 8th January 2023, 09.30am On-site

Our worship today will be led by Reverend John Barr. Thank you, Rev., for your leadership today and a very warm welcome to you.

Last week Pastor Sarah gave an uplifting reflection on Epiphany Sunday. "Epiphany is the space and time to stop and pause to ask where God is in our lives. It is a time where we reflect on the manifestation of God in Jesus. As Jesus is baptised by John the Baptist the Trinity becomes evident. Jesus' baptism reflects on our own baptism - through baptism we can receive Jesus' light that we can then shine into a world of darkness. Baptism covers us even if we are lost and are far from God - we are held in the loving kindness of God".

Thank you, Sarah and a very special thank you to Peter Bishop, Sarah's husband who attended to troubleshooting and fixing our sound system.

We remember those who are unwell, and keep Zita in our prayers, who recently lost her dear brother.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY:

Sunday 29th January 2023 – 10.00am Combined PCUC Service will be held at Centenary Uniting Church, 46 Sorrell St, North Parramatta.

ACTIVITIES YOU CAN JOIN:

BIBLE STUDY: In Recess till February 2023, date TBC.

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

TAI CHI:



Will recommence on Friday 27th January 2023, 10am - 11am

at Uniting Westmead, cost has been reduced to \$5 per session.

All welcome to join the group for a fun morning and finish with a nice cuppa at the Uniting Community Café.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

AUSTRALIA DAY HOT AIR BALLOONS FUNDRAISER - Thursday, 26th January 2023

If anyone is able to volunteer for the Mission's Hot Air Balloons fundraiser at Parramatta Park on Australia Day – please have a chat to Robert Key or register directly with Jenny Fuda: jenny.fuda@parramattamission.org.au

ENQUIRIES:

Chairperson: Jan Robson: 0418 438 901

Administration &

Liturgy Co-ordinator: Lorna Porter: 0408 365 478

Prayer Chain Requests: Ruth Geggie 0430 271 205

Newsletter &

Technology: Cheryl Shyam: 0432 436 999

Technology: Alysa Biju: E-mail: westmead.uca@gmail.com



시드니 조은 교회 Sydney Jo-Eun Church

23-03

주현 후 제2주예 (2nd Epiphany of Sunday) 2023년 01월 15일 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 8장 통 9장 기록 기록 기록

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

성경 봉독 (Scripture Reading) 고린도 전서 3:1-9

말씀(Preaching)- 전현구 목사 순례자의 길

봉헌 송(Offertory Hymn) 새 325장 통 359장 예수와 함께 계시니

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 502장 통 259장 너 시온아 이소식 전파하라 (1절)

축도 전현구 담임목사

QT나눔 & 성경공부
오후 4:00

수요기도회 : 오후 7시
민수기 10:11-35

새벽기도회 : 오전 5시
민수기 9:15-마2:12

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

- Those that are unwell, struggling with sickness or are near the end of their life's journey – Lord we ask that you be near to them and pour out Your loving kindness and peace upon them.
- For the people suffering in the war in Ukraine, Afghanistan, Myanmar, Nigeria, Syria and numerous other countries – we ask for Your almighty peace to penetrate and create pockets of safety. May love and respect for humanity return.
- For the women in Iran, Afghanistan, that their rights to education and freedom to dress and express themselves return.
- For the violence against women, broken families, suffering children that carry heavy burdens as they grow – Lord only You know how to heal emotional pain and show the way ahead. Shine Your light.
- For the many that are homeless, those that suffer financial crises, lack of work, and make do with temporary shelters, sleeping in cars – we think and pray for an end to this cycle for them.
- For our government – that it governs our country with the right balance of power and takes heed of the crises of homelessness. May You help guide the government Ministers.

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

Leigh Memorial Congregation

&

Leigh Fijian Congregation

Time: Sunday 10.00am on site & Zoom

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

Meeting ID: 519 908 9657

Westmead Congregation

Time: Sunday 9.30am 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



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