

# OUR NEWS

7th May 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

# BEYOND OUR TRIBAL GODS

Acts 7:55-60; 1 Peter 2:2-10



Rev John Barr

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I can't think of anything more gruesome or brutal than stoning someone to death. It has been a form of capital punishment since time immemorial and is practised in a number of countries around the world even to this day. It happens in fiercely proud communities when people feel they are deeply dishonoured or shamed.

This morning we hear the story of the stoning of Stephen, an early convert to Jesus Christ, who enrages the religious authorities of his day by questioning established traditions.

What we read about Stephen's tragic martyrdom today appears to be a somewhat sanitized version of events. But it doesn't take away the intensity and zeal of what is going on here. Stephen is ruthlessly murdered because he dares to question the ruling establishment of his day.

Now Stephen was an odd sort of person. He was not part of the majority 'in-group' of Jewish converts who spoke the local language of Aramaic and were committed to following Jesus as part of their existing Jewish faith. This included a strict adherence to the Law and a continuing acknowledgement and respect for the Temple.

Stephen was a 'Hellenist' or a foreign-born, Greek-speaking Jew. In this sense Stephen was a bit of an outsider. His experience of the wider world offered him a broader, one might say, more forward-looking vision that went beyond the conservative views of the locals.

Stephen's witness as a follower of Jesus was, therefore, different to those Jerusalem-based converts whose experiences were very much framed within the existing traditions of the day.

With a 'bigger picture' view of things, Stephen challenged the present authorities and he particularly called into the question the role of the Temple which was, according to the religious practises of the day, absolutely sacrosanct as the very dwelling place of God on earth.

Friends, in many ways Stephen represented the first major controversy or, indeed, the first serious dispute that took place among the followers of Jesus. And it was a dispute between a foreign-born, Greek-speaking person of the world - and the local mob whose priority was preserving their identity, maintaining tradition and clearly not rocking the boat.

So, you see, what was going on in the lives of those early followers of Jesus wasn't all that different to the many struggles we face today as a Christian community.

We are no doubt aware of those debates that go on between 'progressives' and 'conservatives', 'liberals' and 'evangelicals'. We may be familiar with some of the 'culture wars' that are taking place when it comes to how we worship. And we probably have come across those disputes that pit the concept of personal sin and the need for individual salvation against an awareness of corporate sin and the need to change the world.

While we are called to be a "People of God", to be the "Body of Christ" in the world, the truth of the matter is that we remain fraught, vulnerable human beings. The church has been, like so any institutions, embroiled in controversies and disputes for centuries. We haven't exactly gone on with stoning people to death. But burning people at the stake was hardly an improvement!

Conservative backlashes in recent times have seen some church leaders request those who support same-sex marriage to "leave the church" while others openly support and promote the ongoing sub-ordination of women.

Meanwhile George Orwell, that great English writer, sends a signal to ardent progressives by warning them against the dangers of an over-reaching, zealous reform. In his political fable called Animal Farm, Orwell reminds us that amiable, very well-intentioned acts that challenge entrenched ways of doing things can, ironically, lead to new forms of oppression if we are not careful.

This leads me to the conclusion that, in the wake of conflict and dispute, human beings, whether they be Christian or otherwise, whether they be 'progressives' or 'conservatives', 'liberals' or "evangelicals", have a real disposition to tribalize.

By 'tribalize' I mean we tend to gravitate towards those people and places which share our particular values and beliefs. In other words, it's quite natural to form 'progressive' or 'conservative' camps. It's pretty normal to identify with a group of like-minded people. It's rather commonplace to form an 'us' and 'them' mentality which serves to justify what is important to us and to then distance or even demonise those whose views are different.

This happens with the rise of fundamentalism. And we see it in so many places around the world today.

Fundamentalism often comes out of a real sense of insecurity and a fear of the world. It arises when people yearn for defined, absolute answers to what are puzzling, complex issues.

Sadly, this is how the Bible is sometimes read – as a textbook that has all answers neatly defined and ready to go without any effort to carefully discern, interpret or apply.

But it's not only conservatives who tribalize. Researchers tell us this is a universal human trait. Those on the progressive spectrum are also vulnerable.

We are all vulnerable.

One of my favourite authors is the contemporary American writer, Marilynne Robinson. Marilynne writes out of a profound Christian faith. She is highly respected in literary circles and has won a number of awards including the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction.

In her essay "Wondrous Love" Marilynne Robinson refers to what she calls a form of "tribalism" that reduces God to a "tribal deity".

We are all prone to doing this from time to time. It puts us into 'theological straightjackets'. Here dogmatic assertions or feisty manifestos can dominate and drive us

as we try to make God into what serves our purpose.

I find that, in my own life and in my ministry, I need to be constantly aware of this, lest I fall into what really becomes a kind of idolatry.

Whether we are on the 'right' or the 'left', the 'conservative' or the 'progressive' – we all need to take heed.

I say this because the kind of 'tribalism' Marilynne Robinson talks about can belittle the Christian life. Faith risks becoming an opinion piece, an ideological hangup or a convenient defence mechanism.

Such tribalism, I believe, turns the church inwards. We become pre-occupied with ourselves, with our particular 'positions' or pre-disposed stands on issues. Meanwhile seeds of disunity are sown as we define who we are by setting ourselves over and against others.

Such tribalism, I fear, fails to reflect the true character of Christ. Rather, it mirrors the world with its divisive social cliques and competing political camps that speak more about the "spirit of the age" than the "Spirit of God".

Marilynne Robinson writes in the context of the culture-wars that are raging in the United States at present. These can be pretty intense and nasty at present - and the Christian community – on the 'right' and the 'left', the 'conservative' and the 'progressive' – seem to be in the thick of it.

With these things in mind, Marilynne Robinson reminds us of the heritage, the truth and the reality to which we all belong. And this is a heritage, a truth and a reality that embraces *"the wondrous love of God"*.

This is a heritage, a truth and a reality that speaks of an unconditional love, a generosity of spirit and a calling to live lives that are wholesome, just and peaceful.

This is a heritage, a truth and a reality that is always open to others, where one experiences a deep sense of well-being and a willingness to trust God rather than succumb to the whims of personal anxieties or the impulse to feed long-standing aspirations.

This is a heritage, a truth and reality that, in Marilynne Robinson's words: *"are too great a narrative to be reduced to serving any parochial interest."*

And may I add to this by returning to our text today.

As Stephen faces the wrath of those he has offended, we read that he was *"filled with the Holy Spirit"*, that he *"gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God"* (Acts 7:55).

This is rather colourful religious language that speaks about Stephen opening his life to an experience greater than himself.

This is a sacred story which says Stephen courageously lets his guard down as he dismisses personal prejudices, as he sidesteps devout agendas and as he goes beyond whatever may serve his purpose to allow the awesome, wondrous, majestic presence of God fill and direct his life.

Friends, I believe it's true that Stephen remained a radical. It's true Stephen was most likely a true 'progressive' of his time. But he saw beyond this. Stephen embraced a bigger vision – a vision that Marilynne Robinson so beautifully articulates in those words: *"the wondrous love of God"*.

So, you see, Stephen wasn't simply having a crack at the conservatives. Nor was he just waving the flag for his particular faction.

Friends, I believe Stephen stepped out, indeed Stephen got himself killed, because of an honest, open, passionate encounter with the God who calls us all into a community of faith that is gracious, loving and open to the other.

No matter whether our tendencies are to the 'right' or to 'left', to 'conservative' or 'progressive', we are called to move beyond our tribal gods. We are urged to lay aside those self-serving deities to be, as the Apostle Peter so eloquently proclaims:

*“a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.”*  
(1 Peter 2:9).

This means no more 'stoning to death', no more 'burning at the stake', no more scorn or ridicule, no more self-justification or demonising of those with whom we don't agree.

Friends, our calling to follow Jesus is far more important than this.

For we are the church – the “People of God”, the “Body of Christ” – and this outstrips any need, on our behalf, to defend our personal views. This exceeds any urge to label, caricature or stereotype others. This surpasses any yearning to make God into our likeness or pursue a God who serves our own particular purposes.

In a world crying out for healing and for hope lets, no matter where we stand on the theological scale or where choose to be on the spectrum of ideas, passions, commitments or political persuasions, open ourselves to the leading of the Spirit.

Let us reflect the true glory of God - in who we are - and in everything we do!

Amen.

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# Marilynne Robinson: “Wondrous Love” – essay in Marilynne Robinson: When I Was a Child I Read Books, Virago, London 2012, pp. 125-141

***Foster your faith this week***

Acts 7:55-60      Ps 31:1-5, 15-16

1 Pt 2:2-10      Jn 14:1-14

**Induction of Rev Geoff Smith**  
**Team Leader: Parramatta City Uniting Church**  
**@ The Centre for Ministry - 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2023**

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# Leigh Memorial Congregation

## **THIS SUNDAY – 7 MAY**

This **Sunday, 7 May**, we'll be gathering for worship Onsite + Zoom at Leigh Memorial at **9.30am** with **Rev Geoff Smith**, inc. Communion. Please join us for morning tea following the service. All welcome!

## **WORSHIP ARRANGEMENTS: MAY**

**Sunday 14 May** – Worship @ 9.30am – inc. Mothers' Day morning tea.

**Sundays 21 & 28 May** – Worship @ 9.30am. Further details to be advised.

## **INDUCTION SERVICE - THANK YOU**

"Many thanks" to the VSAG team & everyone from our PCUC worship communities who assisted at Geoff's Induction service last Sunday – including those who represented Leigh Memorial in some of the afternoon's presentations and other efforts. During the service, Geoff was officially inducted as Team Leader of the Parramatta City Uniting Church. Over 130 people were in attendance at the CFM, inc. a number of Geoff's previous Galston congregation members, and the event concluded with a lovely afternoon tea and plenty of conversation! Photos from the service are included in this newsletter.

## **PASTORAL MESSAGE**

Our thoughts and prayers remain with those in our worship community who are unwell at the present time or facing other challenges. Contact details for the ministry team (Rev Geoff Smith, Rev John, Pastor Fil & Pastor Sarah) are in the newsletter. For assistance from the leaders' team, please contact:

[LeighMemorialUniting@gmail.com](mailto:LeighMemorialUniting@gmail.com)

## **HASSALL FAMILY REUNION**

This weekend, the Hassall family will be having a large reunion in Parramatta, marking 225 years since Rowland and Elizabeth Hassall arrived and established a home on George Street. One of their daughters, Mary Hassall, who was born in Parramatta, went on to marry Rev Walter Lawry – the second of Parramatta Mission's earliest ministers. Rev Lawry arrived in Parramatta from Cornwall in 1818 and it was he and Mary who commenced the first Wesleyan Methodist Chapel and Sunday School at our Macquarie Street site in 1821 – largely using Mary's marriage dowry to fund the project. An offer has been made to the Hassall family to visit Leigh Memorial while they're in the city - and to have a tour of the Walter Lawry Memorial Park at North Parramatta.

The Heritage Committee conducted a PCUC tour of Lawry Park last year, and a tour of St. John's Cemetery for members of the PCUC (inc. historic gravesites relevant to the Leighs, Lawrys, Hassalls and Marsdens) is currently in the planning. Details to be advised. NB: Further information about the history of the Lawrys & Hassalls can be accessed via the following online essay: <https://stjohnsonline.org/bio/elizabeth-lawry/>

### **SECURITY IN THE CHURCH**

Members are reminded to check that they have securely locked the church (front, side and rear doors) – and the Fellowship Centre – before they leave. Appliances also need to be turned off and additional rubbish removed. Many thanks for everyone's support & please report any concerns.

### **MARKET DAY – PITT TOWN UNITING CHURCH**

Reminder: On **Saturday 20 May** between 9.00am and 2.00pm, Pitt Town Uniting Church will be holding a special market day/ fete to raise funds for fresh water wells in Papua New Guinea. For further information, please see the designated website: <https://www.wpcdc.org.au/>

### **CORONATION MUSIC: 'ZADOK THE PRIEST'**



This Saturday 6 May, Britain and the Commonwealth will witness the coronation of **King Charles III and Queen Camilla** at Westminster Abbey. The coronation is an Anglican service steeped in sacred traditions and includes various, time-honoured prayers and Christian songs, including a rendition of the famous coronation anthem, 'Zadok the Priest' (composed by George Frideric Handel and first played at the coronation of King George II in 1727). Handel based his composition

(one of a set of coronation anthems) on Zadok's holy anointing of King Solomon in the first chapter of 1 Kings in the Old Testament. The lyrics of the anthem include the words: "Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet anointed Solomon king. And all the people rejoiced and said, "God Save the King! Long Live the King! May the King live forever! Amen! Amen! Alleluia!" Painting: 'The Anointing of Solomon' by Cornelis de Vos (1629) (Public Domain).

## PHOTO ARCHIVE: CORONATION OF 1902

One of the oldest photos in the Parramatta Mission Archival Collection is from 1902 (pictured). It depicts Leigh Memorial decorated for the **coronation of King Edward VII and Queen Alexandra**, which took place following the death of Edward's mother, Queen Victoria. In the photo, the church's sanctuary is seen draped in flags, including two, very large Australian naval flags hanging from either side of the high pulpit. Also placed at the top of the pulpit are framed photos of the King and Queen and two large replica crowns. Such tributes were typical of an era in when the Methodist Church in Australia expressed a strong allegiance to the British Empire. Another point of interest is that the photo shows Leigh Memorial prior to the large-scale renovations of 1905 – which resulted in a lowering of the gallery, pulpit and roof, and a re-configuring of the choir stalls in front of the organ.



© Parramatta Mission Archival Collection.

## UNITINGWORLD SUNDAY' – 7 MAY

UnitingWorld says the following: “We’re launching a new initiative called ‘UnitingWorld Sunday’ to help churches deepen relationships with our global partners and celebrate all that we do together. The funds you raise will make a big difference in the lives of our global neighbours!” ***To acknowledge ‘UnitingWorld Sunday’, members of all our worship communities are invited to access various resources – and/or make a donation via the website on 7 May or at any time in the coming weeks, as able.*** For further information about the efforts of UnitingWorld in various global communities experiencing hardship, please check the website and/or consider making a one-off or regular donation:

<https://donate.unitingworld.org.au/sunday/sunday-resources>



# Westmead Congregation

## Sharing the Hospitality of Jesus Christ

**Sunday 7 May 2023, 9.30am**

This morning we welcome Pastor Sarah Bishop, who will be leading us in our Holy Communion Service.

For any visitors, please stay and have morning tea with us.

We thank Sue and Georgie for warmly providing us hot coffee/tea and biscuits after worship. It is always good to get together and share a chat.

### **Induction Service for Rev. Geoff Smith 30th April, 2023**

What a wonderful afternoon it was on Sunday, when many people from the PCUC, Parramatta City Uniting Church attended for the Induction service for Rev. Geoff Smith.

There were many people who also came from the Galston congregation to wish Geoff well and to share the service with him, even though parting was a little difficult for Galston and Geoff, as they had shared eleven years of working together and great friendships were formed.

There was a sense of excitement as everyone gathered, filling the chapel area at the Centre for Ministry, each of the congregations participated in some way, with prayers, and bible readings, presentations of symbols of ministry, Presbytery ministers and representatives also participated.

There was wonderful singing led by the Fijian choir, and the music was led by Pastor Fil Kamotu and Alan O'Reilly.

Rev. Geoff is now officially the Lead minister of Parramatta City Uniting Church, of which we are all a part. We look forward as we journey together into the future, and we pray for Geoff's ministry, leadership and wellbeing.

Thank you to all who prepared and organised this service, and the many who contributed to the afternoon tea, and many other duties.

### **WESTMEAD WORSHIP: MAY 2023.**

**7 May:** Pastor Sarah Bishop

**14 May:** Rev. John Barr

**21 May:** Rev. Rev Vladimir Korotkov/Rev. Geoff Smith

**28 May:** Pastor Sarah Bishop

**BIBLE STUDY:** Each Monday at 2.00pm

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

The next issue of 'With Love to the World' (15 May- 13 August) has arrived and is available @ \$5 per copy.

See Lorna or contact on 0408 365 478.



**DIARY DATES:**

**Wednesday, 17 May 2023 – Bus Mystery Tour**

A bus trip is planned for the Westmead congregation and interested PCUC members.

There are 13 seats available in the church bus, so if you would like to be included in an enjoyable day together please contact Lorna - 0408 365 478.



**Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> May 2023 – 9.00am – 2.00pm**

**Market Day at Pitt Town Uniting Church, Bathurst Street, Pitt Town.**

The Market Day is being held to raise further funds for the building of freshwater wells in West Papua.

A vibrant, multi-colored poster for a community event. At the top, it says 'PITT TOWN'S MASSIVE' in large, multi-colored letters. Below that, 'MARKET DAY &amp; GARAGE SALE' and 'SATURDAY MAY 20' are prominently displayed. The location and time are 'At the Uniting Church, Bathurst St. 9AM-2PM'. Several speech bubble callouts list activities: 'BOOKS, PLANTS &amp; CAKES', 'FREE STALLS' (with subtext about booking spots and profit), 'LIVE MUSIC &amp; SINGING', 'TEA &amp; COFFEE', 'PLUS LOTS MORE', and 'HUGE FRUIT &amp; VEG STALL'. A Facebook logo is in the top right. At the bottom, a red banner states 'OUR MISSION IS TO RAISE FUNDS FOR CLEAN WATER WELLS IN WEST PAPUA!' and contact information is provided.

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# MORNING MEDITATION

*with* Campfire in the Heart

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**Winter Time change!**  
**3 April 2023 - 29 Sept 2023**



**Meditation:**

NSW: 7:45-8:20am

QLD: 7:45-8:20am

TAS: 7:45-8:20am

NT/SA: 7:15-7:50am

Each weekday morning.

Campfire in the Heart zoom:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7794705793?  
pwd=RmJKNm5lcVdXekVXRm5XdjBhcXA3Zz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7794705793?pwd=RmJKNm5lcVdXekVXRm5XdjBhcXA3Zz09)

Meeting ID: 779 470 5793

Passcode: welcome

Any questions: Sarah Bishop  
[sarah@bluetardis.com.au](mailto:sarah@bluetardis.com.au)  
0412 606049

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you are also welcome to join:

**Campfire in the Heart**

*Morning Prayers*

**Morning Prayer:**

NSW - 7:00-7:30am

QLD - 7:00-7:30am

TAS - 7:00-7:30am

NT/SA - 6:30-7:00am

We follow the lectionary ([https://universals.com/1000/  
mass.htm](https://universals.com/1000/mass.htm)) and also the Rule of St Benedict on Fridays.

The basic format is: Thanksgiving, Reading and sharing  
around the scriptures of the day, prayers for the world.

You can participate either by sharing or listening or both.

# 시드니 조은 교회 Sydney Jo-Eun Church

23-17

부활후 세 번째 주일 (3rd Easter of Sunday) 2023년 05월 07일 오후 1시30분

개회 찬송 (Entrance Hymn) 왕이신 나의 하나님 다함께

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 25장 통 25장 면류관 벗어서

기도 (Prayer) 주기도문송 636 하늘에 계신 우리 아버지 다함께

성경 봉독 (Scripture Reading) 빌립보서 3:7-11

말씀(Preaching)- 전현구 목사 나의 선택, 나의 길

봉헌 송(Offertory Hymn) 새 458장 통 513장 너희 마음에 슬픔이 가득할

### 나눔과 알림 (Announcement & Notices)

1. 시드니 조은교회에 오신 여러분을 주님의 이름으로 환영합니다.
3. '매일성경' 목상과 '공동체성경읽기' 통독으로 말씀을 적용하며 매일 주님과 동행하는 삶 살아가시길 바랍니다
4. 어려움을 겪는 이웃들을 위해 함께 중보기도 해주시기 바랍니다.
5. 하나님의 기쁨인 전도사명에 동참하시길 부탁드립니다.

폐회찬송(Final Hymn) 새501장 통 255장 너 시온아 이소식 전파하라 (1절)

축도 전 현구 목사

QT나눔 & 성경공부  
오후4:00

수요기도회: 오후 7시  
민수기 26:1-51

새벽기도회: 오전 6시  
민수기 24:10-27:23

# Leigh Fijian Congregation

1. mai vakaitavi o talatala Geoff vei kedatou na vavakoso vakaviti. Eda na vakasigalevu vata tiko ni suka na lotu ena hall. Na veiqaravi tiko kina na soqosoqo ni mataveitokani. Vunau vakarau Pastor Filikesa Kamotu. Na qaravi tale tiko ga na sakaramede ni vakayakavi ni Turaga, rau na tuirara ni sakaramede ko Pastor Filikesa Kamotu kei Sikeli Duwai.
2. **Lotu ena macawa mai oqo 14/05:** Na sigatabu mai oqo na sigatabu ni tina. Era na vakaitavi tiko kina o ira na marama.
3. **Lesoni ni macawa oqo 1/05 – 7/05:** Cakacaka 7:55-60 Same 31:1-5, 15-16 Pita 2:2-10 Joni 14:1-14
3. **Lesoni ni macawa mai oqo 08/05 – 14/05:** Cakacaka 17:22-31 Same 66:8-20 1 Pita 3:13-22 Joni 14:15-21

**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. 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. Me nanumi na FNC ni tou na veiwaseitaka na veiqaravi kei na tolu na valelotu. Ena qaravi tiko na FNC ena Okotova ni yabaki mai oqo 2024.

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

Commemorating NSW Youth Week 2023. UCA Fijian Youth in Sydney celebrate with a BBQ and indoor sport at Parramatta Centenary Uniting Church on the 29<sup>th</sup> of April and a church service at Campbelltown on 30<sup>th</sup> of April.



# 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 especially in our hearts and congregations that are ill or are battling severe health conditions – We especially pray for strength for family members as they care for their loved ones and wait in hope.
- For doctors, nurses and other health care professionals – Lord we ask that You provide renewed strength and wisdom each day that they may be able to serve well. May You bless them with hope, energy, and love.
- For the arrival of peace in Ukraine and other war-torn countries in the world – We pray especially for the poorer nations that are being affected by the war in Ukraine.
- Those who are facing conflicting decisions in life, those facing mental health challenges and those that are unheard – We pray that You may provide comfort, guidance and understanding.
- For the homeless, hungry and thirsty and for those who encounter instability in their homes due to poverty, financial hardship, abuse – Lord grant Your light to shine through to them that they may see respite and be given hope and joy.

### **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 members who are unwell, and those experiencing anxiety and grief.
- We prayerfully support those in our local communities who need additional care and support at this time, including people experiencing hunger, homelessness, addiction, family crisis and loneliness, in addition to those who assist them – such as devoted care-givers, nurses, doctors, community support teams and emergency workers;
- We pray for wisdom and inspiration to infuse all current and forthcoming decision-making processes and actions by our dedicated ministry team, leaders, managers and staff – and specifically pray for Paul and the team at Meals Plus, Cameron and the team at Westmead and for the life, witness and outreach work being conducted by our fellow Parramatta Mission & Parramatta City Uniting Church communities;
- We pray for greater mutual respect, compassion and peace throughout the world, and for the realisation of an international spirit of inclusion, acceptance 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 Geoff Smith, 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**

### **Leigh Fijian Congregation**

**Time: Sundays 11.15am on site**

# 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 Lead Minister Geoff Smith for any pastoral needs.

Rev Geoff Smith (Lead Minister)	0407 416 377
Rev Vladimir Korotkov (Transition Minister)	0431 759 573
Rev John Barr	0400 694 540
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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