

# OUR NEWS

3 September 2023



Parramatta City Uniting Church  
inc. Parramatta Mission, with its values of *Grace,*  
*Inclusion, Dignity, Faith & Hope.*



Parramatta City Uniting Church acknowledges that we worship, work, witness and serve on the land of traditional owners, the Burramattagal clan of the Darug people. We pay respect to the original custodians of the land, and acknowledge elders past and present, and emerging leaders.

# PARRAMATTA CITY UNITING CHURCH

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> September – Exodus 1:8-2:10**

**“But they let the boys live”**

**Rev John Barr**



Living in the Blue Mountains, I marvel at the splendour of the world heritage bushland that surrounds me. Just at the end of my street, about five minutes walk away, I am gifted with a stunning view over the Jamison Valley towards Mount Solitary. I love to go there in the late afternoon as the rugged sandstone cliffs are bathed in the rays of the setting sun. Here they radiate a golden glow across the pristine wilderness. It's an amazing, awesome scene that truly lifts my spirit.

But unlike the woodlands of Europe or even the forests of South-East Asia, the Australian bush can be a hostile, forbidding place. Migrant populations to this county (and this includes people of my heritage) have lived somewhat awkwardly with the Australian environment. We have tried to tame, subdue and conquer it - to no avail. Early European settlers misread it, so often becoming victims to its harshness, to its many unpredictable moods and its sheer, primeval intransigence.

One of those who highlight such a struggle is the writer, Henry Lawson. In his short story, “The Drover’s Wife”, Lawson portrays a picture of isolation, vulnerability and fear as a woman cares for her children in a remote part of western NSW. Her husband is absent and, alone with her (in Lawson’s own words): “four ragged, dried-up-looking children”, this woman battles loneliness, the bitter forces of nature and the constant threat of a hostile, unforgiving environment.

Lawson’s story struck a chord and today it’s regarded as a classic in the offering of Colonial Australian literature.

I believe there is an inherent fear among many European migrants to this land. Australia is a far-off place. Indeed, the term “down-under” suggests we are a long way from anywhere. White Australian attitudes have often been imbued with the idea that we are far flung bastion of European civilisation in a sea of Asian nations that are totally foreign and ever threatening to us. Because of this we have been labelled as “the frightened country” - fearful of those to our immediate north and fearful of the very land we occupy.

Many years ago, the foreign minister of nearby Asian neighbour added to this fear by suggesting Australia is the “appendix of the world” – “no one knows what it does or why it is there, and no-one would miss it if it was removed”. Then a few years later the then Prime Minister, Paul Keating, described Australia as “the arse-end of the world”!

Fear involves a real sense of distress, alarm and dread where one feels confronted by something threatening or foreboding. Fear is a reaction to circumstances we cannot control, to situations that we do not understand or to matters that threaten our wellbeing and livelihood. Fear can be very real to the point that it inhibits us, paralyses us and leaves us mute and ineffective.

One commentator says fear can be a helpful thing because it can keep us from harm. But mostly it's a barrier that keeps us "stuck" (Henrik Edberg, 2022). Here fear can make our dreams impossible. Fear can inhibit and even undermine our potential. Fear can prevent us from being proactive and making a difference.

So, you see, fear leaves us powerless, inept and impotent. Fear imprisons us in the status-quo. With fear at the helm, there is little to anticipate, there is nothing new to be embraced, there is no hope for the future.

But this is only one reading of "fear". There is another.

Fear can also refer to reverence, awe, honour and respect. This is an entirely different reading to the one I have just highlighted. To fear the Australian landscape may well involve being threatened, put at risk or endangered. But it can also mean to revere, to stand in awe of, to value, to appreciate and hold in the highest esteem.

In contrast to many European settlers, this is sense that First Nations people hold towards the land – and it's something we desperately need to learn. Moreover, this understanding of fear is prominent in the Biblical text. Take the story of those two midwives, Shiphrah and Puah, for instance as we read it in the Book of Exodus.

Pharaoh, was the all-powerful ruler of Egypt. He was a demi-god, to be taken very seriously and obeyed without question on every occasion. Pharaoh had the power of life and death over his subjects – and the Hebrews were no exception.

In our story today Pharaoh is threatened by his Hebrew slaves. Their numbers are increasing, and they must be subdued. So, in an effort to satisfy his concern, Pharaoh orders the Hebrew midwives to kill all the boys who are born to Hebrew mothers.

But the text of Exodus tells us these Hebrew midwives defy Pharaoh. They "let the boys live" – and why did they do so? They did so because they "feared God" (Exodus 1:17).

You see, the midwives, Shiphrah and Puah, contested Pharaoh. They stood their ground against this demi-god by refusing to kill the Hebrew boys. While Pharaoh may have been frightening in a daunting, perturbing, threatening way, and while Shiphrah and Puah's lives may have subsequently been in peril or at risk, these midwives chose to act in this way because they stood in awe of God. They revered and respected God. They truly honoured God.

This is what mattered most!

And you know, because of the midwives' awe, reverence and respect for God, the Hebrews were gifted a future. Because the midwives honoured God above all other things, the demise, indeed, the genocide of a people was thwarted. Because those midwives "feared God" in the truest and most authentic way, a pressing nightmare was triumphed by a genuine hope.





## **Notice of congregational meeting - 24 September 2023**

On 24 September 2023 there will be a PCUC combined service at Leigh Memorial commencing at 10am, to be followed by a congregational meeting and lunch. The purpose of the congregational meeting is for members and members-in-association to:

- Appoint a congregation chairperson (or two co-chairs) and secretary
- Elect up to 20 elders (who we will call “leaders”)
- Elect up to 6 church councillors
- Approve a charter for the new PCUC Council.

A nomination form is included in this newsletter. If you wish to nominate yourself, or another person (with their consent), as a leader and/or a church councillor you may hand a completed nomination form to Fiona Bennetts, Robert Key or David Norris at Leigh Memorial, Sosi Toa as Leigh Fijian, Stuart Elliott or Ken Murray at Northmead or Jan Robson at Westmead. Both you, and the person nominated, need to be a member or member-in-association of PCUC.

You may alternatively send a nomination by email to the meeting’s returning officer, Robert Key, at [robert.key@parramattamission.org.au](mailto:robert.key@parramattamission.org.au).

Nominations must be submitted by 3 September 2023 and a list of nominees will be made available to the congregation by 10 September 2023.

We encourage you to discuss this opportunity with people you think would be suitable for these roles, and encourage them to nominate, or to accept your nomination of them.

### **Leader**

The role of a leader (also known as an elder) is to assist ministers in nurturing members of the congregation, to help plan and take part in services and other

activities of the congregation, and to participate in meetings of the Congregation Leadership Team, which exercises delegated responsibilities from the PCUC Council in relation to congregational and pastoral matters. It is recognised that leaders will have a range of different skills and gifts they may bring to the role.

### **Church councillor**

The Church Council is the primary governance body of PCUC. It has responsibility for financial and property matters, and general oversight of PCUC. Thus, church councillors might be expected to have gifts or skills in relation to financial, management, legal, property, business or related matters, or generally have good analytical skills.

More detailed role descriptions, and a copy of the draft PCUC Council charter, are attached to email versions of this notice, and will be available at all worship services until 3 September 2023.

### **Chairpersons and Secretary of congregation**

Slightly different procedures will apply to the appointment of Chairperson/s and Secretary of the Congregation. The PCUC Council and Congregation Leadership Team have proposed Stuart Elliott and Bruce Bennetts to be co-chairs and Liz de Reland to be Secretary, for a period of 12 months. Other nominations will be invited at the meeting but there is no requirement to lodge nominations prior to the meeting.

As with the election of leader and church councillor, the appointment to these roles will require an affirmative majority vote by the congregation.

## PCUC Congregational meeting - Nomination Form

I ..... , hereby nominate myself/.....

to be (tick either or both):

- a leader of the congregation
- a member of the PCUC Council

for a period of 12 months from today.

**Signed:**

**your contact telephone number and/or email:**

Note:

1. Both the nominee and the person nominated must be a member or member-in-association of Parramatta City Uniting Church;
2. If you are nominating another person, that person must have consented to being nominated for the relevant role/s



*Join us!*

# Penrith Uniting Church Fete

*Hosted on our grounds at Castlereagh Conference Centre*

*What's happening*

- Start your early Christmas shopping and buy from a range of local and handmade market stalls
- Raising money for a new rose garden & columbarium
- The reprint of "John Lees The Chapel Builder" book, with new forewords by Jillian Critchley daughter of Merle Kavanagh and Rev Noreen Towers minister at Castlereagh will be available for purchase
- Purchase & Donate a plant towards our new labyrinth garden
- Enjoy a Sausage sizzle lunch and Devonshire Tea
- Explore our beautiful grounds, venue and accommodation

**Saturday | 7 October, 2023 | 9:00am – 15:00pm**

**7 October  
2023**



## **FUNDRAISER**

Sausage Sizzle & Devonshire Tea

## **STALLS**

Variety of local & handmade Products Stalls

## **VENUE OPEN TO PUBLIC**

Walk around the historic & heritage listed site

**Come and support local small businesses**

**Location: 297-305 Old Castlereagh Rd Castlereagh**

# Leigh Memorial

## **WELCOME TO WORSHIP – ‘HOLDING SPACE FOR HOPE’ SUNDAY**

Welcome to Spring – and we look forward to seeing everyone at Leigh this **Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> September @ 9.30am** (Onsite + Zoom) with **Rev John Barr**. All welcome.

## **HAPPY FATHERS’ DAY!**

Blessings for all our Dads, grandfathers – and great-grandfathers – on this very special Fathers’ Day! We hope that everyone has a happy celebration and some cherished, quality time with their families. We also fondly remember the dearly loved Dads and Grandads who are no longer with us, but who remain firmly in our hearts – and all those who have been dedicated and caring ‘father-figures’ in our lives. “Good on you” & lots of love to our Dads!!

## **PASTORAL NEWS**

Our warmest prayers remain with all those in our worship community who are grieving, unwell, in hospital, recovering from surgery or facing other significant challenges at this time. We are thinking of all of you. We also continue to pray for Leigh Fijian, the Fijian community in Sydney and the family and friends of **Rev Veitinia Waqabaca**, whose funeral will be taking place at Leigh Memorial Uniting Church at 9.30am on Friday 1 September. Leigh Memorial Zoom will be available for the funeral: Meeting ID – 519 908 9657. Please note that there will be no congregation parking available onsite on the day. Details for the ministry team are in the newsletter. Congregation enquiries:

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

## **FOOTPATH UPGRADE**

As many members are already aware, the footpath outside Leigh Memorial is in the middle of some renovations. New pavers are in the process of being laid this week, so the current disruption is only temporary. Similar work on other parts of the footpath, street and driveway will continue in stages, so we’ll keep everyone posted as needed. Please contact the leaders with any queries.

## **FEEDBACK – WINTER CLASSICS CONCERT**

Thanks very much again to everyone who supported the Winter Classics Concert at Leigh Memorial on 20 August – which raised over \$3,500.00 for Parramatta Mission. Our event team gave it their all – and everyone’s efforts were greatly appreciated. Following is one of a number of encouraging comments emailed to the Mission and ourselves over the past week, and/or posted to the Sydney Organs Group’s Facebook page: *“I wanted to let you know how much I enjoyed the concert last Sunday. I was made to feel very welcome as a first-time visitor to your lovely Church!” – Jeannine, Epping.*

## **INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE – INTERFAITH PRAYER SERVICE**

This wonderful, annual peace gathering will take place on **Thursday 21 September** from 11.00am at **Knox Grammar School Cultural Centre, Wahroonga** – followed by a vegetarian lunch. Keynote speaker will be

Moderator, Rev Simon Hansford. RSVPs are required – please contact Wahroonga UC minister and the event’s coordinator, Rev Dr Manas Ghosh via [revmanasghosh@gmail.com](mailto:revmanasghosh@gmail.com)

### **CONGREGATION MEETING NOTICE**

On **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> September from 10.00am**, a Combined PCUC service, PCUC Congregation Meeting & Lunch will take place at Leigh Memorial Church. At the meeting, voting will take place for Chairperson and Secretary of the congregation, and members of the congregation leaders’ team & the PCUC Council. Please check the newsletter for further information. Nomination forms are available in the church – or please speak with David for further assistance.

**Sunday 3 September is the nominations deadline.** **Important:** Due to Uniting Church regulations, only those physically present onsite at Leigh Memorial on 24/9 will be permitted to vote. NB: Helpers will be needed for the combined lunch after the meeting. If you’re able to assist, please speak with Liz or Fiona.

### **‘MESSY PLAYGROUP’ and ENGLISH CONVERSATION CLASSES**

Centenary UC is a hive of activity each week with various bookings, including a Children’s Playgroup continuing to take place on Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays from 10am – Noon, and English Conversation classes taking place on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10am to Noon. Please pass the word on these wonderful community programs Enquiries may be sent to Community Worker, Ms Sunhee Song: [community@centenaryunitingchurch.org.au](mailto:community@centenaryunitingchurch.org.au)

### **SAFE CHURCH TRAINING**

Training in Safe Church awareness is crucial for all leaders within the UCA and all members dealing with children, the elderly and other vulnerable people. The next workshop in our area is being held at Auburn UC on Saturday 2 September. See the Safe Church website for further workshops and other details: <https://www.nswact.uca.org.au/shared-services/safe-church-unit/safe-church-training/>

### **CONFERENCE REPORT: UCA NATIONAL HISTORY SOCIETY**

The biennial Uniting Church National History Society Conference – **‘Truth Telling: Colonising to Covenanting’** took place in **Darwin between 24 and 26 August**. Liz represented the PCUC at the Conference, attending via Zoom. Following is Liz’s report:

The Conference was a valuable and enlightening experience, with 70 attendees from across Australia converging on Darwin Uniting Church and Nungalinga College, inc. a large cohort participating via Zoom. All the sessions were informative and thought-provoking, and included a wide range of presentations from both First and Second Peoples. One presentation that particularly remained with me was that given by Rev Emily Hayes of the John Flynn Memorial Uniting Church in Alice Springs. Emily has lived and served in Alice Springs for 14 years and her talk was based on her Flinders University Masters thesis, **‘John Flynn and Charles Duguid: Contested Narratives of the Inland.’** Emily’s research highlights increasingly divergent views and significant debate in relation to Presbyterian minister John Flynn’s famed 20<sup>th</sup> century

efforts to establish both the Flying Doctor service and the Australian Inland Mission (now the UCA's 'Frontier Services'). Although a 'hero' of Australian folklore, Flynn's attitude and interactions with Aboriginal people have come under increasing scrutiny. He and many other Uniting Church historical figures had benevolent intentions, but nonetheless contributed to damaging impacts on the lives and future outlook of Australia's First Peoples.

This, and associated matters of conscientious revision, are increasingly at the forefront of investigation and debate among UCA historians and heritage supporters. Nonetheless, within examples of confronting 'truth telling,' there were many positive messages of conjoined hope emanating from the Conference – and a confirmed desire to forward First Peoples recognition and reconciliation, or as a Yolngu elder described it, **“Let us Walk Together into the Light.”** NB: For anyone who is interested in reading Emily's thesis on John Flynn, the link is as follows:

<https://theses.flinders.edu.au/view/ef164c29-570c-46e6-aec6-c2863d8edbf0/1>



**Are you interested in joining God in unexpected places?**



**Information Afternoon**  
**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September at 2.30pm–4.30pm**  
**Blacktown Uniting Church**

59 Bungarrabee Road Blacktown NSW 2148

Afternoon Tea Included

Please RSVP to [kidillwvniasec@kairos.org.au](mailto:kidillwvniasec@kairos.org.au)  
or phone Yvonne on 0419 284 128

Come and hear about how God is using Kairos prison ministry to change the lives of those who are in prison and the families and friends of those who are impacted by their imprisonment. Come and find out how you can be involved!



**Kairos Prison Ministry Australia**

# Westmead



## Sharing the Hospitality of Jesus Christ

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2023, 9.30am**

This Sunday morning Pastor Fil will be leading us in Worship and Holy Communion – a very warm welcome to you Fil. We look forward to your leadership today and will enjoy catching up with you after the service.

Last Sunday was a service of 'Lamentation' across the different worship sites of our Parramatta City Uniting Church congregation. At Westmead, Stuart Elliot lead the service and by all reports it was a very good and meaningful service.

Thank you, Stuart, for leading the service and for your Reflection.



**Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> September – at Centenary Church**

**9 -10am** - Worship Committee/ Combined Service planning meeting starting at 9.00am

**10am – 12pm** – CLT meeting

## **COMBINED CONGREGATION SERVICE/MEETING** **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> September**

A combined PCUC Service, PCUC Congregation Meeting and Lunch will take place at Leigh Memorial from 10.00am. Transport will be available to/from Leigh Memorial Church if required.

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The funeral service for Rev. Veitinia Waqabaca will be held this Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> September at 9.30am at Leigh Memorial Church, 119 Macquarie St, Parramatta. The Burial Service will commence at 12.30pm at Rookwood Cemetery, Lidcombe.

A Wake will be held at Centenary Hall, 46 Sorrell St, North Parramatta.

For those who cannot attend but would like to join the service, there is a Zoom Link available as follows:

Zoom (livestream) 09.30am Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September

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

**Meeting ID: 519 908 9657**



*In memory of Rev. Veitinia Waqabaca*

*All that we can say is ...*



*... , a true servant of God*



*2011 - Westmead Congregation*

For almost 14 years Westmead congregation was honoured to have Rev. Veitinia as our minister, at the same time, she was minister of the Leigh Fijian congregation.

Westmead congregation grew during this time, and many people learned to take part in worship services.

Rev. Veitinia encouraged many Westmead activities, such as Wesley Apartment barbeques, annual Seniors Week celebrations, fetes, celebration days, the Tai Chi group which was successful until Covid and from then until now operates in conjunction with Wenty Leagues Club.

Rev. Veitinia was always ready to try new things, including gardening, which she came to love through our dear Jean Mitchell, and they became very good friends.

Her first attempt was a great success when she grew pumpkins, and had them hanging from her fence. The outcome was that we had a Pumpkin Party and raised money for the congregation funds. This activity was a huge success and lots of fun.



*2008 - Pumpkin Party including Veitinia's home grown pumpkin. Vita, David, Veitinia, Geoff Hinds, Jan and Lorraine.*

The attendance of No. 28 (Care Home for clients with disabilities in Queens Road, Westmead) at Westmead's Sunday services happened through Veitinia. This connection has been such a blessing to our congregation.

The seed to begin a café run and staffed by volunteers (which became known as 'Time Out Café) in the old Keramic house on the corner of Hawkesbury and Queens Road Westmead began in Veitinia's time at Westmead. The seed grew and was in operation until closure due to the Covid virus in 2020.

Veitinia was a wonderful, caring person who was always there when needed - through illness or troubles.

She ministered and supported the Westmead community sharing her strong and deep Christian faith and values with all ... Veitinia was greatly loved and her influence will continue ...as a true servant of God.





*2007 – Westmead Market Day*



*2009 - Great concentration!  
Game of Scrabble at Open Door*



*2011 – Westmead's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at the Queens Road site.  
Rev. Alan Jackson, Rev. Veitinia Waqabaca, Rev. Trevor Jennings, Rev. Janet Dawson, Rev. Keith Hamilton.*

# Leigh Fijian

- 1. Lotu ena macawa oqo 03/09:** Na lotu ena macawa oqo na sigatabu ni tama. Era na veiliutaki tiko kina na turaga.
- 2. Lotu ena macawa mai oqo 10/09:** Na lotu ena macawa mai oqo ena vunau tiko kina ko Inise Foiakau kei ratou na Youth. Vunau Vakarau nai vakatawa Anare Vocea kei Serupepeli Nagatalevu. Tu vakarau ena veiliutaki matamasumasu #3. Na tali ratou na veiqaravi kina na youth.
- 3. Lesoni ni macawa oqo 28/08 – 03/09** Lako Yani 3:1-15 Same 105:1-6, 23-26 45 Roma 12:9-21 Maciu 16:21-28
- 4. Lesoni ni macawa mai oqo 04/09 – 10/09** Lako Yani 12:1-14 Same 149 Roma 13:8-14 Maciu 18:15-20

**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 Campbelltown, St Mary kei Beral. Ena qaravi tiko na FNC ena vula ko Jiulai ni yabaki mai oqo 2024 e Stanwell Tops.

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





# MESSY PLAYGROUP

At Centenary Uniting Church, North Parramatta.

COME AND JOIN US!

MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, FRIDAYS

10AM - 12 NOON

DURING SCHOOL TERMS

\$30 PER TERM OR

\$4 PER DAY

FRIENDSHIP & COMMUNITY

FUN ACTIVITIES

BYO MORNING TEA FOR YOUR KID

TERMS & TIME TABLE

Terms 2023

Term 1 : 30/January - 5/April

Term 2 : 26/April - 28/June

Term 3 : 19/July - 20/ September

Term 4 : 9/ October - 15/ December

Time Table

10 - 11:10 Free Play and Craft

11:10 - 11:20 Pack up toys &

Set up for morning tea

11:20 - 11:40 Morning tea

11:40 - 12 Story and Rhyme time

ENQUIRY: SUNHEE SONG  
COMMUNITY WORKER  
0415 435 912/9883 9023  
COMMUNITY@CENTENARYUNITINGCHURCH.ORG.AU







# **Join English Conversation Class in Centenary Uniting Church**

**Address: 46 Sorrell Street North Parramatta**

Do you want  
to improve  
your English?

Are you  
looking for  
friends to  
talk with?

Do you need a  
friendly place  
to visit for a  
cup of coffee  
or tea?

We are here for  
you on Tuesday  
& Thursday  
morning from  
10am to 12 noon.

Enquiry: Community Worker, Sunhee Song  
0415 435 912 / 9683 5023  
[community@centenaryunitingchurch.org.au](mailto:community@centenaryunitingchurch.org.au)





## PILGRIMS OF THE PLANET

*Coming to terms with Climate Change and the shift to the Anthropocene.*

12-14 September 2023 | Centre for Ministry, North Parramatta

Dear friends,

We have excellent speakers and presentation topics for the upcoming conference: *'Pilgrims with the Planet'*, 12-14 September at the Centre for Ministry, North Parramatta. See the [attached poster](#) and please share it around.

The aim of this conference is to engage the discourse of the "Anthropocene" in order to explore what theology – broadly conceived – might add to what must be a multidisciplinary discussion.

Along with keynote **Ernst Conradie**, other speakers include:

- **Gerald West** – biblical scholarship and social engagement in South Africa (and beyond)
- **Vicky Balabanski** – Earth Bible Project and Principal at the UCA college in Adelaide
- **Clive Hamilton** – Australian public intellectual & former Climate Council member

We'd love to see you for one session or the whole event. Register [here!](#) Please contact us at [StudentA@nswact.uca.org.au](mailto:StudentA@nswact.uca.org.au) if you have any questions.

Best wishes,

Rev Dr Peter Walker BA (Hons) BTh PhD  
Principal | United Theological College  
Director of Education | Uniting Church NSW & ACT

[REGISTER HERE](#)



**Uniting Church**  
SYNOD OF NSW & ACT



# INTERNATIONAL PEACE DAY INTERFAITH PRAYER SERVICE AT KNOX

## Actions for peace: Our ambition for the #GlobalGoals

This year's theme is a call to action that recognises our individual and collective responsibility to foster peace. Religious leaders from Aboriginal, Bahai, Brahmakumaris, Buddhist, Christian, Hindu, Islamic, Jain, Jewish, Mandaean, Sikh, Sufi and Zoroastrian communities will be in attendance. This year marks the 20th anniversary of this local interfaith prayer service.

We will commemorate the day with an interfaith prayer service and keynote from guest speaker Rev Simon Hansford, Moderator of the Uniting Church (NSW ACT). A light vegetarian lunch will be provided after the service.

**When:** 21 September 2023, 11am

**Where:** Knox Cultural Centre (KCC) auditorium, Knox Grammar School  
The KCC is in close proximity to Warrawee train station

**RSVP:** Rev Dr Manas Ghosh at [revmanasghosh@gmail.com](mailto:revmanasghosh@gmail.com) or phone +61 429 892 548





NORTH ROCKS COMMUNITY CHURCH



# FAIR TRADE MARKET

SATURDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2023



**9am - 2pm**

**132 North Rocks Rd  
North Rocks**

- Jewellery
- Fashion
- Homewares
- Fairtrade food products
- Bags
- Toys
- Body care

**Morning tea**  
**Sausage sizzle**  
**Get ready for  
Christmas**



*Choose fair trade products to help create a brighter future for millions of farmers, workers, and their families in developing countries.*

**NORTH ROCKS COMMUNITY CHURCH**

T. (02) 9683 2586

E. [enquiry@northrocks.org.au](mailto:enquiry@northrocks.org.au)



North Rocks Community Church

Website. [northrocks.uca.org.au](http://northrocks.uca.org.au)

# Prayer Points

**The people of Parramatta City Uniting Church and Parramatta Mission invite you to pray for our Community.**

## **Westmead**

- Remembering those who are grieving the loss of loved ones/ friends or neighbours – May Your promise of granting peace to their loved ones be known and Your love replace sorrow.
- For Ukraine and it's citizens as they live through fear, panic and depression with the war –We pray for peace to arrive and for neighbourly love to settle in.
- For those who are finding it hard to make ends meet with economic pressures – We pray for support and for easing of these pressures.
- For those struggling with unemployment – May You guide them through doors that will allow development and growth and employment.
- For those that are struggling with homelessness compounded by mental trauma, physical abuse and substance abuse – May You reach out and help that aid may be provided, that the correct resources of counselling and support become available and that a safe shelter may be given.

## **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.

## **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

## **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 Parramatta City Uniting Church and Parramatta Mission teams**

- May God guide all our staff, leaders, members and volunteers to live out our conjoined values of grace, inclusion, dignity, faith and hope.
- We pray for the work, witness and service of Rev Geoff Smith, Rev Vladimir Korotkov, Rev John Barr, Pastor Fil Kamotu, and Rev Hyun Goo.

## **Service & Zoom Information**

### **Leigh Memorial**

**Time: Sunday 9.30am on site & Zoom**

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

**Meeting ID: 519 908 9657**

### **PCUC online service**

<https://northmead.uca.org.au/>

### **Westmead**

**Time: Sunday 9.30am on site**

### **Leigh Fijian**

**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 ministry team with any pastoral needs

◇ Rev Geoff Smith (Lead Minister)	0407 416 377
◇ Rev Vladimir Korotkov (Supply Minister)	0431 759 573
◇ Rev John Barr (Supply Minister)	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
◇ Anare Vocea (Fijian Vakatawa)	0432 772 852



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