

Parramatta Community Uniting Church

Newsletter – *Sunday 21 January, 2024*



BURAGA ('ARISE')

Since 2019 the Uniting Church has marked a **Day of Mourning** on the Sunday before 26 January to reflect on the dispossession of Australia's First Peoples and the ongoing injustices faced by First Nations people in this land. We invite you on Sunday 21 January 2024 to hold worship services that reflect on the effects of invasion, colonisation and racism on First Peoples. Please note the message from President Rev Sharon Hollis and the National UAICC Chair: *"In marking the Day of Mourning, we affirm the sovereignty of First Nations people. We confess and seek forgiveness for the dispossession and violence against First Nations people. We lament our part and we recommit to justice and truth-telling."*

Image: *Buraga* artwork (acrylic on canvas), Leigh Memorial vestibule by Darug Aboriginal Custodian artist, Leanne Mulgo Watson, 2019.



Parramatta Community Uniting Church (PCUC) acknowledges the traditional custodians of the lands on which we gather – the Burramattagal clan of the Darug people - and pays respect to elders past and present, and emerging leaders.

PCUC Program...
Week commencing Sunday 21 January

Saturday 20 th	9.00am	‘Walking Church’ in Parramatta Park
Sunday 21 st	9.30am 9.30am 9.30am 11.15am Online	Worship Service – Northmead Worship service – Westmead Worship Service – Leigh Memorial, Parramatta (Onsite + Zoom) Meeting ID: 519 908 9657 Leigh Fijian, Parramatta PCUC weekly online service: https://northmead.uca.org.au/
Tuesday 23 rd	7.00pm 7.00pm	Meditation Group – Centenary Club Chat – Northmead Bowling Club
Wednesday 24 th	1.00 – 2.00pm	Open Church @ Leigh Memorial
Thursday 25 th	10.00am – midday	Friendship Centre - Northmead
Sunday 28 th	9.30am 9.30am 9.30am 11.15am Online	Worship Service – Northmead, Worship service – Westmead Worship Service – Leigh Memorial, Parramatta (Onsite + Zoom) Meeting ID: 519 908 9657 Leigh Fijian, Parramatta PCUC weekly online service: https://northmead.uca.org.au/

**** Please note the change to service times at Leigh Memorial for
21 & 28 January ****

Prayer Points

(Kindly supplied by the Westmead worship community)

We pray for those in the congregation who are unwell or undergoing medical therapy and for those of us who have unwell loved ones. Lord pour out Your Holy Spirit and reach in minds and bodies to heal, renew and recharge; * For the destruction of human lives and calamity that the wars between Israel and Palestine, Russia and Ukraine and wars in other parts of the World are bringing – We ask You to bring forth peace and neighbourly love between the aggressors and comfort those whose lives as they knew it, is ruined; * For those that go

homeless and live day to day making last minute decisions of where to stay as there is no home – Lord help to provide safe shelters, food and help those who reach out to help; * We pray for our Climate to stabilize – we think of the recent earthquake in Japan and the loss of lives and livelihood – we think of the people affected by floods that have occurred in our region of the world; * For those that reach out to help with those who may feel unpopular, those that strive to go forward and those that have given up – Lord be a companion and may Your guiding light be upon them; * For the Ministers, Pastors and speakers of Your Word, for our Parramatta Community Uniting Church – that we be true followers of You. Amen.

PCUC Notices...

GROUP & ACTIVITY ARRANGEMENTS

Ladies Dinner @ NBC Sports Club – Resumed 10 January

Friendship Centre, Northmead – Resumed 11 January

Walking Church – Resumed 13 January & continues 2nd & 4th Saturdays

Open Church @ Leigh Memorial – Resumed 17 January

Meditation Group, Centenary – Resumes 23 January

Centenary – English conversation classes resume 1 February & **Playgroups**

resume 2 February

Bible Study, Westmead – Resumes 5 February

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ORDINATION – Rev Dr Simaima Tuiono (‘Tui’) Waqanibaravi

Our incoming PCUC minister Tui’s ordination will take place **this Saturday, 20 January from 2.00pm** at the Fijian Parish in Canterbury (301-305 Canterbury Rd, Canterbury).

The **following Saturday, 27 January from 2.00pm**, there will be a ‘presentation’ of Tui from the Fiji Parish to PCUC (via Leigh Fijian) at Leigh Memorial. All welcome.

** At a date soon to be determined, the Presbytery will host a joint induction for Helen and Tui into PCUC.

WORKING BEE

The next Garden Working Bee at Centenary Church will be held on **Saturday 27 January from 7.00am**. If you are able to bring a shovel or a spade as well as the usual garden tools that would be very helpful. A brunch will be included in the morning’s program. All welcome! Enquiries: Susan & Fiona.

ASSEMBLY NOMINATIONS

Should anyone be interested in attending Assembly this year (11 – 16 July in Sydney – details to be confirmed), nominations will close at the end of January. The form included with the recent newsletter should be emailed to secretary@pnpuca.org.au An election will take place at February's Presbytery meeting.

'CULTURE OF SAFETY AWARENESS' WORKSHOP

On Saturday 10 February 2024, a 'Culture of Safety Awareness' (Safe Church) workshop will be conducted at Centenary UC (arrive 9.00am for 9.30am – concludes 1.30pm). **All elected CLT members, Council, Committee members and staff are required to attend.** Please email or phone Lorna to register (0408 365 478 or royp@iprimus.com.au) - AND - also register using the following link. **The closing date is 30 January:**

<https://www.nswact.uca.org.au/support-services/safe-church-unit/>

OPEN CHURCH UPDATE

The new 'Open Church' program at Leigh Memorial Church on Wednesdays (1 – 2pm) has resumed for 2024. We currently have 10 volunteers who are rostered on a rotating basis, and attendances by members of the public are ranging from a few people up to the 40+ who visited the church during Parramatta Mission's Christmas lunch on 22 December. If anyone is interested in volunteering for Open Church or has any suggestions please contact Vladimir or Liz. ***The Open Church Communion Service takes place on the last Wednesday of each month (31 January this time) – and all members & visitors are very welcome to attend. Please join us!***

NETBALL CLUB UPDATE

Northmead Uniting's Netball Club registrations are now open! All are welcome to join our community minded club. All games and training are held at Gooden Reserve Netball Courts in Baulkham Hills. Games are played Saturday afternoons from April until August. Our competition is completely ungraded and players can play with their friends. To register or find more information head to our website: <https://northmead-netball-club.square.site> Registrations close February 10. Enquiries: Bec Gray northmeadnetballclub@gmail.com

NB: Key dates

Feb 2 – Uniform "Try On" Day in The Cottage, Northmead;

Feb 25 - Season Kick Starter Event (PCUC to cook the BBQ);

Apr 6 - First Game Day.

SPECIAL SERVICE – THANK YOU

On Monday 15 January, Westmead held a Memorial Service for Carol Scanlon from no. 28 Queens Road. Rev. Geoff Smith conducted the service assisted by Chaplain Sarah Bishop. This service was a wonderful tribute to Carol's life and the wonderful caring staff at no. 28, and other people who had worked with her during her life – and the loving family, always making sure Carol had everything to make her happy. It was quite uplifting to be reminded of the joy

Carol had through music, and being involved whenever possible. We send love to her family, the staff at no. 28, and Edwina, Jeff and Colin. Thank you to all who helped to make this a time to remember, including Callum who was a big help to us with tech support and is always very obliging – the Westmead worship community.

SUGGESTED VIEWING: *FREEDOM – THE NUNGALINYA JUBILEE STORY*

“A feature length documentary celebrating what Jesus has done in and through Nungalinya College, Darwin, since 1973. An incredible and moving journey, woven with historical and current day footage and stories.”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CkHh87kh2Ig>

LOVE & PEACE FETE

A Fete to raise funds for Gaza families will be held on **Sunday 21 January, 11am – 6pm** at FC Social, Park Road Rydalmere (organised by ‘Palestinian Christians in Australia’).

HOT AIR BALLOONS – AUSTRALIA DAY

If any congregation members would like to volunteer for Parramatta Mission’s early morning tethered hot air balloons fundraiser on Australia Day at Parramatta Park this year, please email Chao. Further details will be provided:

Chao.Zhou@parramattamission.org.au



Leigh Fijian News

- 1. Lotu ena macawa oqo 21/01:** Na lotu ena macawa mai oqo na vunau tiko kina nai vakatawa Anare Vocea kei Serupepeli Nagatalevu. Vunau vakarau chairman Sosiceni Toa kei Epeli Semani. T vakarau na veiliutaki matasiga naba 1.
- 2. Lotu ena macawa mai oqo 28/01:** Na lotu ena macawa mai oqo na vunau tiko kina ko chairman Sosiceni Toa kei Epeli Semani. Vunau vakarau Sikeli Duwai kei Senitiki Qata.
- 3. Lesoni ni macawa oqo 15/01 – 21/01:** Joni 3:1-5, 10 Same 62:5-12 1 Korinica 7:29-31 Marika 1:14-20
- 4. Lesoni ni mawaca mai oqo 22/01 – 28/01:** Nai Vakaru 18:15-20 Same 111 1 Korinica 8:1-13 Marika 1:21-28

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 Cambelltown, St Mary kei Berala. Ena qaravi tiko na FNC ena vula ko Okotova ni yabaki mai oqo 2024 e Katoomba Conference Centre.

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

Bula Feeding is back at Alpha Park on the 16 January 2024



Pastoral Contacts:

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Rev Hyun Goo Jun (Korean Faith
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Newsletter Submissions:

Please send any prayer points or
general newsletter submissions to Rose,
Liz, or Rob by the Wednesday of each
week.

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PCUC Contact Information:

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