

Parramatta Community Uniting Church

Newsletter: *Sunday 25 February, 2024*

Second in Lent



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 25 February

Sunday 25 th	9.30am 9.30am 9.30am 11.15am 2.00pm 11 am – 2pm Online	Worship Service – Northmead Worship Service – Westmead Worship Service – Leigh Memorial, Parramatta (Onsite + Zoom) Meeting ID: 519 908 9657 Worship Service – Leigh Fijian, Parramatta Korean Faith Community, Parramatta BBQ (PCUC) – Netball Club season 'kick starter' event PCUC weekly online service: https://northmead.uca.org.au/
Tuesday 27 th	7.00pm	Meditation Group @ Centenary
Wednesday 28 th	1 – 2pm 7 – 9pm	Open Church – Leigh Memorial Lent Study Group – Centenary
Friday 1 st	6.00pm	World Day of Prayer service at Leigh Memorial
Saturday 2 nd	10.00 to Midday	Congregation Leadership Team Meeting
Sunday 3 rd	9.30am 9.30am 9.30am 11.15am 2.00pm Online	Worship Service – Northmead Worship Service – Westmead Worship Service – Leigh Memorial, Parramatta (Onsite + Zoom) Meeting ID: 519 908 9657 Worship Service – Leigh Fijian, Parramatta Korean Faith Community, Parramatta PCUC weekly online service: https://northmead.uca.org.au/

PCUC Notices...

INVITATION: WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE

PCUC friends,

You are invited to join our **World Day of Prayer service on Friday 1 March, 6.00 pm, at Leigh Memorial, 119 Macquarie St, Parramatta.** You can also follow by Zoom: **Meeting ID: 519 908 9657**

The World Day of Prayer is a global lay women's movement that brings together people from different countries and Christian backgrounds to pray. This year the resources have been prepared by Palestinian Christian women on the theme,

'I Beg You, Bear With One Another in Love'
(Ephesians 4: 1 – 3)

We are fortunate to have **Mary Wahhab Sweeney**, a member of Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Co-Cathedral in Harris Park as our Guest Speaker along with some members of her community. Mary will bring her perspective as a Palestinian Australian Christian woman. With the tragic events unfolding in the Holy Land, our service is a timely opportunity to come together across our different denominations to pray.

Thank you **Leigh Fijian ladies** for offering to provide the light supper and an item in our service. We appreciate the **musicians** who will be bringing their talents and others who have offered to help in a variety of ways including with sound and multimedia. If there are a few who can arrive early it would be great to have some welcomers who can hand out orders of service. Please feel free to share the **flyer** (attached to the newsletter) with friends.

Churches in Parramatta and surrounding areas have also been invited. We trust it will be a special evening to come together for fellowship, offering a joint witness for peace and building our ecumenical contacts.

Blessings, Helen.



Artist Halima Aziz
Under the shade of an ancient olive tree
Palestinian women share their stories.

You are invited to the
World Day of Prayer
6pm Friday 1 March 2024
 Hosted by Parramatta Community
 Uniting Church- Leigh Memorial
 119 Macquarie St, Parramatta
 Followed by light refreshments

Guest Speaker: Mary Wahhab Sweeney
*The 2024 WDP service has been prepared by
 Palestinian Christian Women.*

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

For further information on the global reach of WDP + some inspiring ‘Verses of the Day’ – check the website:

<https://www.worlddayofprayeraustralia.org/>

WDP SERVICE – PARKING & TRANSPORT ADVICE

There will be a good supply of general parking spots available onsite at Leigh Memorial for the World Day of Prayer service, and members with disabilities/ mobility challenges are welcome to “reserve a spot” by TEXTING Mario in advance: 0415 803 921. Once the car park is full, attendees will find nearby parking in locations such as Westfield Parramatta or the ‘Eat Street’ parking station. Public transport is also very close by – and anyone who needs a lift is welcome to contact the leaders at their site for assistance. We look forward to seeing you!

UNITING IN PRAYER: ACT 2

The Uniting Church Assembly’s 35 days of national prayer will take place again this year between 19 May and 22 June. The catalyst theme for 2024 is: **“Threads of Love, Weaving Christ’s Love Across Cultures and Boundaries.”** Prayers are requested by **31 March**. Please go to the website for further details: <https://www.act2uca.com/unitinginprayer2024>

MEALS & SUPPORT SERVICES – PARRAMATTA MISSION

Those wishing to learn more about – and support – Parramatta Mission/ Meals Plus, are invited to visit the website, which includes a donations link: <https://www.parramattamission.org.au/meals-support-services/>



LENT & EASTER @ PCUC

Palm Sunday – Sunday 24 March

Regular 9.30am worship services at Parramatta, Northmead & Westmead

Tenebrae – Thursday 28 March

Centenary, 7.00pm – inc. a shared meal. *All welcome.*

Good Friday – Friday 29 March

Leigh Fijian & Leigh Memorial Parramatta service: Combined, 10.00am

Northmead-Centenary and Westmead services: 9.00am

Easter Sunday – Sunday 31 March

Leigh Fijian & Leigh Memorial Parramatta service: Combined, 10.00am

Northmead-Centenary and Westmead services: 9.30am

**** Further information about PCUC's Easter program will be forthcoming**

LENT

LENT STUDY GROUP – with Rev Dr Chris Walker

This year's PCUC Lent Study will be held at **Centenary, Sorrell Street, North Parramatta.**

When? 7.00 – 9.00pm (Cake & Coffee/ Tea to start. Study from 7.30pm).

Starts: Wednesday 21 February – **Concludes:** Wednesday 27 March.

NB: If you can't attend every session, that's fine - it's ok to join in when you can. All welcome.

Enquiries: Meryn O'Brien – merynobrien@gmail.com

.....



Leigh Fijian News

- 1. Lotu ena macawa oqo 25/02:** Na lotu ena macawa mai oqo rau na vunau tiko kina ko Senitiki Qata kei Isikeli Duwai. Tu vakarau ena veiliutaki kei na tali matasiga #2
- 2. Lotu ena macawa mai oqo 03/03:** Na lotu ena macawa mai oqo na veiqaravi tiko kina na Pastoral team/youth (reflection). Na tali ni vunau sa gadrevi tiko me vakaitavi kina na matasiga e tolu.
- 3. Lesoni ni mawaca oqo 12/02 – 18/02: Lent 2** Vakatekivu 17:1-7, 15-16 Same 22:23-31 Roma 4:13-25 Marika 8:31-38, 9:2-9
- 4. Lesoni ni macawa mai oqo 26/02 - 03/03: Lent 3** Lako Yani 20:1-17 Same 19 1 Korinica 1:18-25 Joni 2:13-22
5. Ena qaravi tiko na “Mission Planning Day” ena sigatabu oqo 25/02.
6. Na yakavi ni sigatabu mai oqo ena mai qaravi tiko kina na lotu ni PNP.

Ulutaga ni veinanumi ena Masu:

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.

Bula Feeding : Me nanumi tiko na nodratou veiqaravi na Bula Feeding.

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

FNC 2024: 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 oqo 2024 e Katoomba Conference Centre.

Prayer Points

(Kindly supplied by the Leigh Fijian worship community)

We pray –

- **For a Deeper desire of God:** Increase within us the very desire to know you more clearly and more deeply;
- **To serve others...** (scripture, Mt. 23:11): We pray to be your hands and feet in serving and helping others in our community;
- **To be a peacemaker...** (scripture, Mathew 5:9): Jesus said, “Blessed are the peacemakers” - strengthen our resolve to be a peacemaker and encourage others to do the same;
- **To help another person's cross...** (scripture, Mark 15:21): Let us be like Simon who helped Jesus carry his cross – when we see someone struggle with a burden, may we be the one who helps lift it;
- **For hope...** (scripture, Zep. 3:17): May we always hope for the best, believe in the best and work for the best in all circumstances in our community and the world. Open our eyes to see your unconditional love for us. Help us believe that with your help, we have the inner strength to change. Amen.

We further pray for the following (with English translations) –

1. Bula nodratou na vavakoso eratou tauvimate iko ei ira na qase cake - Mereoni Kamotu
 - Congregation members who are not feeling well and the elderly - Mereoni Kamotu
2. Nodra bula na luveda- vakabibi ni sa tekivu tale na vuli kei ira era sa cakacaka
 - The children who have just started school and those who are working.
3. Nodra bula na vei vuvale kece era mai sasaga tiko na mai vuli kei nanodra pepa.
 - For those who are trying to get their Australian Residency/Citizenship.
4. PCUC kei na kena veiveisau - Ratou na veitacini vaka | Talatala kei na kena veigaravi
 - For PCUC – the changes and the ministry within it and the Reverends/ Ministers.
5. Bula Feeding Ministry

6. Vakavakarau kina FNC 2024 - PNP Working Committee
 - [The PNP \(Fijian\) Working Committee and the preparation towards the Fiji National Conference.](#)
7. Nodratou bula na veilitaki na lotu wili kina o ira na liuliu ni veisoqosogo kei na vei matasiga
 - [Church leaders, Sunday School Teachers, Youth Leaders and small prayer groups.](#)
8. Na veikacivi ni Kalou ena bula nei Radini Vakatawa Vakacegu - Formation process
 - [Inise Foiakau's formation process.](#)
9. Veika sa vakavotya vei keda na Yalotabu meda lolovaka ka masulaka.
 - [Whatever else comes to your heart or anything else that needs to be prayed for.](#)



You're invited

Inspire Inclusion: International Women's Day 2024 Celebration



Join us on March 15th at Parramatta Square for an empowering International Women's Day event hosted by Parramatta Mission and The Lisa Harnum Foundation. This year, under the theme #InspireInclusion, we invite you to be part of a movement that envisions and advocates for a world where women from all walks of life are valued, included, and empowered.

We are honoured to have Joanne Yates, Chair of the Centre for Women's Economic Safety, as our keynote speaker. With a distinguished career in public policy advocacy and government relations, Joanne brings valuable insights into navigating complex issues, especially in areas like policing, family and domestic violence. Discover how her passion for meaningful change is driving social justice and human rights outcomes for our community's most vulnerable.

Following Joanne's keynote address, join our panel of accomplished women as they discuss strategies to inspire inclusion in workplaces and communities. Gain valuable insights and perspectives on embracing diversity in areas such as race, age, ability, faith, body image, and identity.

Don't miss out on this opportunity to be part of a movement that strives for equality and inclusivity.

Special thank you to our Sponsor Hammond Nguyen Turnbull Lawyers and our supporting partners City of Parramatta and Parramatta Chamber of Commerce.

Knitting at Meals Plus

We are launching a new activity for our clients, to promote social opportunity, conversations, new friendships.

Project Ideas: Knitted squares sewn together to make blankets, scarves etc..

We would appreciate some wool donations !!!



Pastoral Contacts

Rev Geoff Smith (Lead Minister)
0407 416 377
geoff.smith@parramattamission.org.au

Rev Dr Helen Richmond
0439 257 575
helen.richmond@ymail.com

Rev Dr Tui Waqanibaravi
0455 595 684
tuiwaqa@gmail.com

Rev Vladimir Korotkov
0431 759 573
vladimir1@hotmail.com

Rev Hyun Goo Jun (Korean Faith
Community): 0433 320 588
joeunch@hotmail.com

Anare Vocea (Leigh Fijian Vakatawa)
0432 772 852
a_vocea@y7mail.com

Rev John Jegasothy
0422 224 789)
john.jegasothy@gmail.com
Or **Amal Jebas**
amaljebas@hotmail.com
Uniting Church Tamil Faith
Community PCUC.

Newsletter Submissions:
Please send all newsletter submissions
to Rose by the Wednesday of each
week.
rose.shalala@parramattamission.org.au

PCUC Contact Information

Centenary
46 Sorrell St; Nth Parramatta
(02) 9683-5023
office@centenaryunitingchurch.org.au

Leigh Fijian
119 Macquarie St; Parramatta
(02) 9891 2277 taitod@bigpond.com

Leigh Memorial
119 Macquarie St; Parramatta
(02) 9891 2277
leighmemorialuniting@gmail.com

Northmead
3-7 Hammers Rd; Northmead
(02) 9890 5814
nuchurch@bigpond.net.au

Parramatta Mission
119 Macquarie St; Parramatta
(02) 9891 2277
wecare@parramattamission.org.au

Westmead
175 Hawkesbury Rd; Westmead
(02) 9891 2277
wecare@parramattamission.org.au