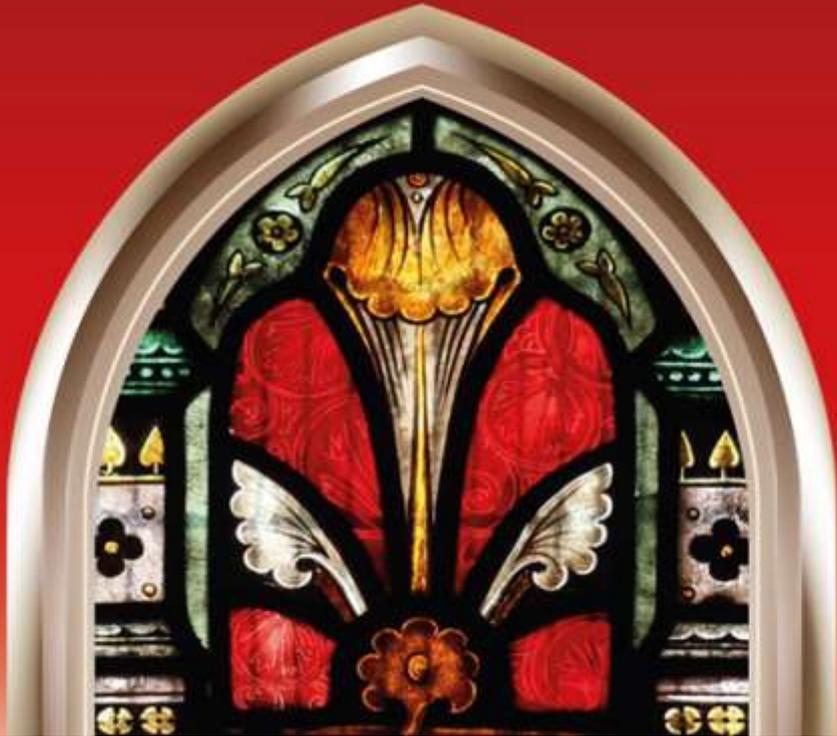


# Parramatta Community Uniting Church

## Newsletter: *Sunday 11 February, 2024*

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*Stained Glass Window 1885 (detail),  
Leigh Memorial Uniting Church, Parramatta.*



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

**PCUC Program...**  
***Week commencing Sunday 11 February***

Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	‘Walking Church’ in Parramatta Park
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am 9.30am 10.00am  11.15am 2.00pm  Online	Worship Service - Northmead Worship Service - Westmead Worship Service - Leigh Memorial Parramatta (Onsite + Zoom) <b>Meeting ID: 519 908 9657</b> Worship Service - Leigh Fijian Korean Faith Community - Leigh Memorial PCUC weekly online service: <a href="https://northmead.uca.org.au/">https://northmead.uca.org.au/</a>
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Meditation Group @ Centenary
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	1.00 – 2.00pm	Open Church @ Leigh Memorial, Parramatta
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am 9.30am 10.00am  11.15am 2.00  6.00 - 8.00pm  Online	Worship Service - Northmead Worship Service - Westmead Worship Service - Leigh Memorial Parramatta (Onsite + Zoom) <b>Meeting ID: 519 908 9657</b> Worship Service - Leigh Fijian Korean Faith Community - Leigh Memorial Jazz on Hammers PCUC weekly online service: <a href="https://northmead.uca.org.au/">https://northmead.uca.org.au/</a>

# **Parramatta Community Uniting Church Council**

## **Update for Congregation**

### **31 January 2024**

At our Congregation Leadership Team meeting (CLT) on Saturday 3 February the subject of what were the responsibilities of the working group known as “PCUC as one entity implementation”.

#### **Working Group Members**

David Norris [Chairperson], Garry Ingles, Rev Geoff Smith, Robert Key, Lyall Weaver, Craig Corby (Presbytery) & Rob Eagleson (Facilitator)

The group meets approximately every 4 weeks to bring about the necessary changes in establishing our new entity of Parramatta Community Uniting Church (PCUC). Matters we have dealt with or are still working on include (but not limited to):

1. Following meetings and the vote conducted by our Vision Action Strategy Group (VSAG) ensure Presbytery & Synod were made aware of the changes
2. Consideration of signage for our worship sites
3. Establish a congregation listing for PCUC – this list will form the basis of our communications and also pastoral care
4. Following Covid, many activities were not properly attended, such as Working With Children Checks & Safe Church Training – these have now been addressed
5. A number of activities have been required on the financial side such as Australian Business Numbers (ABNs), Australian Taxation Office, registration of business names, setting up new bank accounts and many more.
6. Reviewing our different accounting systems and transaction processing and deciding on the most appropriate processes for PCUC
7. Decisions regarding who to engage as our auditors in the future
8. Ongoing reporting needs for both the Congregation & Board
9. Review of
  - a. the Shared Services Agreement with Synod
  - b. the Shared Services Agreement between the Congregation & Parramatta Mission
  - c. employment contracts
  - d. our website & social media needs
  - e. all policies
10. Identifying our properties & establishing a property register
11. Updating delegated authorities and signatories
12. Governance

A number of the foregoing have a considerable number of activities to complete and ensure that the entity known as PCUC has been established in the correct manner.

Please do not hesitate to speak with a member of the Working group should you wish to get a fuller understanding of the work being undertaken on your behalf.

# LENT

## **LENT STUDY GROUP – with Rev Dr Chris Walker**

This year's PCUC Lent Study will be hosted by the **Northmead worship community** (3 – 7 Hammers Road, Northmead).

**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](mailto:merynobrien@gmail.com)

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## **ADDITIONAL LENT RESOURCES:**

**Book: Rev Dr Chris Walker – *Discipleship for All Seasons***

<https://www.mediacomeducation.org.au/shop/discipleship-for-all-seasons/>

**NB:** The MediaCom Education website has additional Lent resources.

**UnitingWorld – Lent Event 2024: *40 days of Faithful Action for Climate Change***

<https://unitingworld.org.au/lent-event-is-coming/#:~:text=Lent%20Event%20is%20inspired%20by,the%20issue%20of%20climate%20change.>

**Book: Anglican Board of Mission - *God's Own Country***

[www.intothedesert.org](http://www.intothedesert.org)

**World Council of Churches: Lent Webinar, 2024 (1 hour)**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vmLuvgr\\_2U0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vmLuvgr_2U0)

**World Council of Churches: *True Freedom* - Lent Resource addressing Modern Slavery**

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/6553a399b2687e59979e7451/t/658315ad90cdf2c67675bb3/1703089586615/>

[The+Clewer+True+Freedom+Document+FINAL+-+ENGLISH.pdfLent%20Event%202024:%20a%20call%20to%20faithful%20action%20on%20climate%20change](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/6553a399b2687e59979e7451/t/658315ad90cdf2c67675bb3/1703089586615/The+Clewer+True+Freedom+Document+FINAL+-+ENGLISH.pdfLent%20Event%202024:%20a%20call%20to%20faithful%20action%20on%20climate%20change)

**Tear Fund: *Following Jesus for a World Restored* (Lent 2024)**

<https://www.tearfund.org.au/following-jesus-for-a-world-restored-lent-2024>

**Tear Fund – Lent Podcast: ‘Local & Global Voices’ (archived)**

<https://www.tearfund.org.au/the-way-of-love-lent-2022>

**Inter-generational resource: *Strandz*, Wellington Anglican Centre (NZ)**

<https://www.strandz.org.nz/a-sent-people.html>

## *Exploring Acts during Easter*

A 7-week online series of exploration and discussion  
following the Acts readings in the *Revised Common Lectionary*  
during the 49 days of the season of Easter

led by Rev. Elizabeth Raine and Rev. Dr John Squires

The same session is offered at 10am and 7pm each Thursday

*You are welcome to join whichever is the more convenient time*

Thursday	Session Topic	Passage	Sunday
4 April	A man attested by God	<i>Acts 2:14-36</i>	Easter 2
11 April	Times of refreshing from the Lord	<i>Acts 3:1-19</i>	Easter 3
18 April	No other name under heaven	<i>Acts 4:1-22</i>	Easter 4
25 April	Proclaiming the good news	<i>Acts 8:26-40</i>	Easter 5
2 May	Poured out even on the Gentiles	<i>Acts 10:34-48</i>	Easter 6
9 May	Women in the early Christian community	<i>Acts 1:12-14, 12:6-17</i>	Easter 7
16 May	A violent win, tongues of fire	<i>Acts 2:1-4</i>	Pentecost



**uniting  
church**  
Tuggeranong

These studies are hosted  
by the *Tuggeranong  
Uniting Church*  
and sponsored by  
*With Love to the World*



To join the online sessions, go to the homepage of the Tuggeranong Uniting Church  
(<https://tuc.org.au>) and click on the link at the bottom left of the screen  
that says "Connect to Bible Studies on ZOOM"



Enquiries: John Squires 0408 024 642 [johnsquires@bigpond.com](mailto:johnsquires@bigpond.com)

## PCUC Notices...

### **ASH WEDNESDAY @ OPEN CHURCH**

An opportunity to observe Ash Wednesday will take place during “Open Church” at Leigh Memorial Church on **Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February between 1.00 and 2.00pm**. Parking will be available, including for those with mobility challenges. Please text Mario if you need car park access on the day (0415 803 921). Those attending are also welcome to spend some extra time in the coolness and quietness of the Leigh Memorial worship space – and to pray, pause, prepare for Lent and connect with others. \*\* This special devotional hour is open to all PCUC members and friends, and the community\*\*



### **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2024 – ECUMENICAL SERVICE**

A PCUC-hosted ecumenical service for World Day of Prayer will be held at Leigh Memorial Church on **Friday 1 March at 6.00pm**, followed light refreshments. Helpers will be needed – please contact Helen/ the worship team.

### **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, are invited to visit the website, which includes a donations link:

<https://www.parramattamission.org.au/meals-support-services/>

## NETBALL CLUB

The start of the Netball season is drawing closer.

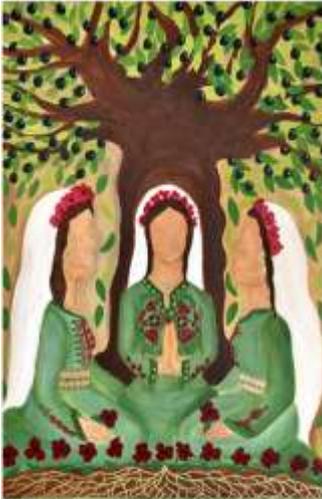
On Sunday 25 February between 11.00am and 2.00pm there is a Season Kick Starter event at Gooden Reserve situated at 78Z Gooden Drive Baulkham Hills.

As support for our club, we have agreed to provide and cook a BBQ for this event.

Volunteers are need to make this day a success and anyone able to assist, please let Rob Eagleson ([reagleso@bigpond.net.au](mailto:reagleso@bigpond.net.au)) or Rev Geoff Smith know.

**CHRISTIAN MEDITATION GROUP - Centenary UC, Tuesdays @**  
7.00pm

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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.*

# Leigh Fijian News

- 1. Lotu ena macawa oqo 11/02:** Na lotu ena macawa mai oqo na vunau tiko kina ko Di Akisi Allison kei Suguta Rogoimuri. Vunau vakarau Rev Samu Sadrata. Tu vakarau na veiliutaki matasiga #3. Tali matasiga #3.
- 2. Lotu ena macawa mai oqo 18/02:** Na lotu ena macawa mai oqo ena vunau tiko kina ko Talatala Samu Sadrata. Vunau vakarau Senitiki Qata kei Isikeli Duwai. Tu vakarau na veiliutaki matasiaga #1. Tali matasiga #1
- 3. Lesoni ni mawaca oqo 05/02 – 11/02: (Transfiguration of Jesus)** 2 Tui 2:1-12 Same 50:1-6 2 Korinica 4:3-6 Marika 9:2-9
- 4. Lesoni ni macawa mai oqo 12/02 – 18/02: Lent 1** Vakatekivu 9:8-11 7 Same 25:1-10 1 Pita 3:18-22 Marika: 1:9-15
5. Na lotu ni yasana ko Tailevu ena qaravi tiko ena nodatou valelotu ena i ka 17<sup>th</sup> ni Veverueli. Ena tekivu tiko ena 3pm. Sa veisureti tiko, ke o galala meda nai veitikoni kei ira na turaga kei na marama ni Tailevu.

## 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 Northmead worship community)*

Loving God, we know you are forever with us, sustaining and strengthening us. We ask that you are our ears and eyes to enable our hearts, mouths and feet to do your work.

In our daily activities, enable us to be understanding, particularly when we find it hard to understand, to show concern, when we ourselves are distracted, to care, when we are busy. We remember those we know who are unwell, lonely, depressed, grieving, and anxious. We pray for students commencing a new year and activities, for school leavers seeking employment and career paths, for families finding it hard to make ends meet and the aged who find just moving around difficult. Help us to show love and care for all.

We are grateful for our church life in Parramatta Community Uniting Church: Northmead, Centenary, Westmead and Parramatta. We are excited to be working with each other and seeking new ways to serve you O God. Strengthen we reach out to each other to help where needed, to show concern when needed, and to just be an extra pair of hands when times are tough.

We pray for the loved ones of the many recent drownings in the last few months. We are horrified to hear of reports of young offenders who committed horrific crimes. We pray for them and their loved ones that they become whole and healed. We pray for victims of crime; that they are healed and can forgive. We pray for the many members of our defence forces past and present who are suffering PTSD, anxiety and loneliness. We thank them for their past diligence and service and pray that they receive peace.

We pray that political leaders work for the common good and not personal power. May there be less talk of war and more talk about peace, more care for people and not the seeking of personal gain, let them have integrity and not corruption.

Help us to hold onto your love and strength in all things, knowing that this is your world and you love us. Help us to stay engaged in life, to be connected, to stay positive. This we ask, confident in your love. **Amen.**

## **SAVE THE DATES:**

### **SPECIAL NOTICE – LENT & EASTER @ PCUC**



#### **Ash Wednesday – 14 February**

During ‘Open Church’ @ Leigh Memorial UC (1.00 – 2.00pm)  
*All welcome.*

#### **Palm Sunday – 24 March**

Regular worship services at Parramatta, Northmead & Westmead

#### **Tenebrae – 28 March**

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

#### **Good Friday – 29 March**

Leigh Fijian & Leigh Memorial (TBC)

Northmead-Centenary: 9.00am

Westmead: 9.00am

#### **Easter Sunday – 31 March**

Leigh Fijian & Leigh Memorial (TBC)

Northmead-Centenary: 9.30am

Westmead: 9.30am

## Pastoral Contacts

**Rev Geoff Smith** (Lead Minister)  
0407 416 377  
[geoff.smith@parramattamission.org.au](mailto:geoff.smith@parramattamission.org.au)

**Rev Dr Helen Richmond**  
0439 257 575  
[helen.richmond@ymail.com](mailto:helen.richmond@ymail.com)

**Rev Dr Tui Waqanibaravi**  
0455 595 684  
[tuiwaqa@gmail.com](mailto:tuiwaqa@gmail.com)

**Rev Vladimir Korotkov**  
0431 759 573  
[vladimir1@hotmail.com](mailto:vladimir1@hotmail.com)

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

**Anare Vocea** (Leigh Fijian Vakatawa)  
0432 772 852  
[a\\_vocea@y7mail.com](mailto:a_vocea@y7mail.com)

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

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**Newsletter Submissions:**  
Please send all newsletter submissions  
to Rose by the Wednesday of each  
week.  
[rose.shalala@parramattamission.org.a  
u](mailto:rose.shalala@parramattamission.org.au)

## PCUC Contact Information

**Centenary**  
46 Sorrell St; Nth Parramatta  
(02) 9683-5023  
[office@centenaryunitingchurch.org.au](mailto:office@centenaryunitingchurch.org.au)

**Leigh Fijian**  
119 Macquarie St; Parramatta  
(02) 9891 2277 [taitod@bigpond.com](mailto:taitod@bigpond.com)

**Leigh Memorial**  
119 Macquarie St; Parramatta  
(02) 9891 2277  
[leighmemorialuniting@gmail.com](mailto:leighmemorialuniting@gmail.com)

**Northmead**  
3-7 Hammers Rd; Northmead  
(02) 9890 5814  
[nuchurch@bigpond.net.au](mailto:nuchurch@bigpond.net.au)

**Parramatta Mission**  
119 Macquarie St; Parramatta  
(02) 9891 2277  
[wecare@parramattamission.org.au](mailto:wecare@parramattamission.org.au)

**Westmead**  
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[wecare@parramattamission.org.au](mailto:wecare@parramattamission.org.au)