



WESLEY WELLINGTON METHODIST PARISH
Incorporating congregations of 10am, Tongan, Samoan and Fijian.

<https://wesleychurch.org.nz/>

Parish Office: 75 Taranaki Street, Wellington, New Zealand
Office Phone : (04) 3847695

Parish Bulletin

Rātapu 21 Hakihea (December) 2025

Welcome!

Nau Mai

Haere Mai

Noa'ia 'e Mauri

Bula Vinaka

Mabu Hay

Namaste

Talofa Lava

Malo e Lelei

Chao Buoi Sang

Swaagat

안녕하세요
(an-nyeong-ha-se-yo)

Parish

Newcomers

Nau mai haere mai

We're glad you're considering making Wellington Methodist Parish your spiritual home. If you want to put down your roots here, please let our leaders know so that we can take your contact details and you will get our weekly emails. This will enable us to get to know you better.

Welcome to Wellington Methodist Parish

Mission Statement

Living God's love – acting for the common good

We are a multi-racial Christian community:

Methodist in affiliation – Ecumenical in intention

Diverse in theology – Inclusive in outreach.

Sunday Church Services

Wesley Church 75 Taranaki St, Wellington City

10.00am

English Service

12.00pm

Tongan Service

2.00pm

Samoan Service

4.00pm

Fijian Service

Upcoming Sundays

04/01/2026

No Combined/Congregational Sunday

Special Congregation Sundays

Christmas Eve Service:

24th Dec, Wednesday evening, 7:30pm

Christmas Day Service:

25th Dec, Thursday morning, 9:30am.



Ministry Team

Rev Joeli Ducivaki
(Parish Superintendent)

027 466 1036/

Joeli@wesleychurch.org.nz

Rev Suiva'aia Te'o
(Parish Minister)

027 684 1573/

sui@wesleychurch.org.nz

Rev Simote Taunga
(Parish Minister)

021 033 3385/

simote@wesleychurch.org.nz

God With Us, Still

A short reflection on Mathew 1: 18-25 and Isaiah 7: 10-16

When Matthew tells the story of Jesus' birth, he begins not just with a baby but with a name: *Immanuel*, which means "God with us." It's a name pulled from Isaiah's prophecy, meant for a different time, now given fresh meaning in the story of Jesus.

At first glance, the Isaiah passage isn't about a distant future Messiah. It's about a sign for King Ahaz, facing military threats and political uncertainty. A child will be born, Isaiah says, and his name will be a reminder: God hasn't abandoned you.

Centuries later, Matthew sees a deeper thread. In Jesus, he says, this promise is fulfilled again – not just poetically, but personally. God is not above or beyond our struggles. God enters them. Through Mary's courage and Joseph's confusion, through Roman occupation and scandal, through flesh and bone – God is with us.

This isn't a story that demands historical proof. It's a story that invites faith. It invites us to look around and ask: Where do I see signs of Immanuel today?

God meets us in the mess, not just the miracle. Jesus' birth reminds us that divine love shows up in our ordinary, complicated lives.

Scripture speaks across time. Like Matthew, we're invited to read with heart and imagination, letting ancient words bring fresh hope today.

Ngā mihi, Philip Garside, 21 December 2025

LECTIONARY for 21 & 28 December 2025

December 21—Advent 4 04A

1st Reading

Is 7: 10-16

Psalm

Ps 80: 1-7,
17-19

2nd Reading

Rom 1: 1-7

Gospel

Mt 1: 18-25

December 28—Christmas 1 06A

1st Reading

Is 63: 7-9

Psalm

Ps 148

2nd Reading

Heb 2: 10-18

Gospel

Mt 2: 13-23

Parish Office

Parish Office staff:

Sarah Laurenson

sarah@wesleychurch.org.nz

Ph: 04 242 0173

Kula Bower

kula@wesleychurch.org.nz

Ph: 04 242 0174

Custodian

Sitiveni Pouvalu

027 724 9986

Office Hours

Tuesday to Friday

10am to 3pm

Prayers and Concerns



If you are bereaved, sick or in pain, isolating, or recovering from illness, may you feel our care and compassion at this time.

Upcoming Meetings

**10AM
TONGAN
SAMOAN
FIJIAN**

Leaders/Congregational

16th December 2025
tbc
tbc
1st Saturday of every month

F&R Meeting: TBC

January 2026

**First Sunday, 4th January - No Combined/
Congregation Sunday**

**Second Sunday, 11th January - This will be the
first Parish Combined Service.**

Lead Worship: Rev. Simote Taunga.

**Farewell service for Rev. Simote and Akesa
Taunga.**

**Everyone is kindly asked to bring refreshments
(10am & Samoan to host)**

NO OTHER CONGREGATION CHURCH SERVICE

February 2026

First Sunday, 1st February—2 Church Services

- **10am—Covenant Service—Rev. Joeli Ducivaki**

**There's no refreshments after this 10AM
Combined Service.**

- **6pm—Commissioning Service—Rev. Neti
Petaia**

Everyone is kindly asked to bring refreshments.

All are welcome to attend



What's Happening in our space?

Parish Notices:

Ministers Annual Leave

Rev. Simote—10th Dec to 20th Dec.2025
Rev. Joeli—22nd Dec 2025 to 4th Jan 2026
Rev. Suiva'aia—12th Jan to 31st Jan 2026

Office Closure

**Office will be closed on the
19th of December 2025 and it will re
open on the 6th of January 2026.**

Protect Our Equipment

Please do not tamper with the hall microphones. They are costly to replace, and opening them can cause wires to disconnect. If a microphone is not working, do not attempt to fix it yourself. Notify the Parish office immediately so the issue can be addressed properly.

Missing Equipment:

One lapel microphone is currently missing. If you know its whereabouts, please inform the parish office.



DCM Food Bank

Please help restock busy food-bank shelves with the following items such as ready meals/Soups, instant noodles, Tinned fish, coffee, tea, milk powder, biscuits/crackers and washing powder.

Doors and Windows

Congregation responsible for locking up to ensure that **all doors and windows are securely locked and lights switched off** before leaving the premises. Thank you for keeping our Church safe and secure.



THEME FOR December:

Advent

10AM

Sunday Roster

Sunday 21 December (Advent 4)

Worship Leader

Rev. Sikeli Cawanikawai

Organist

Vivien Chiu

Bible Reading

Alan Dine

Notice & Welcome

TBC

Door Stewards

Lepa & Sana Manuao

Morning tea

Hugh Laurenson

Sunday 28 December (Christmas 1)

Worship Leader

Rev. Suiva'aia Te'o

Organist

Colin Scarf

Bible Reading

Sarah Laurenson

Notice & Welcome

Alan Dine

Door Stewards

Sarah & Alan

Morning tea

Shared morning tea

Please note that 10am is rostered flower duty in December.

12pm

Tongan Congregation

Sunday 21 December (Advent 4)

Worship Leader

TBC

Lead Worship

TBC

Sunday 28 December (Christmas 1)

Worship Leader

TBC

Lead Worship

TBC

2pm

Samoaan Congregation

Sunday 21 December (Advent 4)

Worship Leader

Rev. Suiva'aia Te'o

Safety Briefing

TBC

Bible Reading

Edna

Sunday 28 December (Christmas 1)

Worship Leader

Rev. Suiva'aia Te'o

Safety Briefing

TBC

Bible Reading

Ese

4pm

Fijian Congregation

Sunday 21 December (Advent 4)

Worship Leader

Iliesa Tora

Lead Worship

Dauvunau

Sunday 28 December (Christmas 1)

Worship Leader

Titilia Ritova

Lead Worship

Dauvunau