



# 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 30 Whiringa-ā-rangi (November) 2025

*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/Congregation Sunday

#### Special Congregation Sundays

##### Christmas Eve Service:

24th Dec, Wednesday evening, 7:30pm

##### Christmas Day Service:

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



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.

#### 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

## Reforge for Peace

### *A short reflection on Isaiah 2:1-5 and Mathew 24:36-44*

The season of Advent begins not with manger scenes and lullabies, but with a wake-up call. Isaiah gives us a powerful image: weapons transformed into tools for life – swords beaten into plough-shares; spears turned into pruning hooks. It's a vision of peace, not just imagined, but actively chosen.

Matthew, on the other hand, jolts us with urgency: "Keep awake." The Son of Man is coming – not to destroy, but to disrupt. God's peace doesn't arrive quietly. It unsettles our comfort, interrupts our routines, and calls us into alert living.

Together, these readings remind us that peace isn't passive. It's a radical transformation – of systems, yes, but also of ourselves. Just like weapons can be reforged into gardening tools, our harsh words, hasty judgments, and deep anxieties can be reshaped into compassion, justice, and generous love. The call is to stay awake – not in fear, but in hope.

Advent invites us to prepare – not just for the birth of Christ, but for the breaking-in of God's peaceable kingdom. We wait, yes – but we also walk. We cultivate peace in daily acts: speaking gently, sharing freely, resisting injustice. Isaiah dreamed it. Jesus embodied it. Now we are invited to live it.

Peace begins with imagination – and requires our daily participation.

Staying awake means living alert to where God's love is breaking through.

***Ngā mihi. Philip Garside, 30 November 2025***

### LECTIONARY for 30 November & 07 December 2025

#### *November 30—Advent 1 01A*

##### **1st Reading**

Is 2: 1-5

##### **Psalm**

Ps 122

##### **2nd Reading**

Rom 13: 11-14

##### **Gospel**

Mt 24: 36-44

#### *December 07—Advent 2 02A*

##### **1st Reading**

Is 11: 1-10

##### **Psalm**

Ps 72: 1-7,  
18-19

##### **2nd Reading**

Rom 15: 4-13

##### **Gospel**

Mt 03: 1-12

### *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.** 😊

**NO OTHER CONGREGATION CHURCH SERVICE  
FOR THIS SUNDAY.**

### February 2026

**First Sunday, 1st February—2 Church Services**

- **10am**—Covenant Service—Rev. Joeli Ducivaki
- **6pm**—Commissioning Service—Rev. Neti Petaia

**Everyone is kindly asked to bring refreshments.**  
All are welcome to attend

### Congregation Notices:

**10am**

**Shared lunch** in the new hall after the service on  
the 14th of December. Please bring a plate.

### Tongan

-Weekly exercises at Aotea Lagoon every Monday  
and Thursday.

## What's Happening in our space?

### Parish Notices:

**IMPORTANT  
REMINDER**

If you are using either of the halls, please remember to double check that all doors including the bottom door to the ramp area are all locked.



### Blood Drive—Lend a Hand, Save a Life!

Join us for a blood donation event in the  
**New Hall on Tuesday, 2nd December  
2025, from 8.30am to 1.30pm.**

### Parish Christmas Party

**Theme:** This Christmas  
Be Bright, Merry & Joy-  
ful



**When:** 6th December 2025

**Start:** 6pm

**Where:** New Hall

*Bring a plate to share, join in the Carols Parade, Christmas activities and together await the birth of Jesus Christ this Christmas.*

**meeting**

### Parish Council Executive Meeting

**When:** Tuesday 9th Dec

**Start:** 7pm

**Zoom link will be sent out soon.**

### 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

### New face in the office



Varanise has joined our team to help  
during this busy period.

THEME FOR NOVEMBER:

Advent

10AM	Sunday Roster		
	<i>Sunday 30 November (Advent 1)</i>		<i>Sunday 07 December (Advent 2)</i>
Worship Leader	Niko Bower	Worship Leader	Rev. Suiva’aia
Organist	Colin Scarf	Organist	Vivien Chiu
Bible Reading	Daphne Pilaar	Bible Reading	Melina Takau-Samson
Notice & Welcome	Heather Garside	Notice & Welcome	Leatuavao
Door Stewards	Lusi. T & Mate. F	Door Stewards	Joy Grove & Melina
Morning Tea	Garside Family	Morning tea	Masoe Family
<i>*Please note that 10am is rostered for flower duty in December.</i>			

12pm	Tongan Congregation		
	<i>Sunday 30 November (Advent 1)</i>		<i>Sunday 07 December (Advent 2)</i>
Worship Leader	TBC	Worship Leader	TBC
Lead Worship	TBC	Lead Worship	TBC

2pm	Samoan Congregation		
	<i>Sunday 30 November (Advent 1)</i>		<i>Sunday 07 December (Advent 2)</i>
Worship Leader	Lotu Itumalo– Rev. Sui	Worship Leader	Rev. Suiva’aia Te’o
Safety Briefing	TBC	Safety Briefing	TBC
Bible Reading	TBC	Bible Reading	TBC

4pm	Fijian Congregation		
	<i>Sunday 30 November (Advent 1)</i>		<i>Sunday 07 December (Advent 2)</i>
Worship Leader	Waisale Muatabu	Worship Leader	Rev. Joeli Ducivaki
Lead Worship	Saioni	Lead Worship	Tovata