



## 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 10 Haratua (May) 2026

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

*\* Every first Sunday is our Parish Combined Church Service at 10AM.*

#### Upcoming Sundays

**10 May—Mothers Day Service—Rev. Suiva'aia Te'o**  
**17 May—Normal Sunday Service—Niko Bower**  
**24 May—Normal Sunday Service—Kisione Finau**  
**31 May—Café Service—Hugh Laurenson**  
**7 June—Combined and Holy Communion Service—Rev. Suiva'aia**

#### 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

**Kisione Finau**  
**(Student Supply)**  
021 034 9755/  
kisione@wesleychurch.org.nz

## The God Who Is Not Far Away

*A short reflection on John 14:15-21 and Act 17:22-31*

On the night before his death, Jesus speaks tenderly in Gospel of John. “I will not leave you orphaned,” he promises. Love, he says, is not proven by emotion alone but by lived commitment: love of God and neighbour woven into daily life. And with that love comes a gift – the Spirit – not as a prize for the holy few, but as God’s ongoing presence within us.

Then, in Acts of the Apostles, we find Paul standing on the Areopagus in Athens. He tells the crowd that God is not confined to temples or shrines. “In him we live and move and have our being.” God is not distant. Not hidden away. God is the very ground beneath our existence.

Together, these readings speak of presence. Jesus promises the Spirit within. Paul declares God already surrounding and sustaining us. This is not abandonment but transformation. The relationship changes shape – but it does not end.

For us in Aotearoa, amid questions of belonging and justice, this matters deeply. If God is this near, then love is not optional. Hospitality is not optional. Turning toward justice is not optional. Repentance is not about shame; it’s about reorientation – choosing again the way of aroha.

The good news is simple and profound: we are not alone. The Spirit is not scarce. God is not far away. Love makes God visible. When we practise patient, courageous love, others encounter the Spirit through us. Turn toward life. Repentance means realigning our habits with God’s justice, compassion, and welcome.

Ngā mihi, Philip Garside, Easter 6 | 10 May 2026

You can also see these reflections online here: <https://philipgarsidebooks.com/blogs/short-reflections>

### LECTIONARY for 10 May & 17 May 2026

#### *May 10—Easter 6*

<b>1st Reading</b>	<b>Psalm</b>	<b>2nd Reading</b>	<b>Gospel</b>
Acts 17:22-31	Ps 66:8-20	1 Peter 3:13-22	Jn 14:15-21

#### *May 17—Easter 7*

<b>1st Reading</b>	<b>Psalm</b>	<b>2nd Reading</b>	<b>Gospel</b>
Acts 1:6-14	Ps 68:1-10, 32-35	1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11	Jn 17: 1-11

### *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

### Parish Meetings

Parish Executive: Tbc

F&R Meeting: Thursday 11th June, 7pm.

Parish Council: Sunday 7th June

### Leaders/Congregational

<b>10AM</b>	3rd Tuesday of every month
<b>TONGAN</b>	tbc
<b>SAMOAN</b>	20th June, Saturday @ 10am—Old Hall
<b>FIJIAN</b>	1st Saturday of every month

### 10AM

#### Coordinator Needed

We're seeking someone to coordinate the 10am rosters.

Contact **Leatuavao** or **Daphne** if you can help.

[leatuavaov@gmail.com](mailto:leatuavaov@gmail.com) or [daphne.keith@xtra.co.nz](mailto:daphne.keith@xtra.co.nz)

#### Concert

Festival Singers of Wellington and Renaissance Singers from Palmerston North present **Requiem to Radiance**, a concert of powerful and uplifting choral music at **3.00pm, Sunday 17 May 2026** at **St James Anglican Church, Lower Hutt**. See [festivalsingersnz.org](http://festivalsingersnz.org) for info and bookings.

### Fijian

**27 June**— Bose Vulatolu and Jesirieli Day

### Samoan

- Aso Sa Tina, lotu 2pm taitaina e Tina uma o le matagaluega. Faia le tatou toonai pe a maea le sauniga. Aumai le toonai a le aiga faamolemole.
- Riviū galuega a le faifeau, Aso Toonai 16 Me, amata I le lotu ma le morning tea, faamolemole aumai foi sina Taitai mo le iputi faapea foi ma le tatou taumafataga o le aoauli. Ia tatou auai uma I lea aso taua aua le toe iloiloaina o le galuega a le susuga I le faifeau ma le aiga.

## What's Happening in our space?

### **Parish Notices:**

#### Rev Suiva'aia Te'o's first year review

Rev Suiva'aia Te'o's first year review will be held on **Saturday 16 May at 10am**, led by the Synod Superintendent and team. The morning will begin with devotions, followed by morning tea. Parish members are invited to share reflections on Rev Sui's ministry. **Lunch at 12pm** and then everyone is dismissed, while superintendent meets with the Samoan Congregation, and afterwards with Rev Sui and her family.

**Missing Tables** – We have been informed that the following tables are missing from the parish:

- 1 large table
- 2 medium tables
- 4 small tables

If you (or someone you know) has borrowed parish tables, please contact the parish office so we can update our records. Thank you.

**Note!!!** The freezer between the New Hall and Old Hall is Café (August Eatery) property. Do not open or remove items.

#### PARISH EVENT LEAD BY THE YOUTH:

1. **30 May** after the Parish Workshop – youth will lead us in this Wesley Day event. Please come along and bring something to share for lunch. Our Wesley day event will only be for 2 and a half hours long.
2. HC Sunday service in September, the youth will lead the service, and Rev Joeli will preach the word and preside over HC.
3. Christmas Eve – the youth will bring Christmas skits and songs of this season, while Rev Sui brings the reflection.

With all these events going on, each of the youth 'Brings a Can' and that will go toward foodbank for DCM.

**INVITING ALL CONGREGATIONS TO BE PART OF THE YOUTH PLANS FOR 2026! JOHN WESLEY SAID, "BEST OF ALL, GOD IS WITH US".**

**HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY TO ALL MOMS,  
BOTH HERE ON EARTH AND UP IN HEAVEN**

**THEME FOR May:**

**Easter 6**

**10AM Sunday Roster**

*Sunday 10 May Easter 6*

**Worship Leader** Rev. Suiva'aia Te'o  
**Organist** Vivien Chiu  
**Notices & Welcome** Hugh Laurenson  
**Bible Readings** Joy Grove  
**Door Steward & Warden** Masoe Family  
**Morning tea** Philippa Conway, Bill Ryan, Deborah Wiltshire

*Sunday 17 May Easter 7*

**Worship Leader** Niko Bower  
**Organist** Colin Scarf  
**Notices & Welcome** Leatuavao  
**Bible Reading** Norbert  
**Door Steward & Warden** Philippa Conway & Bill Ryan  
**Morning tea** Ruth & Ian Taylor

*\*We thank the Fijian Congregation for looking after our flowers this month.*

*\* Samoans are on the flower roster next month.*

**12pm Tongan Congregation**

*Sunday 10 May, Easter 6*

**Worship Leader** 'Alisi Finau (Sapate fa'e)  
**Dawn Service** 'Apitanga Palu

*Sunday 17 May, Easter 7*

**Worship Leader** Sioli Havea  
**Dawn Service** Siasi Pouvalu

**2pm Samoan Congregation**

*Sunday 10 May, Easter 6*

**Worship Leader** Tina Matagaluega  
**Safety Briefing & Bible Reading** Eugenie Leuma

*Sunday 17 May, Easter 7*

**Worship Leader** Sara Taupau-Va'ai  
**Safety Briefing & Bible Reading** Sina Pupulu

**4pm Fijian Congregation**

*Sunday 10 May, Easter 6*

**Worship Leader** Mothers  
**Lead Worship**

*Sunday 17 May, Easter 7*

**Worship Leader** Isaia Vakamoce  
**Lead Worship** Sailoama