



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 16 Here-turi-kōkā (August) 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
12.30pm	Fijian Service (Old Hall)
2.00pm	Samoan Service

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

Upcoming Sundays

16 August—10AM Church Service—Niko Bower

23 August—10AM Church Service—Shelly Rao

30 August—Café Service—Kisione Finau

06 September—HC & Combined Service—Rev. Joeli Ducivaki

Ministry Team

Rev Joeli Ducivaki
(Parish Superintendent)

027 466 1036/
Joeli@wesleychurch.org.nz

Rev Suiva'aia Te'o
(Parish Minister)

027 684 1573/
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Kisione Finau
(Student Supply)

021 034 9755/
kisione@wesleychurch.org.nz

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

Mercy That Crosses Borders

A short reflection based on Genesis 45:11-15 and Mathew 15:10-28

These readings speak to the deep places where life hurts: betrayal, harsh words, exclusion, and the longing to belong. Joseph has every reason to punish his brothers. They sold him into slavery and tore his family apart. Yet when they stand before him in Egypt, hungry and afraid, Joseph weeps. He doesn't pretend the past was harmless, but he refuses to let it decide the future. Mercy opens a new path.

In Matthew, Jesus teaches that what comes out of our mouths reveals what's in our hearts. Words can wound, shame, divide, and dehumanise. But words can also heal, encourage, and restore. In a world of online anger and public cruelty, this matters.

Then we meet the Canaanite woman, a mother who refuses to be ignored. She pushes past silence and rejection because her daughter needs healing. Her courage widens the circle of mercy. Grace crosses the boundary between insider and outsider.

Together, these readings remind us that God is at work in broken places. Families can begin again. Communities can choose compassion over contempt. The excluded can become teachers of faith. And we can learn to speak, act, and live in ways that make room for healing.

The good news isn't that life is easy. The good news is that mercy is stronger than revenge, love is wider than fear, and God is still bringing life out of pain.

Mercy can interrupt cycles of hurt. Forgiveness doesn't erase harm, but it can stop bitterness from ruling the future.

Grace widens the circle. God calls us to listen to those pushed aside and to cross boundaries with compassion.

Ngā mihi, Philip Garside, 16 August 2026 | Pentecost 12

LECTIONARY for 16 & 23 August 2026

August 16—Pentecost 12

1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel
Gen 45:1-15,	Ps 133	Rom 11:1-2a, 29-32	Mt 15:(10-20) 21-28

August 23—Pentecost 13

1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel
Ex 1:8- 2:10	Ps 124	Rom 12:1-8	Mt 16:13-20

Parish Office

Parish Office staff:

Sarah Laurenson
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Custodian
Sitiveni Pouvalu
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Adeline Teo
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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: Thursday 20th August—7pm Online
F&R Meeting: Thursday 27th August, 7pm.
Parish Council: Thursday 10th September –7pm Online

Leaders/Congregational

10AM	3rd Tue of every month
TONGAN	tbc
SAMOAN	tbc
FIJIAN	1st Sat of every month

10AM

- **Knit and knatter on Wednesday 19 August @ 11am** in the **meeting room**.

Samoan

- Rev. Sui and reps from Wesley Wellington Samoan will be away for Sinoti AGM from **Wednesday 13th to Sunday 16th of this month**. Others will be joining the 10am congregation for worship on Sunday.
- **Sunday 23rd the Sunday School** begins again at 12pm for Lotu Tamaiti practices.

Fijian

Ena dua tikoga noda lotu na macawa oqo, ka na qaravi tiko mai **Masterton**. Sa Kerei meda vakaligaliga tiko yani nai coi ni ti me veivuke vei ratou na wekadatou mai **Wairarapa**. **Lotu ena 1.30pm**.

Book Exchange Room!

The room beside the main entrance of the new hall has been set up as a book exchange space—just ask any office staff member or Minister if you'd like to have a look. There's a great selection of books and resource materials available for free! No Food allowed!

What's Happening in our space?

Parish Notices:



Calling all Parish Youth

Youths' first practice is this **Sunday, 23rd and 30th August after the Samoan service**. Please come along and be part of preparing for **Youth Sunday worship** on **Sunday 6th September**.



World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women

We extend our heartfelt best wishes to all the women of our Parish as they prepare for the upcoming **15th World Assembly**, to be held from **25–29 August 2026 in Auckland**. May this special gathering be a time of blessing, encouragement, unity, and renewed faith. We pray that God will guide and strengthen each of you, and that your participation will be filled with joy, wisdom, and fellowship.

Methodist Conference Attendance

Parish ministers and lay reps are preparing to attend the Methodist Conference, to be held from **2–7 October** at **Wesley College in Paerata**. The Ministerial Team will be accompanied by **Daphne Pilaar, Sara Va'ai, and Sitiveni Pouvalu**. Please keep all those attending in your prayers as they represent our parish and take part in the wider life and mission of the Church.

Training Workshop

TRAINING WORKSHOP

Empowering Parish Councils

For all Parish Councillors (current and prospective), church leaders, and anyone interested in learning how a Parish Council successfully operates.

📅 **Saturday 25 July**
9am - 3.30pm
Levin Uniting Church,
87 Oxford Street, Levin

📅 **Saturday 22 August**
9am - 3.30pm
Tawa Union Church,
6 Elena Place, Tawa, Wellington

✓ **PARISH COUNCILS** - roles and responsibilities

✓ **REGISTERED CHARITIES** - legal requirements

✓ **STRATEGIC PLANNING** - what and why

✓ **FINANCIAL WELLBEING** - building confidence and capability

✓ **PROPERTY CHANGE** - understanding processes & practical steps

👤 **PRESENTERS:** Rev. Sandra Williams (Synod Exec, Parish Presbyter); Sesilili Kato (Property Secretary); Glen Williams (Finance Advisor)

✉ Register your interest via email ministars@levinuniting.org.nz

🌐 Visit Our Facebook Page facebook.com/LevinUniting

THEME FOR August:

Pentecost

10AM SUNDAY ROSTER			
<i>Sunday 16 August Pentecost 12</i>		<i>Sunday 23 August Pentecost 13</i>	
Worship Leader	Niko Bower	Worship Leader	Shelly Rao
Organist	Colin Scarf	Organist	Vivien Chiu
Notices & Welcome	Alan Dine	Notices & Welcome	Hugh Laurenson
Bible Readings	Melina Takau-Samson	Bible Readings	Joy Grove
Door Steward & Warden	Masoe Family	Door Steward & Warden	Fesilafai & Leatuavao
Morning tea	Daphne Pilaar/Hugh Laurenson	Morning tea	Sarah Laurenson/Alan Dine
<i>* We thank the 10AM Congregation for looking after our flowers this month.</i>			
<i>*Fijian Congregation are on the flower roster next month.</i>			

12pm Tongan Congregation	
<i>Sunday 16 August Pentecost 12</i>	
Worship Leader	Mele Mahoni
Dawn Service	Telusila Havea
<i>Sunday 23 August Pentecost 13</i>	
Worship Leader	Tu’ifua Kamoto
Dawn Service	Sisilili Kamoto

1pm Samoan Congregation	
<i>Sunday 16 August Pentecost 12</i>	
Worship Leader	Worship with 10AM
Safety Briefing & Bible Reading	
<i>Sunday 23 August Pentecost 13</i>	
Worship Leader	Sara Va’ai
Safety Briefing & Bible Reading	Aria Holmes

12:30pm Fijian Congregation	
<i>Sunday 16 August Pentecost 12</i>	
<i>Community Combined Service</i>	
Worship Leader	Masterton
Lead Worship	Masterton
Dawn Service	Luke Tuisinu
<i>Sunday 23 August Pentecost 13</i>	
Worship Leader	Parataisi
Lead Worship	Masterton
Dawn Service	Kula Bower