



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

18 Whiringa-a-nuku (October) 2026

WELCOME!

Greetings



Nau Mai, Haere Mai



Mālō e lelei



Bula Vinaka



Talofa Lava



Mhoro



Nǐ hǎo



Namaste

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

10:00am - Parish Combined Service

No Church Service - Tongan Service

12:00pm - Samoan Service

4:00pm - Fijian Service

PARISH NEWCOMERS

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.

UPCOMING PARISH COMBINED CHURCH SERVICE

1 November: 10AM Service Kisione Finau

6 December: 10AM Service Rev. Joeli Ducivaki



24 December: Christmas Eve (time tbc) Rev. Suiva'aia Te'o

25 December: Christmas Day (time tbc) 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
sui@wesleychurch.org.nz

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

Parish Office: 75 Taranaki Street, Wellington, New Zealand
Office Phone: (04) 3847695
Email: office@wesleychurch.org.nz

Parish Bulletin

Rātapu 18 Whiringa-a-nuku (October) 2026

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

Bearing the Image of God

A short reflection based on Exodus 33:12-23 and Matthew 22:15-22

A golden calf and a silver coin seem like very different objects. Yet both readings ask the same question: What deserves our deepest loyalty? In Exodus, the people become afraid when Moses is away longer than expected. God seems distant, so they create something they can see and control. Their golden calf offers the illusion of certainty. We may not make statues from melted jewellery, but we still create idols. Success, money, political power, technology, or even the approval of others can begin to occupy the place that belongs to God.

Moses responds differently. He doesn't create an easy answer. He asks God for reassurance: "Show me your glory." God gives him only a glimpse. Faith

doesn't always provide complete certainty. Sometimes God gives us enough light for the next step and enough grace to continue the journey. In Matthew, Jesus is shown a coin bearing Caesar's image. He replies, "Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and to God what belongs to God." The deeper question is this: what bears God's image?

We do. Every human being carries the image of God. Governments may claim our taxes, employers may purchase our time, and political groups may seek our support, but none of them owns our soul. When we recognise God's image in others, human dignity becomes sacred. We are called to resist systems that diminish people and to treat even those we find difficult with compassion, justice, and respect. Our lives belong to the One whose image is already written within us. Name your idols: Good things become dangerous when they receive the trust and devotion that belong to God. Honour God's image: Every person deserves dignity, compassion, justice, and love. Ngā mihi, Philip Garside - 18 October 2026 | Pentecost 21



LECTIONARY READINGS

<i>Oct 18—Pentecost 21</i>				
1st Reading		Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel
Ex 33: 12-23		Ps 99	1 Thes 1:1-10	Mt 22:15-22
<i>Oct 25 – Pentecost 22</i>				
1st Reading		Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel
Deut 34: 1-12		Ps 90: 1-6, 13-17	1 Thes 2:1-8	Mt 22:34-46

Parish Office: 75 Taranaki Street, Wellington, New Zealand

Office Phone: (04) 3847695

Email: office@wesleychurch.org.nz

PARISH NOTICES:

UNDERSTANDING AND RESPONDING TO ABUSE

Through its Conference, Te Hahi Weteriana has called upon our churches across the motu to develop a clearer understanding of abuse and the appropriate actions to take when concerns arise. Posters explaining the definition of abuse and the recommended steps for responding will be displayed on noticeboards throughout the Parish in several languages. We encourage everyone to take time to read this important information.

Care of Our Church Facilities

A friendly reminder to everyone who uses the Old Hall and the Chapel: please dispose of all rubbish, including paper and lolly wrappers, in the appropriate bins. After using these spaces, please leave them clean and tidy, ready for the next person or group. Thank you for helping us care for our shared church facilities.

Concert (Free Entry - Donations Welcome)

Donations are gratefully accepted to help cover event expenses.

All Features Great and Small

Featuring **Roy Tankersley** performing on two pipe organs, presented by the **Wellington Organists Association**.

📍 **St Andrew's on The Terrace, Wellington**

📅 **24 October 2026**

🕒 **3:00 pm**

All are welcoming for an afternoon of exceptional organ music.

Compost bins have been placed in the **New Hall foyer** and **Old Hall kitchen**. Please read flyers of what we can put in the compost bins. Bins emptied early Monday mornings.



PARISH STAFF:

Sarah Laurenson

sarah@wesleychurch.org.nz

Ph: 04 242 0173

Kula Bower

kula@wesleychurch.org.nz

Ph: 04 242 0174

Adeline Teo

adeline@wesleychurch.org.nz

Ph: 04 242 0175

Custodian

Sitiveni Pouvalu

027 724 9986

Weekend Custodian

Suliasi Mocevakaca

028 4071397

CONGREGATION EVENTS!

Parish Break Up – Cultural evening on 7 Nov from 6pm in the New Hall. Each congregation is to prepare an item.

PARISH OUTREACH

DCM Foodbank Collection

Date: Saturday 21 November, 9am—1pm

Location: New World Newtown

Contact: Sarah in the Parish Office if you can help, sarah@wesleychurch.org.nz

10AM

21 Oct Knit and Knatter on Wed, 11am – Office Meeting room. All welcome.

Fijian

25 Oct Youth Week

21 Nov Koroturaga Day (Annual Misinale)

Samoan

25 Oct District Youth Rally at St Marks Wesley on Labour Weekend.

22 Nov Final combined service and meetings for the Lay Preachers, Womens Fellowship and District, held in Masterton end of November.

Tongan

25 Oct Annual Misinale

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

7 Nov Social Committee Parish Break-Up for 2026
Parish Cultural Night, 6pm, New hall.
Each congregation is to prepare an item.

4 Dec (Fri) Parish Outreach Christmas lunch. More info will be circulated close to the time.



Parish Office: 75 Taranaki Street, Wellington, New Zealand

Office Phone: (04) 3847695

Email: office@wesleychurch.org.nz

ROSTERS: 18 & 25 Oct

10AM Sunday Roster - Combined Service

This Sunday

Lead Worship:	Rev. Suiva'aia Te'o
Introit:	Samoan Choir
Anthem	Fijian
Bible Readers:	10AM & Fijian
Car Park Wardens	10AM
Door Steward	Fijian
Holy Communion Prep	Fijian
Singing at Holy Comm	Tongans
Refreshments	No Refreshments
Flowers	Samoan

Next Sunday, 10AM

Worship Leader	Shelly Rao
Organist	Vivien Chiu
Notices & Welcome	Leatuavao
Bible Readings	Sven Heger
Door Steward & Warden	Sarah Laurenson & Hugh Laurenson
Morning tea	Manuao Family

12PM Tongan Congregation

This Sunday – No church service this Sunday

Worship Leader	No Church Service
Dawn Service	

Next Sunday

Worship Leader	Tukumo'ui (Misinale)
Dawn Service	tbc

12PM Samoan Congregation

This Sunday

Worship Leader	Pulpit Exchange – Muaáu Saó
----------------	-----------------------------

Next Sunday, 2pm

Worship Leader – No Service at church>	
Youth Rally – St Marks Wesley	

4PM Fijian Congregation

This Sunday

Worship Leader	Titilia Ritova
Lead Worship	Sailoama Matasiga
Dawn Service	Fuluna Tuimoce

Next Sunday, 4pm

Worship Leader	Youth
Lead Worship	Youth
Dawn Service	Youth

COMBINED SERVICE

ROSTER: Nov. & Dec.

COMBINED SERVICE: 1 NOVEMBER

Lead Worship:	Kisione Finau
Introit:	Tongan Choir
Anthem	Samoan
Bible Readers:	Fijian & Samoan
Car Park Wardens	Samoan
Door Steward	10AM
Holy Communion Prep	10AM
Singing at Holy Comm	Fijian
Refreshments	Tongan
Flowers	Tongan

COMBINED SERVICE: 6 DECEMBER

Lead Worship:	Rev. Joeli Ducivaki
Introit:	Fijian Choir
Anthem	Tongan
Bible Readers:	Samoan & Tongan
Car Park Wardens	Fijian
Door Steward	Tongan
Holy Communion Prep	Tongan
Singing at Holy Comm	Samoan
Refreshments	Fijian
Flowers	10AM

MEETINGS NOTICES

PARISH MEETINGS

➤ **Parish AGM**

1 Nov (after Combined Service)

➤ **Parish Executive Meeting**

A Parish Executive Meeting will be held on Friday, 27 November, at 6.00 p.m., at the church, 75 Taranaki Street. Members are warmly invited to attend. The meeting agenda will be made available early next week.

➤ **F&R—last Thursday of every month.**

Leaders/Congregational Meetings

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

Parish Office: 75 Taranaki Street, Wellington, New Zealand

Office Phone: (04) 3847695

Email: office@wesleychurch.org.nz