



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 26 Hōngongi (July) 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

26 July—10AM Church Service—Hugh Laurenson
02 August—HC & Combined Service—Rev. Neti Petaia
09 August—10AM Church Service—Shelly Rao

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

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

The Kingdom Hidden in Plain Sight

A short reflection based on Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Jesus' parables remind us that God's Kingdom often begins in ways we hardly notice. A tiny mustard seed. A little yeast. Treasure hidden in a field. A pearl discovered after long searching. These aren't images of power, wealth, or religious certainty. They are ordinary things, found in ordinary life, yet Jesus says they reveal the way God works.

The Kingdom of Heaven isn't simply about life after death. It's God's dream taking root here and now – in compassion, justice, generosity, healing, and welcome. Like yeast in bread dough, God's love can work quietly beneath the surface. Like a seed, it may begin small and grow into shelter for others.

This is encouraging when the world feels heavy. We may look at inequality, loneliness, climate grief, violence, or division and wonder whether small acts of love make any difference. Jesus says they do. A shared meal, a kind word, a brave act of inclusion, a choice to forgive, a stand for justice – these are Kingdom seeds.

The parable of the net also reminds us that God's welcome is wide. The Kingdom gathers "fish of every kind." The church is called not to narrow Christ's embrace, but to widen it – especially for those pushed aside or made to feel unworthy.

The Kingdom is hidden in plain sight. We discover it when we learn what truly matters, and then live as though love, dignity, and justice are worth everything.

Small acts matter: God's Kingdom grows through everyday compassion, courage, and hospitality.

God's welcome is wide: The church is called to make room for all kinds of people, not just the respectable or familiar.

Ngā mihi, Philip Garside, 26 July 2026 | Pentecost 9

LECTIONARY for 26 July & 02 August 2026

July 26—Pentecost 9

1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel
Gen 29:15-28	Ps 105:1-11, 45b or Ps 128	Rom 8:26-39	Mt 13:31-33, 44-52

August 02—Pentecost 10

1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel
Gen 32:22-31	Ps 17:1-7, 15	Rom 9:1-5	Mt 14:13-21

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

Adeline Teo
accounts@wesleychurch.org.nz
Ph: 04 242 0175

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

F&R Meeting: Thursday 30th July, 7pm.

Parish Executive: Thursday 20th August—7pm Online

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

- **Next Sunday 02 August**—This is a Holy communion and combined service—Can everyone please contribute a plate of kai.

Volunteer Needed: 10am Roster Co-ordinator

The 10am Congregation is seeking a volunteer to co-ordinate the 10am roster. This role takes about one hour each month and would suit someone organised and comfortable using Excel.

If you can help, please speak with Daphne or any of the 10am Leaders, or email

10amleadersmeeting@wesleychurch.org.nz.

Fijian — Sunday 26 July

- Talivunau —**Joritani**
- Lesilesi ni Dauvunau I Masterton—**Maikali Bulicakau**
- Raimate: Hutt area—**Anaseini Osborne**
Wellington area—**Samuela Kanakatakata**

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:

Vice President— Rev. Peter Norman

Visit of the Vice President of the Church – **Sun 26 July**: Preaching at **10:00 AM**, followed by refreshments and a Strategic New Model presentation. All welcome, **please bring a plate.**

Upcoming Synod and Fellowship Meetings

Please keep the following church gatherings and synod meetings in your prayers over the coming weeks:

- **Vahefonua Tonga** – 23–26 July, Auckland.
- **Sinoti Samoa** – 13–16 August, Auckland.

We uphold all delegates, leaders and participants in prayer as they gather for worship, fellowship and important discussions concerning the life and mission of the Church.

Kind Reminder

- **This Sunday 26 July**—everyone is asked to bring a plate for as we are hosting the Vice President of the Church—**Rev. Peter Norman.**

DCM FOOD BANK

Please help restock busy foodbank shelves with the following items

- Ready meals/soups
- Instant noodles
- Tinned fish
- Coffee, tea, milk powder
- Biscuits and crackers
- Washing powder



May you all have a Blessed Weekend!

THEME FOR July:

Pentecost

10AM SUNDAY ROSTER			
Sunday 26 July Pentecost 9		Sunday 02 August Pentecost 10 HC & Combined Service Roster	
Worship Leader	Hugh Laurenson	Worship Leader	Rev. Neti Petaia
Preacher	Vice President of the Methodist Church of New Zealand	Organist	Colin Scarf
Organist	Vivien Chiu	Introit	Tongan
Notices & Welcome	Daphne Pilaar	Bible Readings	Fijian/Samoan
Bible Readings	Sarah Laurenson	Anthem	Fijian Choir
Door Steward & Warden	Philippa Conway	HC Prep & Door Steward	Tongan
Morning tea	Leatuavao Family	Singing HC	Samoan Choir
		Carpark Warden	Fijian
		Refreshments	10AM
*10AM are on the flower roster next month.		* We thank the Tongan Congregation for looking after our flowers this month.	

12pm Tongan Congregation			
Sunday 26 July Pentecost 9		Sunday 02 August Pentecost 10	
Worship Leader	Combine with 10AM	Worship Leader	Parish Combined Service
Dawn Service		Dawn Service	

1pm Samoan Congregation			
Sunday 26 July Pentecost 9		Sunday 02 July Pentecost 10	
Worship Leader	Mr Fuiavailili Mataitai	Worship Leader	Parish Combined Service
Safety Briefing & Bible Reading	Tylar Va'ai	Safety Briefing & Bible Reading	

12:30pm Fijian Congregation			
Sunday 26 July Pentecost 9		Sunday 02 August Pentecost 10	
Worship Leader	Waisale Muatabu	Worship Leader	Parish Combined Service
Lead Worship	Youth	Lead Worship	
Dawn Service	Marica Ducivaki	Dawn Service	