



**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 05 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**

**05 July— HC & Combined Service—Kisione Finau**  
**12 July—10AM Church Service—Rev. Suiva'aia Te'o**  
**19 July—10AM Church Service—Philip Garside**  
**26 July—10AM Church Service—Hugh Laurenson**

#### *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>

## Wisdom in Unexpected Places

*A short reflection based on Genesis 24:34-38 Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30*

These readings invite us to notice how God often works quietly, through ordinary people, honest decisions, and open hearts. In Genesis, Abraham's servant sets out without knowing exactly what will happen. Rebekah, too, steps into an unknown future with courage. Her "yes" is not passive. It is brave, costly, and full of trust. Through her willingness, healing and new life begin to unfold for Isaac.

In Matthew, Jesus challenges people who refuse to listen. John the Baptist is dismissed for being too strict. Jesus is dismissed for being too welcoming. The problem is not the message, but the assumptions people bring about the messenger. That speaks powerfully to us today. We can miss wisdom because it comes from someone unexpected, someone uncomfortable, or someone whose voice unsettles us.

Jesus then offers a beautiful invitation: "Come to me, all you that are weary... and I will give you rest." This isn't an escape from responsibility. A yoke still means work. But Christ's yoke is shared, shaped by grace, compassion, and trust. We don't have to carry every burden alone.

The good news is that wisdom is still present among us. It's seen in lives that bear fruit: justice, kindness, courage, and love. God invites us to listen more deeply, risk loving more bravely, and share the load more generously. In doing so, we begin to glimpse Christ's lighter way.

Listen beyond assumptions. God's wisdom may come through voices we do not expect. Share the burden. Jesus doesn't remove every struggle but walks with us in it.

Ngā mihi, Philip Garside, Pentecost 6 | 5 July 2026

### LECTIONARY for 05 & 12 July 2026

#### July 05—Pentecost 6

1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel
Gen 24:34-38 42-49, 58-67	Ps 45:10-17 or Song Sol 2:8-13	Rom 7:15-25a	Mt 11:16-19,25-30

#### July 12—Pentecost 7

1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel
Gen 25:19-34	Ps 119:105-112	Rom 8:1-11	Mt 13:1-9, 18-23

### 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 30th July, 7pm.

Parish Council: Sunday 6th September.

### Leaders/Congregational

<b>10AM</b>	3rd Tue of every month
<b>TONGAN</b>	tbc
<b>SAMOAN</b>	tbc
<b>FIJIAN</b>	1st Sat of every month

### 10AM

#### **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](mailto:10amleadersmeeting@wesleychurch.org.nz).

### Fijian

- **4th July Saturday**—Bose Vulavou @ 4pm
- **5th July Sunday**— Parish Combined service @ 10am—Refreshments.

### Samoan

- \* **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July** is NYSA youth fundraiser at Courtney place. Movies – Moana 2 @ 4.30pm please see Sina or Ese fora ticket.
- \* **Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July** volleyball tournament – itumalo autalavou
- \* **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July** – Faiga taulaga matagaluega.

## *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:

#### 5th July (Sun) – Parish Key Register update

We need to update the Parish key register. The office window will be open after the Combined Service. If you currently hold a Parish key, please come to the office, as all keyholders are required to re-register their keys.



### Important Dates

- **Parish Officers:** Mrs Suruva Tikoca appointed **Treasurer**; Mrs Adeline Teo appointed **Accounts Clerk**. Commissioning: **Sun 5 July**.
- **Combined Service – Sun 5 July:** **Kisione** will deliver a **Critic Sermon** for Student Supply Ministry.
- 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.

### Wesley Church Blood Drive



## WESLEY CHURCH BLOOD DRIVE

75 Taranaki St, Te Aro

**Monday 13th July**  
1pm - 6pm

### **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

**THEME FOR July:**

**Pentecost**

**10AM SUNDAY ROSTER**

*Sunday 05 July Pentecost 6*

*Parish Combined & Holy Communion*

*Service*

<b>Worship Leader</b>	Kisione Finau
<b>Organist</b>	Colin Scarf
<b>Introit</b>	Fijian
<b>Bible Readings</b>	10AM/Fijian
<b>Anthem</b>	Fijian
<b>HC Prep &amp; Door Steward</b>	10AM
<b>Singing HC</b>	Tongan
<b>Morning tea</b>	Fijian
<b>Carpark Warden</b>	Samoan

*Sunday 12 July Pentecost 7*

<b>Worship Leader</b>	Rev. Suiva'aia
<b>Organist</b>	Vivien Chiu
<b>Notices &amp; Welcome</b>	Leatuavao
<b>Bible Readings</b>	Samuel Burt
<b>Door Steward &amp; Warden</b>	Alan Dine
<b>Morning tea</b>	Daphne Pilaar Garside Family

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

*\*10AM are on the flower roster next month.*

**12pm Tongan Congregation**

*Sunday 05 July Pentecost 6*

**Worship Leader** Parish Combined Service  
**Dawn Service**

*Sunday 12 July Pentecost 7*

**Worship Leader** Maklakai Masila  
**Dawn Service** Lesita Ve'a

**2pm Samoan Congregation**

*Sunday 05 July Pentecost 6*

**Worship Leader** Parish Combined Service  
**Safety Briefing & Bible Reading**

*Sunday 12 July Pentecost 7*

**Worship Leader** Muaimalae Te'o  
**Safety Briefing & Bible Reading** Timena Tuma'ai

**12:30pm Fijian Congregation**

*Sunday 05 July Pentecost 6*

**Worship Leader** Parish Combined Service  
**Lead Worship**  
**Dawn Service** Anemarie Bakani

*Sunday 12 July Pentecost 7*

**Worship Leader** Isaia Vakamoce  
**Lead Worship** Mudrenicagi  
**Dawn Service** Junior Bese