

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

8 Whiringa-ā-rangi (November) 2026



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 – English Speaking Service
12am - Tongan Service
2pm - 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

6 December: 10AM Service Rev. Joeli Ducivaki

24 December: Christmas Eve (7:30pm) Rev. Suiva'aia Te'o
25 December: Christmas Day (9.30am) 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

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

Keeping Faith Through the Long Night



A short reflection based on Joshua 24:1-3 and Matthew 25:1-13.

Faith can begin with enthusiasm, but the deeper challenge is learning how to keep going when the journey becomes long and difficult.

Joshua speaks to a people who must decide again where their deepest loyalty lies. "Choose this day whom you will serve" is not simply an ancient religious challenge. It asks us what shapes our lives now. Money, success, status, possessions, or political power can quietly become the things we trust most. Joshua invites us to return our hearts to the God of liberation, compassion, and life.

Jesus' parable of the ten bridesmaids raises a different question: what sustains us when the night lasts longer than expected? All ten women fall asleep. The wise ones are not praised for endless alertness, but because they have enough oil to keep their lamps burning.

Our "oil" may be the practices that nourish faith: prayer, worship, friendship, rest, generosity, justice, hospitality, and compassion. Hope needs replenishing. Love needs tending.

We can't solve every problem facing our communities or our world. But we can keep a light burning. We can welcome someone who feels excluded, feed someone who is hungry, challenge injustice, care for creation, or offer kindness where it is needed.

The night may sometimes feel long, but love is still possible. God is still at work. Our calling is to tend the flame, replenish the oil, and keep choosing the way of compassion and hope.

Choose what matters. Notice what claims your deepest loyalty and keep turning towards the values of God's love and justice.

Tend your flame. Faith needs nourishment so that compassion, hope, and courage can endure.

Ngā mihi, Philip Garside, Pentecost 24 | 8 November 2026

LECTIONARY READINGS

Nov 8 —Pentecost 24	1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel
	Josh 24: 1-3a, 14-25	Ps 78: 1-7	1 Thes 4:13-18	Mt 25:1-13
Nov 15 —Pentecost 25	**1st Reading**	**Psalm**	**2nd Reading**	**Gospel**
	Judg 4:1-7	Ps 123	1 Thes 5:1-11	Mt 25:14-30

PARISH NOTICES

URGENT NOTICE

NEW HALL CLOSED – Mon 9th - 10 Tues

The New Hall will be closed to everyone on Monday 9 November and Tuesday 10 November due to ongoing works.

Please note that these closure dates may be **extended if the contractors are unable to complete the work by 10 November.**
All congregation bookings scheduled in the New Hall during this period will need to be either rescheduled to another available space or cancelled.

If your group would like to reschedule its booking, please contact your booking representative as soon as possible so that alternative arrangements can be made. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

NEW ZEALAND METHODIST WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP - FRIENDSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

A friendly reminder for those who wish to apply.
For pacific island girl's resident in New Zealand and attending a New Zealand secondary school.

Applications must be received no later than 20 November 2026.
Student will be in -

- In Year 12 or 13 during 2027
- Active members of a Methodist or Uniting Parish, within the Connexion of the Methodist Church of New Zealand
- New Zealand Citizens or have New Zealand Residency status

Information & Application Form on the Methodist website under – Organisations – Methodist Women's Fellowship
All documents must be complete and sent together to Tinei Alefosio

APPLICATIONS CLOSE: 20 NOVEMBER 2026

UNDERSTANDING AND RESPONDING TO ABUSE

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 posted on the notice boards.

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

CONGREGATION EVENTS!

10AM

Drama Christi end of year presentation
All are welcome to join DC for a fun 'scripts in hand' performance of 'The One Word Christmas Carol'. We are presenting it on Sunday 6 Dec at 5pm in the Drama Christi studio. There will be 4 rehearsals on Monday evenings in November. Please get in touch if you want more information.
Daphne.keith@xtra.co.nz

Fijian

21 Nov Koroturaga Day (Annual Misinale)

Samoan

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

Tongan

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

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

PARISH STAFF:

Sarah Laurenson
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Adeline Teo
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Custodian
Sitiveni Pouvalu
027 724 9986
Weekend Custodian
Suliasi Mocevakaca
028 4071397

ROSTERS: 8 & 15 Nov

10AM Congregation (English Speaking)

This Sunday

Worship Leader	Rev. Joeli Ducivaki
Organist	Colin Scarf
Notices & Welcome	Heather Garside
Bible Readings	Melina Takau-Samson
Door Steward & Warden	Norbert & Philomena Nziramasanga
Morning tea	Kisione & Alisi

Next Sunday, 10AM

Worship Leader	Rev. Suiva'aia Te'o
Organist	Vivien Chiu
Notices & Welcome	Sarah Laurenson
Bible Readings	Leatuavao Family
Door Steward & Warden	Sarah Laurenson & Alan Dine
Morning tea	Leatuavao Family

12PM Tongan Congregation

This Sunday

Worship Leader	Tau'aika Mahoni
Worship	Sifa 'Aniseko
Pulelulu - 11	
Malanga	'Ivoni Kamoto
Failotu	'Etuate Pautā

Next Sunday, 12PM

Worship Leader	Fine Valu
Worship	Milenita 'Aisake
Pulelulu - 18	
Malanga	'Uluaki Senitā Tupou
Failotu	Senituli Me'afo'ou

2PM Samoan Congregation

This Sunday

Worship Leader	Myra Tautau
Reader	Angel Pupulu

Next Sunday, 2PM

Worship Leader	Taupau Vaái
Reader	Franz Heger

4PM Fijian Congregation

This Sunday

Worship Leader	Burebasaga
Lead Worship	Burebasaga
Dawn Service	Radini Talatala Talatoka

COMBINED SERVICE ROSTER: Dec 26 & JAN 27

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

COMBINED SERVICE: CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE – THUR 24 DEC 2026 – 7:30PM

Lead Worship	Rev. Suiva'aia Te'o

COMBINED SERVICE: CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE – FRI 25 DEC 2026 – 9:30 AM

Lead Worship	Rev. Joeli Ducivaki

COMBINED COVENANT SERVICE: 3 JANUARY 2027

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

MEETINGS NOTICES

PARISH MEETINGS

- **Parish Council Meeting – last PC Meeting for this year is 1 Dec 2026, [Dec Parish Combined service – after refreshments].**
- **F&R**—last Thursday of every month.

Leaders/Congregational Meetings

- 10AM 3rd Tue of every month
- TONGAN tbc
- SAMOAN 14 Nov, in the church, 10AM
- FIJIAN 1st Sat of every month