



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 23 Whiringa-ā-rangi (November) 2025

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
2.00pm	Samoan Service
4.00pm	Fijian Service

Upcoming Sundays

01/12/2025 No Combined/Congregation Sunday

Special Congregation Sundays

Café Sunday, Niko Bower

30/11/2025 10am

Christmas Eve Service:

24th Dec, Wednesday evening, 7:30pm

Christmas Day Service:

25th Dec, Thursday morning, 9:30am.



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.

Ministry Team

Rev Joeli Ducivaki
(Parish Superintendent)

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Joeli@wesleychurch.org.nz

Rev Suiva'aia Te'o
(Parish Minister)

027 684 1573/
sui@wesleychurch.org.nz

Rev Simote Taunga
(Parish Minister)

021 033 3385/
simote@wesleychurch.org.nz

A King Who Gives Hope

A short reflection on Jeremiah 23:1-6 and Luke 23:33-43

On Christ the King Sunday, we expect glory. But Luke's Gospel gives us a very different image: Jesus on a cross, arms outstretched, surrounded by mockery and pain. It feels upside-down. And yet, this is exactly where Jesus shows the heart of his kingship – not in domination, but in mercy.

Beside him hang two criminals. One joins the crowd's jeers. The other sees something different – a glimpse of a kingdom not built on fear or control, but on love that reaches even the condemned. "Jesus, remember me," he says. And Jesus answers with astonishing grace: "Today you will be with me in paradise."

Jeremiah, too, speaks of failed leaders and a coming ruler who will shepherd the people with justice. This king – "The Lord is our righteousness" – won't scatter the flock but gather it. The early church saw this promise fulfilled in Jesus: the one who leads not with force, but with forgiveness.

Christ's kingdom still invites us today – not into comfort, but into courage. Not into triumphalism, but into service. His crown is made of thorns, his throne, a cross. And yet, through that suffering, we find hope.

Grace often comes in unexpected places – even at the edge of death, even on a cross.

True leadership is rooted in justice, compassion, and the courage to stand with the vulnerable.

Ngā mihi. Philip Garside, 23 November 2025

LECTIONARY for 23 November & 30 November 2025

November 23—Reign of Christ

1st Reading

Jer 23: 1-6

Psalm

Lk 1: 68-79

2nd Reading

Col 1: 11-20

Gospel

Lk 23: 33-43

November 30—Advent 1 01A

1st Reading

Is 2: 1-5

Psalm

Ps 122

2nd Reading

Rom 13: 11-14

Gospel

Mt 24: 36-44

Parish Office

Parish Office staff:

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Kula Bower

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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

10AM
TONGAN
SAMOAN
FIJIAN

Leaders/Congregational

18th Nov
tbc
tbc
1st Saturday of every month

F&R Meeting: Thursday 27th Nov, 7pm-online meeting

Congregation Notices:

January 2026

**First Sunday, 4th January - No Combined/
Congregation Sunday**

**Second Sunday, 11th January - This will be the
first Parish Combined Service.**

Lead Worship: Rev. Simote Taunga.

**Farewell service for Rev. Simote and Akesa
Taunga.**

**NO OTHER CONGREGATION CHURCH SERVICE
FOR THIS SUNDAY.**

10am

**Knit and Knatter, Wednesday 26th November,
11AM in breakroom. Everyone welcome**

**Shared lunch in the new hall after the service on
the 14th of December. Please bring a plate.**

Tongan

**-Weekly exercises at Aotea Lagoon every Monday
and Thursday.**

Samoaan

**-Choir Practise every Friday in church at 6pm
-Prayer meeting— Second & Fourth Friday after
Choir practice at 6pm.**

Fijian

What's Happening in our space?

Parish Notices:

"We extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who contributed and supported the Friday 'Feed the Homeless' initiative. Thanks to your efforts, the event was a great success, bringing joy to many who enjoyed our warm, nourishing meals."

IMPORTANT REMINDER

If you are using either of the halls, please remember to double check that all doors including the bottom door to the ramp area are all locked.

Update on Foodbank appeal

We received just under \$800 in monetary donations and 83 boxes of food + lots and lots of toilet paper.

Parish Christmas Party

Theme: This Christmas Be
Bright, Merry & Joyful

When: 6th December 2025

Start: 6pm

Where: New Hall



*Bring a plate to share, join in the Carols Parade,
Christmas activities and together await the birth
of Jesus Christ this Christmas.*

Ministers Annual Leave

Rev. Simote—10th Dec to 20th Dec.2025

Rev. Joeli—22nd Dec 2025 to 4th Jan 2026

Rev. Suiva'aia—12th Jan to 31st Jan 2026

Office Closure

**Office will be closed on the
19th of December 2025 and it will re open
on the 6th of January 2026.**



THEME FOR NOVEMBER:

PENTECOST

10AM		Sunday Roster	
<i>Sunday 23 November (Reign of Christ)</i>		<i>Sunday 30 November (Advent 1)</i>	
Worship Leader	Rev. Sikeli. C	Worship Leader	Niko Bower
Organist	Vivien Chiu	Organist	Colin Scarf
Bible Reading	Norbert	Bible Reading	Daphne Pilaar
	Nziramasinga	Notice & Welcome	Heather Garside
Notice & Welcome	Hugh Laurenson	Door Stewards	Lusi T & Mate F
Door Stewards	Daphne & Leatuavao	Morning tea	Garside Family
Morning Tea	Dine/Laurenson		
<i>*Please note that 10am is rostered for flower duty in December.</i>			

12pm		Tongan Congregation	
<i>Sunday 23 November (Reign of Christ)</i>		<i>Sunday 30 November (Advent 1)</i>	
Worship Leader	TBC	Worship Leader	TBC
Lead Worship	TBC	Lead Worship	TBC

2pm		Samoan Congregation	
<i>Sunday 23 November (Reign of Christ)</i>		<i>Sunday 30 November (Advent 1)</i>	
Worship Leader	Myra Tautau	Worship Leader	Lotu Itumalo - Rev. Sui
Safety Briefing	TBC	Safety Briefing	TBC
Bible Reading	TBC	Bible Reading	TBC

4pm		Fijian Congregation	
<i>Sunday 23 November (Reign of Christ)</i>		<i>Sunday 30 November (Advent 1)</i>	
Worship Leader	Isaia Vakamoce	Worship Leader	Waisale Muatabu
Lead Worship	Mudrenicagi	Lead Worship	Saioni