

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

15 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

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

Don't Bury the Gifts



A short reflection based on 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 and Matthew 25:14-30.

Both Paul and Jesus ask an important question: how should we live while we wait for God's future to unfold?

Paul tells the Thessalonians not to spend their energy worrying about dates and times. Instead, they are to stay awake, hold onto faith, love and hope, and "encourage one another and build up each other." Faithful waiting is active. It means becoming people through whom God's love is already visible.

Jesus' parable of the talents makes a similar point. The servants are entrusted with extraordinary gifts. Two use what they have received, while the third buries his gift because he is afraid. Fear persuades him that keeping everything safe is better than taking a risk.

That temptation still exists. Churches can become so concerned with preserving buildings, traditions or familiar ways of doing things that preservation quietly becomes the mission. But the gifts Jesus gives us – compassion, forgiveness, hospitality, courage, justice and hope – were never meant to be buried. They are meant to be used.

Every time we welcome someone who feels excluded, encourage someone who is struggling, challenge injustice, care for creation, feed someone who is hungry or offer companionship to someone who is lonely, we put those gifts to work.

Paul calls us "children of light." Light doesn't exist for itself. It illuminates the way for others. Faithful waiting means recognising that God has already placed extraordinary gifts into our hands and saying: use them generously, use them courageously, and build something beautiful.

Don't let fear bury your gifts. What God has entrusted to us becomes life-giving when it's used in the service of love.

Waiting can be active. We participate in God's Kingdom whenever we encourage others, welcome outsiders, seek justice and care for creation.

Ngā mihi Philip Garside, Pentecost 25 | 15 November 2026

LECTIONARY READINGS

Nov15 —Pentecost 25	1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel
	Judg 4:1-7	Ps 123	1 Thes 5:1-11	Mt 25:14-30
Nov 22 —Reign of Christ	1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel
	Ez 34: 11-16, 20-24	Ps 100	Eph 1: 15-23	Mt 25:31-46

PARISH NOTICES

MINISTERS ON ANNUAL LEAVE:

Rev. Joeli	**24 Nov – 4 Dec**
Kisione	**24 Nov – 28 Nov**
Rev. Sui	**12 Jan – 6 Feb 2027**

PARISH OUTREACH CHRISTMAS LUNCH

As part of our Christmas outreach, we will be hosting an Outreach Care Christmas Lunch, sharing the joy, warmth, and spirit of Christmas with our wider community.

Date: Friday 4th December
Time: Doors open at 11:30am, with lunch served at 12:00pm
Venue: New Hall

All welcome to bring a pot and join us to service food as we share the love and hope of the Christmas season.

Posters are displayed on the notice boards for more information.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED!
CHRISTMAS HOURS

Parish Office will be closed from the 22nd Dec and open again on the 5th Jan 2027.

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

CHRISTMAS CRAWL

The Parish will be taking part with the Christmas crawl from the 22 – 24 Dec. More information will be made available closer to the time.
www.christmascrawl.org.nz



CONGREGATION EVENTS!

10AM

Knit & Knatter – Wed 18th Nov, 11am, Parish/Office

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. Please get in touch if you want more information.
Daphne.keith@xtra.co.nz

Fijian

21 Nov	Koroturaga Day (Annual Misinale)
4 Dec	Youth Break up at Eastbourne park

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**. **Posters are displayed on the notice boards for more information.**

PARISH STAFF:

Sarah Laurenson
sarah@wesleychurch.org.nz
Ph: 04 242 0173

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Custodian
Sitiveni Pouvalu
027 724 9986
Weekend Custodian
Suliasi Mocevakaca
028 4071397

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

ROSTERS: 15 & 22 Nov

10AM Congregation (English Speaking)

This Sunday

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

Next Sunday, 10AM

Worship Leader	Niko Bower
Organist	Colin Scarf
Notices & Welcome	Hugh Laurenson
Bible Readings	Erica Hoskin
Door Steward & Warden	Joy Grove, Melina Takau-Samson
Morning tea	Tevita Family

12PM Tongan Congregation

This Sunday

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

Next Sunday, 12PM

Worship Leader	Pakileata Palauni
Worship	Fifita Pouvalu
Pulelulu - 25	
Malanga	Sione Talia
Failotu	Isalei Pouvalu

2PM Samoan Congregation

This Sunday

Worship Leader	Taupau Vaái
Reader	Franz Heger

Next Sunday, 2PM - no service in Wgtn Wesley

Worship Leader in Masterton - Rev. Sui Te'o

4PM Fijian Congregation

This Sunday

Worship Leader	Rusiate Takalaiyale
Lead Worship	Mudre ni cagi
Dawn Service	Kula Bower

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. Suiva'aia Te'o
Introit	Samoan Choir
Anthem	Fijian
Bible Readers	10AM & Fijian
Car Park Wardens	Tongan
Door Steward	Samoan
Holy Communion Prep	Samoan
Singing at Holy Comm	Fijian
Refreshments	10AM
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