



# 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 17 Haratua (May) 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
2.00pm	Samoan Service
4.00pm	Fijian Service

*\* Every first Sunday is our Parish Combined Church Service at 10AM.*

#### **Upcoming Sundays**

**17 May—Normal Sunday Service—Niko Bower**

**24 May—Normal Sunday Service—Kisione Finau**

**31 May—Café Service—Hugh Laurenson**

**7 June—Combined and Holy Communion Service—Rev. Suiva'aia**

#### *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

## Good News at the Threshold

*A short reflection on John 17:1-11 and Act 1:6-14*

Both readings today place us at a threshold. In John 17, Jesus stands on the edge of the cross. In Acts 1, the disciples stand on the edge of the Spirit's coming. In both moments, the future feels unclear. The visible presence of Jesus is changing. Nothing will be the same.

And yet, Jesus doesn't panic. He prays.

"The hour has come," he says. In John's Gospel, this "hour" is not defeat but glory – and glory looks like self-giving love. Not control. Not dominance. Love poured out. At a time when our world prizes influence and certainty, Jesus shows us a different way. True glory is relational. It is faithfulness to the work God has given us: loving, forming community, revealing grace.

Then in Acts, the disciples ask, "Is this the time?" They are looking for political restoration, for clear answers. Jesus gently redirects them. It is not about timelines. It is about witness. "You will receive power... and you will be my witnesses." The Spirit's power is not coercion but courage – courage to speak hope, to cross boundaries, to live the good news.

We, too, live at thresholds – in our churches, families, and nation. The future can feel uncertain. But the good news is this: Christ prays for us. Christ entrusts us. Christ sends us.

We are not called to stand staring at the sky. We are called to pray, to love, and to step forward – imperfect, but Spirit-held.

Redefine glory. Choose self-giving love over control and status.

Move from waiting to witnessing. The Spirit empowers us to act with courage and hope.

*Ngā mihi, Philip, Easter 7 | 17 May 2026*

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

## LECTIONARY for 17 May & 24 May 2026

### *May 17—Easter 7*

1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel
Acts 1:6-14	Ps 68:1-10, 32-35	1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11	Jn 17:1-11

### *May 24—Pentecost*

1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel
Acts 2:1-21 or Num 11: 24-30	104:24-34, 35b	1 Cor 12:3b-13 or Acts 2:1-21	Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 7:37-39

## *Parish Office*

### Parish Office staff:

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

**Kula Bower**  
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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: Friday 29th May.  
F&R Meeting: Thursday 25th June, 7pm.  
Parish Council: Sunday 7th June.

### Leaders/Congregational

<b>10AM</b>	3rd Tuesday of every month
<b>TONGAN</b>	tbc
<b>SAMOAN</b>	20th June, Saturday @ 10am—Old Hall
<b>FIJIAN</b>	1st Saturday of every month

### 10AM

**Knit and Knatter**— Wednesday 20th of May @ 11am in the meeting room.

### Fijian

**Wasewase Womens AGM**—from 29th May to the 1st of June (Kings birthday long weekend).

**27 June**— Bose Vulatolu and Jesirieli Day.

### Samoan

Aso Sa Tina, lotu 2pm taitaiina e Tina uma o le matagaluega. Faia le tatou toonai pe a maea le sauniga.

Aumai le toonai a le aiga faamolemole.

### Tongan

The Tongan Princess, Latufuipeka (only daughter of the King) will visit Wellington next week from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> of May. The purpose of her visit is to meet with Tongans and collect her data for her PhD thesis.

### **Saturday 23rd**

6:00 pm - Welcoming with prayer (Wesley new Hall), It will be led by Wesley Tongan Congregation, but Tongan community are welcoming to join us.

### **Sunday 24th**

12:00 - She will attend our Tongan service, Wesley

### **Monday - Tuesday**

Meet/interview with the Tongans hosted by the University of Victoria

## What's Happening in our space?

### **Parish Notices:**

#### DCM WELLINGTON - FOOD BANK APPEAL

Foodbank Appeal at Newtown New World on **Saturday 23rd May from 9am – 5pm.**

**We still need your help with this, please get in-contact with Myra or Kula in the office.**

#### Lunch for the Homeless

Homeless lunch: **Fri 19 June, 12pm**— all congregations welcome to contribute/serve; please coordinate with the office.

**Missing Tables** – We have been informed that the following tables are missing from the parish:

- 1 large table
- 2 medium tables
- 4 small tables

If you (or someone you know) has borrowed parish tables, please contact the parish office so we can update our records. Thank you.

**Note!!!** The **freezer** between the New Hall and Old Hall is Café (August Eatery) property. Do not open or remove items.

#### PARISH EVENT LEAD BY THE YOUTH:

1. **30 May** after the Parish Workshop – youth will lead us in this Wesley Day event. Please come along and bring something to share for lunch. Our Wesley day event will only be for 2 and a half hours long.
2. HC Sunday service in September, the youth will lead the service, and Rev Joeli will preach the word and preside over HC.
3. Christmas Eve – the youth will bring Christmas skits and songs of this season, while Rev Sui brings the reflection.

With all these events going on, each of the youth 'Brings a Can' and that will go toward foodbank for DCM.

**INVITING ALL CONGREGATIONS TO BE PART OF THE YOUTH PLANS FOR 2026! JOHN WESLEY SAID, "BEST OF ALL, GOD IS WITH US".**

**THEME FOR May:** **Easter 7**

<b>10AM</b>		<b>Sunday Roster</b>	
<i>Sunday 17 May Easter 7</i>		<i>Sunday 24 May, Pentecost</i>	
<b>Worship Leader</b>	Niko Bower	<b>Worship Leader</b>	Kisione Finau
<b>Organist</b>	Colin Scarf	<b>Organist</b>	Vivien Chiu
<b>Notices &amp; Welcome</b>	Leatuavao	<b>Notices &amp; Welcome</b>	Heather Garside
<b>Bible Readings</b>	Norbert	<b>Bible Reading</b>	Heather Garside
<b>Door Steward &amp; Warden</b>	Philippa Conway & Bill Ryan	<b>Door Steward &amp; Warden</b>	Fesilafai & Leatuavao
<b>Morning tea</b>	Ruth & Ian Taylor	<b>Morning tea</b>	Kisione & Alisi Finau
<i>*We thank the Fijian Congregation for looking after our flowers this month.</i>			
<i>* Samoans are on the flower roster next month.</i>			

<b>12pm</b>		<b>Tongan Congregation</b>	
<i>Sunday 17 May, Easter 7</i>		<i>Sunday 24 May, Pentecost</i>	
<b>Worship Leader</b>	Sioeli Havea	<b>Worship Leader</b>	Lisipa Katoa
<b>Dawn Service</b>	Siaosi Pouvalu	<b>Dawn Service</b>	Telusila Havea

<b>2pm</b>		<b>Samoan Congregation</b>	
<i>Sunday 17 May, Easter 7</i>		<i>Sunday 24 May, Pentecost</i>	
<b>Worship Leader</b>	Sara Taupau - Va'ai	<b>Worship Leader</b>	Myra Tautau & Failauga
<b>Safety Briefing &amp; Bible Reading</b>	Sina Pupulu	<b>Safety Briefing &amp; Bible Reading</b>	Daley Va'ai

<b>4pm</b>		<b>Fijian Congregation (Winter Service)</b>	
<i>Sunday 17 May, Easter 7</i>		<i>Sunday 24 May, Pentecost</i>	
<b>Worship Leader</b>	Burebasaga	<b>Worship Leader</b>	Titilia Ritova
<b>Lead Worship</b>	Burebasaga	<b>Lead Worship</b>	Efiraca