



# 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 28 Pipiri (June) 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**

**28 June—10AM Church Service—Kolosaini Taulata**

**05 July—HC & Combined Service—Kisione Finau**

**14 July—10AM Church Service—Rev. Suiva'aia Te'o**

#### *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>

## **When God Seems Wrong and Grace Arrives Quietly**

*A short reflection based on Genesis 22:1-14 Matthew 10:40-42*

Some Bible passages comfort us straight away. Others unsettle us. The story of Abraham and Isaac is one of those difficult readings. It raises painful questions about obedience, fear, and the kind of God we believe in. Rather than pretending this story is easy, we need to be honest about its troubling setting. It reminds us that faith should not involve blind submission to harm, but thoughtful, courageous trust that keeps asking what is loving, just, and life-giving.

Alongside this hard reading, Matthew offers a gentler and clearer vision. Jesus points us toward welcome, hospitality, and simple kindness. A cup of cold water may seem like almost nothing, yet Jesus says it matters. In God's kingdom, small acts are never small. They become signs of grace.

This is good news for ordinary people living ordinary lives. We may not face dramatic tests like Abraham, but we do face daily choices about how we see others, how we respond to need, and whether we make room for those the world overlooks. The "little ones" in our communities still need welcome, dignity, and care.

We are called to trust the God revealed in Jesus: not a God of cruelty or coercion, but a God present in mercy, vulnerability, and love. Often, we meet Christ not in grand religious moments, but in the quiet giving and receiving of compassion.

True faith makes room for compassion and moral courage, not unthinking obedience.

Small acts of welcome can become holy moments where Christ is made known.

Ngā mihi, Philip – Pentecost 5 | 28 June 2026

### **LECTIONARY for 28 June & 05 July 2026**

#### **June 28—Pentecost 5**

<b>1st Reading</b>	<b>Psalm</b>	<b>2nd Reading</b>	<b>Gospel</b>
Gen 22:1-14	Ps 13:	Rom 6:12-23	Mt 10:40-42

#### **July 05—Pentecost 6**

<b>1st Reading</b>	<b>Psalm</b>	<b>2nd Reading</b>	<b>Gospel</b>
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

### *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).

#### **Save the Date: Parish Matariki Celebration Saturday 11 July, 4.00pm–8.00pm**

**Venue: New Hall**

Everyone is warmly invited to our parish-wide Matariki celebration, hosted by the 10am Congregation, with fellowship, activities, shared food, and a family-friendly movie. Please mark the date in your diary. More details to come.

### Fijian

**26-28 June**— Bose Vumatolu and Jesirieli Day (District Meeting).

### Tongan

**28 June**—Quarterly meeting after church.

### 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 key-holders are required to re-register their keys.



### Important Dates

- **Governance and Management Workshop – Saturday 27 June:** All Parish Leaders are encouraged to attend and participate as part of the LNIS initiative, **9:00 AM–3:00 PM** at Stokes Valley Uniting Church.
- **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.

### Parish Matariki Celebration

All are invited!!!



**THEME FOR June:**

**Pentecost**

**10AM SUNDAY ROSTER**

**Sunday 28 June Pentecost 5**

**Worship Leader** Kolosaini Tautau  
**Organist** Vivien Chiu  
**Notices & Welcome** Hugh Laurenson  
**Bible Readings** Leatuavao Family  
**Door Steward & Wardens** Norbert & Philomena  
**Morning tea** Sarah Laurenson/  
 Alan Dine

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

*\*Tongans are on the flower roster next month.*

**Sunday 05 July Pentecost 6**

**Combined & Holy Communion Service**

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

**12pm**

**Tongan Congregation**

**Sunday 28 June Pentecost 5**

**Worship Leader** Toni Paongo  
**Dawn Service** Takui Fiefia

**Sunday 05 July Pentecost 6**

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

**2pm**

**Samoan Congregation**

**Sunday 28 June Pentecost 5**

**Worship Leader** Rev. Suiva'aia  
**Safety Briefing & Bible Reading** Myra Tautau

**Sunday 05 July Pentecost 6**

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

**12:30pm**

**Fijian Congregation**

**Sunday 28 June Pentecost 5**

**Worship Leader** District meeting  
**Lead Worship**  
**Dawn Service**

**Sunday 05 July Pentecost 6**

**Worship Leader** Combined service  
**Lead Worship**  
**Dawn Service**