

Parramatta Community Uniting Church

Newsletter: *Sunday 19th May, 2024*

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PENTECOST

(Artwork: Interior front door, Castlereagh Uniting Church)



Parramatta Community Uniting Church (PCUC) acknowledges the traditional custodians of the lands on which we gather – the Burrumattagal clan of the Dharug people –and pays respect to elders past and present, and emerging leaders.

PCUC Program *Week commencing Sunday 19 May*

Sunday Worship			
Sunday 19 th	10.00am 11.15am 2.00pm 6.00pm Online	‘Pentecost in the Park’ – PCUC Combined Service in Parramatta Park (Please refer to map on page 6). All welcome. NB: NO 9.30am services at Parramatta, Northmead or Westmead. NO Zoom. Worship Service - Leigh Fijian, Parramatta Korean Faith Community, Parramatta site ‘Jazz on Hammers’ – PCUC Northmead PCUC weekly online service: https://northmead.uca.org.au/	
Groups & Activities...			
(all members & the wider community are welcome to participate)			
Day	Activity	Time	Venue
Mondays	Playgroup (school terms) Bible Study (via Zoom) Zoom ID: 950 4369 5512	10.00am 2.00pm	Centenary Westmead
Tuesdays	English Classes (school terms) Club Chat Christian Meditation Group	10.00am 7.00pm 7.00pm	Centenary Northmead Bowling Club Centenary
Wednesdays	Playgroup (school terms) Ladies Morning Tea (3 rd Wednesday of each month) Open Church Ladies Dinner (next dinner: 12 June)	10.00am 10.00am 1.00pm 6.30pm	Centenary ‘Cake Mania’ café, Northmead Leigh Memorial Toongabbie Bowling Club
Thursdays	English Classes (school terms) Friendship Centre (2 nd and 4 th Thursdays of each month)	10.00am 10.00am	Centenary Northmead
Fridays	Playgroup (school terms) Leigh Fijian Youth Group	10.00am evening	Centenary Leigh Memorial
Saturdays	Walking Church (2 nd & 4 th Saturdays of each month)	9.00am	Parramatta Park

SHARING FROM HELEN... PENTECOST

Each year Pentecost is the time when Christians celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church.

On the first Pentecost wind and fire signalled the life-giving energy of creation that came upon the still grieving disciples setting their hearts aflame with a message to tell. And so begins the fulfilment of Jesus' promise "you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth". (1:8)

The crowd that gathered included people from many different places who each heard the great things God has done in their own language. The Spirit's coming brought the people together in ways that showed respect for each other's cultural heritage and language.

Pentecost reminds us that God's intention is for a world where diversity is affirmed and where true unity does not erase our differences or force uniformity. In the face of the still deeply rooted racism in our community and where xenophobia, antisemitism, prejudice, Islamophobia and discrimination feeds on the fear of difference this is an important message.

As a church we are called to live as God's Pentecost people who celebrate the diverse gifts God has given and welcome one another as Christ welcomes us.

So in this Pentecost time let's try and learn a few ways we can greet one another in languages used within our community. I have joined a Dharug language class so let me greet you with *Hello* in Dharug: **Warami!** *Good to see you mob!* **Budyari nhaa-dy'u nyila!** *And in some of our community languages:*

Bula! (*Fijian*), **Malo e lelei** (*Tongan*), **Mabuhay** (*Filipino*), **Vanakkam** (*Tamil*), **Namaste** (*Hindu*), **Anyong Haseyo** (*Korean*), **Marhaba** (*Arabic*), **Talofa Lava** (*Samoan*), **Kia orana** (*Cook Islands*), **Damai Sejahtera** (*Indonesian*), **Tamuka mamukawu sei** (*Shona, Zimbabwe*), **Noaia e mauri!** (*Rotuman*), **Fakalofa Atu!** (*Niue*), **Ayo bowan!** (*Sinhala*), **Manh Khow Khong!** (*Vietnamese*), **Nay Ho Ma!** (*Cantonese*), **Ni hao** (*Mandarin*).

Prayer:

Spirit Wind, blow afresh in our lives and into the life of our world. Beyond the barriers of language, race or nation, Holy Spirit take us.

Receivior le cadeau du Dieu **Come Holy Spirit** **ആയിടകാണെ അമ്മാറയ -**
അരവി

خرا ما نحمه رسول كريم
 Dirava ena harihari ġauna avabla **Przyjac od Boga dar**
Nay Amlack Tsega Tekebel

Ricevere regalo dono di Dio **Datanglah Roh Kudus**
 استقبل هدية الله **Kadavillin parisai etru kolungal**
Puke e koloa 'a e 'Otua

Kovo banara ko puaro **Primite Božji Blagoslov**
Patheen zoepaek **Eaubuda ena aenua**
Gabhaibh ri Tiodhlac Dhè **Fogord el Isten Áldását**

Eda sa taura na loloma ni Kalou **Recibe los regalos de Dios**
Devunioka bahumanam angikarinchandi **Empfanget Gottes Gaben**
Allahin bize verdigi nimet Peri

Tar vah tefakhnis 'on 'Aitu **தேவனின் நன்கொடைகளை பெற்றுக் கொள்ளுங்கள்.**

주님의 선물을 받으라 **神様の贈り物を受けろ**




(Image - freepick.com)

PCUC NOTICES....

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GARDEN WORKING BEE – CENTENARY

The next working bee in the garden at Centenary Church will be **this Saturday 18 May, commencing at 7.00am**. We hope to be planting out the remainder of the garden and doing some mulching. Breakfast is included. Enquiries: Susan or Fiona. NB: Diary Date – our PCUC ‘Garden Party’ is scheduled for Saturday 22 June. All welcome.

JAZZ ON HAMMERS

The next Jazz on Hammers at PCUC Northmead will take place **this Sunday 19 May from 6.00pm**, inc. dinner. We hope to see you there!

PENTECOST IN THE PARK

This special, combined PCUC service and picnic will be held outdoors in Parramatta Park on **Pentecost Sunday, 19 May @ 10.00am**. BYO chairs, rugs, food & drink. Please see map. NB: There will be no 9.30am Leigh Memorial, Westmead or Northmead services held that morning. The Leigh Fijian service will, however, proceed at the regular time of 11.15am. (The weather venue for the service in the park will be the Westmead Chapel, cnr Queens St & Hawkesbury Road).

10am 19 MAY

**PENTECOST
IN THE PARK**

**Combined PCUC
gathering**

*(near corner of Park
and Jessie St)*

BYO chairs, rugs,
food & drinks -
and/or some food to
share



X MARKS THE SPOT!! – MAP SHOWING LOCATION OF OUR COMBINED PCUC SERVICE @ THE PARK THIS SUNDAY:



TRIPLE J YOUTH MUSIC EVENT – PARRAMATTA SITE



Saturday 25 May – Triple J's 'Bars of Steel' no cost, drug & alcohol-free hip-hop & rap music event for over 16s will be taking place in the Leigh Memorial car park, 5 – 10pm: "Introducing Triple J's **Bars of Steel Live**. "The first space we're taking over with freestyle fire, top talent and blistering bars is smack bang in Parramatta, where we'll be celebrating and showcasing the best that Western Sydney has to offer. Line-up featuring: Youngn Lipz, A.GIRL, Vv Pete, Becca Hatch, Gold Fang, FRIDAY*, Isaac Puerile, LEE, DJ Boosie, Unearthed comp winner..."

<https://www.abc.net.au/triplej/news/bars-of-steel-live-western-sydney-parramatta/103819898>

REPORT: UNITING CLIMATE CONFERENCE

What a great day we had on Saturday at the Uniting Climate Conference: *Faith in a better future!* The conference was jointly hosted by the Synod of NSW.ACT and Uniting.

We had more than 80 people there in person (including 12 people connected with PCUC) - and more than 60 online. That's nearly 50% more than our last Synod climate action conference in 2021. Many of us (as expected) were from Uniting Church congregations. But we also came from other churches and faiths, organisations and communities. Together, we demonstrated a breadth and depth of community concern and resolve for climate action.



All of us heard our wonderful keynote speakers - including **our Moderator, Rev Mata Havea Hiliau**, passionately reminding us why the church cares about climate change, and Miriam Lyons – drawing from both science and psychology to outline the change we need and how we each can bring it

about, and the inspiration of our young climate leaders (most of them UC members).

We are grateful to all our terrific workshop leaders who covered such a breadth of topics - from having climate conversations to being an ally to First Nations people and climate impacts on health and issues for regional communities.

Our final session was crucial. In groups, we reflected on what strengths the Uniting Church community brings to action on climate. Here are some of the points groups made:

- We have a mandate to be stewards of creation - it's our responsibility;
- We care for those without a voice- we have resources to support their voice;
- We have networks of people and passion, and we are already connected across ages, across cultures, across geographies;
- We see climate action as a natural outcome of our theology and discipleship.

Then we considered what we can do to support the shift to a safer and better climate future. The Uniting Advocacy team outlined some possible areas of action:

- ⇒ Hosting and having community climate conversations – with friends, family, in community events and more;
- ⇒ Training in organising and climate campaigning;
- ⇒ Meeting your local MP about climate;
- ⇒ Holding ‘Living the Change’ information and action forums;
- ⇒ Continued action in partnership with allies like ARRC, Move Beyond Coal, Renew Australia for All and others;
- ⇒ Plus, there was a category for your action ideas, not already covered.

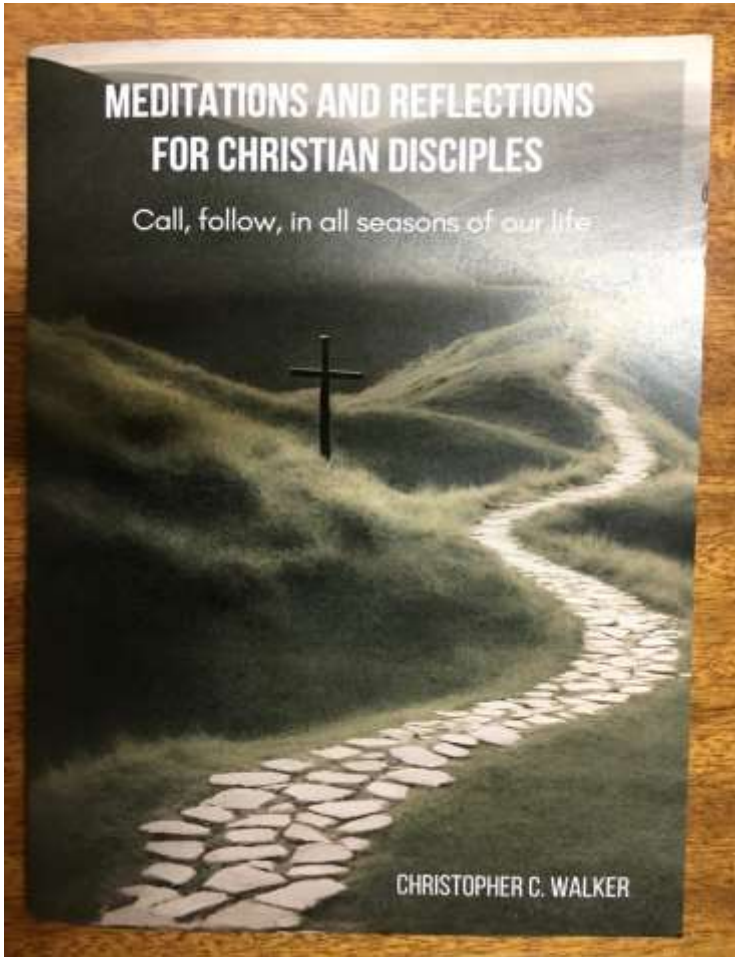
We invited those willing to put energy into one or more of these areas to write their name and number on a post-it note and stick it on the action sheets. Our online participants went through the same process - with virtual post-it notes. There was interest in all areas. In the coming days members of the advocacy team will follow up each person to hear more about their interest and how it can be acted upon.

If you are interested in any of these areas of action or would like to know more about our church’s climate action, please contact Jono Row (Church Collaboration Lead - Advocacy) on 0403 242 360 or jrow@uniting.org



NB: “Many thanks” to Jon O’Brien for supplying this article + photos (prepared by the Church’s Advocacy team) for our newsletter this week, and for his ongoing leadership on this important matter.

BOOK RELEASE – CHRIS WALKER



Chris's new book, *Meditations and Reflections for Christian Disciples* is suitable for individual reflection or group study. It is crafted to energise and inspire Christian disciples seeking to deepen their faith and live out their discipleship with vigour and understanding. The text explores what it means to be a disciple in today's world, with readers invited to explore the multifaceted aspects of discipleship, from the personal journey of faith to social responsibilities that come with a commitment to live our Jesus' teachings. It is available from MediaCom Education in SA: admin@mediacom.org.au
Ph: 08 8371 1399

THANKSGIVING SERVICE – 50 YEARS OF MINISTRY...

REV DR JOHN JEGASOTHY

(Sri Lanka & Australia)

Sunday 12th May @ PCUC Northmead

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Rev Dr John Jegasothy –

“... In recognition of 50 years of church and community service and for his dedication and tireless efforts in serving the local community in Western Sydney.”

12th May, 2024.



"I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in. I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick, and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me."

"I tell you the truth, whatever you did for the least of these brothers of mine, you did it for me." Matthew 25:35-36, 40

We the members of the Uniting Tamil Faith Community thank you all for your presence and participation in the Thanksgiving Service for the 50 years of ministry of Rev. Dr John Jegasothy,

We give all glory and honour to God.

Rev John's Thanksgiving Service program, with a photo of John's family.



This Award is presented to

Rev. DR. JOHN JEGASOTHY

In recognition of 50 Years of church and community service
and for his dedication and tireless efforts in serving the local
community in Western Sydney.

Dr Hugh McDermott MP

**Parliamentary Secretary to the Attorney General
State Member for Prospect**



Rev John's Parliamentary Award – presented by Dr Hugh McDermott, Parliamentary Secretary to the Attorney-General, State Member for Prospect.

LEIGH FIJIAN NEWS

- 1) Lotu ni macawa oqo 19 ni Me: Na lotu ena macawa oqo na qaravi tiko na lotu cokovata ni PCUC ena Parramatta Park.
- 2) Lotu ni macawa mai oqo 26 ni Me: Na lotu ena macawa mai oqo na veisau vunau kei na Fiji Parish. Vunau lesi Rev Samu Sadrata kei Sikeli Duwai. Tu vakarau vei liutaki kei na tali matamasumasu naba 2.
- 3) Lesoni ni macawa oqo Me 13 - Me 19: Cakacaka 2:1-21 Isikeli 37:1-14 Same 102:24-42,35 Roma 8:22-27 Joni 15:26-27, 16:4-15
- 4) Lesoni ni macawa mai oqo Me 20 - Me 26: Aisea 6:1-8 Same 29 Roma 8:12-17 Joni 3:1-17



Ulutaga ni veinanumi ena Masu:

Lolo kei Na masumasu - Veinanumi ena lolo kei na masumasu ena vei matai ni Vukelulu ena vei vula mai na 6am – 12pm se 6am – 6pm. Soli tu na galala ke o rawa ni qarava.

Veinanumi ena Masu :Kerei meda veinanumi tikoga ena veimasulaki vei ira na nodatou qase kei na vuvale ra sotava tiko na dredre ko Mereoni Kamotu, S Qata, Akisi Dovibua Baranski, Dia Allison. Ko ratou na veiliutaki tiko ena nodatou vavakoso vaka viti kei na veivuvale kece sara ena loma ni nodatou vavakoso.

Bula Feeding : Me nanumi tiko na nodratou veiqaravi na Bula Feeding.

FNC 2024: Me nanumi na FNC ni tou na veiwaseitaka na veiqaravi kei na tolu na valelotu Cambelltown, St Mary kei Beral. Ena qaravi tiko na FNC ena vula ko Okotova ni yabaki oqo 2024 e Katoomba Conference Centre.

LEIGH FIJIAN – MOTHER'S DAY 2024





PASTORAL CONTACTS

Rev Geoff Smith (Lead Minister)

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(Unavailable Mondays)

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(Unavailable Tuesdays & Fridays)

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Or Amal Jebas

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Submissions:

Please send newsletter submissions to Rose by the Wednesday of each week:

rose.shalala@parramattamission.org.au

NB: Articles & Prayer Points should be sent to Liz:

LeighMemorialUniting@gmail.com

PCUC CONTACT INFORMATION

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**uniting
church**

in Australia,
Synod of NSW & ACT