

WESLEY NEWS

APRIL DIARY DATES

Sunday 2nd at 10.00am

Rev Jim Winn

Holy Communion

LENT 5

Sunday 9th at 10.00am

Rev Mac Macdonald

PALM SUNDAY

Monday 10th at 4.00pm

Church Council

Tuesday 11th at 7.00pm

Tenebrae Service & Meal

Friday 14th at 9.00am

Rev James Winn

GOOD FRIDAY

Sunday 16th at 10.00am

Rev James Winn

EASTER DAY

Wednesday 19th, 12 noon

Alma Hotel

COME-TO-LUNCH

Sunday 23rd at 10.00am

Rev Doug Hosking

EASTER 2

Sunday 30th at 10.00am

Rev James Winn

EASTER 3

MUSIC @ WESLEY

Choir Practice

Wednesday evening at 7.30pm

ARTS @ WESLEY

Patchworkers & Quilters

Monday morning

Contact Pat 8331 9816

WESLEY IS HOME TO

Young Adelaide Voices

Adelaide Harmony Choir

Metropolitan Musical

Theatre Company

Monteverdi Singers

It is hard to believe that this is, for me, the final pastoral letter for my time as Minister of the Wesley UC, Kent Town. I have thoroughly enjoyed myself as your minister and have been so graciously embraced by the congregation that I feel as if I am part of the woodwork! And what magnificent woodwork it is, in both physical and human terms. So I thank you for the privilege and pleasure you have afforded me as your interim minister.

I don't arrive at this point without some sense of misgiving. I'm conscious of things I promoted but never followed through. I'm conscious of needs left unmet. I'm conscious of some things I have not done which I ought to have done. I'm also conscious of the fact that a person in my position almost invariably offends and/or hurts different people in the congregation at different times by what they say or do. So if I have hurt or offended anyone, you have my sincere apology. It was never intentional or malevolent but, on the other hand, I don't believe the pulpit is the place where you only say things that people like to hear. There is an obligation to preach the gospel as one best understands it. Of course a preacher also needs to speak with care and grace and I hope I have done so.

Hugh Latimer, one of the leaders of the Protestant Reformation in England, was appointed a royal chaplain to King Henry VIII (1491-1547). His bold and uncompromising preaching finally brought him into disfavour, and he was subsequently executed. One day, at the beginning of a sermon before the royal court, he exclaimed to himself, "Latimer, Latimer, thou art going to speak before the high and mighty king, Henry VIII, who is able, if he thinks fit, to take thy life away. Be careful what thou sayest. But Latimer, Latimer, remember also thou art about to speak before the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Take heed thou does not displease Him."

I would never claim to be another Hugh Latimer. I have never ascended to those heights. I'm pretty small-fry, really, but the story outlines the obligation of a preacher quite well.

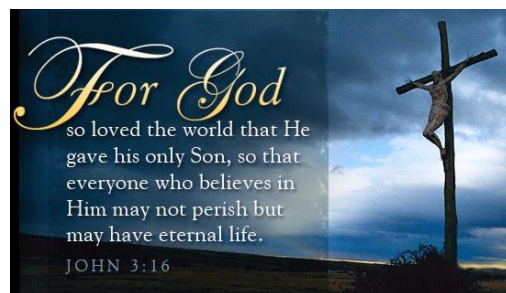
One reason I have written this is to explain a little of my philosophy of preaching. Another is to say that I'm absolutely sure you will extend the same embrace and acceptance to Alex as you have to me and that you will give him the same freedom of the pulpit as you have given me.

I would especially like to record my thanks to all the members of the Church Council. You have been an exceptionally nice bunch of people to work with. Without wanting to get myself into hot water for not naming a whole range of people, I would especially like to thank Mark Symons, Jenny Stewart and Ivan Miller for their wisdom, tolerance of my foibles, hard work and friendship. It is greatly appreciated.

I would also like to express my sincere appreciation to Graham Bell for the constructive and open working relationship we have had in the preparation of church services and other events such as weddings. We both have pretty firm, but sometimes different views, as to what is desirable in a church service but all I can say is, that it has been a real pleasure to work with him and I thank him for that.

Having said all of the above, I'm still your minister until April 30th. I would invite you to share as fully as you can in our services as we approach Easter. The Palm Sunday service will be a musical delight and an enriching time of worship. The Tenebrae meal and service (the meal starts at 7:00pm) on the Tuesday of Holy Week (April 11th) will be a special time of reflection as we journey through the Easter story with Bible readings and hymns. Easter Day (April 16th) will be a joyous celebration of Jesus' resurrection. I look forward to joining with you on these occasions.

Grace and peace,
Jim Winn



Wesley Uniting Church
Kent Town



HOLY WEEK

Holy Week commences on **Palm Sunday, Sunday 9th April, at 10.00am** and recalls the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. This will be a special service of music and readings for Holy Week and will feature an augmented choir. Rev Mac Macdonald will be the worship leader.



On **Tuesday 11th April, a Tenebrae Service** will be held in the Back Hall, at **7.00 pm**. A meal of fish, salad and fresh fruit will be served prior to the commencement of the service. The service, led by Rev Jim Winn, consists of a series of readings and hymns focusing on the passion and crucifixion of Christ. One by one, 16 candles will be extinguished, to represent the increasing sorrow of Jesus as the events of Passion Week unfold. Tickets are available from KK Stacey.

The **Good Friday** service will be held on **Friday 14th April at 9.00am**. This moving service focuses on the crucifixion of Christ. The choir will again present some special music and Rev Jim Winn will be the worship leader.



The service on **Easter Day, Sunday 16th April at 10.00am** celebrates the resurrection of our Lord. Rev Jim Winn will lead the worship assisted by an augmented choir.



SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

The Meeting of the Congregation on Sunday 12th March upheld the recommendation from the Joint Nominating Committee, to call Rev Alexander Rodgers to be the Minister of the Word to this congregation. A letter issuing a call to Rev Rodgers has been sent and it is anticipated that he will commence his placement with us at the beginning of May, 2017. An induction service will be held for Rev Rodgers but as yet we haven't received advice from Synod as to when this will be held.

FAREWELL TO REV JIM WINN

Whilst we are excited about the prospects of Rev Alex Rodgers commencing his ministry with us, it is with regret that we have to say farewell to Rev Jim Winn. Jim came to us in our hour of need 18 months ago and has been our mainstay for this period, providing us with spiritual guidance and leadership. Many of us have come to know Jim very well during this period and have enjoyed his company and friendship, as well as appreciating his services of worship with his insightful prayers and sermons. A number of us have also benefitted from participating in study groups led by him. His pastoral letters included in our monthly newsletter have been challenging and thought provoking.

Thank you, Jim!

FAREWELL SERVICE

Jim's final service with us will be on **Sunday, 30th April**. Please come along to say thank you and to say your goodbyes. It would be appreciated if people, who are able, could bring a small plate of food to share at morning tea.

COME-TO-LUNCH

Our next luncheon will be held at the **Alma Hotel** on **Wednesday, 19th April at 12 noon**. The group met there last month and everyone enjoyed themselves immensely. This venue proved to be ideal, providing pleasant surroundings along with good food and good service. We hope you can join us on the 19th.

CAN YOU HELP?

The south western corner of the Church building is in need of repair. A large crack opened up last year making it impossible to gain entry to the southern gallery via the door. This limits the use of this gallery for functions accommodating large audiences such as those held by PAC and Pembroke. In addition, the gutters above the minister's vestry are leaking, causing water damage to this wall. The cost to carry out these repairs is of the order of \$16,000 because of the specialised work required. If you are able to assist by making a donation towards the repair and restoration of this area, it would be greatly appreciated. Please speak to the chairman, Mark Symons, or the treasurer, Ivan Miller, if you can help.

NEWS OF OUR PEOPLE

We are delighted to welcome **Marivel Flaherty** and her daughter, **Caitlin**, into the choir. Marivel is a family day care worker and Caitlin is in year 10 at Windsor Gardens Secondary School. Both Marivel and Caitlin have been volunteers in the Goodies Op Shop at Clayton-Wesley on Saturday mornings for a number of years. They are enjoying the singing greatly and making a valuable contribution. **Pam & David George** are away for a month caravanning in the high country. **Graham & KK Stacey** have arrived back in Adelaide and will be with us until July. They have made themselves busy around the Church doing lots of gardening so you have probably noticed how neat and tidy things are looking. It has been good to see **Raelene Chelley** well enough to be worshipping with us again. **Jean Lang** has made the difficult decision to move into independent living at Fullarton Lutheran Homes in Fisher St. so please give her your prayerful support. Others to remember are, **Annis Bennett, Frank & Naomi Bryant, Robin & John Douglass, Linda Nicholls, and Catherine Courtney**.

JUST A THOUGHT

Don't ask God to guide your footsteps if you are not willing to move your feet.

CONTACTS

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