

WESLEY NEWS

MAY DIARY DATES

Monday 1st at 7.30 pm
*Induction Service of
Rev Alexander Rodgers*

Sunday 7th at 10.00 am
Rev Alex Rodgers
Holy Communion

EASTER 4

Monday 8th at 4.00 pm
Church Council

Sunday 14th at 10.00 am
Rev Alex Rodgers
EASTER 5

Wednesday 17th, 12 noon
Alma Hotel
COME-TO-LUNCH

Sunday 21st at 10.00 am
Rev Alex Rodgers
EASTER 6

Wednesday 25th
ASCENSION DAY

Sunday 28th at 10.00 am
Rev Alex Rodgers
EASTER 7

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

WHAT DOES EASTER MEAN FOR US?

The following message from the Uniting Church SA Moderator, Rev Sue Ellis appeared in the Advertiser at Easter. "Our news feed is a daily reminder of destruction. Just like so many others across so many nations. Jesus also witnessed destruction and oppression in his lifetime. Death and trauma were daily realities; survival was something many struggled with.

But Jesus came into the world with a message of hope — for the world then and now. His message is one of love so powerful that it can defeat darkness.

At Easter time, we remember with great joy that the very love demonstrated by Jesus proved to be more powerful than death. Oppressed, persecuted and subjected to the horror of crucifixion, Jesus knew darkness, but was raised from death and given a new life by God. This is a story that provides hope to the many who believe in him, even in the midst of dark and difficult times.

After Jesus rose from the dead, the world entered a new season. Jesus' followers were still persecuted — many met violent deaths and others suffered. Yet they did not stop believing and hoping. This new life, this new season, filled them with hope.

It is because of this story that I have hope today — hope for a new life and season for all those facing destruction and darkness".

WELCOME TO REV ALEXANDER RODGERS.

We are delighted to welcome Rev Alexander Rodgers as Minister of the Word to the congregation here at Wesley Uniting Church Kent Town. We look forward to getting to know him, sharing in worship with him and ministering together to the community. Alex's Induction Service will take place on Monday, 1st May 2017 at 7.30 pm.

Alex was ordained in January 1982. He holds a Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Theology, Diploma in Education and Master of Arts degrees, and has ministered in a number of churches both in Adelaide and Melbourne. He has also been a Chaplain at the Royal Adelaide Hospital, Eldercare, Lincoln College and Scotch College (Adelaide). He is married to Elaine and has 2 adult children, Alisdair and Niall.

A MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

I feel deeply privileged to have been chosen to be the next minister of the Wesley Kent Town Uniting Church. I was trained as an historian at University and my Master's Degree thesis was written about the effect of the gospel on the Roman World of the second and third centuries.

Sport has undoubtedly become the 'religion' of the modern world. The football world cup, the Olympic Games and the many other sports festivals gain riveted attention of people just as the great religious festivals once did. The Church cannot compete with this.

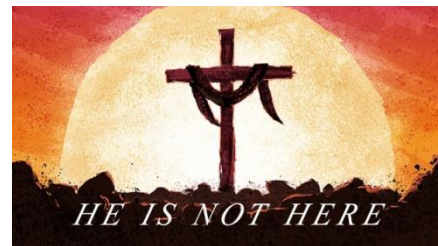
Every Sunday morning the Adelaide parklands are crowded with children and parents playing and watching sport – real football, netball, baseball – you name it, many of whom would probably consider coming to church, but the pressure to support their children forces them to go to the park for the games.

I remember being told as a small boy that I couldn't play for a football team in Glasgow because their under 12 team played on Sunday mornings and that was the Sabbath – so forget it! – I would lay odds that doesn't happen too much today!

I wonder if we need to consider changing when we hold worship services to weekday evenings? But then that might clash with the 'footy show'.....

Blessings
Alex Rodgers

Wesley Uniting Church
Kent Town



INDUCTION SERVICE

The induction of Rev Alexander Rodgers will take place on Monday evening, 1st May 2017 at 7.30 pm. The worship leader will be Ps Wendy Perkins with Rev Philip Gardner as the preacher. Uniting Church SA Moderator, Rev Sue Ellis will also participate in the service. There will be a supper in the hall following the service. Members of the congregation are asked to bring a plate of food to share, if possible.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER SERVICES

The Palm Sunday service, featuring seven choral pieces interspersed with bible readings was a beautiful start to Holy Week. We thank the members of the augmented choir and our organist/choir master, Graham Bell for preparing and presenting this delightful music for us.

About 20 people gathered together for the Tenebrae Service. This was preceded by a meal of fish, salad and fresh fruit which everyone enjoyed immensely. The service consisted of a series of readings and hymns focusing on the passion and crucifixion of Christ.



The Good Friday service and Easter Day Services were well attended and very significant as we focused firstly on the sacrifice Jesus made on the cross followed by the joyful celebration of his resurrection.

Prince Alfred College held a Maundy Thursday service which was attended by the whole school.



COME-TO-LUNCH

We have planned for our next luncheon to be held at the **Alma Hotel** on **Wednesday, 17th May** at **12 noon**. The surroundings are very pleasant and the food and service is good. Please come and enjoy the company and lively conversation.

REPAIRS TO SOUTH-WEST WALL OF CHURCH

There has been a very generous response from members to this appeal and we are well on the way to raising the necessary funds to carry out these repairs. We thank those who have donated so far for their generosity. There are envelopes available in the porch or you can give your donations directly to the treasurer, Ivan Miller.

NEWS OF OUR PEOPLE

Recently we missed **Ben Price** for a couple of Sundays. This was because Ben was helping out as a leader at KCO, "Kids Camp Out". KCO is a Christian camp for children. It is a major Uniting Church SA event which has



attracted thousands of young campers over the years. KCO aims to assist children with faith exploration, encouraging sharing and relationships with their peers. At KCO, children enjoy a wide range of performances, activities, games, worship and music, all based around a central theme. This year's theme was 'BIG WORLD'. Ben and daughters, Annaliese and Samantha, participated in this event which was held at "Adare" at Victor Harbour.

Quite a few of our folk have headed off overseas on holiday. **Margaret Harkness** is in London visiting family and attending a wedding. She is planning a trip to Scotland while she is away. **Mac & Margaret Macdonald** will be travelling for three months in England, Scotland and Spain. **Beryl Kennett** has gone to Perth and will then fly to Venice. She will spend time in Croatia and Germany as well. We trust that they will all enjoy their holidays and will return safely to us, refreshed by their experiences. **Ron McKay-Smith** will be returning home soon from Scotland and we look forward to seeing him back in the choir.

A few members have been on the sick list. **Doug Stewart** has been in hospital sorting out some heart problems and is now feeling much improved. He was absent from the choir too. **Raelene Chelley**, **Catherine Courtney** and **John Douglas** have had to undergo surgery. They have all been missed and we hope they are soon restored to good health.

Frank Bryant is becoming very frail and requiring constant care. We assure both Frank and Naomi that they are in our thoughts and prayers.

Graham & KK Stacey have continued their hard work tidying the church gardens. Recently they planted quite a few bulbs supplied by **Jean Lang** from her garden. We look forward to seeing them in bloom in the spring.

JUST A THOUGHT

True happiness comes not from having much to live on, but much to live for.

CONTACTS

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Organist & Choir Director: Graham Bell
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Church Council Chair: Dr Mark Symons
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Church Office: Tracy Shepherd
Monday – Thursday 10.00am – 3.00pm (school term)