

WESLEY NEWS

DECEMBER DIARY DATES

Sunday 3rd at 10.00 am
Rev Alex Rodgers &
Rev Mac Macdonald
HOLY COMMUNION
ADVENT 1

Sunday 10th at 10.00 am
Rev Alex Rodgers
ADVENT 2

Monday 11th at 4.00 pm
CHURCH COUNCIL

Wednesday 13th, 12 noon
Alma Hotel
COME-TO-LUNCH

Sunday 17th at 10.00 am
Rev Alex Rodgers
ADVENT 3

Sunday 24th at 10.00 am
SERVICE OF
LESSONS & CAROLS
ADVENT 4
CHRISTMAS EVE

Monday 25th at 9.00am
Rev Alex Rodgers
CHRISTMAS DAY

Sunday 31st at 10.00 am
Rev Alex Rodgers
CHRISTMAS 1

MUSIC @ WESLEY

Choir Practice
Wednesday night, 7.30pm

ARTS @ WESLEY

Patchworkers & Quilters
Monday morning
Contact Pat on 8331 9816

WESLEY IS HOME TO

Young Adelaide Voices
Adelaide Harmony Choir
Metropolitan Musical
Theatre Company
Monteverdi Singers

A MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

Ministerial Meanderings

Advent has arrived!!

All around us the stores are gearing up for Christmas and the massive amounts of money they hope to make as we all go on a massive spending spree. I wonder if we added up all the money we have spent over the years on Christmas presents how many overseas trips or motor vehicles we could have bought, or how fat our savings accounts would be!

This year ends with the government on a knife edge and the Prime Minister probably wondering what his future holds. It is interesting to note that the latest issue is the government's U turn on the holding of a Royal Commission on the role of banks in Australia. So even the main problem for our leaders, as we move towards Christmas, is also based on money and finance.

In our family we have instituted a process known as 'secret Santa'. Rather than buying presents for every member of the family we have all agreed to buy one present for a member of the family and only we know who that member is. This way we set a basic amount to be spent and we do not go overboard in buying lots of presents to suit the whole family.

I'm sure that each of you will make the time over Advent and Christmas to contemplate the greatest gift of the Christmas period in the Christ Child. In Jesus God took human form and became one of us. Thus we can be sure that our God knows what it is to be a human being with all that means. Love, anger, hope, sadness, pain and all the other parts of the human experience are known and understood by our God.

So then, may you have a merry Christmas and a happy New Year – and as we say in Scotland – “*Lang Mae yir lum reek*”

Blessings,
Alex Rodgers

Wesley Uniting Church
Kent Town



This Reflection appeared in UC e-News.

Sceptics use the word “hope” in a way that has nothing to do with faith, and everything to do with doubt. The very tone of the voice conveys disbelief in a positive outcome. Christian hope is synonymous with faith.

As we light the Advent candles, like the Psalmist, we are also confident that God will rekindle that faith. *Restore us, O God; make your face shine on us, that we may be saved. – Psalm 80:3*

As Christians, and followers of Christ, we are called to reflect his light in the dark places of our world, and our community.

Prayer

Jesus, light and hope for the world, rekindle in me the hope of salvation, so that I can offer that hope to those who are in most need of it. In your name, I pray. Amen.

THINKING OF THOSE IN NEED

Donations for Uniting Communities

Please bring donations of packet or tinned food to place under the Christmas Tree in the Church. These can be placed there any Sunday during Advent or on Christmas Day. After Christmas, they will be packed and taken to Uniting Communities Eastern Services for distribution to those in need.

Christmas Bowl Appeal



The Christmas Bowl is the Christmas Appeal of Act for Peace, the international aid agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia. Envelopes are available in the porch if you would like to make a donation. The Christmas Day offering will be donated to this appeal.

COME-TO-LUNCH

The next luncheon will be held at the **Alma Hotel** on **Wednesday, 13th November at 12 noon**. This will be an opportunity to share in some pre-Christmas cheer with one another. Please let Trevor Leane know if you would like to participate so that he can book tables for us.

WINTER/SPRING 2017 CONCERT SERIES



The final concert in the 2017 Series was a musical delight. Violinist, Janet Anderson was accompanied on piano by Damien Mansfield. The scheduled organist, John Hall unfortunately had to go into hospital but our own Dr Mark Symons and Graham Bell stepped in at short notice and the audience was not disappointed by

the splendid music. Thank you to the organisers of these concerts – Mark Symons for arranging the artists and programme, and Elizabeth Brookes, Margaret Harkness and Pat Symons for organising the afternoon teas.

STUDY GROUP

Thank you also to Rev Alex Rodgers for leading a very interesting study series. We look forward to further studies next year

NEWS OF OUR PEOPLE

Fernetta Bartlett spent some time in hospital with a crush fracture in the lumber region of her spine followed by a period of rehabilitation. She is back home but it will be a while before she is able to return to worship services.

Jean Lang had a fall and injured her left shoulder. She has been recovering in the new Royal Adelaide Hospital. This is taking longer than Jean would like and she is eager to get home again. They both miss being with us and would love to receive visitors or phone calls. **Trevor & Lee Leane** holidayed at Victor Harbour recently. While there, they caught up with two former members of this church, David Clarke (organist) and Rev Ken Rofe, who both sent their greetings to the congregation. We were delighted to see **Catherine Courtney** at the last concert. She very kindly helped to restart the station clock which hangs from the gallery at the back of the church.

There are many in our church family whom we miss because they are unable to be with us because of ill health or frailty. Please remember them in your prayers - **Annis Bennett, Naomi & Frank Bryant, Catherine Courtney, Robin & John Douglass, Dal Harkness, Linda Nicholls and Rosanne & Graham Pillar.**

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

The first Sunday in Advent marks the beginning of the Christian Year. It is a time of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus.

❖ *PAC Service of Lessons & Carols*

Monday 4th December at 7.00pm

The congregation is invited to share in this service which will feature combined PAC and Wesley Choirs and PAC music ensembles. Refreshments will be available in the hall following the service.

❖ *Wesley Service of Lessons & Carols*

Sunday 24th December at 10.00am

This special service, relating the Christmas story of the birth of Christ through Bible readings and music, features an augmented choir led by organist, Graham Bell. It has a long tradition in the history of Wesley Kent Town.

❖ *Christmas Day Service*

Monday 25th December at 9.00am

This family service celebrates the birth of Christ and the coming of Love into the world.



Please invite family and friends along to these services.



Love came down at Christmas

CONTACTS

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Church Office:

Monday – Thursday 10.00am – 3.00pm (school term)

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WESLEY WEBSITE

www.wesleykenttown.org.au