

WESLEY NEWS

APRIL DIARY DATES

Sunday 1st at 10.00 am

Rev Alex Rodgers &
Rev Mac Macdonald
Holy Communion
EASTER DAY

Sunday 8th at 10.00 am

Rev Alex Rodgers
EASTER 2

Wednesday 11th, 12 noon

Alma Hotel
COME-TO-LUNCH

Thursday 12th at 2.00pm

CHURCH COUNCIL

Sunday 15th at 10.00 am

Rev Alex Rodgers
EASTER 3

Sunday 22nd at 10.00 am

Rev Alex Rodgers
EASTER 4

Sunday 29th at 10.00 am

Rev Mac Macdonald
EASTER 5

Sunday 29th 2.30 – 4.00 pm

*Open Doors: Built Heritage
Weekend*

MUSIC @ WESLEY

Choir Practice

Wednesday night, 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

A MESSAGE FROM THE MODERATOR

For Christians, Easter is the most significant Christian festival of the year. We take time together to remember and honour Jesus – the life he lived, the brutal death he endured and the surprising and transforming news of his resurrection. Jesus lived an inspiring life – people followed him, because they heard in his stories and saw in his living, glimpses of

God that spoke to them of an all-encompassing love, and hope beyond what they had dared to imagine. But there were those who were threatened by Jesus' life and message - he spoke of God's love extending to all people. He included people in God's realm, who were on the margins. He disrupted the status quo. He spoke of justice for the poor and freedom for those who were enslaved.

He challenged those with money and power, to give away what they had to benefit those who were in need. No wonder there were those who plotted to have him killed. Those who had followed Jesus and placed so much hope in him were devastated by his execution. Those who had enough courage stood by him at the foot of the cross and visited his tomb. They wept for what they had lost in him. If Jesus' death were the end of the story, we may remember him as an inspiring historical leader, but millions of Christians today and through the centuries believe that he rose from the dead and continues to be present to us today. In Jesus' rising, our hopes rise. Light shines in the darkness.

A MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

Ministerial Meanderings

I am very proud of my granddaughter. I am sure those of us who have grandchildren feel the same way about theirs. However, there is absolutely no doubt that Imogen is far and away the most beautiful, most intelligent, and every other most there is. Imogen has just had her fourth birthday and is well on the way to developing her own character. The unconditional love that used to be the basis of her relationship with me (and the rest of her grandparents) has changed now to a subtler relationship wherein she can control me with a hug or a cheek kiss or a tummy tickle, the way I used to control her!

Both of her parents are vegetarian and not at all happy for her to eat sweets or chocolate. Last week I was taking her through the Gawler Woolies, and we passed by the Easter egg stand. On the stand was a chocolate R2D2 (a character in Star Wars, her favourite picture). I walked past the stand only to hear the words "Pop Pop!", that's what she calls me. "Yes my Bonnie Lassie," replies I. "There's R2D2...made of chocolate!!". "Aye, lass I can see that," says I, trying hard to keep walking.

The next thing I knew she did her famous run and jump toward me, so I had to catch her and she gave me a huge cuddle – "I really love you Pop Pop." That was it! The R2D2 chocolate model was placed in the trolley, taken through the checkout, transported in my car to our house where Imogen and I consumed the chocolate before my wife, my son and Imogen's mum came home. No evidence, no crime!

We human being's learn quite early that we can use love to manipulate those around us. I guess there is nothing hugely wrong with that in the sort of situations like the one I have just mentioned. The problem arises when people, usually men, use love to manipulate children and young people into doing things that are evil.

We all need to be careful in the way we use love in our relations. Love is not a tool to get our own way, but a way to express our deepest feelings for those closest to us.

Blessings
From Alex (& Imogen)

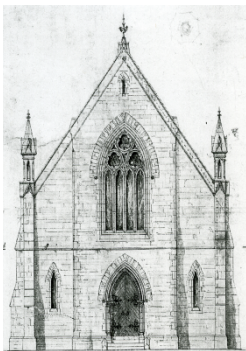
Wesley Uniting Church
Kent Town



HOLY WEEK SERVICES

During Holy Week we commemorated the events leading up to and including the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ. For us, the week commenced with a service of readings and music on **Palm Sunday**. We thank Graham Bell for organising this special service and for training the augmented choir. The choir performed seven choral pieces which were interspersed with appropriate readings. Some very beautiful music was enjoyed by everyone present. On Tuesday evening Rev Alex Rodgers led us in a **Maundy Thursday Service** (Why on Tuesday then? It was all to do with availability of halls). We learned that Maundy came from a Latin word meaning commandment, and were reminded of Jesus' words to us. "A new commandment I give unto you, that you love one another as I have loved you". With the aid of a power point presentation, we explored the events of the last days of Jesus' life, between his triumphal entry into Jerusalem and his betrayal in the Garden of Gethsemane. This prepared us for the **Good Friday Service** where we remembered Jesus' arrest, trial, torture and eventual crucifixion. On **Easter Day** we gathered to celebrate the resurrection of Christ and the hope this news brings to the world.

SA HISTORY FESTIVAL



We are pleased to assist the **Uniting Church SA Historical Society** to host an event here at Wesley Kent Town, on **Sunday 29th April, 2.30-4.00 pm**, as part of the "Open Doors: Built Heritage Weekend". It will include a tour of the building, information about the pipe organ and a talk from a local historian. Afternoon tea will be included.

COME-TO-LUNCH

The next Come-to-Lunch will be held at the **Alma Hotel** on **Wednesday, 12th April at 12 noon**. Please let Trevor Leane know if you plan to be there. Everyone is most welcome.

RESTORATION OF SW WALL OF THE CHURCH

You have probably noticed the scaffolding erected at the back corner of the Church building. This is because work has commenced on the restoration of the South Western Wall of the Church. We thank everyone again for their generous donations which have enabled this to happen.

NEWS OF OUR PEOPLE

Daniel & Cherry Brookes, together with their son **Justin**, have been worshipping with us for the past six months. Last month Cherry went into early labour and **baby Courtney** was born 10 weeks early. It has been a worrying time for them but little Courtney is doing well and is now out of the isolette in the Women's and Children's Hospital and has almost reached 2kg in mass. We rejoice with them in the arrival of Courtney.



Ivan Miller and his wife **Lidia** have become proud grandparents for the first time. **Baby Declan** weighed in at 7 pounds and is very good looking according to Ivan.

It was with sadness that we received the news of the passing of **John Douglass** at the age of 93 years. His funeral service was held on Saturday, 24th March at Berry's Funeral Home. At the request of his wife, **Robin**, some members of the choir sang the 23rd Psalm to Crimmond and Graham Bell played the organ. A major injury to John's leg as a boy left him with a severely impaired limb which eventually required amputation. Despite that, John was very successful in his working life and found great purpose in singing, using his lovely tenor voice to bring enjoyment to others. Both he and Robin trained at the Conservatorium of Music and sang many solos and duets, as well as singing in numerous choirs throughout their lives. We remember Robin, and other members of John's family at this difficult time for them.

Margaret Harkness is continuing to receive treatment, and is coping well. We have been delighted that she has been managing to make it to church again recently, accompanied by her sister, **Elizabeth Brookes** who is home from her holiday in the eastern states. We have missed **Beryl Kennett** of late. Unfortunately she has been suffering from severe and very painful sciatica and has also injured her right shoulder. She is likely to need to undergo surgery which may mean that we won't see her for some time.

There are many others in our church family whom we miss because they are unable to be with us for a variety of reasons. Please remember them in your prayers – **Annis Bennett, Naomi & Frank Bryant, Catherine Courtney, Linda Nicholls, Rosanne & Graham Pillar** and **KK Stacey**.

JUST A THOUGHT

Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, today is a gift from God, which is why we call it the present.

Bill Keane

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