

WESLEY NEWS

AUGUST DIARY DATES

Sunday 5th at 10.00 am
 Rev Alex Rodgers &
 Rev Mac Macdonald
Holy Communion
PENTECOST 11

Wednesday 8th, 12 noon
 Alma Hotel
COME-TO-LUNCH

Thursday 9th at 2.00pm
CHURCH COUNCIL

Sunday 12th at 10.00 am
 Rev Alex Rodgers &
 Rev Mark Dickens
CHURCH ANNIVERSARY
PENTECOST 12

Wednesday 15th at 2.00pm
**WINTER/SPRING
 CONCERT**

Sunday 19th at 10.00 am
 Rev Alex Rodgers
PENTECOST 13

Sunday 26th at 10.00 am
 Rev Jim Winn
PENTECOST 14

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 MINISTER

Ministerial Meanderings

In the big winds we had during the last couple of weeks in July we had two trees blow down. One landed on the edge of our roof doing some damage to the guttering, and the water tank which supplies water to our solar water heater.

After the trees were removed by some tree surgeons, the hot water went off and we were unable to do the things we normally do for a couple of days because the plumbers we use were really busy. It would have been easy just to ring some other plumbing company to come and save the day but I decided to fix it myself. Banned from getting on to ladders by my wife, I was restricted to ferreting around the water tank and the water pump while placed firmly on terra firma.

For two hours I checked this pipe and that nut. I spent ten minutes checking some hoses I found, only to realise that they were connected to the garden taps and sprinkler heads totally separate to the hot water system.

I was now dirty, frustrated and was driven to uttering either epithets or prayer. I chose the latter and said, "Please Lord turn me into a plumber." Clearly this was not a serious attempt to get God to immediately give me the knowledge gained by a plumber over some years as an apprentice. However, as the words left my mouth I happened to see an electric wire leading from the pump and I followed it with my eyes for the first time to the electric outlet on the nearby wall where the plug was dangling uselessly over a nail in the wall. I plugged the lead into the outlet and immediately the pump stuttered into life and it settled into a comfortable purr.

I went inside turned on the hot tap at the sink and lo and behold a stream of piping hot water poured into the basin. I had triumphed! I had asked for the wrong trade, clearly it was an electrician that was required!

Now, I don't for a minute believe that my prayer was responded to and my eyes guided to the offending wire by an act of God. Prayer is a gift to people from God not to be used when we are in need of help in matters like my attempt to fix the hot water system or if we ask for divine help in winning the Lottery. Prayer is the gift of communication with God where we are quiet to listen for God to speak to us, or if we seek the strength and power to get through moments of real difficulty in our lives or in the lives of others.

Too often we speak to God in acts of selfishness or greed. It is in acts of love and compassion that prayer becomes real and powerful in our lives.

Blessings
 From Alex

Wesley Uniting Church
 Kent Town

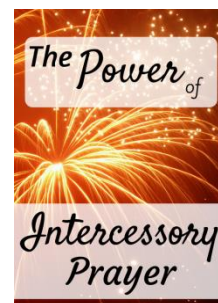


The following is an excerpt from Rev Prof Andrew Dutney's reflection on the decision to approve same-sex marriage by the national council of the Uniting Church at the 15th Assembly meeting.

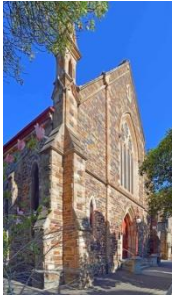
'In my report to the 14th Assembly as the retiring President I said:

God is calling us to be a church which receives its diversity as the precious gift of the Holy Spirit that it is; a foretaste, sign and instrument of "that reconciliation and renewal which is the end in view for the whole creation." Reconciliation doesn't mean everyone being the same. It doesn't mean one version of being human or being Christian replacing all the others. It means people and groups that are different and divided from each other being brought together in Christ to respect, value, trust and serve one another - in all our annoying, embarrassing, frustrating, frightening diversity. That's profoundly challenging. It's sharply counter-cultural. But it is the kind of church God is calling us to be.'

Rev. Prof Andrew Dutney, Professor of Theology, Flinders University, Past President, Uniting Church in Australia



CHURCH ANNIVERSARY



A special service of worship to celebrate 153 years of faithful service and Christian witness at Wesley Uniting Church Kent Town will be held on **Sunday 12th August 2018 at 10.00 am**. The worship will be led by our minister Rev Alex Rodgers with Rev Mark Dickens, chaplain to Prince Alfred College, being the guest preacher. As

usual for special events, there will be an augmented choir under the direction of our organist Graham Bell, so there will be some beautiful music to add to the occasion. Morning Tea will follow the service. Please invite family and friends to come along.

WINTER/SPRING 2018 CONCERT SERIES

The second of our popular series of concerts will be held on **Wednesday, 15th August 2018 at 2.00 pm**, and features clarinettist, Katie Marshall and organist, Andrew George. Tickets are available at the door for \$15. Afternoon Tea will be available in the Mark Symons hall following the concert.



Last month's concert was well attended and everyone enjoyed the delightful music presented by Jaime Grech, saxophonist, accompanied by Damien Mansfield on piano, and Andrew Ampt, the organist.

COME-TO-LUNCH

The next **Come-to-Lunch** will be held at the **Alma Hotel on Wednesday, 8th August at 12 noon**. Please let **Trevor Leane** know if you plan to be there. These lunches provide a great opportunity to socialise and get to know one another better. Everyone is very welcome.

MINISTERIAL LEAVE

Rev Alex Rodgers will take 2 weeks' annual leave at the end of August. He will be away from Monday 20th August until Sunday 2nd September. He and his wife, Elaine will travel to Queensland in a Winnebago. This is Alex's first proper leave since he came here as our minister so we hope he and Elaine have an enjoyable and refreshing break.

Rev Mac Macdonald will also be away at this time so if you require the services of a minister during this period, please contact either the chairman, Mark Symons or the secretary, Jenny Stewart, who will arrange for a minister to attend to your needs.

NEWS OF OUR PEOPLE



We were delighted to see **Johanna & Wayne Myers'** whole family at Church recently. Johannah was looking radiant and fully recovered after the birth of their daughter **Waylee Ruby Myers**. Little Waylee was on her best behaviour and barely made a sound during the service. We

were able to see her up close and admire her during morning tea. Juan, Nakiah and Isabella were very good at helping to look after her.

It was with deep regret that we received the sad news of the passing of our dear friend, **Beth Pitman**.



An active member of this congregation, Beth was a regular worshipper and participated enthusiastically in Church social activities. She enjoyed meeting people and was always very welcoming

to newcomers. Beth will be sadly missed. Her funeral service was held in the Colonel Light Gardens Uniting Church on Friday 27th August. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family as they mourn her loss.

Trevor Leane had a fall recently and broke his patella (knee cap). This has been quite painful, but Trevor has soldiered on, ensuring that church duties are attended to and that we all get our Sunday morning tea. He was due for carpal tunnel surgery but this has been postponed until his knee recovers.

Mac & Margaret Macdonald will be travelling overseas and will be away for 3 months. They will visit the UK including Scotland and Cornwall before going to Canada and then New Zealand on the way home. **Margaret Harkness** will be having a month's holiday in France and the UK, spending her final two weeks in Scotland. We hope they all enjoy themselves and look forward to their return.

We are delighted to welcome **Madeleine Davey** back into the choir after a period of illness. We missed her.

CHOIR

While Deborah White is away in Italy we are very fortunate that **Yvonne Sinclair** and **Melanie Sanford-Morgan** have agreed to help out in the soprano section. We thank them for assisting us in this way.

JUST A THOUGHT

Any intelligent fool can make things bigger and more complex but it takes a lot of courage to move in the opposite direction.

Albert Einstein

CONTACTS

Minister: Rev Alex Rodgers

Mobile: 0400 888 386

Vestry: 8362 8844

Home: 8524 6640

Email: sregdor2@outlook.com

Minister in Association: Rev Mac Macdonald

ravensrock@adelaide.on.net 8332 7669

Organist & Choir Director: Graham Bell

ghb59au@outlook.com 0422 073 436

Church Council Chair: Dr Mark Symons

mark.symons@tpg.com.au 8331 9816

Church Council Secretary: Jenny Stewart

doug-jenny-stewart@bigpond.com 8337 5649

Church Office:

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

office@wesleykenttown.org.au 8362 2544

Website: www.wesleykenttown.org.au