

# WESLEY NEWS

## JANUARY DIARY DATES

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> at 10.00 am  
Rev Alex Rodgers  
& Rev Mac Macdonald  
*Holy Communion*  
**EPIPHANY**

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> at 2.00pm  
**CHURCH COUNCIL**

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> at 10.00 am  
Rev Mac Macdonald  
**BAPTISM OF JESUS**



Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> at 10.00 am  
Rev Mac Macdonald  
**EPIPHANY 2**

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> at 10.00 am  
Rev Alex Rodgers  
**EPIPHANY 3**

### MUSIC @ WESLEY

#### Choir Practice

The choir will be in recess during January. Practice resumes Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> at 7.00 pm

### ARTS @ WESLEY

#### Patchworkers & Quilters

Resumes Monday 4<sup>th</sup> Feb.  
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

Rev Sue Ellis

At Christmas, we are reminded that Jesus was given to the world as a gift. The birth of Jesus Christ is the greatest gift the world has ever received, because his ways bring life-giving blessings that go on and on.

Whenever the Good News of Jesus is shared, the world is reminded of blessings of Hope in times of despair, Love to affirm our being, Peace in times of turmoil, and Joy – even in the most difficult of circumstances.

In 2018, there were many situations that left people feeling vulnerable: drought resulting in limited produce, unemployment alongside a Newstart allowance that hasn't risen in 25 years, bushfires and other natural disasters which devastated communities locally and globally. In such vulnerable times, we pray, "where will my help come from"?

Help comes in the gift of Jesus. His words, commonly called the Golden Rule; "do to others, as you would have them do to you", invite all people to be intentional in kindness and offering goodwill to bless others.

Our presence can be a gift of love to people feeling vulnerable and alone. This Christmas, follow the way of Jesus and provide gifts of Hope, Love, peace and Joy that can enable others to go on and on.

*This message appeared in the Advertiser, 24/12/2018*

**As we enter a New Year, may following the way of Jesus be our New Year Resolution.**

## EPIPHANY

Traditionally observed on January 6th, Epiphany is the celebration of three events that are said to demonstrate the significance of Jesus – that is the divinity of Christ. "Epiphany" means "to show, make known or reveal."

It started in the Eastern Church in AD 361 as a commemoration of the birth of Christ. Later, additional meanings were added – the visit of the three Magi, Christ's baptism in the Jordan River, and Jesus' first miracle at the wedding in Cana. These three events are central to the definition of Epiphany, and its meaning is drawn from these occurrences.

The Lectionary readings during January focus firstly on the visit of the Magi and the theme of light or being enlightened, and then on Jesus' baptism. The Wise Men were the first Gentiles to publicly recognise the significance of the baby in the manger and offer their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. The theme of God's expansive love is prevalent and that this love can and does stretch way beyond our human limits to include those whom we might want to exclude.

*(by Rev. Chris Vermeulen, Church of Scotland, 'Starters For Sunday', 2013)*



**Wesley Uniting Church Kent Town**  
27 Grenfell Street  
Kent Town



## MINISTER ON LEAVE

Rev Alex Rodgers will take two weeks annual leave from January 13<sup>th</sup> to January 27<sup>th</sup>. Rev Mac Macdonald will lead the worship services in Alex's absences. Should you require the services of a minister during these two weeks, please contact Rev Mac Macdonald on 8332 7669.

## THINKING OF THOSE IN NEED

### *Donations for Uniting Communities*

Thank you to everyone who placed gifts of food under the Christmas tree. These will be packed and taken to Uniting Communities Eastern Services for distribution to the needy.

### *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 still available in the porch if you would like to make a donation. The Christmas Day offering will be donated to this appeal.

## FORWARD NOTICE OF DIARY EVENTS

- **Harvest Thanksgiving Service with PAC:**  
Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> February
- **Ash Wednesday, start of Lent:**  
Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March
- **Palm Sunday:**  
Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April
- **Maundy Thursday Service:**  
Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April
- **Good Friday:**  
Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April
- **Easter Day:**  
Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April

The **Annual General Meeting of the Congregation** will be held in March at a date to be arranged.

## COME-TO-LUNCH

There will be no Come-to-Lunch in January but please be on the lookout for news of the next gathering in February.

## ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

The special services held during December were very successful. The **PAC Service of Lessons and Carols** was a wonderful occasion. The nave of the



Church was full and all present thoroughly enjoyed the music and singing presented by the combined PAC and Wesley Choirs and PAC string ensemble.

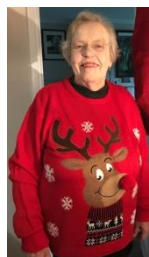
On Sunday morning 23<sup>rd</sup> December, the **Wesley Service of Lessons and Carols** was well attended and the delightful music presented by the augmented choir was greatly appreciated. The **Christmas Day Service** was a beautiful start to Christmas Day with its message of love and singing of carols celebrating the birth of Christ

We are very grateful to our organist and choirmaster, Graham Bell for all his hard work in preparing the choir, his selection of beautiful music and his magnificent organ playing. He will be having a well-deserved break for 2 weeks during January while the choir is in recess. Dr Mark Symons will play the organ in Graham's absence.

## NEWS OF OUR PEOPLE

**Pam & David George** took a cruise to Noumea and were away for Christmas.

**Joan Atkinson** has enjoyed her holiday in Ireland. She spent some time touring with her cousin and had an inspiring time at the Wexford International Opera festival (where her daughter Katherine is working). Katherine and her husband, Simon had a focussed music project in mid-December. Joan and Katherine



are pictured with a favourite Christmas cake they made together. Joan even joined a choir to bring some Christmas cheer to people. The reindeer top was the garb for the choristers. Joan sends Christmas wishes to everyone.



**Bev Jury** has a new great granddaughter, Maggie who was born just before Christmas.

It was lovely to see **Penelope Hackett-Jones'** daughter **Mary**, husband **Gabrielle** and boys **Arthur** and **Frederick** at the Christmas services. Penelope will be enjoying their visit.

**Rosanne Pillar** had an unfortunate accident on her way to the PAC Service of Lessons & Carols, when she was hit by a car. Fortunately she is recovering now.

Some other folk were unable to be with us over Christmas due to frailty, ill health or family commitments. Please remember them in your prayers: **Fenetta Bartlett, Annis Bennett, Naomi Bryant, Catherine Courtney, Robin Douglass, Beryl Kennet** and **Linda Nicholls**.

## REGULAR GIVING

Last month, information about regular electronic giving was provided. If you would like to contribute to your church in this way, please speak to Ivan Miller and he will give you details of the church account into which you can make automatic payments.

## CONTACTS

**Minister:** Rev Alex Rodgers

Mobile: 0400 888 386

Vestry: 8362 8844

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Email: [regdor2@outlook.com](mailto:regdor2@outlook.com)

**Minister in Association:** Rev Mac Macdonald

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**Organist & Choir Director:** Graham Bell

[gfb59au@outlook.com](mailto:gfb59au@outlook.com) 0422 073 436

**Church Council Chair:** Dr Mark Symons

[mark.symons@tpg.com.au](mailto:mark.symons@tpg.com.au) 8331 9816

**Church Council Secretary:** Jenny Stewart

[doug-jenny-stewart@bigpond.com](mailto:doug-jenny-stewart@bigpond.com) 8337 5649

**Church Office:**

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

[office@wesleykenttown.org.au](mailto:office@wesleykenttown.org.au) 8362 2544

**Website:** [www.wesleykenttown.org.au](http://www.wesleykenttown.org.au)