

# WESLEY NEWS

## MARCH DIARY DATES

.....  
**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10.00 am**  
 Rev Alex Rodgers  
*Holy Communion*  
**TRANSFIGURATION OF  
 JESUS**

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup>**  
**ASH WEDNESDAY**

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> at 10.00 am**  
 Rev Alex Rodgers  
**LENT 1**

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup>, 12 noon**  
**Alma Hotel**  
**COME-TO-LUNCH**

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> at 2.00pm**  
**CHURCH COUNCIL**

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> at 10.00 am**  
 Rev Alex Rodgers  
*AGM of the Congregation*  
**LENT 2**

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> at 10.00 am**  
 Rev Alex Rodgers  
**LENT 3**

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> at 10.00 am**  
 Rev Alex Rodgers  
**LENT 4**

### MUSIC @ WESLEY

**Choir Practice**  
 Wednesday evenings in the  
 Choir Vestry at 7.00 pm

### ARTS @ WESLEY

**Patchworkers & Quilters**  
 Monday morning in the  
 Susannah Wesley Hall  
 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 Meandering

I can confirm that Easter is on the way!!  
 The supermarkets have shelf after shelf filled with Easter eggs, and in the attempt to de-Christianise Easter, chocolate rabbits that seem to proliferate even more than real rabbits!

I think we would all agree that Christmas is well on the way to becoming a non-religious holiday for most Australians. However, it seems to me that it is only in the last few years that the Christian traditions of Easter and the Lenten period preceding it have been undermined and secularised.

In many ways I think this is the fault of the Church itself. The respect for religion that once was part of our tradition in the wider community has dissipated to the point that we are no longer seen as an important ethical and spiritual authority.

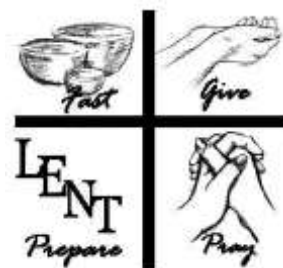
The news has just broken that Cardinal Pell, the senior Australian prelate in the Roman church, has been convicted of child sex abuse. Pell had become the Pope's financial fixer within the Vatican Bank and, as such, an important voice in advising Pope Francis on matters of ethics and values. Now we can be relatively sure that this man was involved in harming the lives of young people while proclaiming that those involved in sexual abuse were evil.

We can imagine how those who are opposed to the presence of religious institutions in our society will use this information as ammunition to support their point of view. As we move in to Lent and celebrate the Easter message of the overwhelming love of God for humanity as expressed in the life, death and resurrection of Christ we need to offer a corrective to everything that undermines the power of that message that surrounds us. It is incumbent on us to live our lives morally and ethically and to oppose that which is evil around us.

Now, this does not mean that we become God's police, or that we exclude all enjoyment in our lives, rather we become vocal about our beliefs and whenever we hear someone being critical of the Church, we explain that for every foolish and evil person who exists in the Church (like George Pell) there are thousands who live out their faith in love and compassion (like you).

May you have a blessed Easter and this Lent stay away from the chocolate bunny rabbits!!

Blessings  
 Alex Rodgers



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



## HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICE

The annual Harvest Thanksgiving Service was held on the last Sunday in February. Unfortunately PAC had to withdraw at the last minute because of an outbreak of norovirus, a very virulent gastrointestinal virus. Almost a hundred students and staff have been affected. We sincerely hope that they all recover quickly and that the virus is contained soon.

The service still went very well and there was some lovely music presented by the augmented choir and on the organ. The generosity of members ensured that there was



a magnificent range of produce displayed at the front of the church and this has all been donated to Uniting Communities Eastern Services.

Special thanks belong to the people who gave up their time on the Saturday to set up the display, those who cleaned up and packed all the goods after the Sunday service, and those who delivered the goods to Uniting Communities during the week. We also say thank you to the choristers who augmented our choir, Graham Bell for his musical selection and to Rev Alex Rodgers who had to replan the service at short notice.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The **Annual General Meeting of the Congregation** will be held on **17<sup>th</sup> March 2019**. This will take place in the Church immediately following worship. Reports and financial statements will be presented.

Nomination forms for Church Council are available from Jenny Stewart or Mark Symons.

## LENT, HOLY WEEK & EASTER EVENTS

- **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

## COME-TO-LUNCH

Our next Come-to-Lunch for 2019 will be on **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March** at the **Alma Hotel**. Please let **Trevor Leane** know if you will be attending so that he can book a table for us. These lunchtime gatherings are always very enjoyable and everyone is most welcome to attend.

## NEWS OF OUR PEOPLE

**Daniel & Cherry Brookes'** daughter, **Courtney Rose**, was baptised in a private ceremony on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2019. Courtney celebrated her first birthday also. We welcome Courtney into the life and fellowship of the Church.



**Deborah White** returns from Nepal in the first week of March. She has had a busy and interesting time while designing a house for Badri, a friend and colleague of hers. Badri is president of the Permaculture Institute of Nepal. Deborah has had to endure some difficult conditions – very hard bed, no workspace, inadequate lighting, lack of privacy and incessant noise which begins about 5.00 am each morning with loud bells ringing as part of a ritual in the puja (temple) room adjacent to her bedroom.

**Joan Atkinson** has had a successful knee replacement and after some rehab at Calvary College Grove she is now convalescing at home. We wish her a speedy recovery. While Joan is away, **Noni Kirkby** will be helping out in the alto section of the choir. Noni is one of our choristers who augment the choir for special services. We appreciate her assistance as we did that of **Melanie Sandford-Morgan** who filled Deborah's spot in the choir during February.

We were delighted to see **Fernetta Bartlett** and **Rosanne Piller** at the Harvest Thanksgiving Service and hope that their general health continues to improve.

Trevor Leane visited **Linda Nicholls** recently and reports that she is still in remarkably good health at the age of 106. Unfortunately she has a case of shingles which is causing her quite a bit of discomfort at present. Jenny Stewart saw **Beryl Kennett** last week. She is recovering slowly from her broken hip and subsequent hip replacement. Her movement is quite restricted and she is still experiencing quite a lot of pain. **David Kennett** is a resident at Helping Hand in North Adelaide.

**Barbara Fitzsimmons** is about to have cataract surgery and is feeling quite apprehensive. We trust that everything goes according to plan and she is soon seeing the world in a new light.

## JUST A THOUGHT

God wants spiritual fruits not religious nuts.

*Sign outside Glynde Lutheran Church*

## 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 Council Secretary:** Jenny Stewart

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**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)