

WESLEY NEWS

MAY DIARY DATES

Sunday 5th at 10.00 am

Rev Alex Rodgers

Holy Communion

EASTER 3

Wednesday 8th, 12 noon

Royal Terrace Hotel

COME-TO-LUNCH

Thursday 9th at 2.00 pm

CHURCH COUNCIL

Sunday 12th at 10.00 am

Rev Alex Rodgers

EASTER 4

Mother's Day

MEETING OF THE

CONGREGATION

Sunday 19th at 10.00 am

Rev Alex Rodgers

EASTER 5

Sunday 26th at 10.00 am

Rev Alex Rodgers

EASTER 6

Thursday 30th May

ASCENSION DAY

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

Uniting Churches are in the process of making decisions about new Presbyteries and which they wish to be part of. This is just another step in the debate over gay rights and gay marriage in the Church. The Uniting Church Assembly decided that the choice whether to conduct gay marriage in churches would rest in the hands of each individual minister and each individual congregation, but in a sense that is not making a decision at all. Now we have to make the decision at Kent Town whether or not we allow gay weddings to be conducted in this church.

First thing I need to say is that this process is most likely to be divisive, but we must not let it divide us.

Second thing is that I need to tell you that whatever our decision I will be conducting gay marriages. If requested, I would like to be able to conduct them here at Kent Town but if not, then I am open to marriages in most parts of God's great and glorious creation.

Third thing I need to say is that there has not been and there will not be a great rush of gay couples coming to Kent Town to be married. Indeed, there has not been and there will not be a great rush of gay couples coming to any church to be married!

Fourth thing I have to say is that there are far more important things that we and the wider church should be worrying about than this. If there really is a devil, he, she or it must be laughing so hard that his sides are fit to burst at the commotion this has caused.

Finally, I am in the process of writing a little pamphlet on the issues related to this question for anyone who is interested. I will relate the cases for and against and the reason why I intend to conduct gay marriages.

Our choice of Presbytery will not only relate to this issue and we need to be sure that the Presbytery we choose will reflect the width of our character and theology and not just our opinion on one issue. That would be foolish and counter-productive.

Blessings, as always

Alex



An extract from the Moderator's Easter Message

When I look at the cross, it represents a hard time that Jesus had. Yet as Christians we know that that hard time ended up as a good time with the resurrection. Whenever I go into a church and I have a worry, I look at the empty cross. It is a sign to me that Jesus has died and taken the sin of the world upon himself and in place of that, He has risen to new life that He has given to me. This Easter, think about your hard times. Give them to Jesus on His Cross. He can take away that dryness, that emptiness, that sadness. When we give it to him, he gives to us the life of the resurrection, with all of its hope, with all of its joy in every circumstance.

Rev Sue Ellis



Wesley Uniting Church Kent Town
27 Grenfell Street
Kent Town



HOLY WEEK SERVICES



The Holy week services were quite uplifting with some inspirational messages and music. We thank Rev Alex Rodgers, organist and choir master, Graham Bell, and the choir for their contributions.

COME-TO-LUNCH

Our next Come-to-Lunch for 2019 will be on **Wednesday 8th May** at the **Royal Terrace Hotel** starting at 12.00 noon. The hotel has been renovated and redecorated and we enjoyed a very pleasant meal there in a private room last month. Please let **Trevor Leane** know if you will be attending so that he can book a table for us.

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

There will be a Special Meeting of the Congregation on **Sunday, 12th May 2019**, in the Church, immediately following the service. This meeting has been called as a result of a request from the General Secretary of the Uniting Church SA, Rev Rob Brown.

As of the 1st July 2019, the Synod will continue and two Presbyteries will be formed. One of these Presbyteries will be known as the **“Generate Presbytery”** and the other will be an interim Presbytery called the **“Transitional Presbytery of South Australia”**. Further Presbyteries will be formed later in the year.

As a Congregation we are asked to decide if we wish to be part of the Generate Presbytery or not. Following discussion, a secret ballot will be conducted. A two thirds majority is required for this Congregation to form part of the Generate Presbytery. If this is not the wish of the Congregation, then Wesley Uniting Church Kent Town will be placed in the Transitional Presbytery for the time being. This does not preclude entering the Generate Presbytery at a later date.

Members are urged to seek further information from the following website:

<https://sa.uca.org.au/presbytery-and-synod/restructure>

SOME DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

TARTAN SUNDAY –

Sunday 7th July at 10.00 am.

His Excellency the Honourable Hieu Van Le AC, Governor of South Australia and Mrs Le will be in attendance.

PAC SESQUICENTENARY THANKSGIVING SERVICE –

Sunday 28th July (time to be advised)

CHURCH ANNIVERSARY SERVICE –

Sunday 25th August at 10.00 am

REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE –

Sunday 10th November at 10.00 am

ST ANDREW'S DAY SERVICE –

Sunday 24th November at 10.00 am

WINTER/SPRING CONCERT SERIES –

Wednesdays 17th July, 14th August, 18th September, 16th October, 20th November at 2.00 pm

JUST A THOUGHT

Wise men speak because they have something to say; fools because they have to say something. *Plato*

NEWS OF OUR PEOPLE

We are delighted to welcome two new people into our congregation **Jenny Church** and **Helen Drummond** have started attending Sunday services and we look forward to getting to know them better over the coming weeks. We were pleased to see **Catherine Courtney**, **Beryl Kennett** and **Robin Douglass** at worship services recently. We have missed them and were glad that they were well enough to attend some of our Holy Week services. **Ron M'Kay Smith's** trip was cut short as he became ill on the cruise from Melbourne to Sydney and had to return home as soon as he reached Sydney. Fortunately he was well enough to sing in the choir on Palm Sunday. **Fernetta Bartlett** was disappointed that poor health prevented her being here over Easter. She misses everyone and sends her love. **Madeleine Davey** is keeping a watchful eye on Fernetta and kindly took her home some Easter Day goodies.



The modern Australian celebration of Mother's Day actually grew out of calls for peace and anti-war campaigns following the American Civil War (1861-65). In 1870, American writer and women's rights activist Julia Ward Howe, best known as the author of the Battle Hymn of the Republic, appealed to women to unite and bring peace throughout the world. She proposed that a mother's day for peace be commemorated every year in June. But the idea of a mother's day did not gain traction until 1908, when West Virginia woman Anna Marie Jarvis held a church memorial to honour the legacy of her mother, Ann Reeves Jarvis, a peace activist who nursed wounded soldiers during the Civil War. She pushed to have a day set aside to honour all mothers.

In 1914 US president Woodrow Wilson officially declared the second Sunday in May to be Mother's Day. It was first held in Australia in 1924.

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