

# WESLEY NEWS

## FEBRUARY DIARY DATES

4<sup>th</sup> February at 2.00pm.  
*CHURCH COUNCIL*

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> at 10.00 am  
Rev Alex Rodgers &  
Rev Mac Macdonald  
*Holy Communion*  
**PRESENTATION OF  
THE LORD**

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> at 10.00 am  
Rev David Purling  
**TRANSFIGURATION  
OF JESUS**

February 17<sup>th</sup>  
**ASH WEDNESDAY**

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> at 10.00 am  
Rev Mac Macdonald  
**LENT 1**

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> at 10.00 am  
Rev Dr Jonathan Barker  
*Harvest Thanksgiving*  
**LENT 2**

## MUSIC @ WESLEY

### Choir Practice

Wednesday evenings in the  
church at 7.30pm.

## ARTS @ WESLEY

**Patchworkers & Quilters**  
Monday mornings in the  
Susannah Wesley Hall  
9.30 am – 12.00 noon  
Contact Margaret on  
8445 7006

## WESLEY IS HOME TO

**Young Adelaide Voices**  
**Adelaide Harmony Choir**  
**Metropolitan Musical  
Theatre Company**  
**Organ Music Society of  
Adelaide Music Library**

## MINISTERIAL MEANDERING

I was listening to the broadcast of parliament on the radio earlier this week and they were getting quite heated over COVID, specifically the rollout of the vaccine. The USA and the UK are vaccinating people by the millions, we are yet to start!

The vaccines are very important to the defeat of this infection and the drug companies developed them very quickly thanks to the fact that COVID is very similar to a previous infection they were already creating a vaccine for.

We could vaccinate the whole population very quickly if we wanted however it is just a matter of waiting for the vaccine to come online and get ourselves vaccinated to bring this horrendous period in our history to a close.

Meanwhile, we need to count our blessings that we live in Australia and have been spared much of the trauma experienced overseas. Later this month, we will enter into Lent, a time of repentance, fasting and preparation for the coming of Easter. It is a time of self-examination and reflection.

Blessings,  
**Alex**

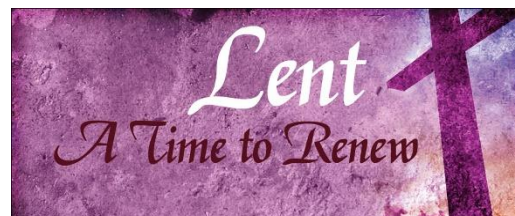
“In Mark 8:31-38, Jesus Foretells His Death and Resurrection. Peter’s rebuke reminded Jesus of different choices He could have made, like the ones He wrestled with in the desert. Hence the sharpness of His reply.

The pressure upon Jesus to be the kind of hero the crowds wanted – miracle worker, king who would stand up to the Romans, national hero – was at times relentless. They must all have been shocked when Jesus talked about the suffering that lay ahead. Jesus clarifies that suffering lies ahead not only for Himself but for any who would follow. Jesus doesn’t ‘pull the wool over people’s eyes’. He is clear that a cross will be involved for anyone who wants to be His follower. But those who walk His way will have Jesus by their side and instead of forfeiting their life – dissipating their soul’s energy on countless pursuits that cannot satisfy – they will find themselves.

Jesus outlines three elements for would-be followers: self-denial, taking up a cross and following. We will soon be in Lent, that period of 40 days before Easter, when traditionally people tighten their belts and deny themselves excess. Self-denial might include giving up things and changing habits, but **the key element is a change in focus from one’s self to God.** Taking up a cross was the opposite to the privileged positions some of His disciples coveted. Jesus warned them that life could become tougher because of their association with Him.

Luke put it slightly differently. “Let them ... take up their cross daily and follow me,” calling us to live every day in awareness of God and in sacrificial service to others (Luke 9:23). It is ‘the road less travelled’ – where **we come to the end of a life with self at the centre and come alive to a life centred on Christ.** Following Jesus turns out to be more than following a good example, it’s taking up the invitation to live as Jesus did and wanting to be like Him. “Beloved, we are God’s children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is” (1 John 3:2).”

*Rev Bill Taylor – Church of Scotland*



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



## HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICE

The annual Harvest Thanksgiving Service will be held on **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> February** and will feature an **augmented Wesley Choir**. **Rev Dr Jonathan Barker** will lead the service.



Members of the congregation are asked to contribute tinned and packet food for a display of produce at the front of the church. All produce will be donated to Uniting Communities Eastern Services. Unfortunately, because of fruit fly restrictions this year we cannot accept any fresh fruit and vegetables.

Setting up will take place on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> February at 4.00 pm. It would be helpful if donations of produce were brought to the church that afternoon or on the previous Sunday. If this is not convenient, please still bring things on the 28<sup>th</sup> February and they will be added to the display.

## LENT AND EASTER

- **Palm Sunday Service:**  
Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> March at 10.00am
- **Good Friday Service:**  
Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> April at 9.00am
- **Easter Day Service:**  
Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> April at 10.00am

The 3 services will feature special music presented by an augmented Wesley choir under the direction of organist/choir director, Graham Bell.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The **Annual General Meeting of the Congregation** will be held on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April at 11.00 am in the church following the service of worship.

## PATCHWORK & QUILTING GROUP

The **Patchwork & Quilting Group** has recommenced with Margaret Priestly as coordinator of the group. New members would be welcomed warmly so if you are interested in joining them on a Monday morning at 9.30 am, please ring Margaret on 8445 7006.



## NEWS OF OUR PEOPLE

**Trevor Leane** has made the difficult decision to move from his property at Marble Hill to something smaller, recognising that the work load is becoming too great. He and his wife, **Lee**, have been going through the exhausting exercise of sorting through a lifetime of collectables and deciding what to keep and what not to keep. Their property is now on the market and open inspections are underway. With this in view, Trevor officially stepped down from his position on the Church Council in December last year. Trevor can't remember how long he served in this capacity, but it is a

considerable length of time and included a period as Treasurer. We extend our sincere appreciation to Trevor for his years of dedicated service to the church community. In addition, we all recognise the tireless work Trevor has performed in setting up morning teas (prior to COVID), operating the sound system, reading the notices in church and preparing rosters. Trevor really cares about people and has given pastoral support to us all by way of visits and phone calls. We can't thank you enough, Trevor!



We are pleased to report that **Joan Atkinson** has made headway and is now back home with support from Fiona. Unfortunately she has lost the sight in her right eye but the surgery on her left eye has successfully restored some sight in that one, and with the aid of new glasses she has sufficient vision for daily activities.

**Raelene Chelley** has been having a difficult time lately so please remember her in your prayers. She experiences ongoing pain in her hands due to arthritis and this limits her movement and the enjoyment of craft activities which she has always loved. Then she had a nasty experience recently while out shopping. She needed to sit down on a bench on which another woman was already seated. To do so she had to move the woman's shopping trolley aside. The woman objected strongly and became aggressive. She kicked Raelene and then pushed her to the ground. As a consequence she was badly bruised and has had ongoing headaches. Raelene is also worried about one of her brothers who has been admitted to intensive care as a result of complications following hip surgery.

It has been delightful to see **Mary Hackett-Jones** at



worship on a number of occasions recently with **Arthur, Frederick and Vivienne**. Mary's husband, **Gabriel Okutoi** is working overseas and unable to return to Australia at present because of the COVID restrictions. This is very difficult for a young family. Here is a photo of the family when

Vivienne was baptised this time last year.

## CONTACTS

**Minister:** Rev Alex Rodgers

Mobile: 0400 888 386

Vestry: 8362 8844

Home: 8524 6640

Email: [sregdor2@outlook.com](mailto:sregdor2@outlook.com)

**Minister in Association:** Rev Mac Macdonald

[ravensrock@adelaide.on.net](mailto:ravensrock@adelaide.on.net) 8332 7669

**Organist & Choir Director:** Graham Bell

[ghb59au@outlook.com](mailto:ghb59au@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) 0400 279 684

**Church Office:**

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

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