

WESLEY NEWS

MARCH DIARY DATES

Sunday 7th at 10.00 am
Rev Mark Dickens
Holy Communion
Receipt of New Members
LENT 3

Thursday 11th at 2.00 pm
CHURCH COUNCIL

Sunday 14th at 10.00 am
Rev Jim Winn
LENT 4

Sunday 21st at 10.00 am
Rev Mac Macdonald
LENT 5

Sunday 28th at 10.00 am
Rev Dr Jonathan Barker
PALM SUNDAY
Start of Holy Week

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**

THE LENTEN JOURNEY

“Let’s think chronologically: Jesus began his ministry when he was thirty years old. Like so many others, he joined the throngs of people who flocked to the Jordan River to be baptized by John the Baptist. Then he went out into the wilderness to fast and pray for forty days. Then he returned to Galilee to share the Good News of God’s love, heal the sick and proclaim the dawning of God’s great kingdom on earth.



TRAVELLING WITH JESUS

Now, let’s think geographically. Galilee is the region in what is now northern Israel that surrounds the Sea of Galilee. It includes Jesus’ home town of Nazareth and his adopted home of Capernaum. To the west is the Mediterranean Sea, to the north is the region of Tyre and Sidon, or what is now Lebanon and Syria.

According to scripture, Jesus travelled around the Galilee, perhaps up to three years. And then he took Peter, James and John up on a high mountain – presumably, Mt. Herman – where he was met by Moses and Elijah and transfigured in their sight. His appearance became as white as the sun. When he came down from the mountain, Luke says, “... he intently set his face to go to Jerusalem.” (Luke 9:51)

His Galilean ministry was complete; his journey to the holy city and the temple had begun. And this is the significance of the Lenten season for us today: If we’re willing, it’s an opportunity to walk in the footsteps of Jesus all the way from Galilee to Jerusalem and, in so doing, experience the promise of resurrection and new life.”

The Lenten journey is no walk in the park. It takes you through the heart of Samaria and has you rub shoulders with folks you’re not likely to see anywhere else except in the company of Jesus.

If you’re willing to follow his lead, the promise is two-fold: One, Jesus will be with you every step of the way. As a colleague of mine used to say, “Christ stands behind us to encourage us, beside us to befriend us, above us to watch over us, within us to give us the gifts of faith, hope and love, and always before us to show us the way.”

And two, if you’ll let him, Jesus will give you a spirit of peace and reconciliation. He’ll make you one with people of other races, other nationalities, other faiths. In Christ there is perfect unity so that to be in Christ is to be at one with all of God’s creation.

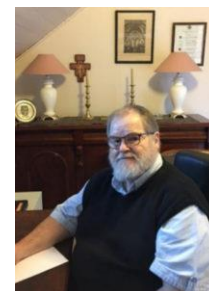
That’s the promise for all who are willing to take the Lenten journey: Jesus will be with you; he will make you one with himself and the world around you.

Dr Philip W McLarty

NEWS OF OUR MINISTER

It was with great sadness and concern that we heard the news that our minister, Rev Alex Rodgers, had suffered a stroke on Monday 8th February and had been admitted to the Royal Adelaide Hospital. He is being well cared for and was transferred firstly to SpARC – Specialist Ambulatory Rehabilitation Centre on Smart Road, Modbury, for rehabilitation and more recently to Gawler Hospital..

Our thoughts and prayers are with Alex as he faces the many challenges that lie ahead. He is fortunate to have the love and support of his wife, Elaine and of his two sons and granddaughter and we send our well wishes to them at what is a very difficult and worrying time.



Wesley Uniting Church Kent Town
27 Grenfell Street, Kent Town



MINISTERIAL COVERAGE

We are very grateful to the ministers who have obligingly stepped in and led worship for us at short notice following Rev Rodgers sudden illness. We extend our thanks to Rev Dr Jonathan Barker, Rev Mark Dickens, Rev Mac Macdonald, Rev David Purling and Rev Jim Winn. The Church Council is very pleased to announce that **Rev Jonathan Barker has agreed to be our Supply Minister** while Rev Rodgers is ill. His contract needs to be finalised with Synod but it anticipated that his official placement will commence at the beginning of April.

HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICE

The annual Harvest Thanksgiving Service was held on **Sunday 28th February** and featured an **augmented Wesley Choir**. **Rev Dr Jonathan Barker** was the worship leader and his message made interesting connections between Lent and Harvest Thanksgiving.



The service was enjoyed immensely by all present. The organ and choral music was a delight to listen to and there were rousing hymns to sing.

Members of the congregation excelled with their generous donation of produce this year. A photo of the display appears above. All goods have been donated to Uniting Communities Eastern Services.

MORNING TEA

Following the Harvest Thanksgiving, we moved to the front hall for morning tea. This was the first time we have done so since the COVID lockdown occurred just before Palm Sunday last year. It worked well with two people behind a counter serving the drinks and food, and everyone enjoyed being able to gather in this manner again after such a long period. **If you are willing to be a server, would you let Bev Jury know so that we can prepare a roster.**

NEW MEMBERS

During the service on Sunday 7th March, **Kay Rooke** and **Peter Skellon** will be officially received into full membership of Wesley Uniting Church Kent Town. We are delighted that they have made this important decision and welcome them warmly.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER

- **Palm Sunday Service:** Sunday 28th March at 10.00am
- **Good Friday Service:** Friday 2nd April at 9.00am
- **Easter Day Service:** Sunday 4th 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 11th April at 11.00 am in the church following the service of worship. There are vacancies on the Church Council. Anyone who is a member or member-in-association is eligible for nomination. Nomination forms are available from Jenny Stewart and Mark Symons.

NEWS OF OUR PEOPLE

We are always delighted to welcome new people to share in our service each Sunday. **Colin and Grace Watkins** have been joining us for worship on a regular basis for some months now. They are among the few members of our congregation that actually live in Kent Town. **Lucy Safrazian** has recently started attending Sunday Worship and we look forward to getting to know her better too.

Joan Atkinson was well enough to attend choir practice again after several months of recovering from major eyesight problems. She found it a little difficult to see the music but is hoping to be back at church soon.

Trevor Leane has been very busy with open inspections at his property in Marble Hill, and sorting through belongings. He and Lee are finding it a very stressful process.

Unfortunately, **Margaret Harkness** is having to undergo another course of chemotherapy. She is not looking forward to it but as always, she maintains a very positive state of mind and faces it with great courage. **Colin Watkins** has been facing similar issues so they have been able to offer support to one another. **Doug Stewart** has been admitted to the Royal Adelaide Hospital with a range of medical problems. He is receiving excellent medical care and his condition is stabilising. Please remember Margaret, Colin and Doug in your prayers.

Raelene Chelley's brother passed away very recently. We extend our sincere sympathy to her, and sister Lorraine, in this time of sorrow and sense of loss.

JUST A THOUGHT

God doesn't give us what we can handle, God helps us handle what we are given.



CONTACTS

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