

WESLEY NEWS

APRIL DIARY DATES

.....
Friday 2nd at 9.00 am

Rev Dr Jonathan Barker

GOOD FRIDAY

Sunday 4th at 10.00 am

Rev Dr Jonathan Barker

Holy Communion
EASTER DAY

Thursday 8th at 2.00 pm

CHURCH COUNCIL

Sunday 11th at 10.00 am

Dr Rod Fopp

EASTER 2

Sunday 18th at 10.00 am

Rev Dr Jonathan Barker

EASTER 3

Sunday 25th at 10.00 am

Rev Dr Jonathan Barker

EASTER 4
ANZAC DAY

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**

FROM THE MINISTER

AN EASTER WORD

When my wife and I lived in Darwin at the time of the building of the Alice Springs to Darwin railway line, great alarm was raised over the fact that the new line would cut right through an area of grassland which was one of the few known habitats and breeding grounds of the endangered Gouldian finch – a bird of startling colour once prevalent in the wild all across Northern Australia. To the delight of so many, the ABC aired a program which announced “Good News About Gouldian Finches” – the sudden appearances of these finches all across northern Australia, reappearing in areas where it had been said they were dead!

What a marvellous symbol for Easter – new life appearing where it was thought to have died. When we consider that we humans are responsible for the demise of Gouldian finches through our destruction of their habitats, there is added poignancy in their reappearance.

So often it seems that we are surrounded by death: the death of hope, the death of freedoms, the death of beloved communities, the death of love in relationships, the death of faith – even for some the apparent death of God. But these forms of death in the midst of life do not have the final say. Resurrection is the reappearance of life in all its fullness.

In the New Testament this reality took bodily form in the rising up of Agape (Greek for profound love) communities. *We know we have passed from death to life because we love one another. (1 John 3:14)*

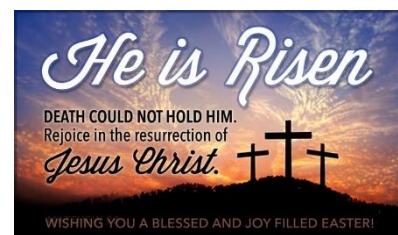
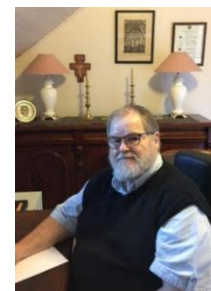
Think of Easter as a celebration of a new kind of love which takes flight in our lives and in our world. This love, as Jesus demonstrates, cannot be defeated even in the face of actual death. Sometimes we are startled by its sudden appearance. Other times we need the eyes of faith to see what may appear to be hidden to others.



Jonathan Barker

NEWS OF REV RODGERS

It is pleasing to report that Rev Alex Rodgers has recovered well enough after his stroke to return to his home in Williamstown. He is speaking quite clearly again and he says he is able to walk better than before, so the rest and therapy is helping some of his other medical conditions as well. Please continue to pray for Alex and his wife Elaine as he continues the recovery process.



Wesley Uniting Church Kent Town
27 Grenfell Street, Kent Town



REV DR JONATHAN BARKER

Rev Dr Jonathan Barker officially takes up his position as Supply Minister from 1st April, 2021. Jonathan has led several of our worship services already since Rev Rodgers became ill so we are already getting to know him. We extend a warm welcome to him.



Jonathan trained at Parkin College (Adelaide) and was ordained as a Minister of the Gospel in the Congregational Church in 1964. Having been a Minister of the Word, Jonathan became a Deacon with the establishment of the renewed Diaconate by the Uniting Church in 1994. He has served in South Australia (Gilberton/Department of Christian Education; Whyalla; Parkside/Glenunga; Marion/Warradale and Pilgrim), in Western Australia (Applecross; Mowanjum Aboriginal Community, Derby), in New South Wales (Pitt Street, Sydney; Bondi Beach Chapel by the Sea, Goulburn), and the Australian Capital Territory (South Woden). Other work includes involvement in Community Development with the International Training Institute (Bombay, India); Associate Director of Lay Education (Parkin Wesley College) and Theology Lecturer at Nungalinga College (Darwin).

EASTER SERVICES



Good Friday Service:

Friday 2nd April at 9.00am

This meditative service will focus on scenes on the journey to the Cross as we reflect on the great sacrifice Christ made for us.



Easter Day Service:

Sunday 4th April at 10.00am

We celebrate with joy the risen Christ. The sacrament of **Holy Communion** will be shared during this service.

Both services will be led by Rev Dr Jonathan Barker. The two services will feature special music presented by the Wesley choir under the direction of organist/choir director, Graham Bell.

PALM SUNDAY

The Palm Sunday Service was a beautiful start to Holy Week. A service of readings and choral music presented by an augmented choir led our thoughts from the palm-strewn arrival of Jesus in Jerusalem through penitential music towards the power and solemnity of Good Friday. We extend special thanks to Graham Bell for organising this service, choosing the beautiful music and training the choir.



Arthur, Frederick & Vivienne in front of the church on Palm Sunday

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. At this meeting, the financial statements will be presented by the Treasurer, and reports will be received from the Chairman and the Secretary of the Church Council. There will not be a

minister's report this year. The Treasurer will also present the budget for 2021. Following this, election of members of Church Council will take place. Nominations for church council have been received from Kay Rooke and Peter Skellon.

MORNING TEA



Everyone has enjoyed being able to gather in this manner again after such a long period. It provides a great opportunity to socialise and get to know one another better. You may have noticed that Bev Jury and Jenny Church have been serving behind the counter each week. We are very grateful to them but it would be better to share the load, so if you are able, please offer to take a turn and give them a spell. **If you are willing to be a server on a regular basis, would you let Bev Jury know so that we can prepare a roster.**

NEWS OF OUR PEOPLE



Joan Atkinson has unfortunately been in hospital again following a fall. She has healed well enough to move to a rehabilitation facility. We send Joan our love, support and prayers. **Margaret Harkness** is coping well with her current course of chemotherapy. She continues to remain cheerful and positive. **Colin Watkins** has also started his chemotherapy and would benefit from your prayers for healing. **Doug Stewart** is back home after 18 days in the Royal Adelaide Hospital. He is very tired but managed to make it to church and sing in the choir on Palm Sunday. We have missed **John Beard** of late. Unfortunately he has been experiencing severe back pain which is making it difficult for him to get around.

Rev Mac Macdonald has retired as Minister-in-Association.. Having celebrated his 85th birthday recently, he decided it was a good time to step aside. This will also mean that Mac will no longer be an ex-officio member of the Church Council. Mac and Margaret will continue to worship at Kent Town and Mac will still lead the occasional service of worship. Thank you Mac for your years of faithful service, the support you have given the ministers in placement and your spiritual leadership of the congregation.



CONTACTS

Minister: Rev Dr Jonathan Barker

Mobile: 0438 012 227

Vestry: 8362 8844

Email: jkjmbarker@bigpond.com

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 0400 279 684

Church Office:
office@wesleykenttown.org.au 8362 2544

Website: www.wesleykenttown.org.au

Website: www.wesleykenttown.org.au

