

WESLEY NEWS

AUGUST DIARY DATES

Sunday 1st

Rev Dr Jonathan Barker
WORSHIP AT HOME
PENTECOST 10

Sunday 8th at 10.00 am

Rev Jim Winn
PENTECOST 11

Thursday 12th at 2.00 pm

CHURCH COUNCIL

Sunday 15th at 10.00 am

Rev Dr Jonathan Barker
CHURCH ANNIVERSARY
PENTECOST 12

Sunday 22nd at 10.00 am

Dr Rodney Fopp
PENTECOST 13

Sunday 29th at 10.00 am

Rev Dr Jonathan Barker
PENTECOST 14



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

Monte Verdi Singers

Organ Music Society of
Adelaide Music Library

FROM THE MINISTER

LIVING IN A TIME OF UNCERTAINTY

Have you noticed that there are so many contrasting responses to living in the new world of a global pandemic? It depends so much on personal circumstances. There are those who have lost loved ones. Others have had to deal with the dire consequences of lost income, business failure or the restrictions for significant occasions such as funerals and weddings. In contrast some have delighted in taking time out during a lockdown and have been glad to work at home. For all however there is the need to adjust to living in a world of uncertainty and subject to accepting necessary restrictions. Recently we at Wesley Kent Town had to adapt our worship. For example, not being able to sing and even not gathering at all.



One saying that I have lived with is “my situation is never my problem”. I know that does not sound very comforting at present. But the saying went on to add that the real problem is actually “how I relate to my situation.” This insight has led to a whole school of therapy called “reality therapy” designed to help people to come to terms with painful realities over which they have limited or no control.

Is this not the challenge we all have to face? When to decide that situations ought to be changed because they can be or ought to be: and when to accept that there is nothing that can be done about a situation. If circumstances are really unchangeable then what are the choices? They range from denying reality, accepting stoically or accepting gracefully, despite having to live with discomfort or pain. Here I am reminded of the serenity prayer, written by the great Protestant Theologian Reinhold Niebuhr.



*God grant me the serenity
to accept the things I cannot change;
courage to change the things I can;
and wisdom to know the difference.*

Accepting given reality requires a humility that ought not diminish a sense of self-worth and dignity. John Powell talks of the importance of not running away from our discomfort. He suggests that we can enter into our discomfort profitably, not just by finding the source of our discomfort, but also by asking “How can I look at myself and my situation differently?” Then it becomes a matter of attitude.

The great gift of the experience of grace is that it enables us to claim our freedom to decide that nothing on earth (or in heaven!) can ever take away our humanity. Is this not also disclosed by Jesus dying on a cross?

Jonathan Barker



Wesley Uniting Church Kent Town
27 Grenfell Street, Kent Town



CHURCH ANNIVERSARY



A special **Anniversary service** is planned for **Sunday 15th August at 10.00am**. **Rev Dr Jonathan Barker** will be the **worship leader** and **Graham Bell** is putting his creative powers to work to ensure that we can still enjoy some lovely music. We hope you can join us to help celebrate **156 years of worship and witness in this community**.

EXTENSION OF SUPPLY MINISTRY

We are delighted that **Rev Dr Jonathan Barker** has agreed to remain as **Supply Minister** while **Rev Alex Rodgers** is on sick leave. We are most grateful to **Jonathan** for his leadership and pastoral care. At this stage his tenure has been extended to the end of **September**.

IMPACTS OF COVID RESTRICTIONS



The appearance of the **Delta strain** of this virus in **South Australia** forced us into a one week lockdown so that both the planned **Spring Concert** scheduled for **21st July** and the **Sunday Worship Service** on the **25th July** had to be cancelled at short notice. This was a disappointment but we are grateful that our **State Government** acted swiftly to get on top of this outbreak and keep us safe.

We were permitted to gather for worship on **1st August** but the decision was made to not hold a gathered **Worship Service** that Sunday as an added precaution.

We extend **grateful thanks to Rev Mac Macdonald and Rev Dr Jonathan Barker** for providing “**Worship at Home**” material for **Jenny Stewart** to collate and email home to all who have email addresses. We sincerely hope that you find this material spiritually beneficial and that it is helping us stay connected as a worshipping community.

Please check you emails each week because this is the most efficient means of communicating any changes to our worship arrangements.

Restrictions have been eased so that we have returned to the **1 person/2 m² rule** but for the time being:



- Masks must be worn indoors
- No congregational singing is permitted
- People must be seated while eating and drinking during morning tea. Please take a seat and you will be served.

Unfortunately we are also not permitted to have a choir at present so this means no choir practices as well. We all miss the singing and hope that it will soon be deemed safe enough to resume.

WINTER/SPRING CONCERTS

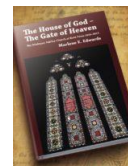


There are no plans for further concerts this year at the moment because of the uncertainty regarding **Government COVID restrictions**. If the situation improves later in the year further

consideration will be given to their reintroduction.

BOOKS FOR SALE

Just a reminder that there are two books for sale that would be of interest to **Wesley members and visitors**. Both are on display at the **Northern Transept door**. “**The House of God – The Gate of Heaven**” written by **Dr Marlene Edwards** is the first comprehensive and illustrated account of **Kent Town Wesleyan Methodist/Uniting Church**. “**Margaret Davey – An Amazing Woman**” written by **Janet Whitham** describes a wonderful **South Australian woman** who devoted much of her talents to working with community groups including **Wesley Church Kent Town**. Both books are priced at **\$20 each**. Payment for each book (please identify your choice) can be left in the box at the door.



NEWS OF OUR PEOPLE

Rev Dr Jonathan Barker has undergone cataract surgery on both eyes in the last couple of weeks. He is delighted with the outcome. **Ivan Miller** was to have undergone knee replacement surgery but was disappointed that he was sent home for 3 more weeks because he cleared his throat at the admission desk and was deemed to show symptoms of a cold. He was looking forward to being able to walk more freely. We hope all goes well once the surgery proceeds. It will require about 6 weeks of rehabilitation. **Elizabeth Brookes** has recovered from back and hip pain well enough to return to church. We had missed her and were pleased to see both her and husband **Frank** recently. **Doug Stewart** had to go back to hospital for 3 days in July. The doctors and nurses do a wonderful job but he is glad to be home in **Jenny’s** care.



Mary Hackett-Jones and children **Arthur, Frederick and Vivienne** are all well but missing **Gabrielle** who works in **Instanbul**. They have been apart for just over a year because of the pandemic. It is a difficult time for a young family.

CONTACTS

Supply 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