

WESLEY NEWS

JULY DIARY DATES

Sunday 4th at 10.00 am
Rev Mark Dickens
& Rev Mac Macdonald
TARTAN SUNDAY
PENTECOST 6

Thursday 8th at 2.00 pm
CHURCH COUNCIL

Sunday 11th at 10.00 am
Rev Dr Jonathan Barker
Holy Communion
PENTECOST 7

Sunday 18th at 10.00 am
Rev Dr Jonathan Barker
PENTECOST 8

Sunday 25th at 10.00 am
Rev Mac Macdonald
PENTECOST 9



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

Early in June I attended the national conference of the Uniting Church’s Historical Society, held at the Centre for Ministry in North Parramatta, NSW. The theme was “Growing up Uniting” featuring the stories, experiences and learnings of those who have been formed in the Uniting church rather than as Methodists, Presbyterians or Congregationalists. In these days of declining numbers and uncertainty about the future it is good to affirm that which characterises the Uniting Church forty-four years since its inauguration in 1997. We have made mistakes, followed some unhelpful paths leading to dead ends, and not always provided good, transparent, informed decisions, but we are human, flawed, striving, hopeful. But what characterises us contributes to a unique witness among the churches of Australia. Let me share the following quoting a contribution of Rev Dr John Squires from Canberra.

“At the very beginning, the “Statement to the Nation” made headlines in the press, and we have been led to develop a clear identity and carve out a distinctive place within Australian society. We have a distinctively open and unconstricted theology, faithful to our reformed and evangelical heritage, but contextualised to the contemporary Australian situation. We celebrate multicultural and linguistic diversity and exhibit a warm acceptance of LGBTIQ+ people. We are strongly committed to social justice, advocate for refugees, work to effect better housing policies, argue against gambling addiction in society, decriminalising drug usage, and other issues.

We have thoroughgoing commitment to living sustainably, honouring creation, and working with organisations devoted to environmental care. We have an enduring covenant with the First Peoples of the land, an openness to ecumenical and interfaith engagements, and a strong commitment to mission in other countries that means working carefully with partner churches and supporting local initiatives. In each of these areas, we have ideals, goals, visions, and we have dashed hopes, failed enterprises, inadequate realisations. Yet we press on.

We still talk with orthodox, catholic, conservative, evangelical and pentecostal siblings, but don’t feel constrained by their dogmas or traditions, or by what we perceive to be their restrictions and limitations. We seek to set out in fresh directions, following untested pathways, sailing into uncharted waters, knowing that this means pushing the envelope, risking being criticised or unfriended or worse. Sometimes the fresh initiatives work well, sometimes they fail spectacularly. But at least we try—and we press on.”

I have often heard from many non-churchgoers, “If I went to church, it would be to a Uniting Church”. Well, it’s OK not to go to church and for us to work with others in community projects of mutual interest. But one consistent observation at the History Conference was that so many in the UCA are just so diffident about witnessing to the faith that moves them. I wonder whether this might be the greatest challenge we face - to be able to rearticulate the gospel in order to lead people (non-judgementally) into fuller experience of life and community. In my experience, **new energy always flows when we refresh ourselves with the basics of the Christian faith as it may apply to living in the realities of the 21st century.**

Jonathan Barker



Wesley Uniting Church Kent Town
27 Grenfell Street, Kent Town



TARTAN SUNDAY

On **Sunday 4th July at 10.00 am** a special service of worship was held to celebrate **Tartan Sunday**. We were honoured that **His Excellency the Honourable Hieu Van Le AC, Governor of South Australia and Mrs Le** were in attendance. We were also pleased that representatives



of the Scottish clans were present, adding a sense of pageantry to the occasion.

We were entertained by renditions of well-known Scottish music on the bagpipes and by highland dancing.

Early in the week prior, concerns emerged about the spread of a new Delta strain of COVID 19 and Government Regulations were tightened. This necessitated a few last minute changes. One disappointment was that congregational singing was not permitted but choirs were still able to perform. Then on Thursday, the rules changed again and only one singer was permitted. We were most fortunate that **Melanie Sandford-Morgan** (one of our regular helpers in the augmented choir) agreed to perform this role. Melanie sang all the hymns as well as two anthems.

Rev Dr Jonathan Barker was to have led the worship but, having just returned from a conference in Sydney, he was suddenly required to self-isolate. We were most grateful to **Rev Mark Dickens** for stepping in at short notice. He was ably assisted by **Rev Mac Macdonald**.

WINTER/SPRING CONCERTS

In these uncertain times, it has been decided that planning a full concert series is not tenable. Instead concerts will be planned on a monthly basis. The **first concert** is scheduled for **Wednesday 21st July at 2.00 pm**. It will feature **Graham Bell** on the organ and members of the **Berbery Family** on strings. Half of the 1-hour programme will consist of organ music by Hurford, Howells, Bach, Purvis, Sumsion and Dubois. The other half will comprise a variety of music from the members of one talented family: Minas Berbery (Violin); Erna Berbery (Violin); Samvel Berbery (Viola) and Lara Berbery (Cello). Admission is \$10 at the door. Unfortunately we cannot offer Afternoon Tea at present.

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

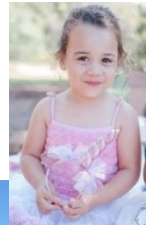


We have been delighted to see our ailing members being restored to health and returning to worship on Sundays. **Helen Drummond** is glad to be back in her home and regaining her independence. **Doug Stewart** is enjoying being out of hospital and is fortunate to be receiving continuing physiotherapy and other services at home. He is managing to make it to choir practice and singing during church services. **Joan Atkinson** is coping very well and was honoured to receive special recognition for her services to the church at the June 6th service. At this same service, the Church Council was commissioned and special expressions of thanks were given to **Trevor Leane** for his years of loyal service, and to **Rev Mac Macdonald** on his retirement as Minister-in-Association.

We have missed **Elizabeth Brookes** the last few weeks. Unfortunately she had a fall at home and injured her coccyx which is causing a lot of pain. We send her our love and wish her a speedy recovery.

Trevor Leane and his wife Lee are settling in very well at their new home at Woodside. They are relishing the lifestyle offered at their retirement complex. Lee has joined a number of craft classes and they both enjoy participating in the social activities offered such as Bingo and monthly barbecues. One aspect they really appreciate is the proximity of everything, with most being within short walking distance. The friendliness of other residents continues to impress.

Johanna Espitia's little daughter, **Ruby** celebrated her 3rd Birthday at the beginning of June. **Raelene Chelley and Jenny Stewart** were guests at her party. They were greatly entertained by Ruby's style on the dance floor.



Courtney Brookes also turned three in April. Courtney is the daughter of **Cherry & Daniel Brookes**. Courtney's brother **Justin** is looking quite grown up these days too.



CONTACTS

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