

WESLEY NEWS

MAY DIARY DATES

Sunday 7th at 10.00 am
Rev Mark Dickens
Holy Communion
EASTER 5

Thursday 11th at 2.00 pm
CHURCH COUNCIL

Sunday 14th at 10.00 am
Pastor Andrew Kieselbach
EASTER 6

Thursday 18th
ASCENSION DAY



Sunday 21st at 10.00 am
Rev Doug Hosking
EASTER 7

Sunday 28th at 10.00 am
Rev Mark Dickens
PENTECOST

COMMUNITY MORNING TEA

In middle hall
Wednesday mornings
10.30 am – 12.00 noon

MUSIC @ WESLEY

Choir Practice
Wednesday evenings in the
choir vestry at 7.30 pm

WESLEY IS HOME TO
Adelaide Harmony Choir
**Metropolitan Musical
Theatre Company**
**Organ Music Society of
Adelaide Music Library**

FROM THE MINISTER

During the recent school holidays, I spent two weeks in Tasmania supporting two rotations of a national activity for the Australian Army Cadets. (I flew out of Adelaide the afternoon of Easter Sunday following taking the Easter morning service.) School holidays across the country didn't line up to allow everyone to be there at the same time. As a result, the activity was divided into two rotations to cater for cadets from every State and Territory being able to participate.

The location was Lake Barrington, approximately 40 kms south of Devonport. Specifically, we were at the site of Rowing Tasmania's international-standard rowing course. The scenery was striking. For the first week the weather was picture perfect. The second week was a lot more variable, including wet at times. Due to the Tasmanian mountain landscape, some of the activities in the second week were conducted within the blanket of low-lying cloud.

You might recall years ago the Queenslander tourist advertisements describing the weather in that state as 'beautiful one day, perfect the next!' The Tassies at the activity had their own statement to describe the Tasmanian weather: 'if you don't like it, go away and come back in 5 minutes!' There were certainly moments where it was like this; sun shining through the clouds one moment, and drizzly rain a few minutes later.

Reflecting on this, I thought this is an analogy of life. One moment one's life is heading in a particular direction, picture-perfect, so to speak, and then something happens to the extent that in a matter of minutes one finds oneself in a very different position. The direction is suddenly changed, and circumstances become very bleak.

With this description, is there a Bible story that comes to mind for you? It is very Job-like in my mind.

This change in the outlook of one's life has been the experience of a few individuals I have encountered over the last few weeks. One was, by all accounts, a fit and active person who had a heart attack. No risk factors or warning signs. No family history. A mountain trekker – including the Himalayas no less!

It can happen to anyone; you or me. There may be a story to tell where it has happened that circumstances have significantly changed in a matter of moments.

Belief and faith in God isn't a guarantee of a life free from traumatic, life changing events. Traumatic events can make people question assumptions about their lives, including their spiritual beliefs. The other side of this is that faith and belief can be a source of strength. Both sides of this coin, so to speak, are expressed in the psalms.

What will it be for you?

My prayer for you is that your faith may be your strength to face whatever life may hold, from one moment to the next.

Rev Mark Dickens



Wesley Uniting Church Kent Town
27 Grenfell Street, Kent Town



HOLY WEEK SERVICES



April was a busy month with special services being held to commemorate holy week, starting with Palm Sunday celebrating Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, followed by Good Friday and Easter Day.

The death and resurrection of Jesus are central to the Christian faith and so very significant to us as a church.

All services featured special music presented by the Wesley choir under the direction of organist/choir director, Graham Bell. We extend our thanks to them and to our ministers for their organisation of such meaningful worship.

In the ecclesiastical year, we remain in the season of Easter until the end of the month when we mark the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

PENTECOST

Pentecost is a liturgical period which immediately follows the Easter season. The season typically begins on the day of Pentecost and continues throughout the rest of the liturgical year, ending just before the season of Advent. Pentecost is a Christian holy day that celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit 40 days after Easter. Some Christian denominations consider it the birthday of the Christian church and celebrate it as such.



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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Congregation was held following worship on Sunday 16th April. During this meeting reports were received from the Minister, Secretary, Treasurer and Chairman and the budget for 2023 was presented. Bev Jury was re-elected as a member of the Church Council and Graham Bell was elected as a new member. We thank them both for their willingness to serve in this capacity. Dr Mark Symons stepped down as a member of the Council after many years of service. A vote of thanks was extended to Mark and he was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation from the congregation.. The wording on the certificate read:



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in grateful recognition of many years of faithful service, gracious leadership and servant ministry to this church; a significant witness to the discipleship to which we are called

The Church Council is now comprised of Graham Bell, Jenny Church, Bev Jury, Kay Rooke, Peter Skellon and Jenny Stewart as elected members, and Rev Mark Dickens and Pastor Andrew Kieselbach as members ex-officio.

At the next Church Council meeting, office bearers will be elected by the members.

COMMUNITY MORNING TEA



If you are looking for some company, please call in any **Wednesday morning between 10.30am and 12.00 noon and enjoy "Cuppa, Conversation & Connection"**. You will be very welcome!

NEWS OF OUR PEOPLE

Several of our members have been unable to share in worship of late because they have been experiencing health issues. Beryl Kennett has had a bout of Covid, Rev Mac Macdonald and Barbara Fitzsimmons had to undergo some surgery, and Madeleine Davey has also been unwell. We are pleased to hear that they are all improving and pray that they will continue on the path to full recovery. They are dear friends and we miss them!



It was also with deep regret that we received the sad news that Rev Jim Murton passed away. Jim and his wife, Nina, were regular members of our augmented choir for special services. Our thoughts and prayers are with Nina and the family as they grieve Jim's loss.

It was good to catch up with Rev Dr Jonathan Barker when he led one of our worship services last month. Jonathan was our supply minister for several months in 2021 while Rev Alex Rodgers was on sick leave and also a regular on our preaching roster last year prior to our ministry alliance with Prince Alfred College taking effect. He established a good rapport with members of our congregation and is always interested in how we are getting on and what we are up to.

SOME DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tartan Sunday

– Sunday 2nd July 2023 at 10.00 am

Church Anniversary

– Sunday 20th August 2023 at 10.00am

CONTACTS

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Church Council Chair:

Church Council Secretary: Jenny Stewart

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