

WESLEY NEWS

SEPTEMBER DIARY DATES

.....
Sunday 3rd at 10.00 am
 Pastor Andrew Kieselbach
Holy Communion
PENTECOST 14

Sunday 10th at 10.00 am
 Rev Mark Dickens
PENTECOST 15

Thursday 14th at 2.00 pm
CHURCH COUNCIL

Sunday 17th at 10.00 am
 Rev Mark Dickens
PENTECOST 16

Saturday 23rd
9.30 am – 12.00 noon
**CONGREGATIONAL
PLANNING DAY**



Sunday 24th at 10.00 am
 Rev Jim Winn
PENTECOST 17

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

There is a true story I have read recently about a mother preparing her daughter for her first day in reception. Her mother drives her daughter to school, and takes her into class, sitting up the back with the other parents as her daughter takes a seat on the floor besides the other reception kids. During class, the teacher hands out a blank sheet of paper, and invites each child to write her name with their favourite-coloured crayon up on the desk. All the other kids start writing their name, but this mother's daughter does not.

She seems to be locked in position, at the table, staring at the crayons. Now, her mother knows that her daughter can write her name, in fact, she can write the name of her brothers, sisters and cousins. It takes all she has not to walk through the middle of class to her daughter to ask what is going on. The teacher comes across and gently encourages the girl to write with no success, and the teacher says, "don't worry, it's alright, we will teach you how to write your name."

The daughter sits with the blank sheet in front of her for the rest of the lesson. At the end of class, the mother takes her daughter home. On the way home, the mother asks gently why her daughter didn't write her name on the paper. The daughter replied, the teacher asked me to write in my favourite colour, which is pink, but there was no pink crayon in my pack. I couldn't write my name because my favourite colour wasn't there.

Sometimes, in our lives, we can get stuck. A situation comes up that just stops everything. We miss out on getting a spot in a sporting team, we've been working hard to achieve a goal but now it is out of reach. We had a plan and it's fallen through. We want our favourite colour but it's not on offer. Nothing has worked out quite like we had planned. The wind is knocked out of your sails, all momentum is lost and you're just drifting. You can get a hard knock, and now it's taking a while to get up again. The rug has been pulled out from under your feet. You've failed to live up to expectations.

These are all great metaphors and sayings, and they are often used because it is the human experience. It's an experience we all have felt at some time in our lives.

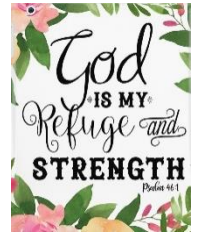
Not everything works out the way we want it to. Not everything falls into place, not everything makes sense, or is fair. I wonder if you have been in this place. I wonder if you are in this place now?

When we think of the Apostle Paul and his struggles through his life, there is a resolve, a hope, an assurance that while we face trouble, failure, depression, anxiety or despair at this moment, this season will not last forever, there are better days ahead. "We are often troubled, but not crushed; sometimes in doubt, but never in despair; there are many enemies, but we are never without a friend; and though badly hurt at times, we are not destroyed." *2 Corinthians 4: 8-9*

When faced with a bump in the road, sometimes we forget we have a choice: overcome the obstacle or let it overcome you. We all have obstacles we face, we all face hard times. Don't give up. Persist. You may not have the opportunity to write your name with your favourite colour. But you still have other colours, other opportunities, other ways to write your name, to change the world.

The difficult things we endure are sometimes really painful and hard. May those times eventually cease and produce the results we desire. May God teach us to always trust and hope as He helps and guides us through life's lessons. May God help us to consistently see that times that test our resilience produce the persistence we will need throughout our lives. May God allow us to realize that our continual perseverance leads to maturity and the strength of character that can face any storm. May God give us strength, give us hope, so we may endure every obstacle we face.

Pastor Andrew Kieselbach



Wesley Uniting Church Kent Town
 27 Grenfell Street, Kent Town



158th CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

On Sunday 20th August 2023 at 10.00am we celebrated



158 years of worship, witness and working in the community at an anniversary service of worship. Rev Mark Dickens led worship, and an augmented choir, under the direction of organist and choir master, Graham Bell delighted us with some special music.

Everyone enjoyed the service and morning tea that followed immensely.

It was good that so many were able to attend and it was a great opportunity to catch up with one another.

PLANNING DAY 2023

Saturday morning 23rd September, 9.30am-12.00noon in the Back Hall.

We invite you to join with other members of our church community to help us plan for our future.



How do we ensure that this church remains as a place of worship, witness and community service for many years to come? Our Ministry Team, Rev Mark Dickens and Pastor Andrew Kieselbach, will be there to guide us but we really want to hear from you and would value your input.



Please plan to arrive a little before 9.30am so we can start on time. The urn will be hot so you can have a cup of tea or coffee if you wish on arrival. There will also be a Morning Tea break.

COMMUNITY MORNING TEA

These are held in the middle hall every Wednesday morning and a good cross section of people are attending. A very sociable atmosphere prevails. If you are looking for some company, please join us on a Wednesday morning between 10.30am and 12.00 noon and enjoy "Cuppa, Conversation & Connection". You will be very welcome!

LIFE STORIES - UniSA Life Stories Project

It can be surprising when a 'story' of a life is compiled (history, family, education, work, experience, hobbies, travel etc.) It can be interesting and impressive, even if you don't think so!



During July-August, Wesley UC Kent Town and the Kent Town Residents' Association were approached jointly by UniSA to find retired residents to participate with Social Work Students and their Supervisors in a Life Stories Project. Four of our Wednesday 'Community Connections' morning tea attendees have joined the project. It involves several visits by 2 students, one who interviews, one who 'scribes' the story. The stories are compiled by the students in a booklet or a story-board poster-style – which can include photographs along with the person's life story (whatever you want included). Students hold current

safety clearances and are well supervised. They gain experience in speaking with and working with older residents in our community. The retired person receives a story of their life and an experience connecting with students which helps them in their training.

There is some scope for additional participants in September. If you are interested, please see or contact Kay Rooke 0427 840 019.

COMMUNITY SHED

Developing the garage area on the church grounds into a "Community Shed" is a work in progress but it is certainly seeming more achievable now that a good deal of accumulated "stuff" from over the years has been



removed. With the weather fining up we are hopeful of holding a garage sale in the not too distant future. Watch this space for more information!

NEWS OF OUR PEOPLE

We have been delighted **AiLin (Irene) Pan** and her husband **Yungho Pok** have been worshipping with us while in Adelaide catching up with their 3 children. We will miss them greatly when they return to Japan next week and look forward to their return in the New Year. We are pleased that **Deborah White** has recovered from fractures sustained in a fall and has rejoined the choir. Deborah is very pleased to be back too. It was good to see **John & Doreen Cooper** at the Anniversary Service. They enjoyed the service very much as well as reconnecting with people over morning tea. **Beryl Kennett** has settled in well at Helping Hand North Adelaide and is now able to attend worship services again. We miss **Barbara Fitzsimmons** very much and are pleased to hear that she is back home again after an extended period of ill health and periods of hospitalisation. We send her our love and prayers for a return to sound health soon.

CONTACTS

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