

WESLEY NEWS

NOVEMBER DIARY DATES

Sunday 5th at 10.00 am
Pastor Andrew Kieselbach
Holy Communion
PENTECOST 23

Thursday 9th at 2.00 pm
CHURCH COUNCIL

Sunday 12th at 10.00 am
Rev Mark Dickens
PENTECOST 24
Remembrance Day
Service



Sunday 17th at 10.00 am
Rev Dr Les Underwood
PENTECOST 25

Sunday 24th at 10.00 am
Rev Mark Dickens
CHRIST THE KING
St Andrew's Day Service



COMMUNITY MORNING TEA

In middle hall
Wednesday mornings
10.30 am – 12.00 noon

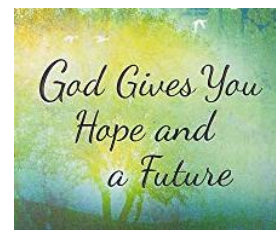
MUSIC @ WESLEY

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

Prince Alfred College has a college hymn which goes to the tune of the hymn 'Lord of creation, to you be all praise' - (Slane(2)). The words were written by a student at the time, Lachlan Scott, who attended the College from 1992 to 2001. It just so happens this current college hymn starts with this same opening. The last verse finishes with the words "As we look to the future with eyes on the past, Lord, help us to strengthen traditions that last." I was reminded of these words when we gathered for our planning day in October.



Planning days tend to incorporate elements of looking back to what has been in the past, as much as such days are about looking forward to what is ahead and making plans for the future.

Looking back often has a sense of 'lament' attached to it. This comes from the recognition the church today isn't what it has been in the past. There can be a longing for what was, and a wishing to return to that.

One of the concerns expressed on the day was in relation to the size of the congregation and, perhaps more so, the small number of people able to take on the tasks when it comes to governance and running events and activities. The 'workers' are few.

That said, we acknowledged we are not a lone congregation when it comes to this.

One aspect that was celebrated was the worship style. This is something that is deeply appreciated and valued by those who regularly attend Sunday worship; even for those who are less regular but nevertheless faithful in their attendance.

We recognise that ageing creates limitations for people. Abilities are not what they were for people in younger years. It isn't as easy to get out and about. Health isn't as good as it used to be.

It was recognised that in the next 10 to 15 years most of the existing congregation members were not likely to be here.

In my mind there are two questions, which I posed on the day and spoke to.

1. How can we keep our congregation sustained/going?
2. How can we ensure our church property remains as a place of worship after we've gone?

While these might be seen to be linked, they can also be seen to be separate questions.

As I see it the future will not be a continuation of the past. The Wesley worship style isn't for everyone. This doesn't make it wrong, nor something that needs to be abandoned. After all, there's no one way or right way to worship. People's spiritual needs are met in different ways and means. To speak generally, church/religion/spirituality means different things for an 80-year-old person compared to an 18-year-old. It's likely to be different again for someone in the middle of this age range too.

So, then, as we look to the future with eyes on the past, how will we strengthen traditions that last? The philosophical part of me wants to raise more question than pose answers.

One thing our planning day didn't do was come up with answers. While some suggestions were made, the intent is that we will meet again early in the new year with the view to continuing the conversation – and making some plans then for what we can and will do.

Rev Mark Dickens.



Wesley Uniting Church Kent Town
27 Grenfell Street, Kent Town



SPECIAL SERVICES

Remembrance Day Service:

Sunday 12th November at 10.00 am

The service will be led by Rev Mark Dickens Mr Frank Brookes, a former army major, will recite the ode. The Wesley Choir will present some special music for the occasion.



St Andrew's Day Service:

Sunday 26th November at 10.00 am

This special service, led by Rev Mark Dickens, will recognise Scotland's National Day. There will be pipers along with representatives from all the Scottish clans. An augmented Wesley Choir will present some special music organised by organist and choir director, Graham Bell.



PLEASE INVITE FAMILY AND FRIENDS ALONG TO THESE TWO SPECIAL SERVICES.

REMEMBRANCE DAY – 11th November



*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.*

PLANNING DAY 2023

On Saturday morning 21st October, a small but enthusiastic group of us gathered in the middle hall to share ideas about future directions.



Our Ministry Team, Rev Mark Dickens and Pastor Andrew Kieselbach have collated ideas shared and these are available as a separate document for you to read.

REFERENDUM DAY – GARAGE SALE & SAUSAGE SIZZLE



A small band of our willing workers, supported by three members of the Kent Town Residents' Association were on deck by 8.00am to set up on Saturday, 14th October. It was a highly successful event, both as a money raiser and in terms of engaging with members of the public. The church was also open during the afternoon and Graham Bell played the organ for those who took the opportunity to come inside. In all we raised almost \$1000.00 to help equip our Community Shed



COMMUNITY SHED



We are currently working on a layout for work benches and shelving, etc for the shed. Once a decision is reached we will move to connect power and lighting, paint the walls and install equipment

COMMUNITY MORNING TEA



These are held in the middle hall every Wednesday morning and a good cross section of people continue to attend. 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!

NEWS OF OUR PEOPLE

Jenny Church has been out of action for a few weeks following a fall in which she sustained two fractures to her right leg. She has been managing to get around in a moon boot and using a walking frame. Fortunately she is now well on the way to recovery. **Deborah White** has undergone knee replacement surgery and is recuperating in St Andrew's Hospital. **Graham Bell** and **Jenny Stewart** both caught COVID for the first time. Fortunately they were not badly affected and with the aid of anti-viral medication are almost over it. **Madeleine Davey** has been unwell for a few weeks but we were delighted to see her back at church last week. We hope she will soon be able to take her place in the choir again.

Barbara Fitzsimmons has been bravely facing her health problems and has recently moved to an aged care facility in Hope Valley after quite a lengthy stay in the Royal Adelaide Hospital. We send Barbara our love and prayers.

Helen Drummond is a very proud first time great-grandmother of Weston Morris Turley-Sunderland. Helen's granddaughter Sarah gave birth to Weston, who weighed in at a very healthy 9lb 2oz, on 10/10/23 in Geelong.



DIARY DATES

Advent Services:

The first Sunday in Advent is 3rd December.

Service of Lessons & Carols:

Sunday 24th December at 10.00 am

Christmas Day:

Monday 25th December at 9.00 am

CONTACTS

Ministry Team:

Rev Mark Dickens

mdickens@pac.edu.au 0407 714 217

Pastor Andrew Kieselbach

akieselbach@pac.edu.au 0438 823 677

Pastoral Care Contact: Kay Rooke

jkrooke@aapt.net.au 0427 840 019

Organist & Choir Director: Graham Bell

ghb59au@outlook.com 0422 073 436

Church Council Chair: Jenny Church

jenny.church@internode.on.net 0418 855 644

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