

WESLEY NEWS

DECEMBER DIARY DATES

Sunday 7th at 10.00 am

Rev Dr Gary Stuckey

Holy Communion

ADVENT 2



Thursday 11th at 2.00pm

CHURCH COUNCIL

Sunday 14th at 10.00 am

Pastor Kingson Selvaraj

ADVENT 3

Sunday 21st at 10.00 am

*Service of Lessons &
Carols*

ADVENT 4

Thursday 25th at 9.00am

Pastor Kingson Selvaraj

CHRISTMAS DAY

Sunday 28th at 10.00 am

Rev Dianne Holden

CHRISTMAS 1

COMMUNITY MORNING TEA

Final Morning Tea for
2025 Wed 10th Dec.

Reopens Wednesday 4th
February 2026

COMMUNITY SHED

Reopens Saturday 10th
January 2026

QUIET CENTRE

Wednesday 10th December
12.45-1.45 pm
in church

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

Australian Music Theatre
Choir

FROM THE MINISTER

Recently, I attended a beautiful carol service where we rejoiced in the Lord and celebrated the birth of Christ. But, in the midst of that joy, we also paused for a moment of silence - remembering those in Sri Lanka who lost loved ones, homes, and livelihoods in the floods. That moment of reflection brought to my mind the verse in Matthew 23:23, where Jesus reminds us not to neglect "the more important matters of the law - justice, mercy, and faithfulness."



When I came home, I was burdened with thoughts about the people affected by the floods – not just that flood but also people who are affected by wars across the globe. It is a reality that amidst the celebrations of Christmas, we still have global issues like this.

Today, as we hear about wars and conflicts across the world, and as natural disasters continue to affect numerous lives, we find ourselves living in a tension - the world is hurting, and still, we are entering a season of celebration. Which should receive our attention?

Matthew 23:23 gives us the guidance. "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay the tithe of mint and anise and cummin and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faith. These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone." So, we are called to hold both together.

We should not ignore the sufferings of the people around us. We are invited to remember those who are grieving, displaced, or living in fear—whether because of war, floods, or any calamity. As followers of Christ, we are called to show compassion, to stand with the broken-hearted, to pray, to give, and to act with mercy and justice.

At the same time, we must not lose the joy of Christmas.

Because the birth of Jesus is not separate from the world's pain—it is God's response to it. Jesus came into a world filled with darkness to bring light, into a world torn by conflict to bring peace. So, we rejoice in the Lord, not by ignoring sufferings, but by bringing his hope into it.

This Christmas, may we celebrate the birth of the Prince of Peace while also carrying in our hearts—and in our actions—the people who are suffering.

"May our joy be compassionate, and may our compassion be rooted in the hope that Christ brings, during this Christmas seasons." Amen!

Blessings,
Pastor Kingson Selvaraj



LIFE IS ADVENT

"The Lord is coming, always coming. When you have ears to hear and eyes to see, you will recognise him at any moment of your life. Life is Advent; life is recognising the coming of the Lord." "It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open doors of hope."



Wesley Uniting Church Kent Town
27 Grenfell St. Kent Town



THINKING OF THOSE IN NEED

Christmas Bowl Appeal



The Christmas Bowl is the Christmas Appeal of Act for Peace, the international aid agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia. Envelopes are available in the porch if you would like to make a donation. The Christmas Day offering will be donated to this appeal.

FAREWELL KINGSON & FAMILY

On Sunday 28th December we say farewell to Pastor Kingson Selvaraj who has been our interim minister for the past 4 months. We have very much enjoyed getting to know Kingson, Geetha, and their 3 children, Jerlina, Paulston and Chrisilla. We extend special thanks to Kingson for his ministry to us, his leadership in worship and his pastoral oversight. Rev Dianne Holden, chairperson of the Wimala Presbytery, will lead the worship that day and there will be opportunities for us all to extend our thanks and good wishes to Kingson during worship and at morning tea after the service.

RECENT SPECIAL EVENTS



The two November special services, **Remembrance Day Commemoration and St Andrew's Day**, were enjoyed by all those present, as was the second **Spring Concert** held on Sunday 16th November. **Graham Bell** was the organist, and **Noah Materne**, a very talented 13 year old piano student, was the other featured artist.



COMMUNITY EVENTS

All our regular Community Events (Community Shed, Community Morning Tea and Quiet Centre) will go into recess over Christmas and during January. We extend a

special thank you to the regular group of volunteers who have loyally provided their time and services every week to offer these activities that connect us with the local community.

The final Morning Tea and Quiet Centre for 2025 will be held on Wednesday 10th December and will resume in the first week of February 2026. The Community Shed recommences on 10th January 2026.



NEWS OF OUR PEOPLE

Ivan Miller is facing his illness with courage and a positive attitude. He says he is grateful to the Lord for giving him a good sense of humour and the good fortune of not experiencing any pain. We have missed **Peter Skellon** from worship and regular activities while he has been recovering from the mild stroke he suffered last month. Organising support services has occupied a great deal of his time. We were delighted he was able to join us for Morning Tea last Wednesday when we finally had the chance to sing a belated Happy Birthday to him in honour of his ninetieth birthday. **Doug Baker** paid another visit to our Community Morning Tea a couple of week's ago. He took the opportunity to play the church organ while he was here. Apparently he has just bought himself a new organ to play at home. He and his wife are 96 and both are still enjoying good health. We have been very pleased that **Kerrie Lush** has joined us for worship recently. We extend a special welcome to her.

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

Advent is a time of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus.

Please invite family and friends along to our two special Christmas services.

❖ *Service of Lessons & Carols*

Sunday 21st December, 10.00am

This special service, relating the Christmas story of the birth of Christ through Bible readings and music, features an augmented choir.



❖ *Christmas Day Service*

Thursday 25th December, 9.00am

This family service celebrates the birth of Christ and the coming of Love into the world



CONTACTS

Interim Minister: Pastor Kingson Selvaraj

linasking@yahoo.com 0421 939 753

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

churchjenny3@gmail.com 0418 855 644

Church Council Secretary: Jenny Stewart

doug-jenny-stewart@bigpond.com

0400 279 684