

WESLEY NEWS

AUGUST DIARY DATES

Sunday 7th at 10.00am

Rev James Winn

HOLY COMMUNION

PENTECOST 12

Monday 8th at 4.00pm

Church Council

Wednesday 10th, 12 noon

Come-to-Lunch

Royal Hotel

Sunday 14th at 10.00am

Rev James Winn

CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

PENTECOST 13

Wednesday 17th, 2.00pm

Winter/Spring Concert

Sunday 21st at 10.00am

Rev Mac Macdonald

PENTECOST 14

Sunday 28th at 10.00am

Rev James Winn

PENTECOST 15

MUSIC @ WESLEY

Choir Practice

Wednesday 7.30pm

ARTS @ WESLEY

Patchworkers & Quilters

Monday morning

Contact Pat 8331 9816

WESLEY IS HOME TO

Young Adelaide Voices

Adelaide Harmony Choir

Metropolitan Musical

Theatre Company

Monteverdi Singers

I recently came across this quotation from Matt Haig's book, *Reasons to stay alive*. It makes fascinating reading. I think it also has something to say to us at Wesley that is worth thinking about. Here's the quotation:-

"The world is increasingly designed to depress us. Happiness isn't very good for the economy. If we were happy with what we had, why would we need more? How do you sell an anti-ageing moisturiser? You make someone worry about ageing. How do you get people to vote for a political party? You make them worry about immigration. How do you get them to buy insurance? By making them worry about everything. How do you get them to have plastic surgery? By highlighting their physical flaws. How do you get them to watch a TV show? By making them worry about missing out. How do you get them to buy a new smartphone? By making them feel like they are being left behind. To be calm becomes a kind of revolutionary act. To be happy with your own non-upgraded existence. To be comfortable with our messy, human selves, would not be good for business."



The first thing I thought of as I read this quotation is that while happiness may not be presumed to be good for the economy it is certainly good for the church. At the heart of the Christian gospel is the "Good News" of Jesus Christ. It is something worth celebrating with joy, enthusiasm and passionate energy. In his book, *The Enemy is Boredom*, Guy Daniel takes to task all who think either that popular innovation or a return to ancient tradition is what worship needs in order to be attractive. He argues that worship needs to be intrinsically interesting for those who attend and not those who plan it and that this approach can work for a wide range of worship styles. So what would make our worship at Wesley intrinsically interesting, not for ourselves, but for the people we long to come and join us of a Sunday morning? What would make our worship at Wesley intrinsically interesting to the students of Prince Alfred College so that the college had the problem of students wanting to come to Wesley of a Sunday morning? I think these questions are worthy of serious thought.

The second thing which I thought of as I read his quotation was the petition "Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil" in the Lord's Prayer, which is, really, Jesus "Good News" about prayer. In this petition Jesus has no shame in abandoning the ideal of the hero; instead we are to pray *not* to have to face the hard times. This reflects an understanding that, in the final analysis, might is not right, that the life of a disciple will be a journey of challenge and struggle seeking to bring the vision of God's kingdom to the fore in a world determined to resist the triumph of love, justice and mercy. There will be no future victory in this battle for it has already been won but the freedom which is ours means that the battle for the kingdom is eternal. That is the sign that our freedom is real. As Desmond Tutu says in his great song, "Goodness is stronger than evil", *Victory is ours through him who loved us*.

So what does this mean for evangelism? What does it mean as we seek to recruit people to the membership of the congregation and the mission of the church? If we believe the Good News that *Victory is ours through him who loved us* then what we do is invite people to join us in the task of making Christ's victory a real thing. And this happens at all kinds of levels from individual experiences of forgiveness, reconciliation and hope, to transforming experiences through congregational and community activity right through to matters of national and international significance. In practical terms it means being a congregation where people feel that their faith is being nurtured; that they are growing into deeper levels of spiritual discernment and discipleship. It also means being a congregation that is not afraid to take on a challenge or two so that the spirit of Christ, the Kingdom of God, can be said to have "come near". (Mark 1:15, Matthew 3:2) What are the challenges that we at Wesley should be inviting people of the community to join with us in working through? Feel free to tell me what you think.

Grace and Peace
Jim Winn

Wesley Uniting Church
Kent Town



COME-TO-LUNCH

The next monthly lunch will be at the **Royal Hotel, Kent Town** on **Wednesday 10th August at 12.00 pm**. We hope you can join us and share some fellowship together.

CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

The 151st anniversary of Wesley Kent Town will be celebrated with a service of worship on **Sunday 14th August 2016**. Rev Jim Winn will be the preacher and there will be an augmented choir. Please invite family and friends and any others who may have a past association with Wesley.

2016 CONCERT SERIES



The second of our series of concerts held each month during winter and spring, will be held on **Wednesday 17th August at 2.00 pm**. It features Flautist, Hannah Lewis and organist, Gregory Crawford. All concerts are held in the Church with a generous

afternoon tea to follow in the hall. Admission is \$10 at the door. The first concert in July was very well attended with an audience of almost 200 people who were entertained by a delightful programme of music.

PEDAL PRIX

Over the last weekend in July, Wesley Uniting Church Kent Town hosted "Wattle Racing", a pedal-prix team which is an official outreach ministry of Eaglehawk Uniting Church, Victoria. The team of 25 young people bunked down in the halls on Friday and Saturday night and competed in the Pedal-Prix Competition at Victoria Park on Saturday 30th July. A number of Wesley members welcomed them by preparing and sharing meals with them on the Friday and Saturday nights.



STUDY GROUP

Quite a few people have expressed interest in participating in some small group studies. Rev Jim Winn is currently working on shaping a study which will have broad appeal and will notify the congregation soon of some suggested times.

NEWS OF OUR PEOPLE

A number of our folk have not been well.

Robert Corbett has made a good recovery from his heart surgery last year but recently had to have a pacemaker inserted. He is feeling more energetic as a consequence.

Catherine Courtney has been fighting an ear infection and has been instructed to take it easy by her doctor.

Pam George had a fall backwards from a caravan and broke her collarbone and several ribs. She is very sore but in good spirits. She and David are currently on holidays in Toowoomba and send their regards to everyone.

Sonja Cherney has been struggling healthwise for some time. She says she misses coming to church and hearing the organ and choir.

We wish all of them a speedy recovery and hope they can be back with us soon. Please remember them in your prayers

NEWS OF OUR PEOPLE (continued)

Deborah White is enjoying her time in Italy. She writes, "After a long heat wave (made worse here by the humidity) the weather has settled down, rain has filled my



tank, the view down to the Valley of the Tiber in the distance is as beautiful as ever. I spent some time at Umbria Jazz in Perugia and tonight I am going to an early music concert in Anghiari". She sent this photo taken at an Umbra Lucis concert and points out that as they don't have an organ at Santa Maria del

Carmine, the musicians had to bring their own.

Graham & KK Stacey report that it is very warm in Singapore, 33°C in the daytime and 26°C overnight, with daily rain. Graham is busy finishing off work for the Australian Antarctic Division Ice-breaker project and KK has been busy with her family business. Last Sunday they attended the 5.00pm service at the Wesley Methodist Church where the guest pastor, a Rev Dr Zack Eswine from the Riverside Methodist Church in Ferguson, Missouri spoke for 60 minutes on 1 Corinthians Chapter 13. They love to hear news from Adelaide and say they are with us in spirit.

Penny Hackett-Jones provided this update about her family. Mary Hackett-Jones, Gabriel and Arthur thank you all for your prayers for their safety during the recent upheaval in Istanbul. They are living on the Asian side of the Bosphorus, in a quiet residential area where life goes on as usual. They are looking forward to seeing you all in November. The photo shows Arthur and Gabriel on a recent boat ride.



JUST A THOUGHT

Sorrow looks back, Worry looks around, Faith looks up!

CONTACTS

Minister: Rev Jim Winn

jawinn@picknowl.com.au 0418 841 476
8322 2146

Minister in Association: Rev Mac Macdonald
ravensrock@adelaide.on.net 8332 7669

Organist & Choir Director: Graham Bell
graham.bell@sa.gov.au 0422 073 436

Church Council Chair: Dr Mark Symons
mark.symons@tpg.com.au 8331 9816

Caretaker: Justin Harris

Jharris72@gmail.com 0434 234 603 (not work hours please)

Church Office: Tracy Shepherd

Monday – Thursday 10.00am – 3.00pm (school term)
office@wesleykenttown.org.au 8362 2544