

# WESLEY NEWS

**NOVEMBER  
DIARY DATES**

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> at 10.00am**

Rev James Winn

**HOLY COMMUNION**

**PENTECOST 25**

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon**

Come-to-Lunch

Royal Hotel

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> at 10.00am**

Rev Mac Macdonald

**PENTECOST 26**

**Monday 14<sup>th</sup> at 4.00pm**

Church Council

**Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> 2.00pm**

Winter/Spring Concert

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> at 10.00am**

Rev James Winn

**REIGN OF CHRIST**

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> at 10.00am**

Rev James Winn

**ADVENT 1**

**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**

As the end of the church liturgical year approaches (Reign of Christ will be celebrated on November 20<sup>th</sup>) and as Christmas approaches (the first Sunday in Advent is November 27<sup>th</sup>), I find myself reflecting yet again on Edwina Gateley's psalm, "Glimpsing God." I find it resonates with my deepest religious thoughts for this time of the year. In Jesus we get an elusive glimpse of God. It is a mysterious glimpse which I find we can never fully comprehend but it keeps drawing us back calling up hopes and touching upon dreams which are of the very essence of our lives. Edwina Gateley has written a number of psalms and other reflective pieces which I also find powerful in their ability to speak to me. This psalm comes from her book, *Psalms of a Laywoman*.



**GLIMPSING GOD**

I catch a glimpse,  
Now and then,  
Of God.  
A swift passing  
Sweetness  
Which makes light  
The hour, the day, the week.  
Elusive, inconstant,  
Yet never totally absent  
From the hurtling days  
With their shadows.  
I grieve  
That such a beautiful  
Awareness,  
Like an unexpected visitor,  
Comes infrequently,  
Entertains briefly,  
And passes  
With a whisper.  
Is lost then  
In the laughter  
And the music  
Of the night.

Edwina Gateley, *Psalms of a Laywoman*, Sheed and Ward, 1999, page 37.

Like last year we will have a Christmas tree in the church during Advent and Christmas. That is, for the Sundays November 27<sup>th</sup> to January 1<sup>st</sup> as there is only one Sunday (apart from Christmas Day) in the Christmas season this year.

During Advent many of us have an Advent calendar on which we note each passing day as Christmas approaches. This year I am hoping that, as a gesture of solidarity with those who are much less fortunate than ourselves, each one of us will, each day, put aside one grocery item to be donated to Uniting Communities in the new year and then, on each of the Sundays of Advent, bring along our seven items to be placed at the foot of our Christmas tree. This is a simple but useful way of helping to care for those who find no room at the inn.

Let me finish with these words of Janet Morley. "As we remember the coming of the Christ child, let us be aware that he may not come now in the form of a baby, but as a stranger, a beggar, a member of our family in distress, as an enemy, a soldier, someone who

oppresses our people . . . But these may be hiding the face of Christ. We must offer what is each person's basic need – the need for acceptance, whoever we are and whatever we have done . . . We have to hold our doors open.

Quaker ministry spoken at Ramallah, Christmas 1992, in Janet Morley, *Companions of God: Praying for Peace in the Holy Land* (London: Christian Aid, 1994) p. 20.

Grace and peace,  
Jim Winn

Wesley Uniting Church  
Kent Town



## COME-TO-LUNCH

Our next monthly lunch will be held at the **Royal Hotel** on **Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> November at 12.00 noon**. Everyone is welcome.

## 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION SERVICE

A special service will be held on **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at 2.00 pm** to recognise 50 years of faithful service as ordained ministers of Rev John Maddern, Rev Jim Murton & Rev John Woodhouse. The service will be led by Rev Jim Winn and Rev Sue Ellis (the new Moderator of the Uniting Church in SA) with **Rev Neale Michael as the guest preacher**. Organist Graham Bell will conduct an augmented choir for this occasion. Members are asked to help by bringing a plate of food for afternoon tea.



## REDEDICATION OF WAR MEMORIAL WINDOW

A rededication of the recently restored stained glass war memorial window in the Mark Symons Hall will be held on **Sunday afternoon, 13<sup>th</sup> November 2016** following the Anniversary of Ordination Service. This will take place during the afternoon tea.

## SMALL GROUP STUDY

After a 2 week break, the small study group led by Rev Jim Winn, is meeting again each Tuesday morning at 10.00 am. in the minister's vestry. The group, comprised of 8 members of the congregation, is discussing a very thought provoking and controversial book called "The Divine Magician" as a basis for their reflection.

## 2016 CONCERT SERIES

The last of our Spring concerts for 2016 will be held on **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November at 2.00 pm**. It features organist, Andrew Ampt and a quartet composed of Janet Anderson (violin), Michael Robertson (viola), Gemma Phillips (cello) and Damien Mansfield (piano). The concert will be held in the Church with afternoon tea to follow in the hall. Admission is \$10 at the door.

## DATES FOR YOU DIARY

### Christmas/Advent Services

- **Service of Lessons & Carols:**  
*Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2016 at 10.00 am*
- **Christmas Day:**  
*Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December 2016 at 9.00 am*

### Organ Recital – Malcolm Archer

*Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> January, 2017, at 2.30pm*

Malcolm Archer will be the Director of the Annual Summer School of the Royal School of Music Church Music being held in Adelaide from 4 to 11 January 2017. On Sunday 8 January at 2.30pm he will give an organ recital at Wesley Church Kent Town. He has a distinguished and worldwide reputation as a choral and orchestral conductor, organ recitalist, teacher, composer and editor. Malcolm Archer has worked at Norwich, Bristol and Wells Cathedrals, and as Organist and Director of Music at St Paul's Cathedral in London. He is currently Director of Chapel Music at Winchester College in England. Admission charge is \$20.



## FUN ON THE FARM

One Saturday last month, Mark and Pat Symons invited members of the congregation to their farm at Strathalbyn. It was a beautiful sunny day and all those who attended enjoyed themselves immensely.



The group shared a barbecue lunch and Mark and Pat conducted tours of the paddocks and a walk through the scrub. Feeding the alpacas, Benjamin and Ferdinand proved very popular.

## NEWS OF OUR PEOPLE

**Jenny and Doug Stewart** stayed in Hobart with **Graham & KK Stacey** recently. They had a wonderful time together and managed to see many of the main attractions, including



experiencing snow on Mt Wellington.

Graham is busy working on the new Icebreaker project and KK has signed up as a volunteer for the Red Cross. **Beryl Kennett** is recovering from her illness and while in



Hobart with family met up with Graham and KK too. **Sonja Cherney** enjoyed her holiday in Bratislava where she caught up with family. **Catherine Courtney** has not been at all well and will be undergoing surgery soon. **Robin Douglas** is also not well and is currently in Wakefield St Hospital. Please remember them in your prayers.

## ADVENT

Advent will soon be upon us so you might like to think of following up on the idea mentioned in last month's newsletter. Take a box, and every day leading up to Christmas, add a grocery item to the box. Each Sunday these may be brought to church and placed under the Christmas tree. These will be donated to Uniting Communities. (See Jim's pastoral letter).

## JUST A THOUGHT

"True humility is not thinking less of yourself; it is thinking of yourself less." *C.S. Lewis – Mere Christianity*

## CONTACTS

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**Caretaker:** Justin Harris

[Jharris72@gmail.com](mailto:Jharris72@gmail.com) 0434 234 603 (not work hours please)

**Church Office:** Tracy Shepherd

Monday – Thursday 10.00am – 3.00pm (school term)  
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