

SEPTEMBER PREACHING PLAN

Sept 3rd

8.30 Lockyer HC	Rev Corina	Exodus 3: 1 - 15
9.30 Denmark	Rev G Wilson	Psalms 105: 1-6, 23-26, 45b
10.00 AUC HC	Rev Corina	Romans 12: 9 - 21
11.00 Mt Barker	S Wilson	Matthew 16: 21 - 28

Sept 10th

8.30 Lockyer	R Anderson	Exodus 12: 1 - 14
9.30 Denmark HC	Rev E Sanderson	Psalms 149
10.00 AUC	R Anderson	Romans 13: 8 - 14
11.00 Mt Barker HC	S Wilson	Matthew 18: 15 - 20

Sept 17th

8.30 Lockyer	Rev Corina	Exodus 14: 19 - 31
9.30 Denmark	Veronica & John	Psalms 114
10.00 AUC	Rev Corina	Romans: 14: 1 - 12
11.00 Mt Barker	A Hortin	Matthew 18: 21 - 35

Sept 24th

8.30 Lockyer	Rev Corina	Exodus 16: 2 - 15
9.30 Denmark	D Laffin	Psalms 105: 1 - 6, 37 - 45
10.00 AUC	Rev Corina	Philippians 1: 21 - 30
11.00 Mt Barker	S Wilson	Matthew 20: 1 - 16

THE ARC MONTHLY



*ALBANY REGION
CONGREGATIONS*

*Lockyer, Albany Uniting Church,
Mt Barker, Denmark*

SEPTEMBER 2023



*With winter's bleakness over, and brighter days ahead,
comes promises of new life springtime likes to spread.
As God unfolds the flowers, and buds begin to show
He sends to us the promise His care for us we'll know.*

Anon

Message from the Manse:

To choose readings for Sunday worship, I use the Three Year Revised Common Lectionary. Each week the Lectionary has readings from the Hebrew Scriptures, a Psalm, an Epistle and a Gospel. This year, Year A, we hear from the Gospel of Matthew, next year, year B, from Mark and John. We follow the church year with these readings, beginning on the first Sunday in Advent, and ending on the Sunday we celebrate Christ the King. We don't get to hear all of the Scriptures, but the readings chosen do fit in with the church seasons, and most Sundays there will at least be one common theme in the four texts chosen. When people are not yet acquainted with the Bible, I usually don't recommend reading the texts from Genesis through to Revelation. A better idea would be to start with the Psalms, because there are so many emotions to be found in them, from exuberant to utterly miserable. The Psalms, as well as Job, have a lot to tell us about what it means to be human, as opposed to be God. As a church following the Lectionary, we have become used to reading the Scriptures this way, and some of us subscribe to With Love to the World, which follows the same pattern.

There are other ways to choose weekly readings, of course. We could choose a theological theme, like 'salvation' and have a close look at what this concept means in different contexts. Or we might study one complete Gospel or Epistle in detail. There might be less variation that way, and the preacher might pick themes or texts that support their hobby horse, like in my case, social justice. Following the Revised Common Lectionary is preferred by many Uniting Church preachers, and it is used by numerous other churches worldwide, like Roman Catholic, Anglican, United Methodist, and Baptist churches. One of the consequences is that Christians globally

DIARY DATES

- SAT 2nd SEPT** THE QUIET SPACE, Wesley, Duke St, 2 – 3pm
- THUR 7th SEPT** } SCOTS CRAFT MARKET in Scots Hall, lower York St.
- FRI 8th SEPT** } Open 9am - 3pm daily, come along, browse through the various stalls and support the kitchen, raising funds for Free the Bears by providing delicious morning teas and light lunches.
- TUES 12th SEPT** LOCKYER LADIES FELLOWSHIP, Lockyer UC, 12noon
AUC FELLOWSHIP, Handasydes, 2pm. All welcome, Contact Joan Stewart 9844 8958 if attending.
- SUN 17th SEPT** SHOEBOX DEDICATION SERVICE Wesley 10am
Morning Tea to follow Service..
- THUR 21st SEPT** FELLOWSHIP Morning Tea, 10am, Vancouver Café,
ALL WELCOME. Details from Mary 0427 554 947
- SUN 24th SEPT** AUC COUNCIL MEETING after morning worship.

DIRECTORY

MINISTER	Rev Corina van Oostende	0417 169 544
	Email: Corinamode@gmail.com	
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	Lockyer	Joan Wright 0429 413 759
	Mt Barker	Sue Wilson 0437 184 692
	AUC	Edith Verran 9841 2729
PRAYER COORDINATOR	Heather Bailey	0428 936 824
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Rosters for AUC and Lockyer:

**AUC: Recording/
Music**

	<u>DOOR</u>	<u>READING</u>	<u>FLOWERS</u>	
<u>3rd Sept</u>	C Roberts	E Burns	B Reed	T Reed/
<i>Lockyer</i>	<i>J Wright</i>	<i>Anne Hortin</i>	<i>S Wood</i>	P Elms
<u>10th Sept</u>	K Hough	A Tero	C Ferry	M Little/
<i>Lockyer:</i>	<i>J Dunbar</i>	<i>M Hannington</i>	<i>J Ahern</i>	P Elms
<u>17th Sept</u>	D Hosking	W Dwyer	A Tero	M Vertigan/
<i>Lockyer: M Hannington</i>	<i>S Wood</i>	<i>J Dunbar</i>		S Harris
<u>24th Sept</u>	D Coxall	M Little	B Reed	W Dwyer/
<i>Lockyer:</i>	<i>S Wood</i>	<i>J Bowman</i>	<i>J Wright</i>	P Elms

Morning Tea, *Lockyer only*

3rd Sept *J Ahern/J Dunbar* **10th Sept** *J Thompson*

17th Sept *J Wright J Bowman* **24th Sept** *A Webb/M Hannington*

Please swap with someone if you are unable to take your turn and inform Lisa at the office of the change. Thank you to those willing to take part, helping to make services run smoothly.



Winter's Gone (Tom Parker)

Hear the magpie singing, welcoming the day,
See the branches budding, Winter has gone away.
Young lambs in the paddocks, flowers dance and sway,
Springtime here for sharing, Winter has gone away.
Breezes stir the grasses, brighter, longer days,
All the earth rejoices, Winter has gone away!



can feel more a part of the body of Christ – find unity in diversity. Have you ever wondered how Jewish people might read what we know as the Old Testament, their sacred text, the Tanach? These readers have a one-year cycle, in which they read the entire text of the Torah and selections of the other texts. The Scriptures are divided in 1. Torah (the books of Moses, the first five books now in our Christian Bible), 2. the Prophets, which includes the books of Kings, and 3. the Writings, which include the Psalms and the books of Chronicles. The five books of the Torah are divided in 54 what is known as ‘portions’, and one portion per week is read.

(Traditionally, in Judaism, texts are not read, but chanted.)

Each week a blessing serves as introduction to the reading. Words of praise are offered to God, who has chosen good prophets and accepted their words, spoken in truth. The blessing continues mentioning God showing favour to “the Torah, Moses His servant, Israel His people, and the prophets of truth and justice.”

After this introduction the set portion of the Torah is read, followed by a reading from the Prophets. These readings are always paired in the same way, and often share a theme, or complement each other in some way. For example, when the Torah reading features the song of the Israelites when they witness the parting of the sea at the Exodus, the reading from the Prophets includes the Song of Deborah; the song responding to the victory of Deborah and Barak in Judges 5.

A cluster of three or four blessings, depending on the occasion, marks the end of these readings. These blessings call for prophecy to be fulfilled and for God to restore the Jewish people to Zion. It almost goes without saying that there are different streams within Judaism today. There are, as a result, differences in liturgy as well, just like there are different Christian denominations with their own particular practices.

The third religion with a sacred Book is Islam. Muslims believe that this text is the revelation of spiritual truth from Allah (God) to

humankind. I have tried to read the text from cover to cover and failed. The word Quran comes from the Arabic word "qara'a," meaning "he read." Just as Moses is said to have heard God speak the Ten Commandments, the prophet Muhammad heard the word of Allah through the angel Gabriel over a period of about 23 years. The Quran is one book, not many, with verses called surahs, that have a particular historical content. What makes the book so difficult to read, not only for outsiders, is that there is no story, no history. The Quran assumes that readers are familiar with some of the major themes of Biblical scriptures. Every Muslim is expected to read the Quran, in Arabic. Some believers do so, once, early in their life, with help from a teacher. Regular prayer, five times a day, is much more common than reading the text. During prayer, some of the sacred text is recited or chanted. Some people read the entire Quran, some 600 pages, during the thirty days of Ramadan. This is not as hard as it may seem. Twenty pages a day means reading only two pages before and two pages after prayer. Maybe I should not be writing about Islam at all. In Islam, there are as many different schools of thought and interpretations of 'dos' and 'don'ts' as in the other two religions who worship the God of Abraham. One thing is clear, though. Prayer, humbly addressing Allah, on your knees, listening to the words spoken to the prophet Mohammed, is a core Muslim requirement.

We don't kneel in our Protestant tradition anymore though there are many denominations where people still do. The same is for chanting liturgy. We have a lot in common, us people of the sacred word.

Blessings, Corina

BITS FROM BARKER:

Nita and I continue with our monthly church service at Aged Care and it was good to have Milly attend this month.

WESLEY MUSIC ALBANY

THE QUIET SPACE

*TAKE A MOMENT FOR
PEACE AND REFLECTION,
WITH MUSIC PLAYED BY
PATRICK ELMS*

2-3PM (COME ANY TIME)
SATURDAY 2 SEPTEMBER
WESLEY CHURCH, DUKE ST
FREE (Donations Appreciated)
Enquiries: 0457 424 288



WESLEY MUSIC NEWS: On Saturday 2nd September Wesley Music presents The Quiet Space, a non-religious, neutral time of repose and tranquillity. Remember the days when churches were open for anyone to come in at their leisure, to pray or take a moment for themselves. This time, one of our best musicians helps us to focus inward in a time when we can often feel overwhelmed by the pressures of the world. It is not a concert or recital, and we ask that you avoid speaking when inside, and turn your phone off or to silent. There is no expectation of religious affiliation or practice, you can simply enjoy the serenity of the music and atmosphere of this heritage -listed building. There is no cost, but your donation will help Wesley Albany serve the community and bring you more music. This event is a trial, if successful we hope to make it a regular occasion.

PSALM 23

“FOR BUSY PEOPLE”

The Lord is my pace-setter, I shall not rush.

He makes me stop and rest for quiet intervals.

He provides me with images of stillness which restore my serenity.

He leads me in ways of efficiency through the calmness of mind, and
His guidance is peace

Even though I have a great many things to accomplish each day I will
not fret, for His presence is here;

His timelessness, His all-importance will keep me in balance.

He prepares refreshment and renewal in the midst of my activity, by
anointing my mind with His oils of tranquillity.

My cup of joyous energy overflows.

Such harmony and effectiveness shall be the fruit of my hours, for I
shall walk in the peace of my LORD, and dwell in His House forever.



I will thank God for the pleasures given me through my senses, for
the glory of thunder, for the mystery of music, the singing of the
birds and the laughter of children.... Truly O Lord, the earth is full of
thy riches. Edward King (1829 – 1910) Bishop of London

Cherish yesterday, dream about tomorrow, live today

I would like to warn anyone whose details as church representatives may be available online, of the possibility of being scammed. Be very careful if you receive a phone call from someone you don't know. Philip now has a smart new vehicle as his previous, almost new car, was subjected to a rat attack.

We really felt for Corina on Sunday following her car accident. We thank God she wasn't hurt and for the kind trio from Mandurah who brought her on to us. How encouraging it is to have people so quick to help her get through such an awful experience and enable her to become the grateful owner of a replacement vehicle so soon.

Blessings, Sue Wilson

LOCKYER NEWS: As I always say, where has the last month gone? It is incredible how the days fly by, Gordon says the week is made up of Sundays. It seems no sooner has one Sunday gone than overnight, it is Sunday again. Life at Lockyer is not much different to last month though we did have an earthquake which woke me up with the windows rattling. I didn't hear of much damage in the region. Lockyer, along with other congregations, are extremely thankful that Corina didn't suffer any physical harm from her car accident. As we all know, subconsciously we are affected for some time, so prayer over the next weeks is essential.

Wesley Music News makes an interesting addition to the monthly. Next month I hope to include a photo of April and Arthur at book-week. Life is very quiet out here and I'm thankful for that as the family keeps us busy at times. Making Arthur's tunic for book-week was a nightmare but it made him happy and that is the main thing.

Go to the lost, in the home, in the mart.

Waiting no longer, today make a start;

Tell them of Jesus who died in their place

Share the good news of salvation by grace. -Bosch

Cheers for now Joan

PRAYER PROMPTS: Please keep all those in nursing homes in your prayers and all who have been ill. We think of those who have been in hospital as well – recently Joan Leeder, whom we understand has been transferred to a nursing home. We also pray for Mary Ericson as she settles in to her new home and surroundings in Swanbourne and pray that moving in to their new home in McKail goes smoothly for Allan and Judy McKechnie. Keep Eileen Gilbert of Mt Barker congregation in your prayers as she deals with her insurance company concerning the replacement of all her stolen goods. We also wish her a speedy recovery from her fall and stay in hospital.

SHOEBOX SNIPPETS: Our little group has been very busy lately. Firstly, there was the Bargain Bonanza fundraiser which raised \$368, so thank you to those who contributed to that. Then we moved on to doing up the pencil cases, hygiene items and jewellery items etc and by the time you read this, we will have packed the boxes for the 12 – 14 age group and the 5 – 9 age group. Next week we will finish packing the boxes for the 2 – 4 age group so we will be ready for the **Dedication Service on Sunday 17th September**. Corina will conduct this and being the third Sunday of the month, those who come specially for this Service will be able to have morning tea with us. As usual we will only have a sample of the boxes in the church as it is too hard to display all 250+ boxes, then have to move them all afterwards!

As we pack, we are able to admire all the beautiful items you have provided, which is the best part of this project. The elderly friend of Maxine has made hundreds of beautiful knitted teddies which meant we could put more than one in each box. Then there are the lovely big bags, mostly made by Esma. We always put one on the top of each box, which finishes them off beautifully.

On Friday 18th August, along with a few other volunteers, I met with A.J. our State Manager who comes from Perth to visit us, sometimes once a year. It is good to catch up with him and learn of anything

that has happened or changed. One of the moving stories he told concerned the little Ukrainian orphan who received the 200millionth box, she was not hand-picked. It was decided to send that box to Ukraine, as they are struggling in that country more than most, and on the day of distribution, enough chairs to sit on were set out for the children who were to receive a box. One of those chairs was red and the child who randomly sat in that chair was to be given the 200 millionth box. The story of the little girl, Natalya, who lives in an orphanage was in the August magazine and it put tears in my eyes to read that her favourite item from the box was the yellow torch, because, as she said, it would allow her to see her way to the dark basement when the bombing started. Our Australian children have no idea what children in such war-torn countries have to live with. Please continue to pray for the boxes as they are being put together and later when they are distributed and for the children who will receive them. Once again, we thank all of you who support us in this worthwhile project in any way.

For those on the internet and are internet savvy (which I am not), there are apparently some interesting videos on the web site: operationchristmaschild.org.au I am hoping Corina is able to include some of the videos in the Dedication Service

My final comment concerning the shoebox project is that we are again looking for a local co-ordinator. The current one is now working full-time and can no longer fit that role in! If you know of anyone who might be interested, please let me know and I will pass their name on to A.J.(A. J. Joubert), our State Manager.

God bless, Edith

