



Regional Directory

Minister: Rev Corina van Oostende 0417 169 544

Secretaries:	Name	Phone
ARC	Sue Wilson	9851 4450
Lockyer	Anne Hortin	0428 752 325
Denmark	Michael Cranny	0417 000 684
Mt Barker	Sue Wilson	0437 184 692
AUC	Elizabeth Burns	9842 2636

Pastoral Carers:	Name	Phone
Lockyer	Joan Wright	0429 413 759
Denmark	Margaret Cocks	0428 608 620
Mt Barker	Sue Wilson	0437 184 692
AUC	Edith Verran	9841 2729

Prayer Coordinator: Heather Bailey 0428 936 824

Juniper: 11 Townsend St, Lockyer 1300 313 000

Contact Us

AUC/ARC Office: 12 Duke Street, Albany

Postal Address: PO Box 5170, Albany WA 6330

Phone: 08 9841 1145

Email: arc@ucwa.au

Office Hours: Tues-Thurs, 8.45 am - 12.45 pm



Uniting Church in Australia
Albany Region Congregations

May the New Year bring you happiness
and fulfillment. Cheers! God bless you.

*Happy
New Year!*

Welcome to our service.

Duke St Church morning tea is on the 3rd Sunday of the month, Denmark Uniting Church & Lockyer have morning tea after their Service. Mt Barker is before their Service.

7 January 2024.



Blessings for 2024

Ella Wheeler Wilcox writes:

*What can be said in New Year rhymes, that's not been said
a thousand times?*

*The new years come, the old years go, we know we dream,
we dream we know.*

*We rise up laughing with the light, we lie down weeping with
the night.*

*We hug the world until it stings, we curse it then and sigh for
wings.*

*We live, we love, we woo, we wed, we wreath our prides,
we sheet our dead.*

*We laugh, we weep, we hope, we fear, and that's the
burden of a year.*

Ella's poem describes life as it is for most people, most of the time. Is there more? I think there is...

Another year wrapped up. What was most important to us in the years past? What is needed most, not only in our little private lives, but in the world?

I suggest it is hope, peace, faith, all springing from grounded in love. My New Year's slogan will be 'if I cannot do it lovingly, I might as well not do it at all'. If I cannot welcome guests because I love them, if I cannot feed myself because I love life, if I cannot write these little columns without love for the Word and for you, these acts have no meaning at all. Paul wrote two thousand years ago that without love all we do, all we are, is empty.

"If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I

The Failure of Love

The loss of the sense of God in whom we live and move, is more often due to the failure to love than to any other single cause. That is what you might expect, since God is by definition Love. Sometimes it is a matter of repairing the love and charity in which we hold our neighbours. Sometimes it is a matter of turning away from obsession with ourselves towards the magnificence of God. Sometimes it is a matter of quietly absorbing the ceaseless flow of the eternal love. Sometimes one can meet people who have simply cut themselves off from the love of God. Their love has become mere possessiveness or it has become perverted into covetousness or it has turned in upon itself to become bitter self-pity. These people make your heart break for although there are no limits to the mercy of God, as far as life is concerned, even if they live to be one hundred years old, they would fail to have the sense that 'in Him they live and move...' This is extremely sad when you think of the joy they have missed out on throughout their life. Instead of enjoying abundant life they have merely existed.

Ideas taken from 'Day by Day with J.B. Phillips'.

Submitted by S. Wilson.



Uniting Church in Australia
Albany Region Congregations



Uniting Church in Australia
Albany Region Congregations

January 7

8.30am	LOCKYER HC	Rev. Corina
9.30am	DENMARK	Rev. E. Sanderson
10am	DUKE ST HC	Rev. Corina
11am	MT BARKER	S. Wilson

January 14

8.30am	LOCKYER	A. Hortin
9.00am	DENMARK HC	Rev. Corina
10am	DUKE ST	A. Hortin
11am	MT BARKER HC	Rev. Corina

have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing.” Loving is a choice. We either approach our day as a to-do-list, a series of chores, or we choose to act out of the love we are given, the love we carry inside ourselves. We either do what we ‘have to do’ or ‘because we always do this’ or we do it with a sense of newness, a sense of opportunity to shine, to bring light and life to other people’s lives and our own. We can only be a blessing in 2024 when we stay awake to the fact we are love, light and life givers, serving the one who showed us what that means, Jesus Christ.

Blessings, abundant blessings be yours, Corina.

Dates every week

Museum: Open Tues-Thurs, 9-11am.

Tuesday Discussion group in recess till February 2024.

Wednesday Prayer group: Meets at 9.30am at Heather’s place. All welcome.

Thursday Bible Study: in recess till February 2024.

January 27 Quiet Space, Wesley Church, 2-3 pm

February 1&2 Craft Markets, York St, 9am-3pm

February 13 AUC Ladies Fellowship, Handasyde’s, 2pm

Prayers of the week

AUC: Sandra & Jeff Hall, Esmā Hare and their families.

Lockyer: Judy Thompson, Annette Webb and their families.

Mt Barker: Eileen Gilbert, Pauline Hordacre and their families.

Denmark: Judy & Graham Wilson, Sue & Bob Allan and their families.

Synod: (Metro North Region) North Way (Beldon-Iluka and Carramar) and Trinity North Uniting Churches Juniper

Photo Wesley Church, L. Tan- Friends of Photography. If you have a photo you would like featured and is appropriate for the front page, please send it in. Email: unitingchurchalbany@gmail.com
Hard copy photos will also be accepted.

News & Notes

★ **Albany YouthCARE** Council is taking part in the **Containers for Change** scheme. Our registration number is **C10331167**.

All you have to do is take your eligible containers to a collection point at either IGA Spencer Park, or IGA York Street and **quote our number**. The money you raise will go straight into our Albany bank account. Most aluminum, glass, plastic, steel and liquid paperboard drink containers between 150ml and 3L are eligible. For more information, check out the Containers for Change website.

★ **Offerings** We gratefully accept financial contributions ("offerings") to continue the work of the Church. Cash or cheques may be placed in the offering bowls at Sunday services. Direct bank transfers (EFT) are also welcome. For Albany, please use the details below:

BSB: 086 554 (National Australia Bank)
Account Number: 496 865 760
Account Name: Albany Uniting Church
Reference: Offering or Youthcare

For Denmark, Mount Barker and Lockyer please contact your treasurer for details. All offerings are anonymous. Feel free to ask for envelopes if you wish.

★ **Uniting World.** If you would like to donate to Uniting World. Donations will be used to provide urgent assistance, supplies & support longer-term recovery. To donate online, go to <https://donate.unitingworld.org.au/donate-now>

★ **Connecting** people who cannot attend worship, can still stay in touch with us from anywhere in the world. You can receive the monthly Magazine, the weekly Bulletin and the Order of Service by email or in print. We also record Sunday services which can be sent on CD. Just contact Corina or Lisa to make arrangements (see back page). For those of you who use social media, Albany and Denmark have Facebook pages and some of us also post under tags like [#wesleyalbany](https://www.facebook.com/wesleyalbany) on other social media channels

★ **Bulletin dates & Hall bookings for 2024:** If you would like your groups to be included in the future Bulletins, Magazines, News & Notes, calendar & hall bookings. Please email your information to the office. Many thanks to all who have contacted the office already. unitingchurhalbany@gmail.com

