



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	Margaret Cocks	0428 608 620
Mt Barker	Sue Wilson	0437 184 692
AUC	Elizabeth Burns	9842 2636

Pastoral Carers:		
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 Street, Lockyer 1300 313 000

Contact Us

AUC/ARC Office: 12 Duke Street, Albany

Postal Address: PO Box 5170, Albany WA 6330

Phone: 0472 732 441

Email: arc@ucwa.au

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



Uniting Church in Australia
Albany Region Congregations



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.

30 March 2025.



Lent 4 Death and Wisdom

Many spiritual traditions invite us to allow death to be our teacher. The Dalai Lama says, "If we wish to die well, we must live well." Death is perhaps the most mystical and mysterious moment of human existence.

To be comfortable with death we need the willingness to enter our fears, especially fears associated with loss and control. Death challenges us to reframe our experience from knowing and thinking to more heart led ways of being, to wisdom. Our experience influences the way we view death.

When you have some time, reflect on your life and jot down – chronologically – every time you have experienced death. Include animals and deaths of famous persons if the death had an impact. Note when the death occurred and mark it on the same timeline, with the date. Note the cause of death: accident, illness, old age, suicide. Note the age of the person or animal who died. Consider what you learned, and what your timeline tells you.

"Is death something so terrible and absurd that we are better off not thinking or talking about it? Or is it possible to befriend our dying gradually and live open to it, trusting that we have nothing to fear? Is it possible to prepare for our death with the same attentiveness that our parents had in preparing for our birth? Can we wait for our death as for a friend who wants to welcome us home?" Henri Nouwen, *Our Greatest Gift*

The mysterious process of conversion seems to be very similar to the dying process. We can become more of who we really are as age diminishes us or when we face end-

Life Together

Over 50 years ago, I was privileged to hear Australian Lutheran Pastor Dr. Hermann Sasse give a lecture. Sasse emerged in the 1930s as a vocal critic of the Nazi Party and was a pastor in the Confessing Church during WWII. Sasse was part of the community of students and pastors founded by Dietrich Bonhoeffer, and referred to in his book *Life Together*. I remember Sasse had a powerful presence formed in the furnace of life in Germany under the Nazis. I thought of Sasse when I read the words of Bonhoeffer, from *Life Together*, about the dangers that idealism poses for community. The idealist blames others for not believing or doing the right thing to contribute to his 'right' view of the church. This is destructive. On the other hand, Bonhoeffer writes, "In the Christian community, thankfulness is just what it is anywhere else in the Christian life. Only those who give thanks for little things receive the big things. We prevent God from giving us the great spiritual gifts he has in store for us because we do not give thanks for daily gifts... If we do not give thanks daily for the Christian fellowship in which we have been placed, even where there is no great experience, no discoverable riches, but much weakness, small faith, and difficulty; if on the contrary, we only keep complaining to God that everything is so paltry and petty, so far from what we expected, then we hinder God from letting our fellowship grow according to the measure and riches which are there for us all in Jesus Christ." A question for each of us: "Do you judge and condemn your brothers and sisters in the church, or do you daily give thanks for the Christian family of which you are a part?"

Rodney Marsh



March 30

8.30am	LOCKYER	R. Anderson
9.30am	DENMARK	Rev. Corina
10am	DUKE ST	R. Anderson
11am	MT BARKER	S. Wilson

April 6

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

Dates every week

Museum: Open 9-11am, Tuesday-Thursday.

Tuesday Discussion: Meets at 9.30am for 10am start at Elizabeth's place. All welcome.

Wednesday Prayer group: Meets at 10am at Heather's place. All welcome.

Thursday Bible Study group: Meets at 10am, Lockyer UC, Townsend St. All welcome.

March 29 Quiet Space, Wesley UC, 2-3pm

April

April 8	Lockyer Ladies Fellowship, Lockyer, 12pm
April 8	AUC Ladies Fellowship, Handasyde's, 2pm
April 11	Scot's Craft Markets. 9-3pm, CWA Hall

of-life issues. Our desires can become clearer. We learn to prioritise our actions given limited energy. What we love, and who we want to have around us becomes evident. In prayer, we can find ways to embrace our basic goodness and understand that we are meant to be happy and fulfilled, to love and be loved. As we diminish, we can grow in love.

This discovery of our selves is a losing of ego. Thomas Merton wrote: "Your life is hidden with Christ in God. This cannot be an escape. It must be a fulfillment. The courage to face myself exactly as I am. Therefore, this discovery of myself is always a losing of myself – a death and resurrection."

Blessings, Corina

Prayers of the week

AUC: Patrick Elms, Muriel & Milton Evans and their families.

Lockyer: Annette Webb, Vera Wellstead and their families.

Mt Barker: Sue Wilson, Nita Clarke and their families.

Denmark: Carmy O' Sullivan, Rev, Elizabeth Sanderson and their families.

Synod: (South West Region) Bay Life and Capel Uniting Churches; Augusta and Margaret River Uniting Churches; the Methodist Church in Fiji.

Photo: Wesley upshot- Bob Symons, Ace Camera Club.

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**. Take your eligible containers to either IGA Spencer Park, or Container Recycling Depot, 93 Stead Rd, Centennial Park and **quote our number**. <https://www.containersforchange.com.au/wa>

Homeless Project Denmark (HPD Homeless Project Denmark)

The main source of income for the **HPD** is a fundraising stall at the Denmark Sunday markets. Please leave items you want to donate in the Duke Street vestry, marked box HPD. Corina will see to it, that they find their destination. <https://www.facebook.com/homelessprojectdenmark?mibextid=ZbWKwL>

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.uniting-world.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.

Couperin by Candlelight – Albany. Immerse in the exquisite beauty of François Couperin's *Leçons de Ténèbres*, a musical masterpiece of the French Baroque era. Enter a serene world illuminated by candlelight as Swanharp Four leads a poignant service of scripture and music, guiding your soul through the darkness of Holy Week towards the spiritual dawn of Easter. Featuring: Shamara de Tissera – soprano, Marie Limondin – baroque violin, Julie Parish – violoncello & Adam Cook – harpsichord. Tuesday 15 April at 7pm, Albany Uniting Church, Duke Street, Albany.

<https://collections.humanitix.com/couperin-by-candlelight>

