

## AUGUST PREACHING PLAN

### **August 3<sup>rd</sup>**

8.30 Lockyer HC	Rev W Hartley	Hosea 11: 1 - 11
9.30 Denmark		Psalms 107: 1 - 9, 43
10.00 AUC HC	Rev W Hartley	Colossians 3: 1 - 11
11.00 Mt Barker	E Burns	Luke 12: 13 - 21

### **August 10<sup>th</sup>**

8.30 Lockyer	A Hortin	Isaiah 1: 1, 10 - 20
9.00 Denmark HC	Rev W Hartley	Psalms 50: 1 - 8, 22 - 23
10.00 AUC	A Hortin	Hebrews 11: 1 - 3, 8 - 16
11.00 Mt Barker HC	Rev W Hartley	Luke 12: 32 - 40

### **August 17<sup>th</sup>**

8.30 Lockyer	Rev W Hartley	Isaiah 5: 1 - 7
9.30 Denmark		Psalms 80: 1 - 2, 8 - 19
10.00 AUC	Rev W Hartley	Hebrews 11: 29 - 12: 2
11.00 Mt Barker	S Wilson	Luke 12: 49 - 56

### **August 24<sup>th</sup>**

8.30 Lockyer	R Anderson	Jeremiah 1: 4 - 10
9.30 Denmark	Rev Wes Hartley	Psalms 71: 1 - 6
10.00 AUC	R Anderson	Hebrews 12: 18 - 29
11.00 Mt Barker	Rev Wes Hartley	Luke 13: 10 - 17

### **August 31<sup>st</sup>**

<b>10.00 AUC</b>	<b>Rev Wes Hartley</b>	Jeremiah 2: 4 - 13
A Service of Hymns and Celebration will be held at Wesley Church, Duke St in place of the usual services in the region.		Psalms 81: 1, 10-16
		Hebrews 13: 1-8, 15-16
The Lectionary readings for the day are as shown.		Luke 14: 1,7 - 14



# *THE ARC MONTHLY*

*ALBANY REGION  
CONGREGATIONS*

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



*August 2025*

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VMRWA Loan Vessel "Tom Reed"

*Lord,  
Whether on sea or land, we pray to you  
when we are in trouble. Please bless the  
First Responders who come to our rescue*

## Message from Rev. Wes Hartley – Locum Minister (July-August 2025)



In talking with Tom Reed from Wesley recently, which initially started out on things Marine Rescue and his role in setting up much of our marine communication network, I was introduced into the electronic world that has been Tom's work life and passion. He also has a great "*man cave*".

Remember in the early days when a tower at Mt. Barker and another at Albany transmitted just a single channel of ABC 2, later followed by GWN? Tom worked for the ABC as their chief technical officer, so without his work there would have been no transmission. Whereas now, the sheer variety of free-to-air television channels, plus numerous radio stations are all at the touch of a button. If that is not sufficient, there is a plethora of other free and subscription services all built into any contemporary television screen.

In earlier times, before video recorders, one had to be selective in planning church meeting times, lest several became "*no shows*" because their favourite TV program was on at the same time. Fortunately, the likes of iView these days have solved that problem, so we can watch what we like, when we like, with all the traditional excuses no longer having valid currency.

So, in the midst of much entertainment plenty, it is a delight when something really special comes along that moves one's spirit. For me, the recent ABC series "*The Piano*", along with two BBC series by the same title, did just that.

As many of you know, the series centred on public pianos placed in busy market places and railway stations, where those with a love of the instrument can simply sit down and play, capturing a busy

## DIARY DATES

- FRI 8<sup>th</sup> AUG** SCOTS MARKETS AT CWA HALL, Serpentine Road  
9 – 3pm. Come along, say hello to the stall holders.  
Enjoy a delicious morning tea or lunch.
- TUES 12<sup>th</sup> AUG** LOCKYER LADIES FELLOWSHIP, Lockyer UC, 12noon  
AUC FELLOWSHIP, Handasydes, 2pm. All welcome.
- THUR 21<sup>st</sup> AUG** FELLOWSHIP Morning Tea, 10am, Vancouver Café,  
ALL WELCOME. Details from Mary 0427 554 947
- SAT 30<sup>th</sup> AUG** THE QUIET SPACE with Julie Parish on cello  
accompanied by Patrick Elms on the organ.  
Wesley Church, 2 – 3pm

## DIRECTORY

- MINISTER** Rev Wes Hartley – Locum Minister (July – August 2025)  
Mobile: 0412 425 058  
Email: [whh@westnet.com.au](mailto:whh@westnet.com.au)
- PASTORAL CARERS**
- |           |                |              |
|-----------|----------------|--------------|
| Denmark   | Everyone       |              |
| Lockyer   | Joan Wright    | 0429 413 759 |
| Mt Barker | Sue Wilson     | 0437 184 692 |
| AUC       | Edith Verran   | 9841 2729    |
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- PRAYER COORDINATOR**
- AUC OFFICE** **Open Hours:** Tues – Thurs 8.45 – 12.45pm  
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**Rosters for AUC and Lockyer:****AUC: Recording/**

	<b><u>DOOR</u></b>	<b><u>READING</u></b>	<b><u>FLOWERS</u></b>	<b><u>Music</u></b>
<b><u>3<sup>rd</sup> Aug</u></b>	A Glasgow	A Lucas	A Tero	M Vertigan/
<i>Lockyer:</i>	<i>J Dunbar</i>	<i>M Hannington</i>	<i>J Thompson</i>	P Elms
<b><u>10<sup>th</sup> Aug</u></b>	A Gunther	W Dwyer	M Gunther	M Little /
<i>Lockyer:</i>	<i>J Thompson</i>	<i>S Wood</i>	<i>M Hannington</i>	P Elms
<b><u>17<sup>th</sup> Aug</u></b>	D Hosking	R Vertigan	C Ferry	M Vertigan/
<i>Lockyer:</i>	<i>S Wood</i>	<i>Anne Hortin</i>	<i>J Dunbar</i>	P Elms
<b><u>24<sup>th</sup> Aug</u></b>	C Ferry	E Verran	A Tero	W Dwyer/
<i>Lockyer:</i>	<i>Alan Hortin</i>	<i>Alan Hortin</i>	<i>S Wood</i>	P Elms
<b><u>31<sup>st</sup> Aug</u></b>	D Coxall		C Ferry	M Vertigan/
				P Elms

**Morning Tea, Lockyer only**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Aug** *S Wood*      **10<sup>th</sup> Aug** *J Dunbar*  
**17<sup>th</sup> Aug** *M Hannington*      **24<sup>th</sup> Aug** *J Thompson*

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.

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Where there is belief,  
there is love.

Where there is love,  
there is peace.

Where there is peace,  
there is grace.

Where there is grace,  
There is God.

An old Hungarian blessing

passing public's attention in the process.

For me, the fascination of both the ABC and BBC versions of the program was the diversity and age of the pianists who performed, varying from 9 years old to 102, along with the pathos of their varied stories that left one in tears of enjoyment at the end of each program.



There were people who had suffered deep trauma and grief in their lives; others had wrestled with mental issues; still others who had triumphed over unbelievable physical and neurological handicaps, to suddenly emerge, through their playing, like beautiful flowers responding to the stimulus of spring growth.

At the end of it all, all I could think of was Pentecost. So here was a passive instrument, of itself communicating nothing, until someone made the keys sing. There was everything from traditional jazz, through to classical masterpieces of Beethoven, Chopin, Liszt and Mozart. Some were child prodigies, others were self-taught, with almost no musical knowledge, yet they made the instrument sing. The music of the piano required no words; no translation was necessary; children responded in spontaneous dance, completely uninhibited. People stopped in the midst of their busy rushing. They paused and drank in the magic before their eyes (and ears), then went on about their daily business. Each week one special performer was chosen to be a participant in a final concert that was quite profound.

Pentecost was like that. People who had little to do with each other; who came from different cultures; who shared no common language; suddenly found themselves asking the same question: *"How is it that we each understand the other"*? For me, that is the work of the Holy Spirit - just as those passing through a busy railway station were arrested in their tracks, by the sheer beauty unfolding before their very eyes, knowing that their world would never be

quite the same again.

For me, God moves in mysterious ways and for many who claim little or no faith, I hope *"The Piano"* moved them just a little to know that in compassion and empathy, great beauty can be found.

Blessings, **Rev Wes Hartley - Locum Minister**

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**BITS FROM BARKER:** It is freezing at the moment with a mist coming in but I'll try to ignore that as I type the following few news items I have.

It was great to welcome Rev Wes Hartley to Mount Barker when he conducted the Communion Service. It was also good to have Anne and Alan Hortin brave the awful weather last Sunday when Alan took our Service. During the month we had an unexpected visit from a couple who attend a Uniting Church in Canberra and both attend groups involved in assisting refugees. They both spoke briefly on the work their groups do and are currently travelling around, visiting Uniting Churches for that purpose.

Pauline is unwell currently. She recently visited Singapore and suffered a relapse of an illness she'd had earlier. She recently received acknowledgement of her 50 years in CWA at their Conference held in Albany. Doug is recovering from recent successful face surgery, and Anne Mackie's leg injury is healing. Philip's daughter and grand-daughters visited him recently. The congregation was delighted to welcome Valerie when she visited last weekend and provided our music. This gave Nita a well-earned rest and an opportunity to strengthen our singing instead.

We look forward to having Wes minister to our group during August and to the combined service in Albany on 31<sup>st</sup> August. Sue Wilson

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**LOCKYER NEWS:** We are all getting older, with the pains and trauma which can go with this. An update on some of our congregation members are as follows: Joan Wright – her cheery voice sounds like she can run around the block each day, but Joan

Every chance to connect with the community lets us share the wonderful work we do at WFKA and we use any opportunity we have to showcase our workshop and what our volunteers achieve each week. (Kadek)-

In April, I took some annual leave with my family in Bali and met with the Global Village Foundation. We were able to fit two children, Kadek and Ketut with wheelchairs. Kadek, 11, had been dragging herself around, but was all smiles once seated in her chair. Her Mum quickly put the purple ribbon that had held the rug and toys together, in her hair. Ketut, 18, had outgrown his previous wheelchair, which was no longer fit for purpose. Thanks to the GVF team who made the modifications to our wheelchair, he was mobile again and had a huge smile on his face after a lengthy fitting. Ketut is nonverbal but is fully aware of the benefits his new wheelchair brings. Experiences like this remind me how lucky I am to work for such a great organisation and how a \$275 contribution can go a long way in changing a child's life.

Cheers, CEO Greg Hebble

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**EDITORIAL COMMENT:** Rev Wes Hartley has certainly been out and about, getting to meet as many as possible and learning a little about them. He was delighted to find he and Tom Reed shared a background of involvement with Sea Rescue when he met Tom and Betty at the AUC Prayer Group, then on visiting them later, found that Tom is one of the older members of Wesley who have a long history of serving the community as well as Wesley Church. It does not seem so long ago that whenever the ABC went off air due to problems with the Mt Barker tower, that it was Tom who was sent to climb the tower, in all weathers, to solve the problem. The AUC congregation have Tom to thank for their sound system and for the effort he put in, recording each Service for many years. Clare Ferry



know. Will also have printed boxes left over, possibly quite a few, so those who will do their own boxes from next year are welcome to them. They will be free as they have been given to us, please just ask me. Any left over money will be sent as a donation. At present, I am still running a stall for the Shoebox project at the C.W.A. markets – so if you have any items, looking like new, I would like them for the stall. I still plan to do my biscuits to sell at the stall then send the money raised to the Shoebox organisation. It is taking a while to get back to the good takings we made at Scots Hall but I hope it will build up eventually as we get known. Our group there are still the longest running markets in Albany!

I will also continue to collect empty egg cartons for Foodbank and will store metre square knee rugs and medium sized teddies to pass on to the Wheelchair for Kids organisation. It was great to see that Ollie Picket, the instigator of this marvellous organisation, was made Australian Senior of the Year 2025. For this magazine I will include the latest item I have about this group. It is a wonderful activity, started and run by volunteers, in our own state.

Once again, I wish to thank all my helpers and supporters who have backed me for the 32 years! You are all wonderful and have made it possible for us to do this. Thanks again also to those who leave items on my doorstep or give them to me at Church. As I said to Wes last Sunday, “I’m known now as the Wesley Bag Lady”.

God Bless, Edith

### **Update from Wheelchairs for Kids (WFKA)**

At Wheelchairs For Kids, we’re all about changing lives. From our factory in Wangara, with our inspirational volunteers, we work towards making life a little easier for children living with a disability. Designed to meet World Health Organisation guidelines, these wheelchairs are built to be safe, strong and durable, giving kids the support and mobility they deserve. We stay committed to providing life changing mobility solutions, helping children with disabilities gain independence and the chance for a brighter future.

assures me this is not so. Whatever she does, it is in slow motion, and needing a rest every now and then.

Jan Ahern – has been in hospital and received a blood transfusion which has made her feel somewhat better, and she is home again now. Jan is having blood tests done at home which may get to the main problem.

Sue Wood – has cancer stage 4. She has been getting ongoing tests and when they get her blood up to scratch, then she can go onto chemotherapy. Sue is doing what she is told (now and then!). Her property is on the market, so anyone who can offer over \$1m, see her quick. (I believe it is on the market for less than \$1m!)

Louise Hordacre – is in the Roshana Annie Bryson McKeown secure nursing home. Louise bemoans the fact she is not able go outside the home without another person with her. Visits by friends and family are always welcome.

Wes Hartley has been a welcome locum minister whilst Corina is on Long Service Leave in Holland with her aged father. Our next Church Council Meeting will be in September, when Corina has returned.

I conclude with some wise words:

**The late Pope Francis' understanding of what praying for others really means:** Praying means getting involved in people's lives.

Too many are mistaken when facing problematic situations. They mistakenly believe all they need to do is pray, then sit back and wait passively for God to intervene **DIRECTLY**. This is hard to understand given that scriptural evidence abounds that God intervenes through human agents. God **MAY** send others to help us deal with the situation, but chances are higher that God will inspire and strengthen **US** to take effective action ourselves. **WE** will be sent to intervene in the lives of the people we pray for.

Pope Francis said “How it upsets me to see Christians remain passively uninvolved and actually say; ‘It is up to God to change the situation.’ “

Cheers Alan Hortin

**WESLEY MUSIC NEWS:**

It's ironic that the magazine generally comes out the day after The Quiet Space, so I'm forever wanting to tell you about what's coming up shortly, when you'll read it after it's already over. In this case I suspect many of you may have attended because Adam Cook was the musician. As usual, after a hectic May and June for major music events, July has been quiet for music. Myself, I have been glad of the end of the events as my schedule has remained full, making arrangements for my absence from late July to early September.

August's Quiet Space will see the welcome return of Julie Parish with her divine cello playing, accompanied by Patrick, who in turn will be our September musician. AUC congregation knows how effective his music choices and refined style are in helping us settle for worship, so I'm glad to have this for an event with broader appeal, so others can get that deep peace and quietude we need to nurture our spirit.

To those of you from the Lockyer, Denmark or Mount Barker congregations, we warmly invite you to brave what is a long drive in some cases, if only to see how The Quiet Space works.



Julie Parish 30<sup>th</sup> August

So, as you read this, I will probably be in a city called "Tochigi" a little north of Tokyo, and shortly heading to an isolated retreat in the northern mountains to find my own quiet space. While I'll miss Adam's and Julie's events, I hope to rest and recover from the year so far.

I wish you all well for the remaining colder months,

Best wishes, Seb Harris

**PRAYER PROMPTS:**

Please keep Garth & Colleen Roberts in your prayers, Garth is not well. Pray for Sue Wood and for Jan Ahern who has been in hospital, both from Lockyer. Continue to pray for Allan and Judy as well. Pray also for the small group packing the shoeboxes and coming to terms with doing it for the last time! In fact – pray for all the boxes beginning to be packed now, throughout the world, and for the children who will eventually receive them. Continue to pray also for all children and their families, at present trying to survive starvation and war, throughout this very troubled world.

Pray for Corina, in Holland on long service leave, and pray for her elderly father. Give thanks for all our lay preachers and in particular for Rev Wes Hartley who has come to help. If you would like a visit from him, please let any Elder know, and your name will be passed on to him, or make yourself known to him after the Sunday service.

**SHOEBOX SNIPPETS:**

We have started packing – firstly packing together loose items such as pencils, marbles, hygiene items and jewellery, and then from 1<sup>st</sup> August we will start packing everything into the actual boxes. If you still have any items for the boxes, please get them to me in the next week or two so that they don't miss out and get left behind.

As you already know these will be the last boxes our group will be sending off. I have been organising this activity for the last 32 years and most of our helpers, including many who are reading this, have been there for almost all of that time.

When Corina comes back in September, we hope to have our last Dedication Service, as is usual in that month. I have already made arrangements to send any left-over items to Perth when the boxes go so that they can be used for what we call “fillers” when the boxes are checked. Fillers are used if there is any space in the boxes or if specified items are missed by the original packer. If you know of anyone locally who would like them for their boxes, please let me