

JULY PREACHING PLAN

July 6th

8.30 Lockyer HC	Rev W Hartley	2Kings 5: 1 - 14
9.30 Denmark		Psalm 30
10.00 AUC HC	Rev W Hartley	Galatians 6: 1 - 16
11.00 Mt Barker	S Wilson	Luke 10: 1 – 11, 16 - 20

July 13th

8.30 Lockyer	Rev R Vertigan	Amos 7: 7 - 17
9.30 Denmark HC	Rev W Hartley	Psalm 82
10.00 AUC	Rev R Vertigan	Colossians 1: 1 - 14
11.00 Mt Barker HC	Rev W Hartley	Luke 10: 25 - 37

July 20th

8.30 Lockyer	Rev W Hartley	Amos 8: 1 - 12
9.30 Denmark	E Burns	Psalm 52
10.00 AUC	Rev W Hartley	Colossians: 1: 15 - 28
11.00 Mt Barker	A Hortin	Luke 10: 38 - 42

July 27th

8.30 Lockyer	R Anderson	Hosea 1: 2 - 19
9.30 Denmark		Psalm 85
10.00 AUC	R Anderson	Colossians 2: 6 - 19
11.00 Mt Barker	S Wilson	Luke 11: 1 - 13



THE ARC MONTHLY

ALBANY REGION CONGREGATIONS

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



JULY 2025



*Joyful Spirit, holy God,
on grey days which dawn
but slowly and sullenly,
still give us the grace
to sing with the magpie
and laugh with the kookaburra:
through Jesus Christ our Lord.*



Bruce Prewer, Australian Prayer



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

Back in 2001 in the then monthly Synod paper "*Western Impact*" there appeared two advertisements for ministers to make themselves available for a six-month interim ministry: one was from Albany; the other from Busselton. I had

many friends in both places, but chose Busselton which has been my home for nearly a quarter of a century. I became a serious convert to and advocate for regional living and cannot imagine again living in a large city. So, twenty-four years later I am pleased to be in Albany for the next two months as your interim minister while Corina enjoys her long-service leave. I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible, not only in weekly services, but also having the opportunity to visit, as well as sharing in study and fellowship groups.

Although both retired, my wife Beverley and I are very much involved in our local church and community, particularly in the welfare field and planning special events. I also have volunteer engagements with Marine Rescue Busselton (under the Department of Fire and Emergency Services), as well as a volunteer peer driving program, assisting those transitioning from "L" plates to "P" plates - and learning something about 21st Century young people in the process. We are also vintage and veteran car buffs, particularly with our 1928 Model A Ford and 1955 Vauxhall Velox, having completed four major rallies in Australia and New Zealand in the past ten months, which has included five Nullarbor crossings, so long-distance driving is no stranger to us.



DIARY DATES

TUES 8th JULY LOCKYER LADIES FELLOWSHIP, Lockyer UC, 12noon
AUC FELLOWSHIP, Handasydes, 2pm. All welcome.

THUR 10th JULY AUC COUNCIL MEETING, Lesser Hall, 3pm

THUR 17th JULY FELLOWSHIP Morning Tea, 10am, Vancouver Café,
ALL WELCOME. Details from Mary 0427 554 947

SAT 26th JULY THE QUIET SPACE with Adam James Cook,
Wesley Church, 2 – 3pm

DIRECTORY

MINISTER Rev Wes Hartley – Locum Minister (July – August 2025)

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Email: 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

PRAYER COORDINATOR	Heather Bailey	0428 936 824
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Rosters for AUC and Lockyer:**AUC: Recording/**

	<u>DOOR</u>	<u>READING</u>	<u>FLOWERS</u>	<u>Music</u>
<u>6th July</u>	D Hockey	W Dwyer	A Tero	M Vertigan/
<i>Lockyer:</i>	<i>S Wood</i>	<i>Anne Hortin</i>	<i>J Thompson</i>	P Elms
<u>13th July</u>	A Gunther	M Little	M Gunther	W Dwyer/
<i>Lockyer:</i>	<i>J Dunbar</i>	<i>Alan Hortin</i>	<i>M Hannington</i>	S Harris
<u>20th July</u>	D Hosking	W Dwyer	C Ferry	M Vertigan/
<i>Lockyer:</i>	<i>J Thompson</i>	<i>S Wood</i>	<i>J Dunbar</i>	P Elms
<u>27th July</u>	D Coxall	E Verran	A Tero	M Little/
<i>Lockyer:</i>	<i>Alan Hortin</i>	<i>J Dunbar</i>	<i>S Wood</i>	P Elms

Morning Tea, Lockyer only

<u>6th July</u>	<i>J Dunbar</i>	<u>13th July</u>	<i>S Wood</i>
<u>20th July</u>	<i>M Hannington</i>	<u>27th July</u>	<i>Anne Hortin</i>

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.

A Cautionary Tale

There were once four people – Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was asked to do it. Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but in the end Nobody did it. Somebody got very angry over this because it was really Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody would do it, but Nobody realised that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when actually Nobody had asked Anybody.

Anon

On a more local note, Albany will be the host city for the National Model A Ford Meet from 18th-24th October 2026, as part of Albany's 200th Anniversary Celebrations of European settlement. We are very much part of the organisational logistics, with an anticipated 300 participants and 150 vehicles from all over Australia and overseas, so Albany will be part of our lives for some time to come.

As the second half of 2025 unfolds, we are very much into the Season of Pentecost. The key emphasis this year is the Gospel of Luke, with its numerous stories of the outreach of infant communities who were known as *"Followers of The Way"*. The focus in July is Chapter 10, with the Mission of the Seventy; the Parable of the Good Samaritan; the visit of Jesus to Mary and Martha; concluding with Luke's version of the Lord's Prayer in Chapter 11 and the need for perseverance in prayer.

Each of the passages set for our worship are challenging, if not confronting. Many of us are in the twilight of our lives, rather than filled with the bold enthusiasm that may have been part of youthful zest in our earlier years. It would be understandable to think these Gospel challenges are for someone else, perhaps with more energy and enthusiasm than we have, but that would devalue the contribution we all can still make.

If we were in an earlier part of Luke's Gospel, we might recall in Chapter 2 Jesus is brought by Mary and Joseph to be presented in the Temple. It was there the faithful Simeon experienced a revelation that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. There is also present the prophet Anna, widowed at an early age, yet now at 84 never leaving the Temple, worshipping, fasting, praying day and night.

In short, those of age and deep religious conviction were very important in the scheme of things, for it was their wisdom that enabled them to recognise Jesus for who he would become. The story is not just a "one off", for we are all capable of being a Simeon

or an Anna, identifying those who have the presence of God in their young lives. Never for a moment should we think the task before us is too large or incomprehensible. God is not done with us yet!

Rev Wes Hartley - Locum Minister

BITS FROM BARKER:

We are looking forward to welcoming Rev Wes Hartley on the 13th July. He will conduct our monthly Communion Service until Corina returns in September. Meanwhile, on 1st June it was nice to have Ross and Shirley come to Mt Barker to conduct our Service. Some of us had lunch together after the Service which was most enjoyable. Due to our small numbers and a lack of venues we haven't been going out to lunch together as we used to and it was good to share in the fellowship. Alan Hortin conducted our Service yesterday 22/6. Anne came with him which helped boost our numbers as some of our members were away. Doug was at Presbytery and Pauline had been busy with other work. She will be absent for a few weeks from the end of this month as she is travelling to Singapore for a break and we hope she enjoys it all, at least she should be warmer than those of us who remain in Mt Barker.

Anne Mackie suffered a mishap a few weeks ago when her car door blew shut, hitting her leg and cutting it. The wound is healing but has taken its time, requiring regular treatment.

Milly has moved from Overton to Langton in the Aged Care Facility and is finding it hard to get used to the change at the moment. She was at our monthly church service last Wednesday and it was good to see her.

Nita continues to be our musical mainstay both at church and at the monthly hospital service. The music is on screen at the hospital so Nita is able to keep us on track with her very good singing voice.

Blessings, Sue Wilson

EDITORIAL COMMENT:

I am pleased to welcome Rev Wes Hartly as a contributor to this magazine with his message and to thank him for his willingness to take time out from his commitments to the Busselton church and community and spend the next two months in Albany, not only conducting services in the four regional churches but also making himself available to their members and activities. It is also a pleasure to welcome Leon and Kaye Watt back to Albany and to Wesley Church now they have returned from their years in Perth.

Putting this edition of the magazine together has made me appreciate more than ever the help I receive from others, all busy people in their right, but prepared to send me articles, some long, some short but every piece fills a gap that I don't have to do, then Denise stops whatever she is doing and proof reads for me to make sure everything reads as it should. Deciding what to include can sometimes cause problems because I want the magazine to relate to the whole region, not just to the inner city of Albany and I've often felt Denmark was left out. Whilst their Project for the Homeless has the Web address included in the Bulletin each week, that is not accessible to everyone. Without Corina to keep current with the situation I have made some phone calls, the project is supplying food parcels each week to people in need and hopefully I'll have more to report on next month from Denmark.

Sometimes tying the threads of the articles together is quite a challenge but what stood out this month to me was the yearning for peace and the challenge of keeping up with change as we get older. We are proud of our two senior citizens in the Wesley congregation, Barbara Lister at 105 and Doreen Keding at 97, they enjoy their memories but don't worry about tomorrow, they just get on with dealing with today. There is so much everyone can achieve with prayer, a smile, a friendly word, all of which contribute to inner peace and don't require physical strength, so don't let advancing age stop you from contributing to the wellbeing of the community, Clare

Opportunities change over time, make the most of them!

It is interesting at a funeral service to learn of the early life of someone you have only known in recent times and how they overcame hardships and set others a wonderful example of how to live life to the fullest with loving kindness and a positive attitude. It then occurred to me that we shouldn't wait until a person died before we celebrated their achievements, why not celebrate with



them whilst they are still with us. This is a certificate that turned up amongst papers and cards as Doreen Keding sorted through her bits and pieces now that she has transferred to full care at Craig Care. She has received many certificates, awards and an Order of Australia medal during her 97

years but this was perhaps her first. It stated that having completed the Primary School Course she was now qualified to enter a course of higher education. However she grew up on a farm in S.A. too far away to embark on such a course, besides which, at 14 she was a capable and highly valued worker on the farm so her schooldays came to an end, but learning from her elders, mother, father, aunts and uncles, she made good use of every opportunity that came her way. In earlier times, the eldest child often had to leave school and find a job to provide some income for the family, whereas by the time I had finished primary school, I took the progression to further education very much for granted, with my parents encouraging me at every turn. As I thought about all the activities Doreen has been involved with, it became clear that they were generally linked to the giving of her time and talents in a caring and generous way, living out the way she learned from a young age, the ethics of Christianity. She is still very much involved in monthly church services at Craig Care, for as Rev Wes Hartley says "God is not done with us yet" She is a treasured friend, congratulations on a life well lived, Clare Ferry

WESLEY MUSIC NEWS:

You may be reading this just before or just after the June Quiet Space with me. (pictured left)

26th July sees Adam James Cook returning to us, followed by Julie Parish and Patrick Elms on 30th August. I will unfortunately be away for both so please have that blissful moment of calm and stillness for me. If there's one thing the world seems to need now is peace – not just within people, but where I feel it begins, inside ourselves.

Best wishes, Seb Harris



Adam James Cook
26th July



Julie Parish 30th August

Edith is the one who usually submits the material for this page but she has recently undergone eye surgery. The surgery went well but resting is part of her recovery so we have communicated by phone and I am doing my best to convert the conversation into print. Clare

PRAYER PROMPTS:

Pray for this troubled world we are in. It is hard to comprehend the amount of damage done, the suffering of so many innocent people and just how many lives have been lost in the past few years. On the home front, please keep Edith in your prayers as she recovers from her recent operation and looks forward to resuming her usual activities. Continue to pray for Judy and Allan, also Garth and Colleen. Pray for those known to us who reside in nursing homes, or those who are unwell and cannot come to church. Keep both lay and ordained leadership in your prayers and give thanks for their work throughout the four congregations of the Albany Region.

SHOEBOX SNIPPETS:

As soon as Edith is given the all clear she intends to get on with the packing of the shoeboxes and plans to have them ready for the final shoebox dedication service once Corina returns. That service is important to Edith as it gives her the opportunity to personally thank all the people who have supported her with this project, making or donating goods for the boxes, donating money to purchase some of the items needed or to cover the transport costs involved in getting the boxes to the children. There are a number of people who have got up extremely early to help with the monthly bargain bonanzas to raise funds and Edith has also appreciated the items donated to sell at those stalls or at the monthly Craft Markets and the help with the packing and unpacking involved. She has been the organiser of the shoebox project in Albany since 2003 and the service this year, her last one, will be extra special for her so I will leave the comma out of her usual sign-off and just finish with God bless Edith. Clare Ferry

LOCKYER NEWS:

Hasn't it come in cold lately? However, it is winter after all, Spring and Summer are coming and it's now only 6 months to Christmas!

Obviously, we are all concerned about the situation in the Far East and how the various adversaries are reacting. It reminds me of the statement by Martin Luther King Jr where he said "hate cannot drive out darkness, only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate, only love can do that". So, it would seem that hate rules in these countries, on both sides, and that will be difficult to change.



Other places of concern are Ukraine, Sudan, Myanmar, Syria, Yemen, Haiti, Ethiopia and India/Pakistan, plus other similar places. The World certainly is in an insecure state at present! But is it really any different now to what it has been over the centuries? We pray for peace. This starts at home, in our community/city and in our own country. It is up to each of us to be a messenger of this peace.

Our congregation is noticing the downturn in numbers, as is happening in so many other churches. Old age is a bit of a disability at times! When I was doing a TAFE Course for disabled care, it was asked of the participants if anyone was suffering from a disability. I suggested old age was a disability which caused a bit of laughter – and that was some years ago!



Peace to all
Alan Hortin