



## Regional Directory

**Locum Minister:** Rev. Wes Hartley 0412 425 058

<b>Secretaries:</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Phone</b>
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

<b>Pastoral Carers:</b>		
Lockyer	Joan Wright	0429 413 759
Denmark	Everyone	
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

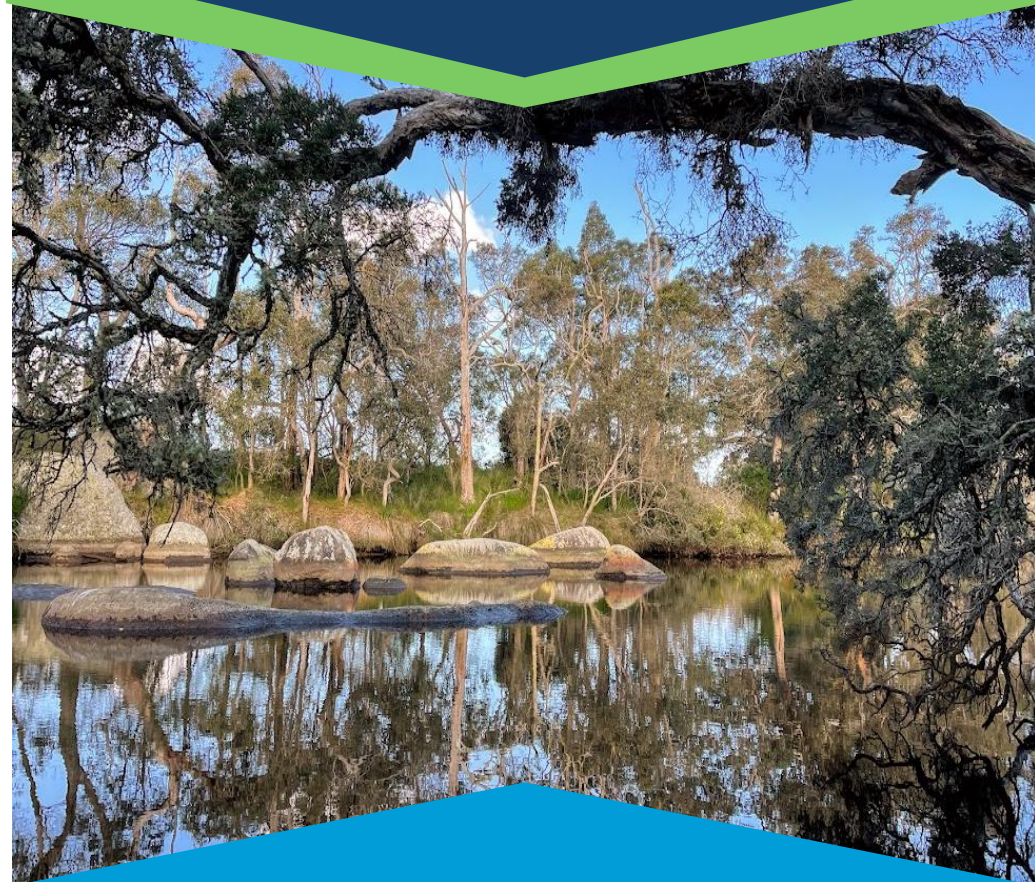
**Phone:** 0472 732 441

**Email:** [arc@ucwa.au](mailto: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 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month; Denmark Uniting Church & Lockyer have morning tea after their Service.

**27 July 2025.**



This week our Lectionary reading takes us into Luke Chapter 11, Verses 1-13, which begins with Luke's version of the Lord's Prayer, then flows by way of example, into the story of the neighbour who knocks on the door at midnight, seeking food for a guest who has just arrived after a long journey. In essence it is a parable about insistence.



For me, today's Gospel is also about that which takes place each week in worship. The first verse tells us that after Jesus had finished praying, one of his disciples said to him: *"Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples"*. Jesus responds *"When you pray, say..."* What unfolds is a litany of requests to God, just as we pray in our prayers for others.

With Jesus, prayer was never an abstraction, nor was prayer isolated from the world in which he lived. It was integral to his life, even unto death. As we journey through the Gospel of Luke, we read that Jesus *"would withdraw to deserted places to pray"* (Luke 5:16). At other times *"he went out to the mountain to pray and he spent the night in prayer with God"* (Luke 6:12; 9:18). Jesus prayed before he chose his disciples (Luke 6:13-16) and when he fed the 5000 (Luke 9:16); he prayed the night before he died (Luke 22:39-44); and even from the cross itself (Luke 23: 34, 46).

For Jesus, prayer was non-apologetic; it was persistent; it was shameless. In a world where hospitality was highly prized, the continuous and shameless knocking on the door at midnight, was in contrast to the great shame brought on the community by the householder who preferred to stay in bed, pretending to be deaf to answering hospitality's urgent need.

To my mind, today's Gospel places the onus of response to need in our community firmly on the life of this - indeed *any* Christian community. In effect we are in the role of first responders, called out at a moment's notice, when others are overwhelmed by tragedy, accident or medical emergency. Can we imagine what would happen if the first responders we all depend on suddenly decided it was too late; that they were too tired; that they simply could not be bothered?

That is the urgency of today's Gospel, where one of the disciples said to Jesus: *"Lord, teach us to pray..."* Nothing has changed in the intervening 2000 years. The question was asked. The answer was given. All we have to decide is if we are going to hear the persistent knocking, get up from our bed and open the door. For if we do, the possibilities are then quite endless.

Blessings, Rev. Wes Hartley - Locum Minister



## Reluctant Obedience

Obedience as an important element in religious experience is an uncomfortable idea for us. We find service and worship easier. Service is what we do for the other and worship is the adoration we give to the God of Creation.

Obedience on the other hand is responding to what is asked of us. It involves hearing the voice of the Other against ourselves. It involves the call to do that which we are not doing. It asks us to be open to change, to adopt new priorities and sometimes to radically re-orientate our whole life's direction.

The art of relinquishment does not come easily for us, even when we are long convinced that the time has come to let go or to move on. We frequently languish in the familiar places, even when we have heard the distant voice.

Obedience is never simply a matter of saying 'yes'. That is not its most difficult element. Obedience is also saying 'no' to the familiar. While saying 'yes' to the unknown but possibly exciting future has the lure of adventure, saying 'no' to what is presently ours, even when we no longer fully appreciate what we have, is the most difficult feature of the art of obedience.

Taken from 'Dare to Journey' by Charles Ringma with Henri Nouwen

Submitted by S. Wilson



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### July 27

8.30am	<b>LOCKYER</b>	R. Anderson
9.30am	<b>DENMARK</b>	Rev. E. Sanderson
10am	<b>DUKE ST</b>	R. Anderson
11am	<b>MT BARKER</b>	S. Wilson

### August 3

8.30am	<b>LOCKYER HC</b>	Rev. Wes Hartley
9.30am	<b>DENMARK</b>	T. Ayres
10am	<b>DUKE ST HC</b>	Rev. Wes Hartley
11am	<b>MT BARKER</b>	E. Burns

## 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.

### July 26 Quiet Space, Wesley Church, 2-3 pm

#### August

August 8	Scot's Craft Markets. 9-3pm, CWA Hall
August 12	Lockyer Ladies Fellowship, Lockyer, 12pm
August 12	AUC Ladies Fellowship, Handasyde's, 2pm
August 21	AUC Fellowship, Vancouver Café 10 am



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## Special Notes from our Locum Minister

I wish to thank you all for the past month in which I have been able to share in your lives, not only in worship, but also in various meetings, as well as in the personal occasions of pastoral visitation.

I have discovered many things about earlier careers and professional engagements. I have shared with some about their loss in life; others facing difficult medical prognoses; as well as hearing the inspiration of those whose sense of the presence of God's spirit in their lives is as strong as ever.

During August our emphasis will be on discovering the things that unite us, as we deepen our understanding that being part of the Albany Regional Council (ARC) is much more than just the sum total of four individual congregations, but offers the opportunity to be part of a new and more distinctive whole.

Our Combined Service Hymn Fest and Celebration at 10.00am on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> August at Wesley Albany, followed by the Fellowship Lunch, will be an important way of celebrating that which we have in common.

I wish to thank those who already have indicated their favourite hymn or added their chosen culinary contribution for the Fellowship Lunch on the sheets placed at entrance tables in our worship centres.

A pleasing note is that the Church Board of the York Street Baptist Congregation, who share Albert Hall on Sunday mornings, have in response to my request unanimously resolved to combine with us for the Hymn Fest on 31<sup>st</sup> August, making available Albert Hall for our Fellowship Luncheon.

On a pastoral note, please continue to be encouraged to contact me directly or through a member of the pastoral team if you wish to receive a pastoral visit, or to discuss aspects of the church's life.

M: 0412 425 058 or by Email: [whh@westnet.com.au](mailto:whh@westnet.com.au)

Rev Wes Hartley - Locum Minister



## 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, so 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, Lockyer and Mount Barker** 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.

## Prayers of the week

**AUC:** Sylvia & Derek Ryall, Jennifer & Max Shearer and their families.

**Lockyer:** Joy Dunbar, Megg Hannington and their families.

**Mt Barker:** Carolyn & Doug Lincoln, Anne Mackie and their families.

**Denmark:** Trish, Miriam & Aidan Thornber, Carlien Trotter and their families.

**Synod:** Northam and York Uniting Churches Council of Churches WA and YouthCARE.

**Photo:** Upper King River- R Marsh. If you have a photo, you would like to feature and it is appropriate for the front page, please send it in. Email: [unitingchurchalbany@gmail.com](mailto:unitingchurchalbany@gmail.com) Hard copy photos will also be accepted.

**The ARC AGM:** will be held this Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> July at Wesley Church, following Worship today. If you would like to receive an electronic copy of the AGM minutes. Please contact the office.

