

## OCTOBER PREACHING PLAN

### Oct 5<sup>th</sup>

8.30 Lockyer HC	Rev Corina	Lamentations 1:1 - 6
9.30 Denmark	P Cocks	Lam 3: 19 - 26 or Psalm 137
10.00 AUC HC	Rev Corina	2 Timothy 1: 1 - 14
11.00 Mt Barker	S Wilson	Luke 17: 5 – 10

### Oct 12<sup>th</sup>

8.30 Lockyer	R Anderson	Jeremiah 29: 1, 4 - 7
9.00 Denmark HC	Rev Corina	Psalm 66: 1 - 12
10.00 AUC	R Anderson	2 Timothy 1: 8 - 15
11.00 Mt Barker HC	Rev Corina	Luke 17: 11 - 19

### Oct 19<sup>th</sup>

8.30 Lockyer	Rev Corina	Jeremiah 31: 27 - 34
9.30 Denmark	E Burns	Psalm 119: 97, 104,
10.00 AUC	Rev Corina	2 Timothy 4: 6 - 8, 16 - 18
11.00 Mt Barker	S Wilson	Luke 18: 1 - 48

### Oct 26<sup>th</sup>

8.30 Lockyer	Rev Corina	Joel 12: 23 - 32
9.30 Denmark	J Wilson	Psalm 65
10.00 AUC	Rev Corina	Ephesians 1: 11 - 23
11.00 Mt Barker	A Hortin	Luke 18: 9 - 14



# *THE ARC MONTHLY*

## *ALBANY REGION CONGREGATIONS*

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



*OCTOBER 2025*

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*Journey into this day knowing that  
whatever should happen,  
we can never be separated  
from the love of God,  
and that when we are low  
He raises us,  
when we are on the mountain top  
He rejoices with us*

John Birch.  
Daily prayer from  
Faith and Worship

**Message from the Manse:** Memory lane... Egmond (meaning 'fearsome protection') is a small town in the Northwest of Holland. It has a rich history dating back to at least Medieval days, when its Lords became influential in the Lowlands and beyond. Fishery, agriculture, and bulbs, made Egmond a flourishing place. Over time the town – of course – changed, and it lost its importance. The town,



in the sixties, looked somewhat like this painting

As a primary school child, I spent the month of July in Egmond with my family. We would live in one of the tiny fishermen's houses, while the owners would stay in a granny-flat or with relatives elsewhere. This was common practice in the region, where people would gladly house guests to supplement their income. July is summer, of course, and we were on the beach most of the time – if it didn't rain. I have many very fond memories of those holidays. Going to the bakery to get freshly baked bread (still hot) and eat a lot of it on the way home; going to the sweets shop and spend the weekly pocket money (0.25 cents) after long deliberation about what to buy; catching prawns, cooking and peeling them; finding

## DIARY DATES

- TUES 9<sup>th</sup> OCT**      LOCKYER LADIES FELLOWSHIP, Lockyer UC, 12 noon  
AUC FELLOWSHIP, Handasydes, 2pm. All welcome
- FRI 10<sup>th</sup> OCT**      SCOTS MARKET, CWA hall, Serpentine Rd, 9am -3pm  
Come along, say hello to the stall holders and enjoy  
a delicious morning tea or lunch
- THURS 16<sup>th</sup> OCT**      FELLOWSHIP MORNING TEA, 10am, Vancouver  
Café. All welcome, details from Mary 0427 554 947
- WED 22<sup>nd</sup> OCT**      AUC ELDERS MEETING, Lesser Hall, 3pm.
- SAT 26<sup>th</sup> OCT**      THE QUIET SPACE, Wesley Church, 2 – 3pm,  
Musician: Ross Dwyer on guitar.

## DIRECTORY

- MINISTER**                      Rev Corina van Oostende                      0417 169 544  
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- PASTORAL CARERS**      Denmark      Margaret Cocks      0428 608 620  
                                 Lockyer      Joan Wright      0429 413 759  
                                 Mt Barker      Sue Wilson      0437 184 692  
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- PRAYER COORDINATOR**                      Heather Bailey      0428 936 824
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parks included praying and this led me realise that prayer, however short or simple always helps in moments of uncertainty and can be take place anywhere and in any way we choose.

Enough for now, best wishes, Seb

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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>5<sup>th</sup> Oct</u></b>	D Hockey	M Little	A Tero	M Vertigan/ P Elms
<i>Lockyer:</i>	<i>Alan Hortin</i>	<i>Alan Hortin</i>	<i>J Thompson</i>	
<b><u>12<sup>th</sup> Oct</u></b>	A Gunther	W Dwyer	M Gunther	M Little/ S Harris
<i>Lockyer:</i>	<i>J Dunbar</i>	<i>Anne Hortin</i>	<i>M Hannington</i>	
<b><u>19<sup>th</sup> Oct</u></b>	D Hosking	A Lucas	C Ferry	M Vertigan/ P Elms
<i>Lockyer:</i>	<i>Alan Hortin</i>	<i>M Hannington</i>	<i>J Dunbar</i>	
<b><u>26<sup>th</sup> Oct</u></b>	D Coxall	E Verran	A Tero	W Dwyer/ P Elms
<i>Lockyer:</i>	<i>J Thompson</i>	<i>J Dunbar</i>	<i>M Hannington</i>	

### **Morning Tea, Lockyer only**

<b><u>5<sup>th</sup> Oct</u></b>	<i>J Dunbar</i>	<b><u>12<sup>th</sup> Oct</u></b>	<i>Anne Hortin</i>
<b><u>19<sup>th</sup> October</u></b>	<i>M Hannington</i>	<b><u>26<sup>th</sup> Oct</u></b>	<i>J Dunbar</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.

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Vale Ruth Coxall who was a tireless worker and always willing to help wherever she could. She will long be remembered not only by her family but also by many of her church friends. Our sympathy to Doug, family and friends.

Clare Ferry

starfish; getting sunburnt; making new friends; reading and reading and reading.

When visiting another city this year, my friend Lottie and I came across an exhibition of works made by various artists over a period of centuries. Egmond has been home to artists, from across the world, who painted in the styles common to their day. Remarkably, the school the men founded in Egmond, encouraged many women to become fine artists. They painted everyday scenes, like these



There were paintings of children in a school class,



as well as of grown-ups in church.

As you can see, there wasn't a big congregation in Egmond, a hundred years ago. Also, even young people could fall asleep during the sermon.

As I have stated already, it was good to be in my country of origin. Now it is good to be back home again. Blessings, Corina

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### **BITS FROM BARKER:**

We were unable to worship in our church for the first two weeks of September as a storm that had ravaged Mt Barker, flattened the wooden church power pole and ripped the meter box and wiring out, which meant we were unable to use the building. Doug did a great job obtaining an electrician and we now have a steel pole but for two weeks we were a church without power as we had to wait until Western Power had time to reconnect us.

We finally got to worship in the church last Sunday when Alan and Anne Hortin came up and Alan led the service. Afterwards we took the opportunity to all go out to lunch. We were disappointed not to have been able to celebrate communion the previous week and welcome Corina back, we are now looking forward to doing that in October.

Regards to all, Sue Wilson

the likes of which I had never seen before. I was reminded of my friend in Perth when he had to sleep rough but was able to turn to Tranby services for support during the daytime, unlike in Osaka City. Soon after that I met up with my mother for a long-awaited reunion with old friends in the southern city of Kochi. They graciously allowed us into their everyday lives – seven people in a 3-bedroom apartment, yet Mum and I still got our own rooms. We were there to commemorate my sister's arrival there 30 years ago, from which these friendships stem. Other friends we saw there took us to a special "loom cottage" and we all learned to make our own style of traditional silk-weaving (including the kids). At times it did feel quite spiritual, as we reflected on why we keep it all going. I said "we say, after three days guests become pests" - to which my friend replied simply "but you're not guests, you are family". This seems similar to the spirit of hospitality which my mother often demonstrated. After this I took Mum to introduce her to some other friends who happen to be Christians of strong faith, who rescued me when Covid broke out, and counselled me on serious conundrums I faced. Mum and I did take eight different trains that day to get there but I feel it was worth it, as was taking her to see where I lived. The village has further declined, no longer having the one taxi it used to. We were truly isolated, but once again, kind friends came to the rescue and took us to where we needed to go. The karaoke bar owner was virtually weeping as she said goodbye. It seems I'm the only foreigner in living memory to have come back to visit after they finish teaching there. In closing, I'd like to draw your attention to the influence the rituals involved, when visiting the many shrines and temples had on me. Visits to important places such as the Hiroshima Memorial monuments and





**Denmark News:** It was good to have Corina back, bubbling with joy and energy. Our little 4- voice group welcomed her with "Lift up your heads ye gates". There will be more music this coming Friday when the Darlington String Quartet perform Mozart's String Quartet in Eb major.

The Homeless Project received a grant from Denmark Community Foundation for a sea container, which is now being used to store all items for the approaching market stalls, held at the High School over summer. This makes storing items in the shed much easier as it clears the space to receive donated goods on a Wednesday.

Best wishes, Margaret Cocks

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**Wesley Music News:** I'm back from Japan and feeling better for the break. The Quiet Space in October will be Ross Dwyer on guitar, followed by David Rastrick on horns in November. A reminder that there is no Quiet Space in December but we will try out a new artist in January – details to come. Thanks to Elizabeth and Kathy for hosting The Quiet Space in my absence, I was glad to hear it went off smoothly as I expected. I also heard the numbers were well up, I do hope newcomers got something from it and will come again. It has been suggested I reflect on my trip in this column. I'm not sure where to start, but I'll try. The initial time, to be spent mostly alone, was not quite as I expected- I wasn't able to stay there during the daytime, however the natural baths and deep forest setting did have the calming effect they are famous for, and a week in the country certainly gave me a welcome measure of inner peace. I think it's a lesson in not expecting one short stay to alleviate all one's problems. Focusing my mind on certain things also helped, and this was easily done in Fukushima. Infamous for the nuclear disaster after the Great East Japan Earthquake and following tsunami, the communities I visited seemed vibrant and resilient but the stories still poured from those I spoke to. When I then went to stay in an area on the outskirts of Osaka, I was confronted with a homelessness problem,

**LOCKYER NEWS:**

As with many of our congregations, we are experiencing the sadness of losing members, both due to age and as people relocate.

Recently, we were deeply saddened by the passing of Sue Wood, whose contributions to our Congregation and involvement in the wider community are greatly missed. Around the same time, we also learned of the death of Murray Farrell. Murray, who was a member of our Congregation for several years, was known for his generosity, his assistance, and his steadfast faith. His funeral was held in Karrakatta.

We recently held our regular Church Council Meeting. We were grateful to have Joan Wright chair the proceedings; Joan was looking well, and her presence was greatly appreciated by all in attendance. During the meeting, we gave significant consideration to the challenge of our declining numbers and discussed ways to ensure we can continue worshipping together in the future. For the time being, we will maintain our current arrangements until the end of the year. During the lead up to this, further guidance will be sought from the congregation on how best to proceed. It is important to note that our 8.30 am Sunday start time remains a challenge for some members.

A member of the Mt Barker Congregation shared an observation that, while many Uniting Church of Australia congregations are experiencing declining numbers, some Pentecostal Churches are seeing growth. Although their worship style may differ from ours, it is encouraging to see people of all ages dedicated to faith in our Lord and Saviour.

We have received the Asbestos Management Plan Report following the inspection conducted on 1 July 2025. There are no significant concerns at this time, unless specific areas are replaced, repaired or damaged due to storms. In such instances, it would be necessary for any replacement work to be carried out by a qualified professional or business.

Cheers, Alan Hortin

## **PRAYER PROMPTS:**

Give thanks for Corina's safe return, it is good to have her back. Please keep those who haven't been too well in your prayers, thinking in particular of Allan and Judy, and also Garth and Colleen. Pray for those who mourn. Please remember all those suffering in countries experiencing war, conflict and famine, particularly the people of Ukraine, Gaza and the Israeli families still awaiting the return of family members taken hostage so long ago now. Please continue to pray for all the shoebox recipients this year.

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## **SHOEBOX SNIPPETS:**



This magazine is due to be handed out on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September, the day of our last Shoebox Dedication Service and when that is over, our boxes will begin their long journey to the children far away, possibly Cambodia.

We have been able to add our left-over money (\$300) to our freight costs of \$1875 so we have done very well and the extra money will help pay for more boxes.

Our CWA stalls are picking up now, which makes them worth doing. My thanks to those who have donated some lovely items which we have sold. My biscuit sales have also picked up – funds from these also go to the shoeboxes.

God bless, Edith



**OPERATION  
CHRISTMAS  
CHILD**



As promised, here is the article from Samaritan's Purse September Newsletter on schooling in Cambodia:

### PLAY PROVIDES THE FOUNDATION FOR LEARNING

C.S. Lewis, speaking of the eternal nature of the human spirit, wrote "But it is immortals whom we joke with, work with, marry, snub, and exploit...This does not mean that we are to be perpetually solemn. We must play."

Typically, schools in the rural Cambodian province of Pailin are as you would imagine them. Poorly built sheds with limited access to fresh air, electricity and water, crudely basic bathrooms, and learning materials from decades past. Year 6 teacher Mr Prak, casts his mind back to how Pa Hy Primary School used to be, "It was an environment that was far off the mark for creative learning and engaged children. However, the school that 12-year-old Kimsan now attends has completely transformed. Each morning starts with play at a fully equipped playground filled with monkey bars, slides and swings with space to spare for soccer, volleyball and badminton. When he grows up, Kimsan aspires to become a policeman. Today, he is surrounded by caring teachers like Mr Prak who have been equipped with updated resources and learning materials to provide the best possible learning experience for Kimsan and his classmates. Together Mr Prak and Kimsan are recipients of kindness from people they will never have the chance to meet in this life on earth, but together they will both go on to bless their community of Pa Hy. Thank you for your support for better education in Cambodia as we continue to work in Jesus' Name to shape the lives of students, teachers and their families. There is still much work to do.

**Some statistics:** In 2023 UUNICEF Cambodia reported 250,000+ Cambodian children remain out of school, especially in rural areas. In 2022 World Bank reported only 27% of children complete upper secondary school.

In 2023 the International Labour Organisation reported 1,200,000+ Vietnamese youth are not working, or are in educational programs.