

**Don't forget to light a candle at 9.30 am every Sunday morning**

## Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Greetings and welcome to this week's newsletter.

### A Note from Linda

*How are you going this week?* Another week has gone by. Perhaps you are starting to settle in to this new, yet temporary, way of being? Perhaps you are finding new rhythms and new opportunities? Or perhaps you are finding it really hard and missing loved ones? Perhaps, like me, it is all of the above and you are having ups and downs throughout your days? All of this is normal for the situation we are in. Please do reach out when you are having those down days and please do continue to check in on how others are going too. The new way of accessing contact details through the Members Contact Directory should help with this. Hopefully you have received the email from Carol, our Office Coordinator and have been able to access the directory.

Let's continue to work together on remaining connected even while we are apart.

*Blessings and peace,*

Linda

### Worship Services at Home

Worship services as a gathered community continue to be suspended until we are advised by government and the Uniting Church Synod that it is time to gather again. In the meantime we hope you have been making use of the Worship resources, collated by Linda, that have been sent out each week.

On Easter Sunday some of us opted to join in for an online service using Zoom. We estimate 42 people joined in. We had a very positive experience from many who participated so we will offer it again this coming Sunday.

Resources will again be sent out with options to connect via Zoom or to worship in your own time and at your own pace using a self-guided resource.

If you would like to join in and have not used Zoom before, we recommend that you get yourself set up before Sunday. Here are a few things you can do to prepare:

- You will either need a laptop, a tablet, a smartphone or a computer with a microphone, speakers and a webcam. If you are using a smartphone or tablet, download the Zoom app.
- If you haven't used Zoom before, you might like to have a practice run. Contact a family member or a friend in our church community and try it out! It is free to have a group chat for up to 40 minutes. It is a great way to connect with your family and friends.

We have attached a guide that you might find helpful too.

Paul Driver has offered to provide support and practice if you need it. Give him a call on 0428 161 918.

The Worship resource (Zoom version) will include a link to click on to join the service. Be ready to go from 9.15am on Sunday so we can welcome everyone and be ready to start with our candle lighting soon after 9.30am.

### Kindness calling cards

Do you need more kindness calling cards to pop in a neighbour's letterbox? You can now download your own and print from our website: <https://athelstonechurch.org.au/members-2/forms/>

## **An Easter blessing from Torrens Valley Christian School**

Linda received this note from Julie Prattis, Principal:

On behalf of the Torrens Valley Christian School community, I would like to remind you that we are praying for you – for you personally, for your pastoral team and for your church. Thank you for the vital work you are doing in preaching the Word, caring for your congregation and laying strong foundations that will leave a lasting legacy for the advancement of God’s Kingdom, particularly in this challenging season. As we celebrate this Easter season, some of the students from Torrens Valley Christian School would like to pass on a greeting to you and your family, a precious reminder of the centrality of the Gospel and the important work you do in your congregation.

Watch this Easter blessing from Margaret Garland, school chaplain and students:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xilv3t8JdWo&feature=youtu.be>

May He continue to pour out His blessing on your church as you work to His glory. Thanks again for the partnership we share in the Gospel.

Yours in Christ’s service

Julie Prattis

## **ANZAC Day Driveway Service on 25th April**

With Anzac Day approaching, here is a way to have your own commemoration.

*"With Anzac Day's once indestructible traditions cruelled by forced isolation, Australians will instead walk to the ends of their driveways on April 25 and light up the dawn."*

RSL branches in every state have unanimously endorsed the gesture, with families across the nation expected to stand at their gates, on balconies or verandahs at 6am and hold a candle to fallen heroes.

Since regular public marches and services are cancelled due to the COVID-19 crisis, radio networks are signing on to livestream services people can tune in to outside on phones and tablets.

Musicians everywhere are being called on to take to their front yards to play the Last Post and Rouse or Reveille for neighbours. Residents are being urged to dress windows and mailboxes with poppies and kids to make bright red “wreaths” from painted egg cartons to hang on doors.

Joe Vaiana and his partner, Yvonne Menz, plan to do this at 6am on Anzac Day. Perhaps you might like to do something similar in your front yard?

Here is an excellent resource for those looking for words and

ideas: [https://assembly.uca.org.au/images/Ministries/Defence\\_Force\\_Chaplaincy/ANZAC\\_Day\\_Resources.pdf](https://assembly.uca.org.au/images/Ministries/Defence_Force_Chaplaincy/ANZAC_Day_Resources.pdf)

## **Stay and Play @ Home**

With the extended school holiday break and Easter, Stay and Play @ Home families have been provided with extra mail outs of activities, as well as a new enrolment form specifically designed for Stay and Play @ Home. If you would like to add to the “heart project” in the wirra, by knitting or stuffing more hearts to add to the farm gate and the rope between the shadows, please contact Joy.

Bruce and Joy Stewart. Phone: 8336 2671 or Email: [bruceandjoy@bigpond.com](mailto:bruceandjoy@bigpond.com)



### STAY AND PLAY @ HOME

Email resources will be sent out to enrolled families on the dates below.

#### DATES for 2020

Term 2  
5<sup>th</sup> May  
19<sup>th</sup> May  
2<sup>nd</sup> June  
16<sup>th</sup> June  
30<sup>th</sup> June

## Sign

Church Council decided to put up a sign at the front of our property which communicates how we are responding to COVID-19. This temporary sign is now in place. We have used this opportunity to try out some words and images that we are developing which have come out of our Planning Day held in February. Please let us know what you think of the look, the words and the message it conveys.

Send your feedback to Council Secretary Ann Brown:

Email: [brownanndon@gmail.com](mailto:brownanndon@gmail.com)



## New Times – April/May 2020

The New Times April/May 2020 edition is out now. As you won't be able to collect a hard copy from the church, we encourage you to read the online version here: <https://sa.uca.org.au/new-times/new-times-print-edition/>. You can download a pdf version to read if you prefer. If you are not able to do so, and would like a print copy delivered to you, please let Carol know by email ([office@athelstonechurch.org.au](mailto:office@athelstonechurch.org.au)) or send a text to Linda (0458 500 656).

## Lenten Appeal 2020

Each year the Uniting Church of Australia, through Uniting World, carefully selects a significant project of outreach and Christian mission. The 2020 project in partnership with the Protestant Church of Maluka in Indonesia seeks to bring Muslims and Christians together to build peace and beat poverty. We encourage you to give online. Further information [www.lentevent.com](http://www.lentevent.com)

## A note from the Treasurer

During these uncertain times we are now in it is prudent for me to revisit our 2020 budget and look at what impact a potential reduction in income may have. We are fortunate to have a significant proportion (79%) of our income via electronic giving with 13% via envelopes and loose plate. The remaining 8% is via fundraising and property rental income. The majority of our expenses are fixed being salaries, insurance, Synod mission fund, property rates and maintenance. Whilst we will have some savings i.e. electricity and cleaning costs, these are basically offset by the reduced property income from the Calisthenics and Pilates groups. Online communication and additional electronic resources now being utilised are somewhat offset by savings in other areas. We are currently investigating technology (Zoom conferencing) to enable face to face meetings/contact over the internet which will have a cost. Having perused our budget I am confident that if we can maintain close to our original income position we will not see a significant negative impact financially. I invite anyone looking to transfer to electronic giving to contact me personally if they have any issues.

## How to give electronically

Regular electronic giving or one off donations can be made using the following details:

Account name: Athelstone Uniting Church Account BSB: 704 095 Account number: 110043

Application forms for setting up regular e-giving through UC e-give are available at <https://ucinvest.com.au/forms-and-information#page=page-1>.

Contact Glen Luestner for more information. Phone: 0401-052-842 or E-mail: [glenluestner@gmail.com](mailto:glenluestner@gmail.com)

## Pastoral care

The Pastoral Care Oversight Team are working on ways for us to care for one another during this time. Whilst this provides structured ways of caring for people, we encourage you to still continue to reach out and love and care for one another, as so many of you do so well, within our church community, and also those around us. Please do let us know if you are need of support. Contact a member of our Pastoral Care Oversight Team for assistance:

Rev Linda Driver 0458 500 656

Bob Stevenson 0400 641 242

Brenton Summers 0400 632 829

Ann Brown 0413 581 554

Lee O'Connell 0438 865 508

## Prayer Requests

Can we support you in prayer? Here's how:

**Prayer Chain** - send an email to, or call Brenton Summers, who will pass your prayer request on to a group of people who faithfully pray in response to Prayer Chain emails.

**Confidential Prayers** - if the issue is more personal you are invited to contact Linda for individual prayer or one the members of the Pastoral Care Oversight team (Brenton Summers, Ann Brown, Bob Stevenson and Linda). All prayer requests going to the team will be kept strictly confidential within this team.

**Prayers for Others (Sunday Worship)** – While our community is scattered, Linda will include these in a weekly Worship and Prayer resource. If you have something you would like to be included, please contact Linda. “We are all called to pray for one another, and so we are all encouraged to offer to pray for, or with others, especially if they share a concern with you.” (James 5:13-16)

**Wider Church news** - <https://sa.uca.org.au>

You can also subscribe to receive UC E-News personally.

## Website

We encourage you to visit our website: [www.athelstonechurch.org.au](http://www.athelstonechurch.org.au)

## Lectionary readings

You will find these in your copy of the Uniting Church Calendar.

## Newsletter contributions

Please email [newsletter@athelstonechurch.org.au](mailto:newsletter@athelstonechurch.org.au) by 5pm Wed.

**Practice  
Good  
Hygiene**

