

Sunday 1st November 2020

Greetings and welcome to this week's newsletter.

A Note from Linda

Last Sunday Jeff Dry and I shared the news about my upcoming surgery and sick leave. For those who missed it.... I will be having hip replacement surgery and will be taking 6 weeks of sick leave from 9 November, returning on Tuesday 22 December, all being well.

As you will see below, Jeff has made arrangements for a supply minister to be available for much of the time that I will be away plus to be available for our Christmas services. Church Council approved this on Tuesday evening. We can have confidence that this special season in our Church year will be well resourced.

This Sunday is All Saint's Day in the church's liturgical calendar. On this day we celebrate the saints of our faith: people throughout the ages who have lived faithful lives. Also known as All Hallow's Day, this Western Christian celebration falls between Halloween (All Hallow's Eve) and All Soul's Day. The three days together are referred to as All Hallowtide, a time for honouring the saints and praying for the souls of those who have died. The use of the term saint has a range of understandings in different church traditions. New Testament use of saint seems to refer to those who are set apart for God's special purposes, as well as being used to refer to Christians collectively. We might use it for someone who is an exemplary model in the Christian faith, who lives their life in faithful relationship with God and who is blessed in their ministry in the world.

This week we encourage you to look closely at the way the media and pop culture portray the "blessed" in today's world. For every news item you read about society's blessed think of a story about Jesus' blessed.

On Sunday morning we will celebrate Communion together and bless the Christmas Shoeboxes. If you are planning to join us online, please prepare your bread and juice.

This Sunday evening we will have an intimate chapel communion service in the meeting room next to the lower hall at 6pm. Enter via the deck.

Blessings, Linda

Supply Ministry

I wish to advise that Rev Sue Ellis has accepted the offer to provide a supply ministry during Linda's absence while on sick leave. Sue was the Moderator from November 2016 until November 2019. Sue will be in this role from Sunday 29 November until Christmas Day and will be taking all the services during that period as she provides ministry with our congregation for two days per week.

Congregation AGM – 21st February 2021

Church Council wishes to advise all members of Athelstone Uniting Church that we will be holding our AGM on Sunday 21 February 2021 at 10.45am. We have postponed the meeting until the New Year.

There will be vacancies to be filled, so we ask you to prayerfully consider whether this is for you and if you would like to nominate. If you are a Convenor, run a small group or a leader in any capacity please can you provide a written report to Carol by Thursday 3rd December at: office@athelstonechurch.org.au Please cc your report to Allan Amber (Chair of Congregation) at allan.amber@mga.com. More details about nominations and voting will be advised early in 2021 but if you have any questions please contact Jeff Dry 0408 254 489.

Ann Brown, Secretary Church Council and Congregation

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Please email newsletter items to newsletter@athelstonechurch.org.au by 5pm Wednesday.

Worship Onsite

It is so important for us to remain vigilant with regard to our response to COVID-19. There are things we miss and changes we don't like. We are currently blessed to be able to worship together, so let's take on these temporary changes as a demonstration of the love we have for one another.

As you prepare to come to worship onsite, here are some important things to remember...

- Please don't come if you are unwell.
- Wear warm clothes! We aren't kidding when we say you'll need this! We'll have the exhaust fans on and windows open to keep the air circulating - this reduces the risks of COVID, especially as we will be singing.
- Avoid parking next to the top hall – this space is still being used by Medical HQ.
- Once you enter, you will be welcomed with a warm *Hello*, and possibly an elbow or toe tap. (Please refrain from handshaking, kissing or hugging at church for the time being).
Please remember that we are still being encouraged to maintain the physical distancing of 1.5 m when gathering with others outside of our immediate household.
You'll be signed in (as we need to keep a record of attendance) and please use the hand sanitiser provided.
- Seating is spaced out to allow for physical distancing. Those who come from the same household can sit together (if you wish to!)
- The Offering will be received at the end of the service. A receptacle will be provided near the exit. We continue to encourage regular giving through direct debit or electronic transfer.
- Morning tea will not be provided. We encourage you to connect with others by either having a coffee at a local café to support their business (many of our folk frequent Caffe Settebello and the Rezz on Sundays) or consider inviting others to share a coffee in your home.
- We encourage you to approach the 'Zoom screen' at the back of the church before and after the service and interact with those who are connecting online. It's important for us to help everyone feel welcome and included wherever they are.
- More details are in the letter from Jeff Dry (Church Council chairperson), sent out on July 11.

Worship Online or at Home

- If you choose not to attend for whatever reason, you can view the service as it is happening, using the same <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86912199103>
- Meeting ID: 869 1219 9103
- We will also provide a lectionary-based Worship at Home resource.

Shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child

Don't forget to bring in your shoeboxes **THIS Sunday 1st November**. We will dedicate them at this service

Book Club

Our book club group is about to start a new book. Would you like to come and join us? We meet on the first and third Tuesdays at 9am in the Indigo Espresso Café across the road from the church.

The new book is "Angels in this Wilderness" by Andrew Dutney. Designed to be read with others, it contains reflections on the Journey of the Uniting Church in Australia. Perhaps you'd be interested in reading the book anyway... Linda has copies of the book available for \$20.00

Book Club Book Club meets on the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 9 am for those who are able to do so. Anyone is welcome to join us at Indigo café.

TOFS Tuesday 3rd November Not the Melbourne Cup

If you have zero interest in a certain horse race in Melbourne, come to the Rezz Hotel on Tuesday 3rd November 2-4 pm. Enjoy coffee and cake outside in the shade. Please RSVP to Sheralyn.

TRIPLE C'S

The next gathering will be on November 11, diarise now place to be advised.

Regards Ray

Stay and Play @ Home

The wirra wound a web of wonder last Tuesday as we gathered for the first time since Covid restrictions. The children explored and the adults chatted in glorious spring sunshine. Two team members even had time to do some weeding! With 22 children, carers and team, we welcomed experienced faces as well as a new family.

Our theme for Term 4 "Every child is a different kind of flower and all together, make this world a beautiful garden" is the final of our Stay and Play @ Home series for 2020 celebrating the International Year of Plant Health – Save the plants, save the planet".

Our next Wirra Play Day and Christmas celebration is scheduled for 1st December. Email resources will be sent out to enrolled families on 3rd November, 17th November and 1st December.

Bruce and Joy Stewart



Food Donations to Uniting Communities

Food or cash donations for Uniting Communities Eastern Services Branch Emergency Relief Program are welcomed at any time. For more information contact Brenton Summers. Phone 0400 632 829.

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

You can also subscribe to receive UC E-News personally at <https://sa.uca.org.au/uc-e-news/>

The New Times is available online as well at <https://sa.uca.org.au/new-times/new-times-print-edition/>

Wimala Presbytery News: <https://www.facebook.com/Wimala-Presbytery-109646960529095/>

Wimala now has a new website: <https://wimala.ucasa.org.au/>

Reminder re activities in the church during Covid-19

In order to comply with COVID Marshal requirements any activity held on site **must have** a covid marshal in attendance. The training can be completed at <https://marshal.clickontraining.com.au/>. The training should take you no more than 15 minutes to complete. Please notify Carol once you have finished the training and email the office a copy of your certificate of completion. Covid Marshall badges are located in the cupboard in the vestry for you to wear, along with a hard-copy record of the COVID Marshal certificates, should you need to produce them during an inspection.

Lectionary readings

Refer to your Uniting Church Calendar for lectionary readings and key dates.

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) 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)

Church Bookings

*Special Event or changes to usual booking plan or location are highlighted in bold.

Day	Time	Location	Hirer/User
Sundays	Evenings – 6.30 pm unless told otherwise, then can come later	Main building	VIP Cleaning Service
Sunday 1st Nov	6.00 – 7.00 pm	Meeting Room/Chapel	Chapel Service
Mondays	4.45 - 6.45pm	Main auditorium	Waratah Calisthenics
Mondays	6.30 - 8.30 pm	Lower hall	Pilates
Tuesdays	9.30 - 11.30 am	Lower hall	Pilates
Tuesday 3rd Nov	7.00 - 9.00 pm	Meeting Room	Signage Meeting
Wednesdays	9.30 - 10.30 am	Lower hall	Pilates
Wednesdays	6.30 - 8.30 pm	Main auditorium	Waratah Calisthenics
Thursdays	6.30 - 7.30 pm	Lower hall	Pilates
Thursdays	7.30 - 8.30 pm	Main auditorium	Worship Practice
Saturdays	9.30 – 12.00 pm	Main auditorium	Waratah Calisthenics
Saturdays	9.30 - 11.30 am	Lower hall	Pilates
Sunday 8th Nov	11.30 - 1.30 pm	Lower hall (& bathrooms) Entry via Deck.	Waratah Calisthenics Competition Preparation
At all times	Clinic operates Mon-Thurs 12.30-5.30pm but top hall remains out of bounds <u>at all other times</u>	Top hall & Top carpark	Medical HQ

Note: Although we would normally have to clean after the morning service if others are using the building prior to the VIP cleaning service on Sunday night, I have arranged with Waratah so that we **do not** need to clean after the service on Nov 8th. Waratah Calisthenics will only use the disabled bathroom and the lower hall to dress and do hair/make-up for competitions off site and they have agreed to clean the disabled bathroom prior to use, or use at own risk.

Church Roster

	1 st Nov	8 th Nov
Prayer with Preacher	Ann Brown	Meg Edwards
Preacher	Linda Driver	Linda Driver
Worship Leader	Robyn Stevenson	Di Curtis
Singers	Jeanine Dry Jeff Dry Wendy Rowe	Jean Richardson Allan Amber Shelley Walker
Sound	Noel Maywald	Don Brown
Data	Shelley Walker	David Walker
Chair Steward	Bob Stevenson Jeff Dry	Trevor Goldsmith Brenton Summers
Flowers	Di Curtis	Raelene Anderson
Building Steward	Richard Read	Paul Howland
COVID Marshal	Jeff Dry	Jeff Dry
Door Greeter	Ray Walter Carole Walter	Lynton Nicholas Jayne Nicholas
Tick and Flick	Trevor Curtis	Brenton Summers
Notices	Sylvia Maywald	Lee O'Connell
Bible Reader	Dean Pearce	Dean Pearce
Count Offering	Sylvia Maywald Glen Luestner	Gus Robin Paul Howland
Cleaning	VIP	VIP
Communion Prep	Robyn Fry	N/A
Communion Servers	Eric Hurrell, Graham Jennings Louise Jennings	N/A

Please swap with someone if you can't do the date you are assigned and if possible, please also notify the office of the change. It is very important during this pandemic that you do not attend services when you are unwell. Please swap with someone, or if late notice on the Sunday morning, then contact Linda Driver (0458 500 656) or the worship leader for that service. Thank you.

**Practice
Good
Hygiene**

