

Sunday 18th October 2020

Greetings and welcome to this week's newsletter.

A Note from Linda

Hello... I'm back! And I'm looking forward to seeing you all soon.

As you would be aware, I had initially planned to take 2 weeks off at the end of September (to celebrate our son's wedding and undertake some study). Sadly, my Father passed away suddenly and those plans changed. My time away began early with an additional 2 weeks of Compassionate Leave.

It has been a time of mixed emotions – experiencing the best and worst moments in life.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you all for the ongoing love, prayers, flowers, cards, food and messages of comfort and support - too many to be able to thank you all individually! Thank you so much! Paul and I and our family have been greatly blessed by your love and prayers.

I am also thankful to all the amazing team at Athelstone who have contributed in continuing to serve God in our worship, ministry and service while I have been away. You are all wonderful!

I am looking forward to hearing how everyone is and what has been happening in your lives.

During this time, I have felt God's presence through your love and prayers. This Sunday morning in worship we will hear how Moses experiences the profound effect of God's presence (Exodus 33:12-23). We can all be comforted in the assurance that God is at the core of our being and we are known by the Holy Mystery that is at the heart of everything.

This week I encourage you to make a list, at the end of each day, of the ways you felt God's presence in your life.

Blessings, Linda

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 Caffè 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.

Thank you from Liellie

Dear ALL at Athelstone, with special note of thanks to Di, David and Meg and the muso's! Thanks for the privilege to preach at Athelstone. I was very amazed to hear that the day after so many in Athelstone, UCA Oz wide and the world, that a group had decided to start "Water Justice"! Such a great blessing, God is so ahead of all.

Warm regards, Liellie

Rostering for Nov 2020– Jan 2021

Thank you to everyone who has returned their forms, or told me what they would like to volunteer for in order to help morning worship services happen over the next roster period (from Nov 2020 to Jan 2021). I will endeavor to pull together the new rosters ASAP and release it to you as soon as I can. Rosters for Christmas Services will be organized separately in due course. Let me know ASAP if you wish to volunteer and haven't yet told me so.

Carol Lang

Church keys

There is still an opportunity for members of the congregation who may no longer have a need for their church key to return them so we can update our key register. These spare keys can be dropped off at church office during office hours (Tuesday/Thursday 9.30am to 12.30pm) or handed to Jeff Dry on Sundays.

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.

Stay and Play @ Home & Wirra Play Day – Tuesday 20th October

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 first Wirra Play Day for our Stay and Play @ Home families will be this week, on Tuesday 20th October, with the second scheduled for 1st December. Email resources will be sent out to enrolled families on 20th October, 3rd November, 17th November and 1st December.

Bruce and Joy Stewart

An update on Shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child

We have some things like pencils bags, book bags, skirts and shorts left over from our ToFs packing day. They are on the table near the kitchen. Please help yourself to them if you would like to use them in your boxes. The last Sunday for collecting the shoeboxes will be Sunday 1st November. We will dedicate them at this service.

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.

Caring for Creation Survey

The Environmental Action Group (EAG) of the Synod of SA invites you to help them learn how best to support SA congregations. They have created a trial survey and would appreciate your advice about any aspect of it, and

your participation in the survey. If this is something you are interested in, see the additional email attachment or contact Carol in the office for a hardcopy to complete.

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/>

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.

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)

Lectionary readings

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

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
Mondays	4.45 - 6.45pm	Main auditorium	Waratah Calisthenics
Mondays	6.30 - 8.30 pm	Lower hall	Pilates
Tuesday 20th Oct	9.00 – 12.30 pm	Lower hall, meeting room and the Wirra	Wirra Play Day
Tuesday 20th Oct	9.30 - 11.30 am	Main auditorium	Pilates
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
At all times	Clinic operates Mon-Thurs 12.30-5.30pm but top hall remains out of bounds at all other times	Top hall & Top carpark	Medical HQ

Church Roster

	18 th Oct	25 th Oct
Prayer with Preacher	Robyn Fry	Lee O'Connell
Preacher	Linda Driver	Leanne Davis
Worship Leader	David Walker	Jeff Dry
Sound	Don Brown	Janet Luestner Sylvia Maywald Jeanine Dry
Data	Samantha Walker	David Walker
Chair Steward	Don Brown Bernie O'Hara	Sharon Tilley Scott Tilley
Flowers	Jenny Rigall	Marie Hickman
Building Steward	Eric Hurrell	Richard Read
Door Greeter	Janet Jacob Howard Jacob	Stella Waugh Robyn Fry
Tick and Flick	Trevor Curtis	Trevor Curtis
Notices	Brenton Summers	Paul Howland
Bible Reader	Ann Brown	David Walker
Count Offering	Paul Howland Friederike Ashby-Weiss	Friederike Ashby-Weiss Gus Robin
Cleaning	VIP	VIP
Communion Prep	N/A	N/A
Communion Servers	N/A	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**

