

Sunday 4th October 2020

Greetings and welcome to this week's newsletter.

This week is 'Sharing' Sunday in the Season of Creation.

Gus, Lyndon, Dean, Ruth and Robyn will be sharing what the stars, that were given to us at the beginning of the year, mean to us. Dean Pearce will lead us in communion.




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.

<p>Season of Creation Pentecost 18</p>  <p>October 4, 2020 – Sharing Psalm 19:1-6; Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20; Matthew 21: 33-46</p>
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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.

Linda and Carol's Annual Leave

As you are aware, Linda and Carol are now away on holidays and will return on 11th October. Please keep Linda and Paul in your prayers as they grieve the loss of Linda's father and celebrate the recent wedding of their son.

For pastoral concerns during Linda's absence, please contact any of the pastoral care team or Jeff Dry.

Our Pastoral Care Team are: Brenton Summers: 0400 632 829, Bob Stevenson: 0400 641 242; Ann Brown: 0413 581 554 and Lee O'Connell: 0438 865 508. Please let them know if you are need of support.

Thanks

Thanks to the efforts of our office volunteers Annette Latham and Jan Robin hopefully you are reading this week's newsletter.

Medical HQ

Jeff has some exciting news to share on our agreement with Medical HQ. They have received an invitation from the Federal Government to extend the Athelstone Respiratory Clinic to 31 March 2021. Church Council has given its approval on behalf of the congregation. As such it has been agreed to extend the current lease for the church hall to 30 April 2021 allowing the extra month to pack up the clinic. As the number of patients presenting at the Respiratory Clinic has dropped significantly in the last few weeks the clinic will now no longer operate on Fridays and Saturdays from the week beginning 6 October 2020.

Church Keys

Currently there are quite a number of church keys in the possession of members of the congregation who may no longer have a need for this key. As we are trying to update our key register, it would be appreciated if you are one of those people who have a key not being used, then could it be either returned to the office during office hours (Tuesday/Thursday 9.30am to 12.30pm) or handed to Jeff Dry next Sunday.

Season of Creation

If you have a Smartphone, we encourage you to download the **Just Earth app**. This is a beautiful free App to use as a daily devotion during The Season of Creation. More info

here: <https://www.environmentalaction.org.au/post/2018/12/10/just-earth>

The Season of Creation provides for **different Bible Readings** than the Revised Common Lectionary. You will find these texts listed on the front page of this newsletter.

Church Office will remain open

Due to some wonderful volunteers, our church office will remain open whilst Carol and Linda are on leave (25th Sept through 11th Oct). Newsletters will continue to be published so please send any newsletter items to newsletter@athelstonechurch.org.au by Wednesday for inclusion in the next Sunday's newsletter.

Safe Church Screenings

A huge thank you to everyone who participated in our recent Safe Church Screening campaign. We greatly appreciated your patience with us as we navigated the new requirements and screening system. We are very pleased that AUC is now up to date with all our screenings. Thank you!

Victoria Pederick, on behalf of the Safe Church Team

Worship Roster Planning for Nov 2020 – Jan 2021

In order to help me plan the worship rosters for Nov 2020 through to Jan 2021, please collect a Roster Planning form from the table in the church foyer and fill it out. Completed forms can be placed in the marked tray in the vestry, or emailed to Carol in the Office by 15th October. Please fill in the forms with what you would like to volunteer for in the next roster period, how often you wish to serve in each role, and any of unavailability. Thank you!

Carol Lang

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. We are back into reading Denise Champion's *Yarta Wandatha*. Anyone is welcome to join us. Our plan is to meet in the Indigo Café at 9 am to order our take-away coffee and then come up to the church to meet in the auditorium for the discussion time.

TOFS – Tuesday 6th October 2-4 pm

Our next TOFS catch up will be in the Lower Hall of Athelstone Uniting Church on Tuesday October 6th from 2-4 pm. We will be packing shoeboxes to be sent to children overseas. If you have been collecting or making items to go into shoeboxes please bring them along. Each shoebox costs \$10 to transport overseas so cash towards this fee is also welcome. Under the current rules, we will be either bringing our own thermos of tea or coffee with an individual snack or else picking up a takeaway on the way to Church. If you have any questions please contact Sheralyn.

An update on the Shoeboxes!

Now that October is here, it is time we again think about filling those shoeboxes. Most importantly, pray for the child who will receive your gift. I will have the shoeboxes and pamphlets on hand each Sunday for you to take. ToFS will again use their October meeting to pack shoeboxes. Due to COVID I will not have a display up each week but am happy to answer questions you might have. If you feel you cannot pack a box, remember that we still need donations, not only of goods, but also of money. It costs \$10 for each shoebox and our congregation has been wonderful in the past in helping to cover these costs for us. Thanking you all.

Friederike



Stay and Play @ Home



"Spring" into the wirra and don't miss out on the mass of yellow *Bulbine semibarbata*, leek lilies, near the old farm gate and spot the purple *Arthropodium strictum*, vanilla lilies as Term 3 comes to a conclusion.

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".

Email resources will be sent out to enrolled families on 20th Oct, 3rd Nov, 17th Nov and 1st Dec. In Term 4 we are planning two Wirra Play Days for our Stay and Play @ Home families, 20th October and 1st December.

Bruce and Joy Stewart

Threads

If you enjoy creating with thread, or would like to learn, and/or enjoy a chat over a cuppa, come join us 2nd and 4th Tuesdays from 2-4pm. The Indigo café owners are spreading us out due to their covid-safe plan, so please come with the understanding that they are doing this as part of meeting their own covid-safe requirements.

TRIPLE C'S: Chaps, Coffee, Chat

Following a successful get together on 9/9 at VA BENE we will gather there again on OCTOBER 14 at 1030.

Our numbers were a little down and to those who missed through ill health, we pray life as far as possible will return, or has returned, to normal ASAP.

ARE U OK? If not let us know.

PLEASE DIARISE Oct 14 now as there will be only one more newsletter published b4 we meet.

By the way a lady at Va Bene on leaving said to me, "They say women make all the chatter, you lot gave a good try at out doing us". I then advised her she was only quiet 'cos she wanted to get our gossip.....she slunk off with a smile. Keep on chattering chaps.

Regards Ray

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.

COVID Marshal Update

In order to comply with COVID Marshal requirements, any future 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.

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/>

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. Season of Creation readings are on Page 1 of this newsletter.

Church Bookings

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 - 8.30pm	Lower hall	Pilates
Tuesdays	9.30 - 10.30am	Lower hall	Pilates
Tuesdays (1 st & 3 rd)*	9.00 – 10.30 am	Main auditorium	Book Club
Wednesdays	9.30 - 10.30am	Lower hall	Pilates
Wednesdays	6.30 - 8.30pm	Main auditorium	Waratah Calisthenics
Thursdays	6.30 - 7.30 pm	Lower hall	Pilates

Thursdays	7.30 -8.30pm	Main auditorium	Worship Practice
Saturdays	9.30 – 12.00 pm	Main auditorium	Waratah Calisthenics
Saturdays	9.30 - 11.30am	Lower hall	Pilates
At all times	Clinic operates Mon-Fri 12.30-5.30pm and Sat mornings but top hall remains out of bounds at all other times	Top hall & Top carpark	Medical HQ

*Held fortnightly on 1st and 3rd Tuesday of month

**Practice
Good
Hygiene**



Church Roster

	4 th Oct	11 th Oct
Prayer with Preacher	Sheralyn Robertson	Glen Luestner
Preacher	Star Words	Allan George
Worship Leader	Robyn Stevenson	Nola Pearce
Sound	Noel Maywald	Don Brown
Data	Samantha Walker	David Walker
Chair Steward	Paul Howland Brenton Summers	Glen Luestner Jeff Dry
Flowers	Ruth Henderson	Carole Walter
Building Steward	Richard Read	Paul Howland
Door Greeter	Stella Waugh	Raelene Anderson Robert Anderson
Tick and Flick	Trevor Curtis	Trevor Curtis
Notices	Brenton Summers	Lee O'Connell
Bible Reader	Lee O'Connell	Friederike Ashby-Weiss
Count Offering	Paul Howland Gus Robin	Gus Robin Friederike Ashby-Weiss
Cleaning	VIP	VIP
Communion Prep	Leanne Shirlock	
Communion Servers	Ros Howland Eric Hurrell Leanne Shirlock Tara Shirlock	

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.