



**Minister:**

Rev Linda Driver:

Mobile 0458 500 656

Linda's day off: Monday

## Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2021

### A Note from Linda

*"The mountains and the hills before you will burst into song" Isa. 55.12*

Welcome to the fourth week of the Season of Creation. We worship this Sunday morning with the mountains. We sing with the rocks and hills. We enjoy the wonders of the wild. And we do this with our guest Rev Brian Polkinghorne.



Our Season of Creation will culminate with a Blessing of the Animals service next Sunday October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

It will be different: it will be held at a different location and we are asking you to bring things, so please read further on for more details.

Blessings,  
Linda

### Worship on-site

*It is so important for us to remain vigilant with regard to our response to COVID-19.*

Every person who attends activities on our church property is required to register their attendance by using the COVID SAfe Check-In. Please ensure you bring your mobile phones to church. A sign in sheet will be available when use of the QR code is absolutely impossible. Please ensure you print your name and phone number neatly so that it can be read by contact tracers.

Please don't come if you are unwell or if you have been in any high risk locations identified by SA Health. Please **wear a mask** unless you have a valid reason not to wear one. This is currently a mandatory requirement for indoor public spaces, including our church building.

Given the ever changing covid restrictions we are doing our best to keep the congregation informed as things change. Currently we have a density ruling of 1 person per 2 sq metres, masks must be worn and seated morning tea is allowed.

### Worship Online or at Home

If you wish to join in our online Zoom service on Sunday morning at 9.30am, you can view the service as it is happening, using this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88191652947?pwd=M1pMZCtXY2FGOENtaGN3M3EwcVh6Zz09>

or enter this **Meeting ID:** 881 9165 2947 and **passcode:** 7777

Worship and Discipleship resources will be sent out on Saturday. Services are recorded each week. To request a copy, contact Paul Driver who will send you a link to download the video. Paul: 0428-161-918 or [pddriver@gmail.com](mailto:pddriver@gmail.com).

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*Please email newsletter items to [newsletter@athelstonechurch.org.au](mailto:newsletter@athelstonechurch.org.au) by 5pm Wednesday.*

## Worship by Zoom

If you have a device on which you can watch YouTube videos, then you have all the technology you need to be able to view our Zoom services. This could be a desktop or laptop computer, tablet or smartphone which is connected to the internet. It is helpful to have a camera and microphone so you can interact if you choose, but you don't need to. If you have never tried Zoom or are unsure about whether you can connect to our online service, please call Paul Driver (M 0428 161 918) before Sunday morning. He can talk you through what to do and test your connection so that you will feel confident on Sunday morning.

## UPCOMING WORSHIP

### Season of Creation

During September, Christians around the world take part in acts of worship and actions focused on how we live in relationship with, and care for, God's creation. The international theme for the 2021 Season of Creation is *a home for all? Renewing the Oikos of God*. Oikos is the Greek word for "home," or "household." The theme calls us to reflect on the integral web of relationships that sustain the Earth, our common home.

### Blessing of the Animals

*Meow! Woof! Squeak! Cluck! Chirp! Cheep!*

Our "Blessing of the Animals" is coming up next Sunday (October 3<sup>rd</sup>) at 10am.

This service will take the place of our morning service and will be held at the slightly later time of 10am.

Linked to Saint Francis Sunday, this will be a service of thanksgiving and blessing for the pets and other animals that bring us joy and help us to live fuller lives.

It will be a wonderful way for us to build connections with our local community and our world.

All are invited to bring along your pets or a photo of an animal you love or an endangered species you care about.

All animals must be on a lead or in a secure pen or carrying container for the safety of other animals and humans.

You will be invited to donate to the work of the Animal Welfare League. You are invited to bring gifts of cash or blankets for cats, or treats and toys for dogs or cats.

BYO chair, hat, morning tea and drinking water for you and your pet!

(If the weather is inclement, we will relocate to the church - 33 Fox Avenue, Athelstone - Please pray for good weather!)

Lovell Reserve is on Ryan Avenue, Athelstone.

Please consider carpooling to reduce congestion on Ryan Avenue.



## CHURCH COUNCIL

### Morning Tea

Thank you to all the volunteers who are helping to organise Morning Tea after Church. It is wonderful to see so many people taking the opportunity to share this time together.

If you aren't sure how to make your tea or coffee, just sanitise your hands, line up at the counter and help yourself to a cup, tea or coffee, milk, sugar or sugar substitute and the volunteer will fill your cup with hot water. Simple!

Tubs are provided at the counter for rubbish or recycling.

If you would like to be added to the Morning Tea roster please contact Sheralyn

## Church Office

Please note that Carol will be on holidays for the next two weeks and will return on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> October. There will be no newsletter produced. Linda and Jeff will keep you updated with any changing news. If you'd like to volunteer in the office over these weeks then please talk to Jeff Dry.

## EVENTS

### Blessing of our Community Garden

Last week, at the end of the Congregation General Meeting, we had a blessing of the new Community Garden. It was very brief as the weather was coming in! For those who missed it, here is the prayer (based on a prayer by Christine Sine):

God bless this garden, through which your glory shines,  
May we see in its beauty the wonder of your love.

God bless the soil, rich and teeming with life,  
May we see in its fertility the promise of new creation.

God bless our toil, as we dig deep to turn the soil,  
May we see in our labour your call to be good stewards.

God bless each seed, that takes root and grows,  
May we see in their flourishing the hope of transformation.

God bless the rains, that water our efforts to bring forth life,  
May we see in their constancy God's faithful care.

God bless the harvest, abundant and bountiful in season,  
May we see in God's generosity our need to share.

God bless this community, as we work side by side,  
May we see God's love in the relationships that will grow

God bless this garden, as you bless all creation with your love,  
May we see in its glory your awesome majesty,  
Amen.

## 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations



50th Anniversary Celebration plans are starting to come into shape and we are making good progress. Please see the attached flier for more information. Postcards and Posters will be available soon. More information will go up on the website soon. Keep checking for updated details.

You can register using this link:

<https://forms.office.com/r/yHbWC1V8qx>

or scan the QRcode.



## Do You Like Walking? Are you prepared to walk?

I am arranging a letterbox drop of cards informing local people about our 50 Year Celebrations.

To cover the local areas of Athelstone and parts of Paradise and Rostrevor, I will need about a dozen walkers. Are you willing and able?

Cards would need to be dropped in the first two weeks of October.

Please contact Gus Robin on 8337 0011 or email, [jg.robin@bigpond.com](mailto:jg.robin@bigpond.com), or speak to me direct.

Thanks!

## CONNECT GROUPS

At Athelstone Uniting Church we encourage everyone to find ways to find connections within our church community. Here are some of the Connect Groups you might consider joining.

## TOFS - Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2- 4pm

Our next TOFS catch up will be in the Lower Hall of Athelstone Uniting Church on Tuesday October 5<sup>th</sup> 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. If you are bringing cash please give this to Freddie.

Last year we had fun packing the shoeboxes and finished the afternoon with coffee and cake at the Indigo Café. Let's see if we can do that again this year.

## Book Club

We meet regularly to read and discuss books together. We normally meet on the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 9am in the Indigo Espresso Cafe in the Athelstone shopping centre across the road. We are reading, "Faith after Doubt" by Brian MacLaren. You are welcome to join us! For more info, ask Rev Linda.

## Threads

If you enjoy creating with thread, or would like to learn, and/or enjoy a chat over a cuppa, come join us on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays from 2-4 pm at the Indigo cafe.

## Stay and Play @ Home

Painting is always a favourite. What better way to explore "Feel the peace – Sense of touch"! Our last Wirra Play Day was celebrated in sunshine to welcome Spring.

Check out the Church website to enroll for Stay and Play @ Home, get some ideas for preschoolers at home, make new friends through Face book and Buddy Play Dates, or explore the Wirra Blog.

New families, team members and wirra workers are welcome.

Email resources will be sent out to enrolled families on 19<sup>th</sup> Oct and 6<sup>th</sup> Nov in Term 4. Wirra Play Day Sessions will be held on Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct as part of Athelstone Uniting Church's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> December

in Term 4. **Bookings for our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Wirra Play Sessions (Session 1: 9.45 am – 10.45 am and Session 2: 11 am – 12 pm) on 23<sup>rd</sup> October can be made via this link: <https://forms.office.com/r/yHbWC1V8qx> or by scanning the QR code on the previous page of this newsletter.**

*Joy and Bruce Stewart*



## MISSIONAL

### Red Dove Café Offering

Thank you to all who donated generously. If you are still wishing to contribute, please place your cash in a marked envelope and place in the Offering Box on the Giving Table on Sunday.

### An update on the Shoeboxes!

Now that September is well and truly 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 that you are unable to pack a box, there are other ways that you can help: 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. You can now give boys and girls in need a tangible expression of God's love through a gift-filled shoebox packed from your computer or mobile device.

Just follow this link: <https://occdonations.samaritanspurse.org.au/product/pack-a-shoebox-online/>

*Bless you all. Friederike*



### What do you do with plastic bread tags?

Are you passionate about recycling? Would you like to make a difference?

We are supporting the charity Aussie Bread tags for Wheelchairs.

How does it work? We collect up our plastic bread tags and bring them in to Church. (You'll find a container in the Church Entry when we are back worshipping together). The tags are collected and sent to recyclers in Robe. The recyclers (Transmutation) make a donation for the tags. These donations fund wheelchairs for disadvantaged people, currently in South Africa. Transmutation makes door knobs, coasters, bowls, cheese boards, clocks and pens from the bread tags. More details here: <https://ozbreadtagsforwheelchairs.org.au/>.

### Uniting Communities – Food Donations

The ongoing need for food donations to Uniting Communities continues. Please bring in your donations and let's fill the giving table! The management of Uniting Communities at Beulah Park is very grateful for the ongoing generous support of the Athelstone Congregation.

*Brenton Summers*

## NOTICES TO MEMBERS

### 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)

## Worship and Discipleship Resources

Refer to Worship Email coming on Saturday.

### WIDER CHURCH NEWS

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 Presbytery website: <https://wimala.ucasa.org.au/>

### GIVING

#### 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>.

Those who give in cash offerings are invited to place your offerings into an envelope ready to bring next time we meet face to face Contact Glen Luestner for more information.



## CHURCH BOOKINGS

*Special Event or changes to regular bookings or location are highlighted in bold.*

Day	Time	Location	Hirer/User
Saturdays	9.30 – 11.30 pm	Main auditorium	Waratah Calisthenics
Saturdays	9.30 - 11.30 am	Lower hall	Pilates
Sundays	Evenings – 6.30 pm usually unless told otherwise, then can come later. Occasionally clean early Monday mornings.	Main building	VIP Cleaning Service
Mondays	4.45 - 6.45 pm	Auditorium	Waratah Calisthenics
Mondays	6.30 - 8.30 pm	Lower hall	Pilates
Tuesday	9.30 - 11.30 am	Lower hall	Pilates
<b>Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> Sept</b>	<b>5.30 – 8.30 pm</b>	<b>Auditorium</b>	<b>Private Function (External Hirer)</b>
<b>Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> Sept</b>	<b>6.00 – 7.00 pm</b>	<b>Lower Hall</b>	<b>50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning Meeting (Robyn Fry)</b>
<b>Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> Sept</b>	<b>7.15 – 9.15 pm</b>	<b>Meeting Room</b>	<b>Church Council Meeting</b>
Wednesdays	9.30 - 10.30 am	Lower hall	Pilates
Wednesdays	6.30 - 8.30 pm	Auditorium	Waratah Calisthenics
Wed 1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup>	1.30 – 3.30 pm	Meeting Room	Fellowship Group (Nola)
Thursdays	7.30 – 8.30 pm	Auditorium	Worship Practice
Thursdays	6.30 - 8.30 pm	Lower hall	Pilates
At all times	Clinics operate at various times depending on demand. Top hall remains out of bounds <b>at all other times</b>	Top hall & Top car park	Medical HQ Vaccination and Covid Testing Clinics

**Note to covid marshals:** Current version of covid-safe plan is dated 9<sup>th</sup> September. Copies are now located at entrances to the church building. A new update is expected this week given the announcement of changes to weddings and funeral numbers but all else stays the same. The revised plan will be circulated via email when it arrives.

**Reminder re activities in the church during Covid-19, when not in lockdown:** 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 Marshal 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.

## CHURCH ROSTER

	26 <sup>th</sup> Sept	3 <sup>rd</sup> Oct	10 <sup>th</sup> Oct
		<b>Blessing of the Animals Service</b> <b>* Jeff will be in touch with those needed</b>	
<b>Prayer with Preacher</b>	Glen Luestner	Jeff Dry	Di Curtis
<b>Worship Leader</b>	Rev Brian Polkinghorne	Jeff Dry	Nola Pearce
<b>Preacher</b>	Robyn Stevenson	Linda Driver	Linda Driver
<b>Singer</b>	Ann Brown, Frederike Ashby-Weiss Bob Stevenson	Janet Luestner* Jeanine Dry* Allan Amber*	Sylvia Maywald Marie Bartsch (Slade) Jean Richardson
<b>Sound Desk</b>	Don Brown	Don Brown*	Noel Maywald
<b>Data Projector</b>	Samantha Walker	David Walker*	Samantha Walker
<b>Chair Steward</b>	Paul Howland Don Brown	Scott Tilley* Sharon Tilley*	Bernie O'Hara Brenton Summers
<b>Zoom Production</b>	Paul Driver	Paul Driver*	Paul Driver
<b>Building Steward</b>	Noel Maywald	Paul Howland*	Richard Read
<b>Covid Marshal</b>	Sheralyn Robertson	David Walker*	David Walker
<b>Flowers</b>	Di Curtis	Marie Hickman*	Raelene Anderson
<b>Door Greeter</b>	Gus Robin Jan Robin	Ray Walter* Carole Walter*	Stella Waugh Robyn Fry
<b>Tick and Flick</b>	Trevor Curtis	Lee O'Connell*	Brenton Summers
<b>Notices</b>	Lee O'Connell	Lee O'Connell*	Brenton Summers
<b>Bible Reader</b>	Ann Tubb	Ann Brown*	David Walker
<b>Count Offering</b>	Sylvia Maywald Gus Robin	Glen Luestner* Lynton Nicholas*	Paul Howland Friederike Ashby-Weiss
<b>Morning Tea</b>	Marie Hickman	Lee O'Connell*	Coralie Summers
<b>Communion Prep</b>	N/A	N/A	Friederike Ashby-Weiss
<b>Communion Server</b>	N/A	N/A	Robyn Fry Sheralyn Robertson
<b>Cleaning</b>	VIP	VIP	VIP

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, contact Linda Driver or the worship leader for that service. Thank you.

**Practice  
Good  
Hygiene**

