



Minister:

Rev Linda Driver:

Mobile 0458 500 656

Linda's day off: Monday

Sunday 21st November 2021

A note from Linda

This is the last Sunday of the church year, and we'll be reading a story from the end of Jesus' earthly life. We do so at a time when shops are filling up with Christmas decorations and wares – a time when we'll be celebrating Jesus' birth.

This is Reign of Christ Sunday (or Christ the King). What kind of King is born in a manger? What kind of King lays down his life for his sheep? Jesus is the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Together, let's reflect on what that means for us.

Next Sunday we will be welcoming Bush Chaplain Rev Sunil 'Sunny' Kadaparambil and will have a special offering for Frontier Services.

It will also be the first Sunday in Advent. Does anyone have an Australian themed nativity scene that you would be willing to have on display that day? Please let me know!

Blessings,

Linda

UPCOMING WORSHIP

Christmas services



Sunday 12 December

4.00pm Messy Christmas

Friday 24 December

6.30 pm Christmas Eve Family Service

9.30 pm Christmas Eve Carols and Candles

Saturday 25 December

9.30 am Christmas Celebration Service

We are also hoping to partner with local Uniting Churches to offer a Blue Christmas Service (also known as a Service of Solace). Details still to come.

Sunday 26 December

A service will be held on Sunday 26 December at 9.30am.

We are still looking for more volunteers to assist that morning so if you are available then please contact those who will be planning the service i.e. Brian Ball, Dean Pearce, Dean Brook or David Walker.

Postal Address: PO Box 307, Athelstone, SA 5076

Office Email: office@athelstonechurch.org.au

Minister Email: minister@athelstonechurch.org.au

Newsletter: newsletter@athelstonechurch.org.au

Office Coordinator: Carol Lang

Office Hours: Tues & Thurs: 9.30am – 12.30pm

Office Phone: (08) 8336 9905

Web: athelstonechurch.org.au

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

Worship on-site

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.

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.

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.

EVENTS

Christmas Lunch

Good news! We have an enthusiastic team planning for a Christmas lunch to be held in at the church: providing a community for those who don't have a community to celebrate with on Christmas Day. More details to come.

FROM THE OFFICE

Church Directory Note

We hope to release an updated version of our church directory before Christmas. Please let Carol in the office know of any updated information for you **no later than Sunday 28th November**.

Remember that appearing in our church directory requires a two step process, where you need to

1. Tell Carol that you wish your details to be shown in the contact directory and then,
2. On receipt of an email from Elvanto, you must confirm your decision via clicking on the opt-in confirmation link.

Both steps must be completed to confirm your permission to go in the directory.

If necessary, different arrangements can be made direct with Carol in the office for those who cannot manage the two step confirmation process via the email link.

Remember that some people do prefer to keep their contact details hidden from the contact directory and this is okay. If this is you then you do not need to do anything and you will remain hidden from the new directory as well. If you wish to change your privacy status back to hidden, then please talk to Carol to arrange this.

Christmas Office Closure

Please note that the church office will be closed after Thursday 16th December and not open again until February 1st 2022. Please get any newsletter items for the January period in to the office prior to Thursday 16th December.

CHURCH COUNCIL

Church Council nominations

In February 2022 there will be numerous vacancies on our Church Council as the term of office for 6 current members will be completed. In the coming weeks we will be seeking nominations for the 2022 Church Council and so you are asked to carefully consider whether you would like to nominate for any of these vacancies.

A Church Council helps build the congregation up in faith and love which involves encouraging each member of the congregation to be active disciples in all of their life, not just while in the church building. Church Council members should be Christian servants and role models with spiritual gifts that lend to, among others, leadership, wisdom, and administration.

If you believe God might be calling you to consider this opportunity and you would like to know more before you make the decision then please speak to either Linda or Jeff in the coming weeks.

NCLS

Our church is joining with thousands of churches across the country in the 2021 National Church Life Survey. This involves our church members participating in a survey one Sunday following our normal service. Church Council has chosen Sunday 5 December as the preferred date so please note this date in your diary and be prepared to remain behind on that Sunday to take part in this important survey process. More details to follow in coming weeks.

***This is dependent on the survey's actually arriving by mail on time!**

Annual Reports for AGM

With our AGM occurring in Feb 2022 it is time for leaders of our church groups/activities to commence thinking about their annual reports. A template is available for leaders to use for completing their report. These are available from the office or Robyn Fry. The template will be asking leaders to report on how their activity aligns with our strategic plan mission and priorities. Reports need to be submitted to Carol in the office **by the 9th December** for collation before the summer office closure.

Annual General Meeting - Advance Notice

Our next annual general meeting of the congregation will be held on 27th February. Please note this date in your diaries.

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.

Threads

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

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 McLaren. You are welcome to join us! For more info, ask Rev Linda.

Stay and Play @ Home



Our last Stay and Play @ Home program was emailed to families this week, exploring the theme "Smell and taste the peace" focusing on "Taste a treat". We will gather on 7th December face to face at our last Wirra Play Day for 2021 and celebrate Christmas together through "Sense the Peace". Check out the Church website to enroll for Stay and Play @ Home, get some ideas for preschoolers at home, make new friends through Facebook and Buddy Play Dates, or explore the Wirra Blog. New families, team members and wirra workers are welcome.

MISSIONAL

Gifts of Good News

Don and Brian will have Tear Fund's Useful Gifts catalogue and cards available at the church from Sunday, November 28. When you purchase a Useful Gift you are helping to create opportunities for health, education, safe water, food and stronger communities.

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

Act2

The biggest conversation taking place in the Uniting Church right now is the Act2 project. Act2 is a whole-of-Church process and approach to discerning where God is calling us and how we move boldly and with faith into the future. If you haven't yet heard about or engaged with Act2, this summary will bring you up to speed: <https://uniting.church/act2-where-are-we/>. This week we break down where we've been, where we are, and how to get involved right now.

We encourage you to have a read and participate in the second survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ACT2RESPONSE> Every single response is important. Let us know: what are the challenges, strengths and possibilities from where you stand? What's your take on the report? In addition, new bible studies are being offered on the Basis of Union. Access them here: <https://uniting.church/our-life-together-reflections-on-the-basis-of-union/>

Organ Concert – Payneham Road Uniting Church

Payneham Road Uniting Church is hosting an organ concert featuring PRUC Organ Scholar, Val Estrella and supporting artist on Saturday 27 November 2021 from 7.99 – 8.00 pm. Book online via <http://www.trybooking.com/BUXQN> or tickets can be purchased from the church or at the door. Contact Church Office Ph 0438 706 957 or see their website. Address: 343 Payneham Road (enter Broad Street), Marden, SA.

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/>

CommuniTEA

Did you have the opportunity to participate in the CommuniTEA sessions at our 50th celebrations? CommuniTEA is a unique experience where people get to share a lovely cup of tea over conversation with the goal of getting to know others. We had lots of positive feedback from our CommuniTEA sessions. We now have the opportunity, in partnership with Campbelltown Uniting, to offer CommuniTEA sessions to more people through Campbelltown Council's Ageing Well Expo on the 23rd of November. This is a wonderful opportunity to build our connections in the community. Come and be part of it! We recommend that you book ahead. Information below...

Ageing Well Expo & Celebration

Tuesday 23 November, 10.30am – 3.30pm
Campbelltown Function Centre & Council Chambers

Campbelltown City Council's Ageing Well Expo and Celebration provides an opportunity to showcase information, local organisations and services, social groups and facilities that are available to older people in the Campbelltown area. It provides an opportunity for older people to connect to others within our community and to find ways to Age Well in the City of Campbelltown.

The expo and celebration is intended for people over 60, their families, care givers and friends. There will be information stalls, talks, workshops, light refreshments and entertainment. A complimentary BBQ lunch, and tea and coffee will be available.

The day will conclude with a fashion show, commencing at 2.30pm in the Function Centre. Visit www.campbelltown.sa.gov.au/activeageing for a full program.

Everyone is welcome to attend the Expo; however bookings are required for some sessions. To book, visit <https://ageingwellexpo.eventbrite.com.au>.

For enquiries or assistance with transport to the event, please contact Bianca on 8366 9272 or bconnelly@campbelltown.sa.gov.au. For enquiries about CommuniTEA, please contact Linda.

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
Saturday 20th November	1.00 – 5.00 pm	Lower hall, Kitchen, Deck	Private Function
Mondays	Morning	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
Tuesday 23rd November	7.00 – 9.00 pm	Meeting Room	Church Council (TBC)
Wednesdays	9.30 - 10.30 am	Lower hall	Pilates
Wednesdays	6.30 - 8.30 pm	Auditorium	Waratah Calisthenics
Wed 1 st and 3 rd	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
Thursday 25th November	9.30 – 11.30 am	Meeting Room	Malcolm Wilson – Uniting Foundation and Property Contact: Jeff Dry
Thursday 25th November	1.00 – 4.00 pm	Meeting Room/Lower Hall/Deck	Wimala Presbytery Contact: Carol Lang
At all times	Clinics operate at various times depending on demand. Top hall remains out of bounds at all other times	Top hall & Top car park	Medical HQ Vaccination and Covid Testing Clinics

Note to covid marshals: Current version of covid-safe plan is dated 23 Sept. Copies are located at entrances to the church building. 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

	21 st November	28 th November
	Morning Worship	Frontier Services
Prayer with Preacher	Lee O'Connell	Jeff Dry
Worship Leader	Lynton Nicholas	Di Curtis
Preacher	Linda Driver	Sunny K
Singer	Ann Brown Bob Stevenson	Ann Brown Allan Amber Jean Richardson
Sound Desk	Don Brown	Don Brown
Data Projector	David Walker	Samantha Walker
Chair Steward	Bob Stevenson Brenton Summers	Paul Howland Trevor Goldsmith
Zoom Production	Paul Driver	Paul Driver
Building Steward	Paul Howland	Richard Read
Covid Marshal	David Walker	Jeff Dry
Flowers	Raelene Anderson	Di Curtis
Door Greeter	Gus Robin Jan Robin	Lee O'Connell Robyn Fry
Tick and Flick	Trevor Curtis	Trevor Curtis
Notices	Brenton Summers	Sylvia Maywald
Bible Reader	Lee O'Connell	Jayne Nicholas
Count Offering	Paul Howland Friederike Ashby-Weiss	Sylvia Maywald Glen Luestner
Morning Tea	Coralie Summers	Jean Richardson
Communion Prep	N/A	N/A
Communion Server	N/A	N/A
Cleaning	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**

