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# Sunday 19th June 2022

Welcome to worship this morning.

### A note from Paul

Friends, this Sunday marks the second week of Ordinary Time, that season of the Church year between Pentecost and Advent. Ordinary doesn't mean commonplace. The term comes from the word *ordinal*, meaning numbered in order. It might not feel like it, but this is the season of ordered time! This time until late November is also known as the season of Pentecost. If we mark Pentecost Sunday as the birthday of the Church, then the thirty-three weeks in the season of Pentecost is the season when we try to understand and explore what it means to actually be the Church.

Each year, to guide us in our quest, the Revised Common Lectionary focuses on one of the gospels. This year is Year C and our focus gospel is the Gospel of Luke. For our first reading from Luke for this season, Luke 8:26-39 we are offered the dramatic and violent story of a man wandering among tombs, possessed by demons. Stories from the gospels about demon possession are often difficult for us to comprehend. One way into these stories is to consider that, for first-century people, human beings were understood as porous beings who can be filled with spirit, as Jesus himself is (Luke 4:1), or possessed by spirits, as here in this story. The first-century world was awash with demons that distorted creation and could overwhelm and control the minds and bodies of individuals.

We might see this way of understanding the world as archaic and strange. But, even a cursory examination of our culture reveals how much we are caught up in things that could be described as 'possessing' us. From the obvious substance addictions — both legal and illegal, to obsessions with social media and celebratory, to being controlled by racism or stubborn prejudice, to being devoured by envy, consumed by anger, enmeshed in measuring social standing, to the obsessive need some of us have to conform to certain daily routines: our culture and lives are no strangers to the experience of possession.

However, as trapped as we often are in our personal and societal possessions, we are always being offered a different story. In our text, Jesus treats a nameless man on the verge of death, with care and dignity, takes seriously how dangerous and dehumanising his possessions are, and welcomes him into freedom and life.

This is a perfect story to begin our Pentecost season and our explorations of what it means to be Church, which is really a journey into what it means to be fully human!

Paul

# **Messy Church Service**

Our Messy Church Service is on **today** (June 19<sup>th</sup>) from 4-6pm. All are welcome at this all age interactive worship service. This year in Messy Church we are learning more about the Lord's prayer, with our focus for the upcoming service being on the line "Hallowed be your name", we would love for you to come and join us for activities and celebration time together followed by a meal and fellowship. If you have any questions please speak to Meg Edwards.

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### WORSHIP

### Attending in person

Please continue to care for the safety of others and don't attend worship or large group activities at church in person if you are unwell or have been notified that you may be a close contact for covid-19. You are encouraged to continue with hand sanitizing and social distancing (no hugging or handshakes).

## 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 the link below:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88191652947?pwd=M1pMZCtXY2FG0ENtaGN3M3EwcVh6Zz09

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

Worship resources are emailed out each Saturday. Services are recorded each week.

To request a copy please contact the church office.

### 9.30am Worship/Music Team Gathering with Paul Turley

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> July 7.30pm – 9.00 pm at the church

For all those on the music/worship team and anyone else interested, please join us for a meeting where Paul Turley will share with us his thoughts and insights around music and worship.

For more info, contact Di Curtis (0419-862-606)

#### **NOTICES FOR MEMBERS**

### **Prayers for Linda**

As you will be aware Linda has been nominated for the next Moderator and an election will be held at the June 2022 Synod meeting on Friday 24th and Saturday 25th June, 2022 with the new Moderator taking up their role at the 2023 Synod meeting. The Moderator's role is one of pastoral and spiritual leadership of the Synod. The focus of the role is to promote the Synod's vision and mission for the future of the church; to listen to, guide, and care for all the members and ministers of the UCASA; and to represent the church in the wider community and the ecumenical and political landscape of South Australia. Please pray for Linda and Paul as they await the decision.

# Office closure (and early deadline for next week's newsletter)

Please be advised that the deadline for newsletter articles for next week's newsletter (for Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June) will be Monday 20<sup>th</sup> June at 5 pm (instead of Wednesday at 5 pm as it usually is). The office will be closed on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June so that Carol can attend the SAPSASA State District Netball Competition with her daughter Hannah before heading to the SA Synod meeting on Friday and Saturday next week. The office will be open as normal on Tuesday.

# Garage clean out

On Monday 20 June a working bee will be held to clear out the large shed. Over the years the shed has gathered 'lots of stuff' which is no longer required, of any use, or any value and so the time has come to do a major clear out. A number of volunteers have been asked to help on the day so a special thanks to those people who will be involved.

# Pears, pears!

There are some preserved pears left over from the Election Day cake stall, so I will be bringing them on Sunday. Any donations welcome to go to frontier services. (Grant will gladly accept the empty jars back too.) *Friederike* 

### Stay & Play Wirra Play Day - Help needed

Our winter Wirra Play Day on 28<sup>th</sup> June will explore yarta/land, yarlu/sea and ngayirda/sky. More helpers are needed to assist the current team. Help set up/pack up, chat to carers or play with children. Joy and Bruce Stewart



## Offering

**Why do we give?** We give to support the ministry and mission of the Church. We give in response to all that God has done for us. Giving is an act of worship.

**How much do we give?** We give as we are able. Pray for wisdom on how generously you are called to give. "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Corinthians 9:7 NIV)

How do we give? Regular electronic giving and 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: <a href="https://ucinvest.com.au/forms-and-information#page=page-1">https://ucinvest.com.au/forms-and-information#page=page-1</a>.

Cash Offerings are received on Sunday mornings in the Offering Box on the Giving Table. Contact Glen Luestner for more information.

### **Prayer Requests**

Can we support you in prayer? Here's how:

<u>Prayer Chain</u> - 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.

<u>Confidential Prayers</u> - 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 (Lee O'Connell, Brenton Summers, Ann Brown, Bob Stevenson and Linda Driver). All prayer requests going to the team will be kept strictly confidential within this team.

<u>Prayers for Others (Sunday Worship)</u> 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)

### **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.

Connect Group	When/Where	Contact	
Book Club	1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues at 9.30 am at the church	Linda Driver	
Fellowship Group	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Wed at 1.30 pm. Indigo Espresso Café	Nola Pearce	
Threads	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Tues 2-4 pm. Indigo Espresso Café	Linda Driver	
Triple Cs - Men's Group.	2 <sup>nd</sup> Wed of the month at 10.30 am. Cafe Settebello.	Ray Walter	
TOFs	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month, 2 pm – 4 pm. Venues vary	Sheralyn Robertson	
Stay & Play @ Home	Enrol on the church website for play ideas at home.	Joy & Bruce Stewart	
Wirra Play Days	28 <sup>th</sup> June, 20 <sup>th</sup> Sept & 6 <sup>th</sup> Dec. In the wirra!	Joy & Bruce Stewart	

#### **CHURCH COUNCIL**

### **Church Council report**

1. Our church has offered to host two training courses being conducted through Synod and aimed at providing information and up-skilling those involved in ensuring a safe physical, emotional and spiritual environment for our church community. The two courses are:

<u>Called to Care Training</u> - based on the Uniting Church SA's <u>"A Safe Place" statement</u>, Called to Care provides information and training courses to ensure Uniting Church communities foster environments that are safe – physically, emotionally and spiritually. Called to Care promotes and assists the Uniting Church community with relevant information about ensuring a safe physical, emotional and spiritual environment for us all. Called to Care seeks to emphasise the collective responsibility of the Uniting Church SA and congregations to care for those who may be vulnerable to harm, injury or abuse.

<u>Through Your Eyes Training</u> - a 1/2 day refresher training for "Through Their Eyes: safe environments for children and young people" to refresh the understanding of legal obligations for reporting concerns of children and young people. It is designed for those who have prior knowledge from previous training regarding Child protection in South Australia. This is educative awareness training for anyone who has contact with children and vulnerable people. E.g. Ministers, Leaders of Sunday School, Youth Group, Pastoral Carers / visitors, Crèche, Childcare, Playgroup, etc,. The course is open to anyone who would like to understand their legal obligation. It is a requirement that those in placements/positions and in specified ministries/leadership roles will participate and complete training in this field once every three years.

The date of Saturday 9 July has been booked and further details will be provided in future newsletters on how to register for these courses.

- 2. Council spent time reviewing the current Strategic Plan to identify those actions that still need addressing. Many of the actions have been achieved or are still a work in progress and at future meetings Church Council will discuss what our needs are for the future.
- 3. While the Grow Free Cart concept has been approved and plans are underway to construct the cart, a final decision has yet to be made on the most suitable location. For more information on the Grow Free concept follow this link <a href="http://www.growfree.org.au/carts/">http://www.growfree.org.au/carts/</a>
- 4. The Federal Election Cake stall that we held was a very successful event and the meeting was advised that a figure of around \$900 rose which will be forwarded to Frontier Services.
- 5. The Covid Care packages have been very much appreciated by those church families that have received them and thanks must go to those in our church community who have been responsible for packing and delivering these packages that have been coordinated through the Pastoral Care team. Times have now changed in relation to Covid (our society now living with the disease) and the need for care packs and the like has diminished with the changing isolation and close contact rules. While the Pastoral Care team is still very keen to hear of families impacted by Covid they will be reviewing the need to provide these care packages in 'every situation' rather now trying to meet specific needs.

### **MISSIONAL**

### **Packing Day**

Thank you, thank you, thank you Athelstone community for your support with Packing Day. Once again we have successfully completed another Packing Day in record time. This was an amazing feat given the mammoth pile of goods that were being ferried from the shed for hours on Sunday in trying conditions. This year we packed for northern indigenous communities, Goodwill and aboriginal communities in central South Australia and Northern Territory.

It is truly a team effort at Athelstone and I would sincerely like to thank everyone who was involved whether catering, packing, sorting, coordinating one of the communities, recycling, putting boxes together, transporting goods to Balhannah, making cakes/slices/biscuits...

Special thanks go to Ann Brown and Robyn Fry (and the cooks who supplied food) for catering so beautifully for everyone involved. The fellowship and camaraderie had over a cuppa is an integral part of the success of Packing Day. Also thanks to Marie Hickman who transported the Alice Springs Old Timers' Fete goods to Balhannah and to Trevor Curtis who stepped in while I was away to meet people at the shed who were dropping off goods.

This is a great opportunity for you to be involved locally in the mission Outreach of the Uniting Church. I hope that you will set aside some time on the first weekend in June next year and join us in the time of fun and fellowship that is Packing Day.

Jayne Nicholas

Peter Cranwell, the Packing Day co-coordinator, had a phone call from the Rev Lindsay Parkhill who was in Minjilang (one of the communities we pack for) earlier in the year and watched as they opened the last remaining box from Packing Day 2021. He said they were all very excited and were tremendously thankful for the work done for them by Packing Day. In fact he has given Peter another community and he is wondering if we can supply to it as well! Peter said yes, and will now work out how to achieve that. Rev Lindsay Parkhill's comments have been reiterated by a number of people over the last year. It confirms for us there is absolutely no doubt we are meeting a substantial need and is very appreciated by the receiving communities.



# **Uniting Communities - Food Donations**

Please keep bringing in your donations and let's fill the giving table! Brenton Summers

# What do you do with plastic bread tags?

Bring them to church to support the charity Aussie Bread tags for Wheelchairs.

You'll find a container in the Church Entry. More details here: https://ozbreadtagsforwheelchairs.org.au/.

### WIDER CHURCH

### Wider Church News

Wider church news: https://sa.uca.org.au

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

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

Wimala Presbytery News: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/Wimala-Presbytery-109646960529095/">https://www.facebook.com/Wimala-Presbytery-109646960529095/</a>

Wimala Presbytery website: https://wimala.ucasa.org.au/

### **CHURCH BUILDING - BOOKINGS**

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

Day	Time	Location	Hirer/User
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> June	12.00 – 3.00 pm	Meeting Room	Wimala SC meeting
Saturdays	9.30 – 11.30 am	Lower Hall	Pilates
Saturdays	9.30 – 11.30 am	Auditorium	Waratah Calisthenics
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> June	4.00 – 6.00 pm	Main building	Messy Church (set up from 2 pm)
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
Tuesdays	9.30 – 10.30 am	Lower hall	Pilates
Wednesdays	9.30 - 10.30 am	Lower hall	Pilates
Wednesdays	6.30 - 8.30 pm	Auditorium	Waratah Calisthenics
Thursdays	7.30 – 8.30 pm	Auditorium	Worship Practice
At all times	Various	Top hall & Top car park	Medical HQ – Covid & Vaccine Clinics

### SUNDAY WORSHIP ROSTER

Role	19 <sup>th</sup> June	26 <sup>th</sup> June	Role	19 <sup>th</sup> June	26 <sup>th</sup> June
Prayer with Preacher	Lee O'C	Robyn F	Tick & Flick	Brenton S	Brenton S
Worship Leader	Di C	Robyn S	Door	Jan R Gus R	Coralie S Lee O'C
Preacher	Paul T	Paul T	Notices	Lee O'C	Don B
Singer	Jean R Ann B Eric H	Friederike A-W Bob S Lynton N	Count Offering	Glen L Don B	Lynton N Sylvia M
Sound Desk	Don B	Don B	Bible Reader	Shelley W	Sylvia M
Data Projector	David W	Sam W	Flowers	Jenny R	Marie H
Chair Steward	Brenton S Don B	Bob S Paul H	Communion Prep	N/A	N/A
Building Steward	Eric H	Noel M	Communion Servers	N/A	N/A
Zoom Production	Tara S	Paul H			

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 Paul Turley or the worship leader for that service as appropriate. Thank you.