



Minister:

Rev Linda Driver

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Sunday 25th September 2022

A note from Linda

This Sunday morning, we welcome guest preacher, Rev Dr Elizabeth Vreugdenhil. She will preach on the theme 'Brothers and Sisters in Christ'.

Next week we will continue on with the Season of Creation, with Cosmos Sunday.

Many of you will remember our wonderful Blessing of the Animals service held last year. Planning is underway for this year's service on October 9. Who will you bring? See below for more information.

I encourage you to be intentional about listening for the Voice of Creation each day.

Blessings,

Linda

Worship on-site

Please be aware that our worship service is being live streamed on ZOOM this morning so if you are not comfortable in having your image captured then we encourage you to sit in the back row of the church in front of the creative tables.

Currently mask wearing is recommended for morning worship. When 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 if you have been notified that you are a close contact for covid-19. We encourage you to continue hand-sanitizing practices and follow social distancing guidelines. 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=M1pMZCtXY2FGOENtaGN3M3EwcVh6Zz09>

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.

Blessing of Animals Service

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

Our "Blessing of the Animals" is coming up Sunday October 9th at 9.30am in our Church Auditorium.

Linked to Saint Francis Day, 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.

This special service is being planned by our Messy Church and our Sunday morning teams.

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

All are welcome! 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.

Are you planning to come? And will you bring your pet? We'd love to know beforehand to help us in our planning.

Please RSVP by email or phone to Rev Linda or Meg (Messay Church).

Special Offering for Blessing of Animals

We are keen to hear from you as to who we could support this year. (Last year we received donations for the Animal Welfare League.) Please send your ideas with contact information to Linda as soon as possible.

Hearing Aids in Worship

Do you wear a Hearing Aid? Do you struggle sometimes to hear what's happening when you participate in worship at Athelstone? If so, the Pastoral Care team are keen to hear from you! We're keen to ensure all can participate, so please contact Rev Linda.

Season of Creation Resources

Here are some ways you can engage further with the Season of Creation during the week:

- Check out resources from Assembly: <https://uniting.church/season-of-creation-2022-hub/>
- Spend time outside. Look for signs of new life. Give thanks.
- Engage with our gardens: wakkakurnaku wirra (our endemic garden), our Community garden and our Peace garden
- Volunteer in one of our gardens (contact Bruce and Joy Stewart, Wendy and Lyndon Rowe, or Di Curtis to find out more)
- Check out the "Wild At Art, threatened species art exhibition for kids" (aged 5-12) (Australian Conservation Foundation) <https://www.acf.org.au/wild-at-art-competition>
- Engage with the "With Love to the World" devotions which focus on the Season of Creation (you can access this via the app, or subscribe here: <http://www.withlovetotheworld.org.au/>)
- Download and try the Just Earth devotional app
- Check out the event calendar for the Nature Festival of South Australia - 6 - 16 Oct 2022 <https://www.naturefestival.org.au/>
- Plan for our Blessing of the Animals service (to be held in our Church Auditorium on Sunday 9 th October). You can bring your pet (appropriately restrained), or a photo of a pet or endangered species that is important to you.
- Sign up for the 2022 Aussie Bird Count (17–23 October 2022) <https://aussiebirdcount.org.au/>
Just spend 20 minutes in your favourite outdoor space and record what birds you see during that period. The app provides a helpful tool for identifying birds. A great way to learn more about the birds in your neighbourhood.

CONNECT GROUPS

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 st and 3 rd Tues at 9.30 am at the church	Linda Driver
Threads	2 nd & 4 th Tues 2-4 pm. Indigo Espresso Café	Linda Driver
Triple Cs - Men's Group	2 nd Wed of the month at 10.30 am. Cafe Settebello.	Ray Walter
TOFs Fellowship Group	1 st 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, to make new friends through Facebook and Buddy Play dates, or to enjoy some nature play at Wirra Play Days.	Joy & Bruce Stewart
Wirra Play Days	6 th Dec. 10am – 11.30am. In the wirra!	Joy & Bruce Stewart

Stay & Play @ Home

Continuing our theme for 2022, International Year of Glass, our Wirra Play Day on 20th September explored how we can help care for our environment by using glass instead of plastic. Children painted with rubbish, sorted rubbish and enjoyed being frogs before the rain arrived. Stay and Play @ Home dates for Term 4 are 25th October and 22nd November. The next Wirra Play Day will be held on the 6th December.

Joy and Bruce Stewart



MISSIONAL



Operation Christmas Child

Last Sunday, we launched our 'Operation Christmas Child' for 2022. Shoeboxes and brochures will be available each week for you to take. Our final Sunday for collection will be 16th October. Please read the information or ask if you are unclear about what is and isn't allowed to be packed. Of course, if you find you don't have time to pack one yourself you can get one packed for you online, or you can just give me a donation to help the TOFS group cover the cost for their boxes. Thanking you for your generosity, *Friederike*

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 NEWS

Connecting with Ancestors Retreat

A unique opportunity exists to engage with Rev Dr Aunty Denise Champion in person as she contributes to leading a Connecting with Ancestors Retreat. This retreat will be held in Moonta from Friday 21 October to Sunday 23 October 2022. It is an opportunity to connect with your spiritual heritage through listening to the stories of our ancestors and learning through dialogue between the spirituality of First Nations people and the spirituality of the ancient Celts. You can enjoy the beautiful Moonta landscape and history with time for walking, writing and reflecting. To register your interest to attend complete the form (<https://ucasa.org.au/connecting-with-ancestors-retreat/>). You will then be provided with further details. More information is in the latest New Times issue.

Wider Church News

Uniting Church in Australia: <https://uniting.church/>

Uniting Church in South Australia: <https://sa.uca.org.au/>

To receive SA UC E-News personally, subscribe at <https://sa.uca.org.au/uc-e-news/>

The New Times is available online at: <https://sa.uca.org.au/new-times/new-times-print-edition/>

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

Frontier News: <https://frontierservices.org/news-media/our-resources/frontier-news/>

NOTICES FOR MEMBERS

Pastoral Note

Rev John Mauviel, a much loved former Minister of the Athelstone Uniting Church, passed away peacefully today on Thursday 15th September 2022 surrounded by his family aged 80 years.

John's funeral will be held at Brougham Place Uniting Church on Thursday 29th September, commencing at 1:00pm. Please pray for John's family and loved ones during this sad time and also give praise and thanks to God for John's dedicated service.

Safe Church Update

Last Sunday was UCA's Child Safe Sunday. A day that reminds us of our commitment as a church to ensure the wellbeing and safety of children and young people, to enable them to become who God calls them to be. This commitment to safeguarding young people is everyone's responsibility, and it is a commitment to care for both the children that are involved with our church and its activities now, and those that may be involved in the future.

How can we share in this role?

1. Speak up if you see or hear something that is concerning to you. Talk to our Linda, Victoria or Church Council members.
2. Go through the screening process. Everyone working or volunteering with children *and* those in a role of responsibility (Appointed Leaders) within the Uniting Church must have a valid Working with Children Check (WWCC). Depending upon your role, you may also require a General Probity Check or Vulnerable Persons Check, which is carried out at the same time. Thank you to those who are in the process of doing their checks at the moment. If you have questions or are unsure about something, please ask me (Victoria).
3. Undertake *Through Their Eyes - Child Safe Environment* Training. This helps to equip us to know how to respond to abuse and neglect. To make it as simple as possible, we are hosting an afternoon refresher of this training at AUC on Saturday the 12th of November. This training is for those involved in ministry with children, have done prior child protection training in SA previously, and it has been 3 years since you last participated. If you have never done the training before and are keen, or it has been more than 3 years, we can help you to find a training session that will be suitable for you. Please talk to Victoria for more information, or go to <https://safechurch.ucasa.org.au/events/through-their-eyes-906-986-715-824/> to sign up for the training. There is a cost of \$24.65, with afternoon tea provided.

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 Driver for individual prayer or one the members of the Pastoral Care Oversight team (Lee O'Connell, Brenton Summers, Ann Brown, Bob Stevenson). 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)

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: <https://ucinvest.com.au/forms-and-information#page=page-1>.

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

CHURCH BUILDING - BOOKINGS

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

Day	Time	Location	Hirer/User
Saturdays	9.30 – 11.30 am	Lower Hall	Pilates
Saturdays	9.30 – 11.30 am	Auditorium	Waratah Calisthenics
Saturday 24th Sept	3.00 - 7.00 pm	Auditorium	Private Hirer (Music Concert)
Sunday 25th Sept	1.00 – 5.00 pm	Auditorium	Waratah Calisthenics Concert
Mondays	TBC	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	Auditorium	Pilates
Tuesdays (1 st & 3 rd of Month)	9.30 – 10.30 am	Minister's Office	Book Club
Tuesday 27th Sept	6.30 – 8.30 pm	Auditorium	Morialta SEC Meeting
Tuesday 27th Sept	7.15 – 10.00 pm	Meeting Room	Church Council Meeting
Wednesdays	9.30 - 10.30 am	Lower hall	Pilates
Thursdays	7.30 – 8.30 pm	Auditorium	Worship Practice
At all times	At all times	Top hall & Top car park	Medical HQ – Covid & Vaccine Clinics

SUNDAY WORSHIP ROSTER

Role	25th Sept	2 nd Oct	Role	25 th Sept	2 nd Oct
Prayer with Preacher	Di C	Glen L	Tick & Flick	Brenton S	Trevor C
Worship Leader	Linda D	Linda D	Door	Gus R Jan R	Brenton S Coralie S
Preacher	Elizabeth Vreugdenhil	Linda D	Notices	Sylvia M	Sylvia M
Singers	Allan A Janet L Eric H	Lyndon R Shelley W Ann B	Count Offering	Bob S Friederike A-W	Don B Glen L
Sound Desk	Don B	Noel M	Bible Reader	Noel M	Eric H
Data Projector	Shelley W	David W	Flowers	Jenny R	Di C
Chair Steward	Glen L Bob S	Scott T Sharon T	Communion Prep	N/A	Frederike A-W
Building Steward	Noel M	Richard R	Communion Servers	N/A	Graham J Louise J
Zoom Production	Tara S	Paul D			

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 Rev Linda Driver or the worship leader for that service as appropriate. Thank you.

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