



Minister:

Rev Linda Driver

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## Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2023

### A Note from Linda

The season of Epiphany comes to an end this week, with the story of the Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1-9). This extraordinary sacred moment on the mountain invites us to reflect on God's glory and mystery. As wonderful as that is, we can't stay on the mountain forever, so Jesus calls us to head back down as reflectors of that glorious light in a world that can be dark for so many.

Last Sunday was our first Messy Church for the year. Our activities focussed on the Lord's Prayer (*your will be done on earth as in heaven*). We heard the tale of Jonah and the whale and how Jonah ran the other way when God asked him to speak for him. Over 40 of us gathered to worship, ponder the Word, be creative and enjoy a sausage sizzle together. We welcomed a group from Woodville Uniting Church who will be starting their own Messy Church soon. Thank you to everyone who helped on the day. Thank you to everyone who prayed!

We began a community jigsaw puzzle, which was very popular. This will stay set up in the church. You are welcome to add to it!

*Rev Linda*

## WORSHIP

### Worship Online or at Home

If you wish to join in our online Zoom service on Sunday mornings 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.

## Lent

The season of Lent is coming soon!

We will begin with a self-guided time of prayer, next week on Ash Wednesday (Feb 22). Come to the Church anytime between 3.00 and 4.30pm or between 7.00 and 8.30pm. A prayer resource and Labyrinth will be available for you to use.

Our theme for Lent this year will be "*Where your heart is*". The theme's inspiration comes from Jesus' teaching in his Sermon on the Mount about storing treasures. By exploring Gospel passages about treasures and matters of the heart, we'll be invited to wonder more deeply about what kinds of treasure matter, why we store treasures, and the power these treasures have in our lives.

Lent Event resources are available for bible study and daily prayer. Check out [www.lentevent.com.au](http://www.lentevent.com.au) or contact Linda if you'd like a preview.

We have attached a Lent Prayer Action Calendar provided by our Synod for your use during Lent.

*Please be aware that our worship services are live streamed on ZOOM 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.*

## Star Words

By now, you may have looked up the meaning of your Star Word for 2023. Next, I invite you to look your word up in a Thesaurus or online. What synonyms are there for your word? Then, what is the antonym for your word, noting that it is equally important to understand the void that exists when your word is not present. This might not be as straightforward if your word is in another language, but I encourage you to give it a go anyway!

If you haven't received your Star Word yet, let me know and I'll get one to you asap!

*Blessings, Rev Linda*

## 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
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. Venues vary	Ray Walter
TOFs Fellowship Group	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month, 2 pm – 4 pm. Venues vary	Sheralyn Robertson

## MISSIONAL

### AKWAK response to the earthquake in Türkiye and Syria

Our friends at AKWAK are responding to the terrible disaster, with a particular focus on refugees in Syria.

You can join in by donating to send food baskets, fresh bread and meals through the Chuffed

Campaign: <https://chuffed.org/project/96075-urgent-food-baskets-for-syrian-earthquake-survivors>

Soon we will hear more about how we can provide further support.

Please continue to pray for the situation in Syria and Türkiye and all those who are responding.

### Packing Day: Save the Date, Start Collecting!

Once again the Athelstone Uniting Church is co-ordinating the packing of goods for indigenous communities in northern and central Australia. **Please save the dates: Sunday June 4<sup>th</sup> and Monday June 5<sup>th</sup> 2023.** This event is a chance for our church community to engage in some fellowship and I would love to have you join us in the camaraderie of the Packing Day. As in previous years we are collecting for the communities north of Darwin so require clothing and manchester that would be suitable for these tropical destinations. Pick up a flyer detailing the goods required from the pamphlet display in the church entry foyer. Along with used goods, there are some **new** items that could be purchased – underwear, stationery, toiletries. Goods can be dropped off at Church on Sunday mornings. See Jayne and she will arrange for them to be stored in the shed. If you have any questions please ask *Jayne Nicholas 0418836266.*

Mission	How to support them	Contact
Uniting Communities	Please keep bringing in your donations and let's fill the giving table	Brenton Summers
<b>Egg Cartons – Update!</b>	Thank you for bringing in your egg cartons. Brougham Place Emergency Relief have <b>got enough for now</b> . I'll let you know when they need them again.	Linda Driver
Aussie Breadtags for Wheelchairs	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: <a href="https://ozbreadtagsforwheelchairs.org.au/">https://ozbreadtagsforwheelchairs.org.au/</a>	Office
Packing Day (June)	Start collecting new or used clothing and manchester, new toiletries, stationary, underwear for communities north of Darwin.	Jayne Nicholas

## NOTICES FOR MEMBERS

### Congregation Meeting

Church Council wishes to advise all members of Athelstone Uniting Church that we will be holding our **AGM on Sunday 5 March 2023 at 10.45am**. The following nominations for vacant positions have been received:

**Church Council:** Dianne Curtis, Stella Waugh, Robyn Fry

**Congregation Secretary:** Jayne Nicholas

**Presbytery Representative:** David Walker

Reading material and nominee profiles are available via email to congregation members. Some hardcopies are available from the entry foyer from this week.

### The Wirra – Watch and Wonder

Have you ever wondered about wakwakurnaku wirra and the plants we nurture there? Check out the display board in the supper room. Currently there is a new display about warltati/summer season and some of the changes in plants in the wirra. Make sure you wander into the wirra and see if they have changed since the photos were taken. The wirra continues to need maintenance and promotion, so if you are interested in assisting, please make contact.

*Bruce and Joy Stewart*



### 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 of 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.

## WIDER CHURCH NEWS

### Act 2 – have a say!

The Act 2 Project team are having important conversations about how we can work together as a whole Church and shape our life in for the future. Every person that calls the Uniting Church home is invited to take part. Find out more here: <https://uniting.church/act2submissionsandworkstreams/> and here: <https://www.act2uca.com/> or ask Linda about this vital project in the life of our Church.

### Save the Date! Uniting in Prayer 2023

You are invited to Uniting in Prayer, a national Uniting Church prayer event to take place between Pentecost and the 46th Uniting Church Anniversary this year (28 May – 22 June 2023).

As whole-of-Church discernment about the future of the Uniting Church continues through the Act2 Project, Uniting in Prayer is an opportunity to come together in thanksgiving and hope as together we seek the leading of the Spirit. For 26 days we'll be sharing prayers from across our Church, we'll gather for prayer and invite Uniting Church communities to pray for each other.

"Through Uniting in Prayer, we want every part of our Church to be joined together in prayer for one another and our life together," says Uniting Church President Rev Sharon Hollis in a video message. Click here to view: <https://uniting.church/savethedate-unitinginprayer/>

Save the date in your calendars now. There will be resources landing in mid-April to help us take part.

### International Women's Day Ecumenical Breakfast

The 2023 International Women's Day Ecumenical Breakfast is being held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March from 7-9 am at Café Outside the Square, Brompton. The guest speaker is Dr Tanya Wittwer and every dollar raised will help in the mission to ensure that 'No One Goes Hungry'. Tickets are \$40 per person. More information and how to book can be found [here](#). *RSVP to Linda ASAP.*

### 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/>

## CHURCH BUILDING - BOOKINGS

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

Day	Time	Location	Hirer/User
<b>Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>12.00 – 5.00 pm</b>	<b>Whole Building</b>	<b>Private Event</b>
Saturdays	9.30 – 11.30 am	Lower Hall	Pilates
Saturdays	9.30 – 11.30 am	Auditorium	Waratah Calisthenics
Mondays	Mornings	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
Tuesdays (1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> of month)	9.30 – 10.30 am	Minister's Office	Book Club
<b>Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February</b>	<b>2.30 – 3.30 pm</b>	<b>Meeting Room</b>	<b>Pastoral Care Team Meeting</b>
Tuesdays	6.30 – 8.30 pm	Auditorium	Waratah Calisthenics
Wednesdays	9.30 - 10.30 am	Lower hall	Pilates
Thursdays	6.30 – 8.30 pm	Lower hall	Pilates
Thursdays	7.30 – 8.30 pm	Auditorium	Worship Practice
At all times	At all times	Top hall & car park	Medical HQ – Covid & Vaccine Clinics

## SUNDAY WORSHIP ROSTER

Role	19 <sup>th</sup> Feb	26 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Role	19 <sup>th</sup> Feb	26 <sup>th</sup> Feb
<b>Prayer with Preacher</b>	Di C	Jeff D	<b>Tick &amp; Flick</b>	Trevor C	Trevor C
<b>Worship Leader</b>	Lynton N	Jeff D	<b>Door</b>	Corale S Brenton S	Gus R Jan R
<b>Preacher</b>	Linda D	Sarah Agnew	<b>Notices</b>	Brenton S	Jean R
<b>Singers</b>	Ann B Allan A	Jeanine D Sylvia M Ann B	<b>Count Offering</b>	Sylvia M Ray W	Gus R Don B
<b>Sound Desk</b>	Don B	Paul D	<b>Bible Reader</b>	Eric H	
<b>Data Projector</b>	David W	Sam W	<b>Flowers</b>	Di C	Marie H
<b>Chair Steward</b>	Scott T Sharon T	Jeff D	<b>Communion Prep</b>	N/A	N/A
<b>Building Steward</b>	Eric H	Noel M	<b>Communion Servers</b>	N/A	N/A
<b>Zoom Production</b>	Paul D	Tara S			

If you cannot take your turn, please swap with someone, or if late notice contact the worship leader or Rev Linda Driver for that service as appropriate. Thank you.