



Minister:

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Sunday 11th June 2023

A note from Linda

As the weather changes we move into a new season. Kudlila–Winter is here – and we have experienced some wintery weather already! We are also in a new season in the Church calendar: "Ordinary Time" - the longest season of the year which goes right through to Advent (almost half of the year!). During this season we focus on Jesus' call to live out the Good News and to grow in faith, hope and love, empowered by the Spirit.

This Sunday, is all about the word Befriend – one of our "Be" words. As God has befriended us in love, through Jesus, we too actively build connections and grow relationships. As bees spread pollen from flower to flower, so may our relationship-building be 'pollinators for the Kingdom of God.'

I hope you are finding the Uniting in Prayer resources helpful and have signed up for the National online prayer gathering.

Blessings,

Linda

Uniting in Prayer

Uniting in Prayer is underway! People across the Uniting Church are gathering through these 26 days to pray for each other, our Church and world.

Ways we are participating at Athelstone:

Each week we are praying for our Church as part of our Prayers for Others,

We are praying for Prospect Road Uniting and Carlingford Uniting as part of the national prayer chain,

We are invited to pray and share at home, with daily prayers emailed out and shared via social media and intergenerational resources provided by the Assembly. Please contact Carol or Rev Linda if you missed out on the intergenerational resource.

We are invited to join a National online prayer gathering. Join with others across the country in real time as we hold our Church and world before God, and uphold each other in love and prayer. Register [here](#) and join on Zoom on Thursday 15 June, 8pm AEST.

So, please join in. Make use of the resources. Let's pray for our church!

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.

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.

UPCOMING WORSHIP

In two weeks, we'll be hosting UnitingWorld Sunday!

UnitingWorld is the international aid and partnerships agency of the Uniting Church in Australia. This is a special chance for us to hear from our global neighbours and see how God is working around the world.

In the meantime, we encourage you to go to unitingworld.org.au to explore what they're up to and how your support makes a difference in the world!



EVENTS

Packing Day



Thank you, thank you, thank you Athelstone community for your support with Packing Day. We are an amazing team who work together supporting each other, completing yet another Packing Day in record time. An amazing feat given the mammoth pile of goods that was being ferried from the shed for hours on Sunday. This year we packed for northern indigenous communities, Goodwill, Old Timers' Fete and aboriginal communities in central South Australia.

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

Special thanks to Ann Brown with support from Lee O'Connell (and the slice makers) for catering so beautifully for everyone involved. I also want to acknowledge and thank again Rami, from Café Settebello, for the generous donation of delicious freshly made pizzas, delectable cakes from Elbio patisserie and soft drinks. 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, Don Brown, Trevor and Di Curtis who stepped in to collect and 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



Christmas in July

Grant has offered to cook for a fundraiser for the church. After some discussions, a suggestion was made to host a Christmas in July event on Sunday 23rd July for lunch. We were thinking of roast meats and vegetables.

We are looking for someone to coordinate the event particularly organising the publicity and tickets. If you think you would like to do this, please contact Linda, Robyn Fry or myself, so that we can get the ball rolling.

Freddie

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 in people's homes	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. Venues vary	Ray Walter
TOFs Fellowship Group	1 st Tuesday of the month, 2 pm – 4 pm. Venues vary	Sheralyn Robertson

Triple C's

Next meeting is the meeting with a difference in just about every way.

Different venue: FOGOLAR FURLAN 69 Briar Road FELIXSTOWE.

Activity: BOCCE basically the Italian version of bowls. FLAT SOLED FOOTWEAR PLEASE.

ANTICIPATE playing for about an hour following instructions on how to play (Hoping to have a person demonstrate for us).

AROUND NOON: Luncheon Strongly suggest the \$25.00 deal

Consisting of either a meat selection or a cheese selection on a wooden platter both with a small green component followed by pasta followed by a desert and coffee. So Chaps Come Chat and give it a trial.

Should a ride be required contact Bob or Ray.

Regards Ray

CommuniTEA at ToFs

On Tuesday I hosted my last CommuniTEA event for Athelstone Uniting Church for TOFs (Tuesdays on Fox). Based on a concept developed by Rev Mark Pierson, CommuniTEA is an opportunity to build community over a shared pot of tea. It is a guided conversation across the table drinking selected teas. It's a little like wine tasting... but with tea! Our church has a big focus on building connections. CommuniTEA has emerged out of that. We have also held CommuniTEA events in conjunction with Campbelltown Council, Campbelltown Home Support Program and Campbelltown Uniting Church – and also for Wimala Presbytery (PresbyTEA). CommuniTEA ... where connections are brewed together.



Wirra – Watch and Wonder

It's National Reconciliation Week 27th May – 3rd June, with the theme “Be a voice for generations”. Come and explore wakwakurnaku wirra, find your voice and learn some Kurna words. With kudlila/winter coming, watch for the new display in the lower hall and check out the changes in the wirra since the photos have been taken. The winter rains always encourage a crop of weeds to emerge and sandbags start to break down. The wirra continues to need maintenance and promotion, so if you are interested in assisting, please make contact.

Joy and Bruce Stewart



MISSIONAL

Schools Ministry – Still looking for representation

Do you have a heart for young people? Are you interested in being involved in supporting our local Pastoral Care Workers (PCWs)? We are still in need of further representation at our church support group. The group meets once a term to hear about the ministry of the local PCWs and pray for them. There is further potential to develop opportunities to bless school staff and raise funds to ensure ongoing ministry. If interested, please contact Rev Linda.

Missions	How to support them	Contact
Uniting Communities	Please keep bringing in your donations and let's fill the giving table	Brenton Summers
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: https://ozbreadtagsforwheelchairs.org.au/	Office
Sally Stamp	Bring stamps to the office to help with this ministry. The group also suggests that people consider asking local businesses to save their stamps, with doctor's surgeries being one of the best sources of stamps! Any donations of private collections no longer required are also gratefully received. In 2022 donations were made to the following: South Pacific School Aid Inc. (\$4,700); Frontier Services (\$1,000); and The Grove U/C Kids Craft Group (\$1,000). Pick up can be arranged in metropolitan areas. Contact: Maxine Haines (Convenor), Phone: 0427 972 417.	Office

NOTICES FOR 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 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.

WIDER CHURCH NEWS

President's Conference 2023

Don't miss a great national opportunity to [connect, share stories and reflect](#) on God's presence in our Church at the 2023 President's Conference, 26-30 July at Redcliffe Uniting Church in QLD. The first part of the conference is for ministry agents and the final two days for the whole church - with some fantastic speakers across the week. For a discounted rate, apply to be a volunteer! <https://uniting.church/qa-on-the-presidents-conference/>

Voice to Parliament Resources

During this year, Australians will be asked to consider supporting a Voice to Parliament for the First Nations of our country. Through a referendum we will be asked to support a constitutionally enshrined First Nations Voice.

Rev Mark Kickett, National Interim Chair of the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress notes: 'A constitutionally enshrined Voice will shape and guide the relationship between First and Second Peoples in this country by enabling our people to have a say in the decisions that impact our communities.'

Our Uniting Church members, along with other Australians, are engaging in the conversation about a First Nations Voice and The Uluru Statement from the Heart. We hope this page will be a helpful resource as you consider your response.



Assembly FAQs

The Uniting Church has prepared some simple answers to common questions.

Check out the new page on the Assembly website: <https://uniting.church/faq-about-the-voice/>

You'll find responses to common myths and misconceptions around what a Voice is, how it will work, and what the Uniting Church has said.

Synod Resources

The Uniting Church Synod have gathered some resources here:

<https://sa.uca.org.au/voice-to-parliament-resources/>

Statement from the Heart

A study guide for congregations and other small groups on the Statement from the Heart, is available to the whole Church. Produced by Tim Molineux for the Synod of Victoria and Tasmania.

<https://uniting.church/statement-from-the-heart-study-guide/>

Community Toolkit

The Australian Government has launched information to help Australians be informed about the referendum, including a [community toolkit](#) with translated and accessible resources. <https://voice.gov.au/community-toolkit>
Stay tuned for congregational resources from Assembly!

Have you found any other voice resources that you've found helpful? Please share them with us!

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
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	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
Saturdays	9.30 – 11.30 am	Auditorium	Waratah Calisthenics
Saturdays	9.00 – 11.00 am	Lower Hall	Pilates
At all times	At all times	Top hall	AGPN/Medical HQ

SUNDAY WORSHIP ROSTER

Role	11 th June	18 th June	Role	11 th June	18 th June
Prayer with Preacher	Glen L	Di C	Tick & Flick	Trevor C	Trevor C
Worship Leader	Linda D	Robyn S	Door	Coralie S Brenton S	Jan R Gus R
Preacher	Linda D	Linda D	Notices	Lee O'C	Sylvia M
Singers	Eric H Lynton N Jean R	Sylvia M Allan A Bob S	Count Offering	Lynton N Friederieke A-W	Sylvia M Bob S
Sound Desk	Paul D	Noel M	Bible Reader	Shelley W	Noel M
Data Projector	David W	David W	Flowers	Jenny R	Raelene A
Chair Steward	Brenton S Bob S	Jeff D	Communion Prep	N/A	N/A
Building Steward	Eric H	Noel M	Communion Servers	N/A	N/A
Zoom Production	Tara S	Paul D			

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.