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Do Young's day off is Friday

Sunday 4th August 2024

Welcome to worship at Athelstone! Today is Lay Preacher Sunday – a day, when as a Uniting Church in SA, we celebrate with gratitude the contribution of lay people to the worship and preaching life of our Church. Our preacher today is Jennifer Clark.

A note from Rev Do Young

'Peace Wide Open!'

The 2024 Paris Olympics are in full swing, and as I watch the events unfold, I can't help but reflect on the beauty and spirit of this global celebration. The theme of these Games, "Games Wide Open," is all about inclusivity, innovation, and celebration. The Paris Olympics are a showcase of diversity and openness, creating a welcoming atmosphere for everyone involved. The Olympic spirit itself is centered on fair play, unity, and the pursuit of excellence, bringing together athletes and nations in peaceful competition, fostering mutual understanding and respect across cultures.

If someone were to ask me, "Which team would you support if Australia and Korea faced off in the Olympics?" I would smile and say, "The winning team!" I still remember when I first started learning English in Australia, people would jokingly ask, "What if Australia and Korea went to war—whose side would you take?" My answer was always, "I hope there's never a war. But that's like asking me whose side I'd take if my parents were fighting—how could I choose?" Luckily, it seems that Australia and Korea haven't gone head-to-head in these Paris Olympics yet, and I'm relieved! Even better, both teams are off to a strong start, which brings me double the joy.

But, do you know what makes me even happier? I'm combining the medal counts for Australia and Korea, so in my heart, the "Australia-Korea United Team" is already in first place. It's moments like these that make my position truly special.

Whenever I watch the Olympics or any international sports event, I find myself less focused on the medal count and more interested in the athletes from countries with tense international relations. This year is no different. I'm particularly moved by the athletes from Ukraine and Russia, Israel and their neighbouring countries, and, of course, North and South Korea. Sometimes, we see moments of hope as these athletes shake hands, but other times, they may avoid even making eye contact. We all want to see reconciliation, friendship, and good-natured competition grounded in the Olympic spirit, but it's not always easy.

Why does humanity continue to shape its history through war and violence? What should our perspective be as Christians? I understand how the stories of war in the Old and New Testaments can be confusing. In the Old Testament, war is often depicted as an instrument of God's will or judgment. For example, when the Israelites conquered the land of Canaan, those wars were seen as divinely ordained. However, in the New Testament, the focus shifts from physical war to spiritual warfare. Jesus proclaimed peace and famously said, "Put your sword back in its place" (Matthew 26:52), teaching us to reject violence.

The heart of the New Testament is love and peace. So, as followers of Christ in this New Testament era, we're called to live according to Jesus' teachings—embracing love, forgiveness, and nonviolence. Shouldn't we also view the wars in the Old Testament through the lens of the transformative message of Jesus, who came to make all things new?

As we continue to watch these Olympics, let's pray for a safe and peaceful event, and let's also hope for a world without war and violence—a world where our children can live in peace. "The theme of this Olympic Games is 'Games Wide Open,' but for me, it's really 'Peace Wide Open.'"

Go Team Australia! Go Team Korea!

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>

Alternatively, enter this Meeting ID: 881 9165 2947 and pass code: 7777

Services are recorded each week. To request a copy please contact the church office.

If you are away or not able to connect with us on zoom you might find the Worship at Home resource a helpful alternative to use. This self-guided resource has been prepared by Rev Cheryl Wilson of Ascot Park Uniting and can be accessed each week at the following link: <https://sa.uca.org.au/worship-at-home/>

UPCOMING WORSHIP

Messy Church!



Our next Messy Church will be held on August 11th at 4-6 pm.

Our theme this time is "Jesus is a Superhero!"

What to expect at Messy Church:

- ❖ Fun for all ages - from grandparents to little ones
- ❖ Creative activities exploring Bible stories through art, crafts, and more
- ❖ A welcoming atmosphere for everyone, even if you're new to church
- ❖ Delicious food and fellowship
- ❖ Learning Christian values through enjoyable activities

Messy Church is more than just a gathering. It's a special space where families can laugh, learn, and grow together in faith. We'll experience Bible stories in fresh ways through arts and crafts, enjoy meals together, and engage in meaningful conversations.

We need your help to make this community even more special. Whether you have creative ideas, cooking skills, or just a friendly smile, your contribution is valuable. Let's build this unique community together! Invite your neighbours and family! While Messy Church might differ from traditional services, the love and faith we share are just as profound. Come get wonderfully messy with us and receive clean blessings! We can't wait to see you there!

Worship Rosters

It is time to put together the rosters for Sept, Oct, Nov and early Dec (1st & 8th) 2024. If you are a worship volunteer, then please log in to Elvanto and **update your unavailable dates**, or email them to the office **by Monday 5th August**. As always, please contact the office if you would like a login to Elvanto, or you need admin to reset your passwords.

New volunteers are welcome. Please pick up a summary of each role and accompanying responsibilities from the foyer display, and once you have decided how you'd like to help, please tell Carol which role you would like to be rostered on for, along with any preferences re timing and frequency.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Save the Date!

Athelstone UC is holding a Family Dinner and Social Evening on Friday 6th September commencing 6.30 pm.

Family and Friends are welcome. Please save the date. Further information will follow.

CONNECT GROUPS

TOFS

Our next TOFS coffee and cake afternoon is on Tuesday 6th August 2pm at Shamora Cafe, Newton Village Shopping Centre. All are welcome.

Triple C's August Day Change

In order to hold our Bocce fun time in August we will have to hold it on **THURSDAY 8th August**.

Venue as last time is FOGOLAR FURLAN 69 Briar Rd, Felixstow SA 5070. Starting 1100am followed by around an hour later with lunch, choice of Pastas from \$20.00, bocce is included. Come and discover if you have improved over the last year! Need transport see Bob or Ray.

Wirra – Watch and Wonder

Did you know that 30th July was International Day of Friendship?

Why not visit the wirra with a friend to explore or just sit and talk. Maybe search for an S.A. Rock, post it on their facebook site and make a new friend when you discover who has painted it. Read the details of how all ages can get involved in S.A. Rocks on the wall by The Nook in the wirra and start painting and spotting rocks, learning new skills and making new friends as well.



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 & 3 rd Tues of the month at 9.00am Indigo Espresso Cafe Current book series: 'The Kindness Revolution' by Hugh Mackay.	Office
Threads	2 nd & 4 th Tues of the month at 2-4 pm in Indigo Espresso Café	Office
Triple Cs – Men's Group	Next session date change: Thursday 8 th August at Fogolar Furlan (69 Briar Rd, Felixstow). Usually 2 nd Wed of the month at 10.30 am. Venues vary.	Ray Walter
TOFs Fellowship Group	1 st Tues of the month. 2 – 4pm. Venues vary.	Sheralyn Robertson

MISSIONS

Here are just some of our ongoing mission projects at Athelstone UC:

Uniting Communities	Please keep bringing in your donations and let us fill the giving table
Aussie Bread tags for Wheelchairs	Bring your plastic bread tags to church to support this charity. You will find a container on the giving table. Please be sure to check your bread tags are plastic. You can do this by folding the bread tag. Cardboard bread tags bend, whilst plastics tags snap when folded. Cardboard tags can go in your green bin. <u>The charity can only use plastic tags.</u>
Sally Stamp	Bring stamps to the office or giving table to help with this ministry

NOTICES FOR MEMBERS

Another Lovely Concert

Dave & Shelley & Lynton invite you to our next lovely concert. Please see ticketing instructions below or see one of us for personal help. Part proceeds in aid of Guide Dogs SA/NT, sponsoring the training of eyes & friendship for the visually impaired. We hope to see you there!

PS some of our more elderly members are looking for transport assistance. Please see Lynton if you are able to help.



Prayer Requests

Can we support you in prayer? Here is 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 Rev Do Young Kim for individual prayer or one the members of the Pastoral Care Oversight team (Lee O'Connell, Brenton Summers, Ann Brown and 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 let Brenton Summers know. "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

Wider Church News - Links

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/additions to regular bookings or location are highlighted **in bold**.

Day	Time	Location	Hirer/User
Saturday 3 rd August	9.30 – 12.30 pm	Auditorium	Waratah Calisthenics
Saturday 3 rd August	9.00 – 11.30 am	Lower Hall	Gain Momentum Pilates
Monday 5 th August	4.45 – 6.45 pm	Auditorium	Waratah Calisthenics
Monday 5 th August	6.30 – 8.30 pm	Lower Hall	Gain Momentum Pilates
Tuesday 6 th August	9.30 – 11.30 am	Lower Hall	Gain Momentum Pilates
Tuesday 6 th August	6.30 – 8.30 pm	Auditorium	Waratah Calisthenics
Wednesday 7 th August	9.30 – 10.30 am	Lower Hall	Gain Momentum Pilates
Thursday 8 th August	6.30 – 8.30 pm	Lower Hall	Gain Momentum Pilates
Thursday 8 th August	7.00 – 8.00 pm	Auditorium	Worship Practice
Mon, Wed, Fri	9.00 – 3.00 pm	Top Hall	Australian General Practice Network

Athelstone Uniting Church acknowledges the Kurna people whom God placed as the traditional custodians of the country on which our church stands. We pay our respects to them for their care of the land

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP ROSTER

2024		Sun/4/Aug	Sun/11/Aug
Preaching & Liturgy	Worship Leader	Robyn Stevenson	Jeff Dry
	Preacher	Jennifer Clark	Do Young Kim
	Pray with Preacher	Stella Waugh	Glen Luestner
	Notices	Brenton Summers	Lee O'Connell
	Bible Reader	Jean Richardson	Noel Maywald
Music Team	Piano / Keyboard	Di Curtis	Celine Leslie
	Singers	Allan Amber	Janet Luestner
		Friederike Ashby-Weiss	Jean Richardson
		Bob Stevenson	Jeanine Dry
	Guitar	Chris Pritchard	Chris Pritchard
	Bass / 2nd Guitar	Shelley Walker	Shelley Walker
Drums / Percussion		Glen Luestner	
Technical	Sound Desk	Noel Maywald	Noel Maywald
	Data Operator	David Walker	David Walker
	Zoom Production	Tara Shirlock	Tara Shirlock
Communion	Preparation	Leanne Shirlock	—
	Servers / Helpers	Eric Hurrell	—
		Jean Richardson	
Engagement	Flowers	Carole Walter	Jenny Riggall
	Door Greeters	Ray Walter	Jenny Riggall
		Carole Walter	David Riggall
Administration	Building Steward	Eric Hurrell	Richard Read
	Chair Stewards	Bernie O'Hara	Janet Luestner
		Bob Stevenson	Glen Luestner
	Tick and Flick	Brenton Summers	Brenton Summers
	Count Offering	David Walker	Friederike Ashby-Weiss
Ray Walter		Sylvia Maywald	

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

Athelstone Uniting Church Postal Address: PO Box 307, Athelstone, And SA 5076: **Office Hours:** Tues/Thurs: 9.30am – 12.30pm:
Office Phone: (08) 8336 9905: **Office Email:** office@athelstonechurch.org.au : **Web:** athelstonechurch.org.au
Newsletter Items: Please submit to the office by Wednesdays at 5 pm for next newsletter.