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*Do Young's day off is Friday*

## **Sunday 6 October 2024**

Welcome to worship at Athelstone! Our guest speaker today is Brian Polkinghorne.

There will be no communion in the service today. Instead, Communion will be held on Sunday 13 October 2024.

### **A note from Do Young**

“Because they treat me very much like how God treats humans”

You might be familiar with the name Henri Nouwen, a world-renowned scholar who enjoyed both wealth and fame. However, in his later years, Nouwen suffered from neurasthenia, a condition caused by chronic stress and mental exhaustion. Having been a priest since his youth, he dedicated his life to caring for others but often neglected to care for himself. After years of living as a 'father and scholar' to many, the burden of that role began to wear him down.

In an attempt to find healing, he left his prestigious position at Harvard University and became the chaplain of a mental health facility for people with physical and intellectual disabilities—the L'Arche community. At his first meeting with the residents, he introduced himself by saying, "Hello, I'm Father Henri Nouwen. I used to teach at Harvard and wanted to come here to share and talk with you." One of the residents asked, "What's Harvard?" Surprised, Nouwen replied, "It's a school where many of the world's intellectuals study and conduct research." The person then asked, "Study? Why do people study?"

Henri was taken aback by the simplicity and sincerity of the question. He paused, thinking to himself, 'How should I answer this? Would my answer mean anything to them?' That night, he wrote in his diary, "I realized how hard it was to explain to them how famous I am. It was difficult to tell them that many of my friends are influential politicians who determine the direction of their countries, and that world-renowned leaders seek my advice. Perhaps my long spiritual wandering will end here. Because they treat me very much like how God treats humans."

This experience deeply touched Henri's soul. He began to realize why he had been feeling so spiritually empty. Although he had everything, the world could offer he wasn't truly happy. The invisible pressure to live up to his reputation weighed heavily on him. But in the L'Arche community, he found himself living with people who led lives completely opposite to his own. They accepted him not for his accomplishments, but as a fellow human being—just one among them. For the first time in a long while, Henri felt seen and loved for who he was, not for what he had done. He sensed God in that community—God who accepted and loved him without prejudice or conditions.

Henri's time at L'Arche revealed to him that the essence of God's love is this: we are all created to be loved, just as we are. As he reflected on his experience, he began to understand that this is exactly how God treats us. And he realized that if we could treat each other the same way, the world would be a much better place.

Right now, tensions around the world are rising again, especially in places with deep historical and spiritual significance—places where Jesus was born, preached peace, and demonstrated love. It's clear that God does not desire war, but sometimes the world seems to move in the opposite direction. The solution and the answers seem elusive. Yet, one thing I hold onto, and what I wish to share from Henri's story, is this: What if we all treated each other the way God treats us? What if we recognized and honoured each other as beloved in God's eyes?

This doesn't just apply to global conflicts, but to our everyday lives and personal relationships as well. Whether it's with our family, friends, co-workers, or even strangers we meet, what if we chose to see them as God sees them? Imagine how much more peace, understanding, and love would fill our interactions if we practiced the same grace and compassion that God shows us.

As Paul writes in Ephesians 2:4-5: *"But because of His great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved."*

Henri Nouwen's experience at the L'Arche community, living with people with intellectual disabilities, led to profound spiritual growth and transformation, which he wrote about in his book "In the Name of Jesus." In this book, he reflects on how deeply the community influenced him and how he learned the true meaning of love and humility through them. Perhaps we, too, can learn from his journey—to love as God loves, to serve as Christ served, and to see each person as precious in the eyes of the Lord. Blessings Do Young

## UPCOMING WORSHIP

### Messy Church

It's on again - Sunday 13th October at 4.00pm. Bring your families, grandchildren, neighbours and anyone who enjoys learning about God through craft, and celebrate Him. Then stay for a meal.

For further information contact Robyn Fry 0411 499 125.



## 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>

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/>

### Opportunities to get involved on the Worship Team

Dearest Church family,

Have you ever thought of becoming involved in the worship on Sunday Mornings? Our Worship Team would love to be joined by others who may be interested in -

Singing

Playing music

Helping with Data, Sound or Zoom

Sharing Prayers

Leading Worship (no musical experience necessary)

We are a great team and there is lots of support and training for some of the technical tasks if needed.

If this prompts your interest, please see Di Curtis for more information.

Love Di (0419-862-606)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### HELP NEEDED

Our church is hosting a Wimala Presbytery meeting on Saturday 12 October to which the 76 member churches of the Wimala Presbytery have been invited. As host church, we are required to provide volunteers to assist with serving morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea. Lee O'Connell is coordinating the team of helpers so if any of our congregation is available to help on this day then please speak to Lee so she can add you to the volunteer roster, as we need at least 3 people to help serve for each mealtime.

### SAVE THE DATE

Following the success of the recent Family Fun Night, Church Council is planning to conduct a **Quiz Night on Friday evening 22 November** so please make sure you mark this date in your diary and start inviting your family and friends to come along. More details to follow in future newsletters.

## MISSIONS

### Operation Christmas Child

A reminder that next Sunday 13 October is the last date to bring your shoeboxes to the church. We will be blessing them during the morning service before they go off.

A big thank you to the team of TOFS women who came to the church on Tuesday afternoon to pack shoeboxes. We also had help from granddaughter Evelyn and Do Young. Also thanks for the donations from those who couldn't get there. It was a like a well-oiled machine and we packed 31 boxes before heading over to Cafe Indigo for a well-earned drink.

If you feel that you cannot pack a shoebox and would still like to contribute if you haven't done so yet, then remember that we also need to cover the cost of the shoebox (\$1 each) and the packing and transport (\$12.50 each). All donations gratefully accepted. *God bless you all, Friederike*

### Opportunity to support Hayeon and Tara

In previous newsletters, we have heard the exciting news about Hayeon and Tara being chosen to take part in a cultural and mission awareness tour to Korea in late November. This tour will help develop relationships between members of the Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea (PROK) and the Uniting Church SA.

These tours have been occurring since 1992. The tour departs from Adelaide on Friday November 22, arriving in Seoul on Saturday November 23 and they will be in Seoul until flying out on Tuesday December 3. The total cost of the trip is around \$2000 for each participant although through various grants from Wimala Presbytery (\$500), Uniting Church Fellowship, and Mission Support (\$500) the cost has been reduced. As Hayeon will be officially working as the interpreter for the Moderator Rev Peter Morel during this trip, her flight and accommodation costs have been covered however Tara still has to raise the remaining cost of \$1000, plus both girls will need their own money to cover recreational and personal spending during their time away.

Church Council is seeking support from any members of the congregation who would like to assist in donating money to offset Tara's costs. An opportunity is being provided for anyone to make this donation over the coming weeks by placing your gift for Tara in an envelope marked 'Tara Donation' and placing this in the offering box on the Giving table. Church Council will also be contributing to cover the costs of this trip. There is also the opportunity to make a donation towards the recreational spending for both girls.

Both Hayeon and Tara will make a presentation to the church community about their trip at one of our worship services in mid December. This is a wonderful opportunity for both girls so please keep them in your prayers as they prepare for this trip and for Hayeon in particular as she will be performing a very important task interpreting for the Moderator during his official meetings.

## 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. <b>Please be sure to check your bread tags are plastic.</b> 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.
Samaritan's Purse	September is time to pack shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child – see the newsletter note for more information.

## CONNECT GROUPS

### Triple C's

This coming Wednesday being the second in the month "Chaps Coffee and Chat" is again set to take place at Fine Foods Cucina, Meredith Street NEWTON @1030hrs. Come along and find out who has done what, where and why, maybe discover a chap's hidden talent/s. Need lift? Ask Ray or Bob.

Regards Ray

## TOFS

TOFS will meet on Tuesday 1st October at 2pm at the Church Lower Hall to pack Shoeboxes. Please bring anything that you have made or purchased to be included in Shoeboxes. After we have finished we will walk over to the Indigo Cafe to enjoy coffee and cake. Any questions to Freddie.

## Wirra – Watch and Wonder – new butterflies needed



Wirtuti, Spring has sprung in the wirra and it is the Season of Creation. Butterflies will start to emerge and most only survive one to four weeks. Our woollen ones have survived much longer but need some help if they are going to enjoy the wirra again. If you like to crochet or knit, please help our butterflies to re-emerge! Joy can help with wool and patterns.

Our aim is to refresh them in the next month or so, ready to celebrate National Shared Reading Week facilitated by Street Library Australia, when we will be inviting families with preschoolers to explore activities in the wirra, based on "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" by Eric Carle. *Joy and Bruce Stewart*

## 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> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues of the month at 9.00am Indigo Espresso Cafe	Office
Sunday Nights	6 pm. Venue varies each week.	Melissa O'Hara/ Robyn Fry
Threads	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Tues of the month, 2-4 pm, Indigo Espresso Café	Office
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> Tues of the month. 2 – 4pm. Venues vary.	Sheralyn Robertson

## NOTICES FOR MEMBERS

### Moths & Security Issue

Please note that we have had two church security calls in the last week from the security company who monitors Athelstone UC. The alarms are being triggered at night, around 7:30 pm. Both calls were probably cause by moths, which are hanging around outside the entry door (near the side steps), and when people using the church are leaving the moths have entered. Paul Howland who received the security calls once alarm triggered has sprayed around the alarm sensor and outside the door but we do not expect that to be a lasting solution.

We are thus, asking all users of the church in the evening to be aware of this issue. For the next month or so, if you are in the church in the evening, please keep all doors closed after sunset and take special care when locking up and leaving the building to keep the side door closed as much as possible.

### Spring Newsletter

As our office administrator, Carol, will be on leave from the office between October 17 and November 8, Church Council will be putting in place a number of actions to cover her absence. One of these will be the publication of a Spring Newsletter to cover the weeks when Carol is away. If there are newsletter items that need to be included to cover this period then you are requested to provide them to Carol during the next 2 weeks.

### 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/>

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

### Breast Screening Fund Raising Event

*The following event is being organised by Dr Susan Pearce (Medical HQ and AGPN who have/are currently hiring our top hall).*

Did you know that the Australian breast cancer screening process is incomplete? This means most women aren't fully informed of results or reminders. By attending our Raise a Glass Breakfast, you will be contributing directly to vital research that will help make breast screening more accessible and effective for women across Australia. Together, we can make a difference in the fight against breast cancer while enjoying a meaningful morning in great company. Your ticket includes: A glass of bubbles or mimosa upon arrival to start your day with a bit of sparkle; A delicious breakfast to fuel your body for the day ahead, with options for a big breakfast or a vegetarian big breakfast, both served with a hot drink and a chance to win the **lucky door prize** and multiple **raffle prizes** with exciting items up for grabs throughout the event.

**Special Guest Speaker: Mary Omond**, who is a breast cancer survivor and champagne expert. Her story of resilience and strength will be one of the highlights of the morning. Not only will she share her personal journey, but she will also delve into the fascinating history of champagne and the pivotal role that women have played in influencing its development. Her unique perspective will surely inspire all in attendance.

To purchase tickets go to: <https://events.humanitix.com/raise-a-glass-for-better-screening/tickets>

**Event Details:** Friday, October 18th, 2024 from 8:00 - 10:00 AM at LUCIANO'S on the Marina, Glenelg.

**Ticket Cost:** \$85 per person

## CHURCH BUILDING BOOKINGS

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

Day	Time	Location	Hirer/User
Tuesday 8 Oct	6.30 – 8.30 pm	Auditorium	Waratah Calisthenics
Thursday 10 Oct	7.00 – 8.00 pm	Auditorium	Worship Practice
<b>Friday 11 Oct</b>	<b>Evening</b>	<b>Auditorium</b>	<b>Wimala Presbytery Tech Set up</b>
<b>Saturday 12 Oct</b>	<b>All Day</b>	<b>Whole Building</b>	<b>Wimala Presbytery Meeting</b>
<b>Sunday 13 Oct</b>	<b>4 – 6 pm</b>	<b>Whole Building</b>	<b>Messy Church (The Armour of God)</b>
Mon, Wed, Fri	9.00 – 3.00 pm	Top Hall	Australian General Practice Network

\*There will be **no Pilate's classes** in lower hall **between 21<sup>st</sup> September and 13<sup>th</sup> October** (instructor on holidays).

\***For chair stewards:** We have been advised that our calisthenics hirer will not be holding calisthenics classes over the October long weekend (Sat 5<sup>th</sup> – Sun 7<sup>th</sup> October) but otherwise classes will still be held during the school holidays as per usual (student numbers permitting). The Wimala Presbytery Meeting will be held at Athelstone UC on Saturday 12th October all day, with set up from Friday night.

*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*

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## SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP ROSTER

2024		Sun/6/Oct	Sun/13/Oct
Preaching & Liturgy	Worship Leader	Lynton Nicholas	Robyn Stevenson
	Preacher	Brian Polkinghorne	Do Young Kim
	Pray with Preacher	Lee O'Connell	Stella Waugh
	Notices	Brenton Summers	Don Brown
	Bible Reader	Noel Maywald	Ann Brown
Music Team	Piano / Keyboard	Celine Leslie	Di Curtis
	Singers	Sylvia Maywald	Bob Stevenson
		Allan Amber	Lynton Nicholas
		Shelley Walker	Ann Brown
	Guitar	Chris Pritchard	Chris Pritchard
	Bass / 2nd Guitar		Scott Tilley
Drums / Percussion	Glen Luestner	Glen Luestner	
Technical	Sound Desk	Don Brown	Noel Maywald
	Data Operator	Samantha Walker	David Walker
	Zoom Production		Tara Shirlock
Communion	Preparation	<b><i>No Communion Today</i></b>	Lee O'Connell
	Servers / Helpers	<b><i>(moved to next week)</i></b>	Friederike Ashby-Weiss Stella Waugh
Engagement	Flowers	Jenny Riggall	Di Curtis
	Door Greeters	Jenny Riggall	Jan Robin
		David Riggall	Gus Robin
Administration	Building Steward	Eric Hurrell	Noel Maywald
	Chair Stewards	Glen Luestner	Sharon Tilley
		Janet Luestner	Scott Tilley
	Tick and Flick	Brenton Summers	Ann Brown
	Count Offering	Sylvia Maywald	Bob Stevenson
Don Brown		David Walker	

*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.*