



Athelstone Uniting Church Newsletter – 30 March 2025

Minister: Rev Do Young Kim

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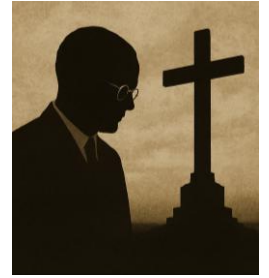
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Do Young's day off is Friday

We welcome you to worship at Athelstone! Our preacher today is Pastor Rob Morgan

Film Reflection – Bonhoeffer: Pastor, Spy, Martyr

A pastor who was also a spy? And involved in a plot to kill Hitler? Honestly, when I first heard that about Dietrich Bonhoeffer, I had to laugh a little. It just didn't fit the usual image of what a pastor does. But then again, Bonhoeffer wasn't your usual kind of pastor. *(Image credit: Canva)*



I watched the film *"Bonhoeffer: Pastor, Spy, Martyr"* on Tuesday at the Norwood cinema, and it's been lingering with me ever since. It's not a fast-paced movie. There's no action, no romance, no laugh-out-loud moments. In fact, at times it might even feel a bit slow. But I think that's part of what makes it powerful—especially during Lent. This season invites us to pause, reflect, and go deeper. And this film does just that.

Bonhoeffer was a young German pastor and theologian who stood up to Hitler and spoke out when many others—including the church—stayed silent. He eventually joined the resistance and was executed just weeks before the end of World War II. It's hard not to be moved by his courage, especially when you realise that he didn't have to do any of it. He had opportunities to stay safe, even leave Germany. But he chose to stay, because he believed following Jesus meant standing with those who were suffering.

One of Bonhoeffer's most famous ideas is something he called "cheap grace." He wrote, *"Cheap grace is grace without discipleship, grace without the cross, grace without Jesus Christ."* And in contrast, *"Costly grace is the call of Jesus Christ at which the disciple leaves everything and follows him."* Those words have stuck with me for years. They've shaped how I understand faith—not as something that just makes life easier, but something that calls us to live with purpose, sacrifice, and love.

Now, here's a confession: I own almost all of Bonhoeffer's books... but I haven't read them all. (I'm sure I'm not the only one!) Watching this film reminded me why I wanted to read them in the first place. Not just because he was smart or brave, but because his life still speaks. It challenges me to ask: what does it really mean to follow Jesus today?

This year marks 80 years since Bonhoeffer's death, and yet his voice still matters. He once said, *"The Church is only the Church when it exists for others."* I've been thinking about that a lot lately. It's easy for churches to focus inward. But Bonhoeffer reminds us that the Church finds its true calling when it turns outward—when it serves, loves, and stands with others.

In a time when prosperity theology and success-driven faith are gaining ground across the globe, Bonhoeffer's life continues to speak. His witness still challenges us—quietly but firmly—to ask the hard questions. What kind of gospel are we living? What kind of grace are we embracing? His example invites us back to a discipleship that is deep, costly, and profoundly shaped by Christ.

This film probably won't stay in theatres for long. It's not flashy or popular. But it's worth seeing. And if you can't catch it, maybe take a moment to learn about Bonhoeffer's life, or read a page or two from one of his books. You might find, like I did, that even across the decades, his faith and his witness still have something to say.

Blessings, Do Young

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

Worship Online

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

Silence and Prayer in Holy Week

As we approach Holy Week 2025, we propose creating a special early morning prayer and reflection time in the auditorium. This initiative aims to provide a sacred and contemplative space for personal reflection, prayer, and spiritual renewal as we journey toward Easter.

The church doors will open from 6:00 AM, and anyone is welcome to come and participate at a time that suits us. A screen will display simple scripture passages and prayer points for the day to guide reflection and prayer. The time of prayer and reflection will be quiet yet powerful. If you have any questions, please reach out to Do Young

Date: Holy Week (Monday, April 14 – Saturday, April 19)

Time: 6:00 AM – 8:00 AM

Pastoral Care – New initiative



The Pastoral Care team have decided on a new initiative.

If you have a family member, relative or friend who has recently died we wish to light a candle at the beginning of a service to honour that person and to share in your grief.

One of the Pastoral Care team or the Worship leader will say a few sentences in memory of your loved one and light the candle, which will remain lit for the duration of the service.

For more information: Please contact a member of the Pastoral Care team

Photo Credit: Do Young Kim.

MISSIONS

Packing Day 2025: Be excited, Be involved!

Once again, AUC will be involved in Packing Day. Packing Day is a chance for our church community to co-ordinate the packing of clothing and household items to remote northern aboriginal communities.

What you need to do:

- Save the date – Sunday June 1st and Monday June 2nd
- Start collecting clothing and household goods – we pack for tropical communities so need clothing that is suitable for this climate.
- Ask friends and family to collect suitable clothing and household items – we have been particularly short of children and men's clothing in the past.
- Collected items can be brought along to church and placed in the shed.

Please speak to Jayne Nicholas (0418836266) if you have any queries.

Uniting World - Lent Appeal

Each year the Uniting Church of Australia, through Uniting World, carefully selects a significant project of outreach and Christian mission. This year's lent appeal is supporting our neighbours in the Pacific, Asia and Africa, who due to the ever-growing climate crisis, are living with its devastating impacts. Families are being displaced by disaster; lands are becoming infertile and clean water is becoming harder to find and store. For those already living in poverty, these challenges are immense, and the chance to rebuild after disasters is impossible without help.

There are a few giving envelopes left on the Giving Table to donate to this year's Lent Appeal.

Alternatively, you can give online at <https://unitingworld.org.au/join-us-for-lent-event-2025/>

Missions

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

Sally Stamp	Bring stamps to the office or giving table to help with this ministry.
Uniting Communities	Please keep bringing in your donations and let us fill the giving table

CONNECT GROUPS

Wirra – Watch and Wonder

Oh, how we all enjoyed that last rain! A new season, parnati/ autumn, is bringing changes. Check out the display board at the back of the church and learn about Kurna families and how they prepared for the colder weather to come.

We have been picking up wardlawarnka, fallen tree branches and bark to reduce the heavy “mulch” and it is how our wardli/hut was created. It has become a favourite play spot for families now.

Joy and Bruce Stewart



(Photo Credit: J & B 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 st & 3 rd Tues of the month at 9.30am, Indigo Espresso Cafe.	Office
Sunday Nights	6 pm. Venues vary each week.	Melissa O'Hara
Threads	2 nd & 4 th Tues of the month, 2-4 pm, Indigo Espresso Café	Office
Triple Cs – Men's Group	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

NOTICES FOR MEMBERS

2025 National Festival of Male Choirs

Lynton, Dave & Shelley are performing in the National Festival of Male Choirs Gala Concert and invite you to share in this music experience which promises to be fantastic!

Tickets via: <https://premier.ticketek.com.au/Shows/Show.aspx?sh=MCHOIR25>

NOTE: some of our congregation would really appreciate travel assistance to attend.



The poster features a central image of a male choir performing on stage. The text is overlaid on this image. On the left side, there is a dark blue vertical bar with white text. On the right side, there is another dark blue vertical bar with white text. The main text is in the center, with 'Gala Concert' in large, bold, red letters. Below it, there is a description of the event in white text, and a tagline in yellow text at the bottom.

Sunday
25 May
2:00pm

2025 National Festival of Male Choirs
Gala Concert

Over 350 Singers from Across Australia
Performing Choral Favourites — Showtunes,
Popular, Folk, Classical and Sacred pieces,
with a 50-piece Orchestra.

A truly spectacular celebration of music!

Tickets \$45/\$55
Ticketek.com.au
On Sale Now!

Adelaide
Entertainment
Centre
Theatre

Hindmarsh
SA

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

Wimala Presbytery Youth Event

Sunday 13 April at Brougham Place Uniting Church from 4.00 to 8.00 pm, including an evening meal.

Remembering and celebrating the story of Easter and the last week of Jesus' life and the Resurrection.

Easter games, craft, food, stories.

Call Rebecca on 0407 993 526 for more information and to register (by April 6 for catering purposes)!

Easter Sights and Sounds

Members of our congregation have been invited to join Spicer in this wonderful ministry event. They are looking for people to serve God with them and for them to bring their family and friends to experience the Sights and Sounds of Easter. There is a \$5 entry fee. Please see the noticeboard for more information.

Wider Church News & Useful 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/>

Worship at Home self-guided resource: <https://sa.uca.org.au/worship-at-home/>

CHURCH BUILDING BOOKINGS

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

Day	Time	Location	Hirer/User
Monday 31 March	4.45 – 6.45 pm	Auditorium	Waratah Calisthenics
Monday 31 March	6.30 – 8.30 pm	Lower Hall	Gain Momentum Pilates
Tuesday 1 April	9.30 – 11.30 am	Lower Hall	Gain Momentum Pilates
Tuesday 1 April	6.30 – 8.30 pm	Auditorium	Waratah Calisthenics
Tuesday 1 April	6.30 – 7.30 pm	Lower Hall	Gain Momentum Pilates
Wednesday 2 April	9.30 – 10.30 am	Lower Hall	Gain Momentum Pilates
Thursday 3 April	6.30 – 8.30 pm	Lower Hall	Gain Momentum Pilates
Thursday 3 April	7.00 – 8.00 pm	Auditorium	Worship Practice
Saturday 5 April	9.00 – 11.00 am	Lower Hall	Gain Momentum Pilates
Saturday 5 April	9.30 – 12.00 pm	Auditorium	Waratah Calisthenics
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

2025		Sun 30 Mar	Sun 6 Apr
Preaching & Liturgy	Worship Leader	Lynton Nicholas	Robyn Stevenson
	Preacher	Pastor Rob Morgan	Do Young Kim
	Pray with Preacher	Di Curtis	Jennifer Clark
	Notices	Brenton Summers	Lee O'Connell
	Bible Reader	Syvia Maywald	Lee O'Connell
Music Team	Piano / Keyboard	Shelley Walker	Celine Leslie
	Singers	Allan Amber	Eric Hurrell
		Friederike Ashby-Weiss	Bob Stevenson
		Ann Brown	Shelley Walker
	Guitar	Chris Pritchard	Chris Pritchard
	Bass / 2nd Guitar	Scott Tilley	-
Drums / Percussion	-	-	
Technical	Sound Desk	Don Brown	Paul Howland/David Walker
	Data Operator	David Walker	David Walker
	Zoom Production	Graham Jennings	Paul Howland
Engagement	Flowers	Raelene Anderson	Jenny Riggall
	Door Greeters	David Riggall	Brenton Summers
		Jenny Riggall	Coralie Summers
Administration	Building Steward	Richard Read	Paul Howland
	Chair Stewards	Sharon Tilley	Bob Stevenson
		Scott Tilley	Brenton Summers
	Tick and Flick	Trevor Curtis	Brenton Summers
	Count Offering	Friederike Ashby-Weiss	Paul Howland
	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.



Athelstone Uniting Church Postal Address: PO Box 307, Athelstone, 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.