

ADELAIDE UNITARIAN NEWSLETTER

Issue 1086
February - March 2023



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 Website: www.unitariansa.org.au
 Minister (interim): Mr Kris Hanna



The Unitarian Church of South Australia Inc. — founded 11 July 1854

Minister Emeritus: The Rev. Allen Kirby

UPCOMING SERVICES

Note: services start at 10.30 am at Norwood unless otherwise indicated

Date	Speaker and Topic	Music
January 29	Kris Hanna – ‘What’s the harm in sin’? also ‘Blessing of the Bags’	Brendan Moyse
February 5	Kris Hanna – ‘The Voice’ Vespers at Shady Grove, 5:00 pm – Jennie Dyster	Brendan Moyse
February 12	Kris Hanna – ‘Early Christianity’	Margaret Lambert
February 19	Kris Hanna – ‘The Dead Sea Scrolls’	Robyn Filmer
February 26	Kris Hanna – ‘William Blake’	Grant Shillabeer & Brendan Moyse
March 5	Kris Hanna – ‘The Matrix’ Combined Shady Grove service. 11.30 start. No service at Norwood Bring lunch to share	Brendan Moyse
March 12	Kris Hanna – ‘Four Noble Truths’	Margaret Lambert
March 19	Kris Hanna – ‘Submission’	Robyn Filmer
March 26	Kris Hanna – The Water Service	Grant Shillabeer & Brendan Moyse
April 2	Kris Hanna – “To be or not to be ...”	Brendan Moyse

REGULAR EVENTS

			Contact
Committee of Management meetings	9am–10am	2 nd Sunday unless advised	Secretary/Office
Lectio Divina (Breviary readings)	6pm–7pm	3 rd Wednesday monthly	Jennie Dyster
Terrace Singers	4pm	To start Thursday February 2	Margaret Lambert
Ruggers (<i>Stream-of-Life</i>)	10am–2pm	1 st Monday monthly	Val Webb
Moving Meditation	2pm–3pm	Mondays weekly (\$5 donation for SoL)	Jennie Dyster
Community Garden	10am	Saturday weekly in Alfred Street, Norwood	Jenny Warner
Shady Grove Bush Care	9am–12pm	Due hot weather, refer to Bushcare, page 5	Jenny Warner
Shady Grove Cemetery Care	9am–1pm	Due hot weather, refer to Bushcare, page 5	Jenny Warner

Contact the Church office on 0490 660 175 for further details, or the Church directory for contact details

IDEAS SESSION: SUNDAY JANUARY 29 – 12 noon

Fellow freethinkers! The Vision subcommittee wants to know what you think! We’re invested in our future and would love you to come to our brainstorming ideas session to develop a significant project to make our church a better place and to gain insight into the things we need to work on.

Everyone is welcome, but we are particularly interested in the thoughts of our younger members. Lunch and childcare will be provided.

OFFICE and MINISTER'S HOURS, CONTACT DETAILS

The Administrative Assistant is Mary Chase. Office hours are 9am to 1pm on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays for administrative work, but may vary due to circumstances.

Please send all emails concerning administration of the Church to admin@unitariansa.org.au
Church office contact: **mobile 0490 660 175** (or +61 490 660 175 overseas)

(Interim) Minister Kris Hanna is available by phone Mon & Tue 9am–1pm, Wed 1pm–5pm, Thu & Fri 9am–5pm
mobile 0403 614 948, or via email minister@unitariansa.org.au

STREAM-OF-LIFE (SoL) CONTACT is Jennie Dyster jendyster@gmail.com

FROM THE MINISTER

Already more than halfway through this six months contract – it has gone very quickly. Is there a desire for the engagement to lead to a long term relationship? Soon there will be a congregational meeting to resolve this question.

Apart from Sundays, I am (very gradually) getting around to meet members of the group. Some time has also been dedicated to revision of the website, which is a critical, foundational element to increasing Sunday attendance. Attendance numbers are not the focus. It's about letting the community know what a wonderful offering we have here.

Meanwhile a short introductory meditation course will be on offer over the next couple of months. It would be a safe environment in which to try it if you never have before. Note the advert elsewhere in the newsletter.

Take care of yourself, and each other.

KRIS HANNA, (Interim) Minister
minister@unitariansa.org.au

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT (CoM)

The Committee of Management did not meet in November, as the Annual General Meeting took place on the second Sunday of that month. The new incoming CoM met first on 11 December, with seven voting members present, as well as two non-voting members (Minister Kris Hanna and Secretary Mary Chase), and John Hall as the outgoing President of the 2021-22 CoM. Jennie Dyster was elected as President of the CoM and Peter Whitham was elected as Vice-President. The CoM voted to appoint Mary Chase as the ongoing Administrative Secretary.

Aaron Poeze was appointed Chair of the Vision sub-committee.

The CoM approved a motion to organise a brainstorming session on the future of the Church for 29 January, with members under 60 being especially encouraged to attend.

Three new membership applications were also approved.

Kris Hanna gave a summary of the results of the recent survey of members. He pointed out that the survey responses help give a good idea of what the Church has to offer. Kris also submitted a briefing on how we can better publicise our Church, so others can

benefit. In the discussion that followed, the CoM agreed with Kris that the priority is to re-design our website, so that anyone hearing about the Church for the first time would be better able to find relevant information there. In addition, Kris recommended we develop a short social media policy and create a Church brochure. A small working group was formed to work on these ideas, starting with upgrading the web page.

MARY CHASE, Administrative Secretary
admin@unitariansa.org.au

Minutes and all papers for CoM meetings are placed in the library once the minutes of that meeting have been ratified.

ADMINISTRATION

An important job began in December, with Minister Kris, President Jennie, and Secretary Mary developing a draft layout for a re-vamped Church web page. Kris has engaged a web page designer to do the technical set-up. Crucially, he has been asked to set it up so that church leadership can make any future changes as needed, without needing advanced tech skills. We hope we will soon be able to move on to the next step: creating up-to-date and inspiring content for the new web page. We may ask you for help!

Other administrative work recently has included wrapping up final invoices for last year's Church users and making bookings for the new year.

The Meeting House will be somewhat busy in 2023, with usage levels similar to before COVID. Major users of our premises will be the School of Practical Philosophy and the Acorn Program for new parents.

The slow period over the holidays allowed me to work on organising the library, which I had been wanting to do for a long time. Just before this newsletter went to press, we held a successful work party to do various jobs such as re-hanging the cleaned curtains, cleaning and organising the kitchen, and getting a good start on cataloguing new books into the library, and washing windows. Many thanks to Jennie, Sandy, Peter, Annette, Sarah, Victor, Anna, and Kris for your work!

MARY CHASE, Administrative Secretary
admin@unitariansa.org.au

INTRODUCTION TO MEDITATION

The Minister will lead a short course, introducing the benefits and practice of meditation.

5pm to 6pm Wednesdays
February 1, March 1 and April 5

At the Meeting House

Ideally those attending would commit to all three sessions

Free for congregational members – by donation for visitors.

VALE LIZ LOVE

Sadly, Liz Love died on 27 November 2022, following a long illness.

Liz will be warmly remembered for her kindness and her many contributions to our church. As well as being a weekly attendee for many years, other contributions Liz made to our community were stepping-up to coordinate the women's discussion group, was a member of the Committee of Management and Ruggers group,



Liz and her daughter Sonya

energetically made the kitchen her domain and was a driving force when we prepared meals and baked biscuits for the Vinnies Men's Crisis Shelter for several years.

Liz loved being a Unitarian, and unwaveringly gave her all. She has been sadly missed from our congregation for the past four years when she became unwell.

Liz's family had a private ceremony to celebrate her life, and are hoping she is in a better place, with lost loves, and her cheeky spirit released.

PASTORAL CARE

Are you in need of pastoral support? If so, please contact one of the members of the Pastoral Care committee:

John Hall	0422 534 782	Christine Mason	0421 027 376
Helen Hall	0403 838 930	Jennie Dyster	0428 820 658
Sandy Schultheis	0422 307 444		

SUNDAY CLUB

Program

In December the Sunday Club gave an end-of-year presentation to the congregation, sharing some of what we've been up to and reflecting on our year of learning. (Please see the photos on page 6). This was followed by a picnic at Richards Park.

Religious Education (RE) will be offered on January 29, February 26, and March 26.

This year we plan to offer structured RE at least once a month. On other Sundays there will be play and fellowship with our assistants.

Check out our activities by contacting David to join the Sunday Club Facebook group.

Camps

This year we hope to run Sunday Club camps at Shady Grove in the April, July and October holidays. Dates to be confirmed.

Volunteering in Sunday Club

If you would like to assist with the children's program, please contact [David](#). It is fun and rewarding!

DAVID FREESMITH, Sunday Club Coordinator
0403 933 857 | dfreesmith@gmail.com

BIRTHDAYS

Members' birthdays in February

4th	Jill Heylen	12th	Tim Solheim
4th	Erika Guess	12th	Milton Smith
11th	Trevor Killmier	18th	Kelsey Ulstrup

Members' birthdays in March

3rd	Bronwyn Shillabeer	24th	Annette Taylor
4th	Hamish Follett-Owler	26th	Jane Lambert
18th	Ian Schomburgk		

Happy birthday to you from your Unitarian friends!

Happiness is not found in things you possess, but in what you have the courage to release..."

– Nathaniel Hawthorne

ERAN BINENBAUM
binenbaume@gmail.com

STREAM of LIFE

Lunch and Piazzola

Stream of Life (SoL) will be offering the Australian Chamber Orchestra live audio (not video) concert on Monday **27 February 2023** from 1pm. The program will take approximately 1½ hours (with 20-minute intermission) and copies of the music pieces will be available through the office or Jennie Dyster.

This will follow lunch at 12.30pm. SoL will provide savoury slices, but you are welcome to bring your own sandwich, salad or fruit.

You are welcome to come just for the lunch or just for the concert or both! No charge.

Community Garden

The cos lettuce crop was more than successful, and we are currently harvesting rhubarb and various herbs. The corn is as high as an elephant's eye and the spring onions and Jerusalem artichokes are doing well – all will probably be ready for harvest in a month or so.

Noel and Jenny have erected a net across the fig tree and we look forward to a reasonable fruit crop this year. We also have some ripening peaches and nectarines.

We could really do with a few more hands, especially to help with watering now that the real summer is upon us. Come along and see how much satisfaction you can generate by getting your hands dirty!

JENNY WARNER

In the courtyard

You will remember that we planted out the courtyard in June with native plants. Relishing the summer weather, and previous ample rainfall, the garden is now looking superb. In particular the Wallaby grass (*Austrodanthonia spp*) and Kangaroo grass (*Themeda triandra*) have put on strong growth, and the *Myoporum* and *Scaevola* ground covers are spreading well. It's starting to look like a proper 'wiltja' – a real bush garden.



We also have Berry Saltbush (*Atriplex semibaccata*), Fringed Everlasting (*Chrysocephalum baxteri*), Emu Bush (*Erimophila glabra*), and Hop Goodenia (*Goodenia ovata*), among several other species.

The idea is to make the area attractive to native birds and butterflies, as well as a pleasant place to sit.

We intend to prepare a map of the area, as well as the front courtyard, with a key to the plants.

PETER WHITHAM

SHADY GROVE

News

Imogen Lane has returned from an enjoyable six month's University exchange in the UK. Her family are delighted to have her home again.

December was a busy month for Shady Grove members, cleaning and preparing for our first Sunday of the month service, as well as the Christmas Eve service, both led by the Rev. Jo Lane.

A goodly number attended both services. Christmas Eve was a delightfully balmy evening, ideal for eating and socialising on the deck after the service.

PAT SIMPSON

Shady Grove dates

Sunday 5 February at 5pm:

Vespers service in Church/Meeting House

Leader: Jennie Dyster
Address: tba
Music: tba
Wardens: Jill & Murray Dunn
Shared meal to follow

Sunday 5 March at 11.30am

Combined Shady Grove/Norwood Service

Leader: Minister Kris Hanna
Address: The Matrix
Music: Brendan Moyse
Wardens: Pat and Brian Simpson
Shared lunch to follow

Wednesday 8 March at 9.30am

Shady Grove Quarterly Meeting

Please bring an individual lunch or food to share if you intend staying after the meeting.

SHADY GROVE BUSH CARE AND CEMETERY CARE

Bush care will resume in February. Wednesdays are the scheduled days and we plan to meet fortnightly, at least for the first few months. Because the weather is still changeable, notices will be sent out by email beforehand to confirm. It will be interesting to see the effects of the rain together with the bursts of hot weather on the bush land.

Cemetery care starts again on 14 February and will be on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. The effects of last year's work are visible but there is still a lot to catch up. The variety of native plants is quite astonishing for such a small area. In fact, an acknowledged value of an old cemetery is that it often contains plants that have been lost in the surrounding countryside.

More volunteers for either or both activities would be most welcome. Both bush care and cemetery care volunteers only work when it suits them, and there is supervision and guidance. Tools are provided and the work is not arduous. For anyone who likes being out in nature and getting their hands dirty, this can be a satisfying activity. Please contact Jenny Warner for more information.

JENNY WARNER
jswow@gmail.com

FIRE OR SEVERE WEATHER

*If you are planning to attend a service or event at Shady Grove please check the weather forecast for Mt Barker. The forecast is accessible the night before on <http://www.bom.gov.au/sa/forecasts/mount-barker.shtml>, or on the ABC News. If the forecast is for **High, Extreme or Catastrophic** fire danger, or a **Severe Weather** warning, the event will be cancelled.*

If a combined Shady Grove/Norwood service (usually held on the first Sundays in March, May, and November) is cancelled, the service will be held at Norwood starting at 10.30.



CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE

With a break from tradition, pews were placed in a circle. Kris Hanna told the story of Jeshua and how the Christmas story continues to shape civil society.

This was followed by a generous selection of goodies. See pictures below.



Helen Hall, Erika Lambert (visiting from Melbourne) and John Hall



SUNDAY CLUB END OF YEAR PRESENTATION



A poem by Nicolette Sowder

May we raise children
 Who love the unloved
 Things – the dandelion the
 Worms and spiderlings.
 Children who sense
 the rose needs the thorn

 & run into rainswept days
 the same way they
 turn towards sun ...

And when they're grown &
 Someone has to speak for those
 who have no voice

 may they draw upon that
 wilder bond, those days of
 tending tender things

 and be the ones ...

DUTIES ROSTER

Please make a note in your diaries for your scheduled rosters. If you are **unable** to take your turn on the rostered date, please contact another person on the same roster and arrange to interchange dates.

	GREETER	WARDEN	COFFEE & TEA	FLOWERS	SOUND SYS	TECH
FEB 05	E Guess	R Mayo	R Mayo & M Chase	M Madden	J Eaton	J Eaton
FEB 12	R Mayo	C Mason	J Hall & S Schultheis	J Brummitt	R Mayo	J Eaton
FEB 19	C Mason	R Mayo	E Guess & R Mayo	Church flowers	R Mayo	J Eaton
FEB 26	S Ahmed	J Warner	J Hall & S Schultheis	J Heylen	R Mayo	G Shillabeer
MAR 05	Shady Grove Combined Service (11.30 start) Wardens: Pat and Brian Simpson					
MAR 12	R Mayo	C Mason	J Hall & S Schultheis	J Brummitt	R Mayo	J Eaton
MAR 19	C Mason	R Mayo	E Guess & R Mayo	Church flowers	R Mayo	J Eaton
MAR 26	S Ahmed	J Warner	J Hall & S Schultheis	J Heylen	R Mayo	G Shillabeer
APR 02	E Guess	R Mayo	R Mayo & M Chase	M Madden	J Eaton	J Eaton

The **DEADLINE** for copy for the **April-May 2023 NEWSLETTER** is **SUNDAY 19 March 2023**

Please ensure that our newsletter editor for this edition, Sandy Schultheis, has your **WRITTEN** items (preferably transmitted via email as in-line text or an attached Word file) to **Aaron Poeze** aaronpoeze@gmail.com by (preferably before) this date.

'Like' our church's Facebook page: [SA Unitarians](#). Our Twitter account is: [@saunitarians](#) (follow this and share Tweets).