# UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA SURF COAST NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 1ST.2013

Anglesea

PAGE I

Torquay

Bellbrae

Helen's Space see Page 2



Minister Rev. Helen Robinson Telephone 0408 527 521

helenrobinson 12@bigpond.com Torquay Church Office 5261 2369 **Our Web Site** www.surfcoast.unitingchurch.org.au This Newsletter is available on our web site

# **Readings this week**

Jeremiah 2:4-13 Psalm 81:1, 10-16 Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16 Luke 14:1, 7-14

# Welcome

We welcome all visitors to our services this day; we trust you are enjoying your stay on the Surf Coast. When you return to your home churches please take the greetings of the Surf Coast Linked Congregations with you.

Bellbrae Bric a Brac & Bellbrae Book Room Are open for Business on Thursday & Friday 10 - 4 Saturday 10 - 1 sorting is now on Tuesday afternoon 1.00-4.00 pm.

#### Services

Aireys Inlet

Today Anglesea 9.00am Aireys Inlet 10.30am Michelle Hardy Torquay 9.30am. Bellbrae 11.00am. Rev. Helen Robinson

#### Next Week

Anglesea 9.00am Aireys Inlet 10.30am **Rev. Helen Robinson** Torquay 9.30am. Bellbrae 11.00am. **Worship Teams** 

Anglesea Congregational Meeting After the service this morning.

**Anglesea reminder** of the combined morning tea with the Baptist on October 1st

# Feed the World

Mary Bremner reported at the Linked Council Meeting that last Sundays Feed the World event was very successful with an attendance of 130 people from within and outside the wider Church.

Well done Aireys Inlet

# **Fund Raising: Bunnings**

BBQ 23rd November 2013 - Robin Dennis agreed to be the Convenor and will coordinate the event. Put this in your diary

#### **Daffodil Day**

Many thanks to all who braved the elements last Friday and Saturday selling Daffodils and Merchandise for Daffodil Day.

The final result was profit \$2,393.40, a cheque for sent to Cancer Council Victoria.

This figure was down a little on last year primarily due to the fact we weren't able to get the number of fresh daffodils that we had ordered.

Winter/Spring Quarterly Bulletin Is available for reading and download on our web site.

Help is needed for asylum seekers being housed in Geelong.

These people are given a few weeks of supported housing and are then placed in private housing. Diversitat is handling much of this resettlement and is appealing for donations of furniture and household items. The following is from their website

#### **Household Items:**

We are requesting kitchen utensils, pots and pans, electrical items, fridges, washing machines and furniture. If you have any of the above items, please phone Jax on 0417 144 846 and she will arrange pick up. Ideally, it would be great if you offer to help with delivery of your donations.

#### **Clothing:**

Geelong Wholefoods have also set up a 'Clothing Relief Centre' for clients within the CAS program. People are welcome to drop off clothing donations (unwanted but still in good order) to 2 Baylie Place, Geelong on Tuesdays 10am - 4pm. We are also seeking shelving, coat-hangers

and even Volunteers for the centre.

For more info please contact Tara Watts( 0447 889 453) during business hours. More details are on their website.

# Melbourne rally against PNG solution



A strong contingent of Uniting Church members recently marched behind the Uniting Church banner, joining thousands who took part in a national day of action speaking out against hard-line asylum seeker policies. See the video on the front page of the UCA web site

Helen's Space

After the great success of our "Feed the World" event at Aireys Inlet, I would like to take time to thank everybody who works so hard for all the activities in each of our different congregations. Truth to tell, I have never encountered in my other placements so many people who are willing to work so hard for the good of the Church. It is important to me that everyone understands that what they do has value for our congregations, and I am a little concerned that I may not thank people often enough.

For instance, hospitality is such an important value for us, as Christians. Therefore, the efforts of all those who get morning tea ready after worship, and for other occasions when we share food together, are a significant part of our fellowship. Thanks- of course- go to our musicians, and choir. I think music is a vital part of worship, and I am so grateful to all those who contribute to that aspect of our services. Our treasurers surely know how important their work is, making sure that everything is "out there" and above board, and keeping track of our financial status. For them, there are also tax returns to deal with, which are themselves very time consuming and rather complicated. We owe them a debt of gratitude. (Did I just make some kind of pun?)

Our faith encourages us to love beauty, and so we are fortunate to have the work of ladies who arrange flowers week by week. We are so grateful for what they add to our worship space. Everyone who reads the scriptures for us and those who lead prayers gets a vote of thanks from all of us, as do the people "on the door" who welcome everyone as they arrive for worship. It is particularly important that our visitors receive a warm greeting, and we are grateful for those who fill that role in the first instance. We know it's the responsibility of all of us to welcome newcomers, and I think we make really good efforts to do so.

Many thanks go to our "tech savy" people who work hard on our Church website, on our presentations for worship each week, and on our sound systems. What would we do without these people, in trying to get our message across? Needless to say, I (and indeed all of us) are indebted to everyone in our congregations who is engaged in any aspect of pastoral care. This is so vital to the life and wellbeing of our Church, and many people play a role in this area. I also, naturally, include in this those who make a special effort to spend time with our older folk who are now in care. This is a difficult time of life for anyone, and the support we show these people is truly important to them.

Thanks also to those involved in property maintenance. Some of you have had to shoulder a very heavy load in recent months, and an amazing amount of work has been accomplished in the process. You are champions! I am very grateful to all who are willing to take leadership roles in the various councils and committees of our Church. Sometimes such roles are somewhat arduous, but we cannot get by without good governance at all levels.

Finally, I want to thank those who are active in mission on behalf of our congregations. Whether it involves knitting beanies and scarves and tiny bonnets and booties for prem. babies, or advocating for and actively supporting the poor in our own country and overseas, working for the good of refugees and asylum seekers- keep it up! You're doing well!!

Love from your minister, Helen.



It is our pleasure to invite you to the first ever: **Mighty** Men's Conference

# -Victoria

# to be held at Anglesea on the 4-6<sup>th</sup> of October 2013.

The focus is to draw **men** from all across Victoria together for a laugh, fellowship, worship and spiritual **encouragement**. It is a great **opportunity** to hang out and hear speakers & testimonies from **ordinary blokes** who serve an **extraordinary God**! All we are **asking** of you is to come with a <u>swag/tent/bedding</u> and an **open heart** to connect with God and other men.

More info and registration: www.mightymensconference.org.au/anglesea Or call George: 0427 973 110

We encourage you to bring a crew and watch what God will do...