



Aireys Inlet Anglesea Bellbrae Torquay



Minister Rev.  
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### Our Web Site

[www.surfcoast.unitingchurch.org.au](http://www.surfcoast.unitingchurch.org.au)  
Torquay Church Office 5261 2369

### Readings this week

Exodus 34:29-35  
Psalm 99  
2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2  
Luke 9:28-36, (37-43a)

### 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.

### OUR FIRE PLAN

On days of Extreme or Code Red (Catastrophic) Fire Danger in the Central District, no church activities (worship, committee meetings, official social gatherings etc.) will take place. There will not be any notification that events are cancelled.

The church foyer at Torquay will also be a safe and cool haven for you and your pets on such days. If you intend using the Torquay foyer as a refuge, please phone Robin or Jean the night before, or on the day. This will ensure the foyer will be open and cool for you (and your pets).

Robin Dennis 5264 7381 or  
0419 156 108 or  
Jean Murray 52 61 2281

## Helen's Space - See Page 2

### Services

#### Today

Anglesea 9.00am  
Aireys Inlet 10.30am

#### Rev Helen Robinson

Torquay 9.30am.

#### Noni Johnson

Bellbrae 11.00am.

#### Worship Team

### Wed. 13th. Ash Wednesday Services

Will be held at Torquay on Feb. 13th at 7pm. Anyone who wishes is very welcome to come and join me for shared tea at the church at 6pm. I would love to have some company!

Since this is the second Wednesday, we will have Holy Communion at 10:30am at Anglesea on Ash Wednesday, so people are very welcome to come to that service, which will also have an Ash Wednesday theme.

### Next Week

Anglesea 9.00am

#### Worship Committee

Aireys Inlet 10.30am

#### Keith & Mary Bremner

Torquay 9.30am.

Bellbrae 11.00am. **Worship Team**

#### Rev Helen Robinson

**Bellbrae Bric a Brac &  
Bellbrae Book Room  
Are open for Business on  
Thursday & Friday 10 - 4  
Saturday 10 - 1  
sorting is still on  
Monday mornings 9:30- 1:00**

### Weekly Smile - Children's Humour

I was driving with my three young children one warm summer evening when a woman in the convertible ahead of us stood up and waved. She was stark naked! As I was reeling from the shock, I heard my 5-year-old shout from the back seat, 'Mum, that lady isn't wearing a seat belt!'

**Sammy Stamp** - Thank you to everyone who has donated stamps over the past weeks. Sammy is very happy with your response. Keep up the good work! Stamps can be left in the marked bag in the Torquay foyer, or given to Rev Helen.

### Working Bee at Anglesea

Sat 16th Feb, 9 AM- 12 Noon

Our property Committee is organising a "spring clean" of the Church building, including the store room and vestry. Please come prepared to dust, wipe, remove cobwebs, etc. We look forward to a good roll up of members. For further information contact Stan Stott or Ken McCasker.

### World Day of Prayer Anglesea

Friday, 1st March 10am

Please make a note in your diary for this significant event which will be hosted in Anglesea this year by Trinity Uniting Church

### Anglesea Congregation Meeting

Sunday 24th Feb. after the church service.

### World Day of Prayer at Torquay

Planning meeting on Thursday 14th Feb, 2 pm at St Luke's Anglican Church, cnr Price and Pride St. Interested folk are invited. Worship Service on Friday 1st March at 1.30 at St Luke's Anglican Church. All welcome.

**Dine Out** (early notice) commences for 2013 on Monday 25th Feb at 12 noon at The Beach Hotel, Jan Juc. All those who live alone are invited to join us.

**Thank You** to those who supported the service at Elouera last Monday. The following day we received a Post on our Web Site from a lady who was visiting her cousin in Elouera - in part she wrote "I was most impressed with the way in which the team from Torquay UC showed such love and respect to the residents in attendance.... my great assurance is that your branch of our great Church is truly alive and well on the Surf Coast. Bless you each one, from the bottom of my heart." (The full Post will be printed in the Autumn Quarterly Bulletin.)

**Deadline** for Torquay 2012 Annual Reports. You will be relieved to know that the deadline has been extended to Sun 17 Feb. If possible please email in a Word document to [jeanmurray45@bigpond.com](mailto:jeanmurray45@bigpond.com) or hand in a clearly typed copy on A4. Thank you to the one person who has already emailed his Treasurer's report. I look forward to being inundated with Annual Reports very soon!

## Helen's Space

I Firstly, I want to thank everyone for all your concern expressed after I had a car accident last Tuesday. I was very grateful for your love and support. I can't speak highly enough of the police, ambulance and tow-truck driver who attended. There were also a number of bystanders who came over instantly to help us, which was deeply appreciated. The help I received from one particular family was essential in getting me "back on my feet" on that day. Many thanks to them. By the time you read this, I should be driving my new car! I will be forever grateful that neither the other lady or I were hurt, which was something of a miracle in the circumstances.

This is all a reminder to me of the networks of support that we have here in Australia when things go "pear-shaped". We don't stop to think how fortunate we are to have a police force who are there for us at our worst moments. To have them take charge in a dangerous situation is a great relief. Also, to have the care of Ambulance staff in a crisis is very reassuring. I think we can be too inclined to take these services, which are so important, for granted. Because they are always there for us, we might be inclined to scarcely think of them.

Think of this in light of what Paul has to say in Romans 13:1-7 about the governing authorities. I know that in my time I have read those words and wished that Paul wouldn't get quite so carried away. We may quickly think of many times in history when the authorities have been cruel to the very people they should be protecting. We may want to argue strongly with Paul when he speaks of authority coming from God, and the governing authorities being instituted by God.

Stop for a moment and think about the situation in which Paul was writing. Nero was the Emperor at the time. And we know how Nero felt about Christians. There was no safety guaranteed to individuals in that political climate. And in that situation, Paul was telling Christians to respect the authorities. Was Paul trying to protect the infant church by asking people to avoid calling unnecessary attention to themselves from the authorities? There was definitely an element of civil disobedience in simply being Christian, in that political climate in which the emperor gave themselves divine status. There was also widespread anger amongst the population related to indirect taxes which were piled on top of direct taxes. The people rioted against this injustice. (Notice what Paul has to say in vs.6,7)

So Paul is not saying that anything and everything a government does is to be approved of. He is saying that authorities are appointed by God to keep peace and order, and prevent chaos and anarchy. Paul is not saying that we should stay quiet about injustice and corruption. That is not the way of Christ. Paul is saying that there needs to be authority within society so that we can live in peace, order and safety.

I think we need to give thanks that the various authorities in Australia are as trustworthy and just as they are. We complain about many things, and sometimes quite rightly. However, let's not forget how very much better off we are in relation to government and civil authority here, compared to many other places in the world. There is much to thank God for!

From your Minister, Helen. .



**Tuesday, February 12th**  
**12 noon to 4.00pm.**

**Tea and coffee available**  
**Proceeds to Uniting Care**  
**All are Welcome**

### TORQUAY AFTERNOON FELLOWSHIP

Will meet in the foyer of Torquay Uniting Church on Wednesday, 20th February, at 1.30 p.m.

This will be our annual Thanksgiving Service, and Communion, conducted by Rev Helen Robinson. All are welcome, especially those who cannot attend Sunday Communion, because of the early 9.30 a.m. start.

This will be one week and 1 day after Shrove Tuesday, but pancakes are on the menu for afternoon tea. We will have a round table discussion on our programme for the coming year. Every suggestion will be welcome.

Articles for the AUTUMN EDITION OF THE QUARTERLY BULLETIN are being sought from our four congregations. This is a good opportunity to "show case" your past, present and future events, and to share some good news from your congregation! Articles are due at 9 pm on Sunday 24 February, at the very latest, please, to [jeanmurray45@bigpond.com](mailto:jeanmurray45@bigpond.com)

**Give a child an opportunity by starting school at Las Lomas - All the details are on our Surfcoast UC Web Site**  
A sponsor can be a business, a family, an individual, or a group of friends e.g. five friends could pay \$25 per quarter  
<http://surfcoast.unitingchurch.org.au/give-a-child-in-las-lomas-peru-a-schooling/>