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Refugees & People seeking asylum



The UCA Justice and International Mission Unit advocates on a number local, national and international issues. One of the areas of our work is advocating for justice for refugees and asylum seekers.

There is no question about the Christian response to asylum seekers and refugees. The Church is called to be a place of welcome. As faithful disciples we are to provide care and comfort to those who come to this land as strangers, seeking safety.

The Uniting Church advocates for a just response to the needs of refugees that recognises Australia's responsibilities as a wealthy global citizen, upholds the human rights and safety of all people, and is based on just and humane treatment, including non-discriminatory practices and accountable transparent processes.

To keep in touch with our work on refugees and asylum seekers, please join the Vic/Tas Uniting for Refugees Network by emailing Jill.Ruzbacky@victas.uca.org.au.

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Aireys Inlet

Anglesea

Bellbrae

Torquay

What does it mean to be Uniting Church?

(from vitas.uca.org.au)

In the spirit of Uniting we

- are committed to dialogue and cooperation with other churches and to participation in state and national ecumenical bodies and international bodies such as the World Council of Churches;
- are willing to explore the implications of being in a community with people of many faiths and what this means for the way we express and share our faith;
- accept women and men as equals in ministry, including ordained ministries, and encourage women in leadership;
- embrace diversity and are open to discuss controversial issues and what it means to be inclusive of all people and to respect differences;
- involve all people in oversight and governance, seeking to make decisions together rather than being hierarchical. We rely on consensus decision making.

Today

Anglesea 9.00 Aireys Inlet 10.30 Robert Packett Torquay 9.30 Bellbrae 11.00 Ron Manley

Bellbrae Bric-A-Brac and Book Stall Sorting each Tuesday 1pm – 4.30pm helpers are very welcome. Opening times Thur. & Friday 10am-4pm

ening times Thur. & Friday 10am-4 Saturdav 10am–1pm



Next Week

Anglesea 9.00
Aireys Inlet 10.30
Re Bill Lidgett
Torquay 9.30
Rev Chris Machar
Bellbrae 11.00
Worship Team

SHARE WINTER APPEAL

Winter is certainly here now. Winter is also a time of real need for many families and individuals who are forced to seek assistance for food, warm clothing and meeting power bills. The Share Winter Appeal enables the Uniting Church through its agencies to help meet this need.

Envelopes for the Winter Appeal are available at each of our churches. Envelopes can be placed in the offering plate or mailed directly to SHARE.

On Saturday and Sunday 12th and 13th August Bellbrae people will be once again participating in the surf coast arts trail. Devonshire teas will be available and we hope to also keep the op shop open for the weekend as well. Our Sunday service will be a Taize service at 9am.

All are welcome.

A message from the Editor

It has been a struggle to keep this newsletter going during this period without a minister, perhaps you have something going on in your church that is going well. Please share it with the other churches. I am sure that we would all love to hear your story.



Winter has arrived and our clients are feeling the cold.

Food stocks are low and funding cuts are going to make it hard to top them up.

Can you help Uniting Barwon (formerly UnitingCare Geelong) with items such as soup, pasta sauces, cooking oil, tinned vegetables & Harvest meats?



Warm blankets and doonas are also in short supply.

ALL DONATIONS ARE MOST WELCOME

Call into 272 Torquay Rd Grovedale or 10 Wendover Ave Norlane.

Aireys Inlet Rural Australians for Refugees

"Freedom Stories"
Screening at the Aireys Inlet Pub Sunday August 13, 3-5pm
Followed by Q&A with filmmaker Steve Thomas



An award-winning documentary, 'Freedom Stories' tells the stories of refugees who have come to Australia by boat and have become Australian citizens. Directed by award-winning film-maker Steve Thomas, the film is positive and uplifting. People tell their stories – why they fled, their experiences of reaching safety, the horrors of detention, and their lives as citizens of Australia. At heart it is a story about people, courage and what "home" means to us all.

Includes Q&A with film-maker Steve Thomas. Fundraiser entry \$10 payable on the day.

Bookings essential: Email aireysinletrar@gmail.com