SURFCOAST UNITING CHURCHES NEWSLETTER 5.3.2017 (1)









Our Web Site surfcoast.unitingchurch.org.au - Our Facebook Page www.facebook.com/surfcoastunitingchurch



Rev. Helen Robinson - Telephone 0408 527 521 - email helenrobinson12@bigpond.com.au
We welcome all visitors to our services this day; we trust you are enjoying your stay on the Surf Coast.

Please take our greetings to your Congregation with you when you return home.

Helens Space

Firstly, some dates for your diary. Worship will be celebrated at Elouera tomorrow, Monday 6th, at 2:15 pm. You are always welcome to come and help with the singing and pastoral care.

There will be Commissioning of Church Councillors at Aireys Inlet on Sunday 12th March, with a Church Council meeting to follow during which we will sign the necessary documents for the UCA Keeping Children Safe Policy. You already have the relevant documents to hand, so we will only need to have some question time - if necessary - prior to signing.

Worship will be celebrated at Anglesea Aged Care on Tuesday 14th March at 10:30am. Normally it would be Monday 13th, but that does not suit them because it is a public holiday

Messy Church will be held at Torquay on Tuesday 14th at 3:30pm.

SPAN will meet at the home of Beryl McCasker (thank you Beryl!) at 6pm on Thursday 16th March.

At Bellbrae, on 19th March, we will have Commissioning of Church Councillors (the whole congregation constitutes the Church Council, so you're all "in"). After worship we will have a Church Council meeting to sign the documents for the UCA Keeping Children Safe Policy. Because there are many documents to attend to, I will email these to you about two weeks beforehand so that we will only need to have some question time- if necessary- prior to signing.

Thank you to all at Anglesea who are busily getting their Working With Children Checks seen to. We will be able to have a Church Council Meeting at which we sign the documents for the UCA Keeping Children Safe Policy when these have been completed.

Torquay Church Council meets at 4pm on Thursday 23rd.

Bob Hale requests reports for the Torquay Congregation AGM on 26th March by today!

A huge "Thank You" to all the people from Aireys and their friends who made Pancake Day the great logistical success that it was. There's a whole lot of organisation and work that goes into this event, and the fact that it went so smoothly was a credit to everyone involved!!

Having said all that, I have realised lately that I enjoy Lent (which began Thursday 2nd) because it involves slowing down and reflecting on our lives and the workings of our minds and hearts. This is essential to the development of our spirituality, and I hope and pray that you are able to find time in the weeks between now and Easter Day to focus on your relationship with God and reflect on God's great love for you- and for us all- and the awesome nature of God's grace and forgiveness, shown in all it's power and beauty in the events of Easter.

Today

Anglesea 9.00
Aireys Inlet 10.30
John Russell
Torquay 9.30.
Bellbrae 11.00
Rev Helen Robinson

Next Week Anglesea 9.00 Aireys Inlet 10.30 Rev Helen Robinson Torquay 9.30.

Bellbrae 11.00 Worship Teams



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

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Beaut Beanies meet again on Tuesday mornings

We would love to welcome more occasional or regular knitters to join us in making beanies, teddies, rugs, or scarves for people in need. 10.30am-noon, February to November in Torquay Uniting Church Foyer. **Contact Jan 5264 3519**

Anglesea Extra Meeting

After church this morning to consider the recommendations from the survey, to change them, or vote for or against their implementation.

In addition, the Linked Council has asked all congregations to answer 4 questions, and these take precedence over considering the survey recommendations, so will be dealt with first:

Do we have a thriving congregation? What is the spiritual health of the congregation?

Can we reduce expenses? Can we increase income (planned giving/ stewardship campaign/ use of direct debit/ fund-raising/ greater percentage of any fund-raising to Linked Council)?

Anglesea Reminders

- Anglesea has a Combined morning tea with the Baptists on Sunday 19th March.
- New "Giving Envelopes" are now available

This Sunday is the first Sunday in Lent and with it comes the Lenten Offering which is an annual event in the life of congregations within the Synod of Victoria and Tasmania.

It is conducted during Lent and Easter at a time of reflection, renewal and recommitment.

In response to God's love for all people and the giving of his son to the world, an opportunity is provided for people of the church to make a sacrificial offering to support important mission projects.

The Lenten Offering is commended to our members by the Moderator, the Rev. Sharon Hollis, as she asks us individually to think about what Lent might mean. We need to consider this.

Envelopes will be available in our churches during Lent. Please think how you could take part



Information
about this
event is
available this
morning as is a
Sticker for a Jar
or Tin to collect
your small
change.

Sunday May 7th, 2.30pm at Aireys Inlet Community Hall "The Victoria Welsh Choir in Concert", who are renowned for their humour, sense of fun, and rich singing in spine-tingling four-part harmony Tickets \$30.00 includes afternoon tea. Tickets available Margo 5263 – 3276 / 0412742117.



UNITING CARE PANCAKE DAY

The Aireys Inlet Community Hall provided a welcoming space for customers seeking out delicious pancakes and a chat with friends over a cuppa on Shrove Tuesday. Visitors who didn't know anyone were soon made welcome. Meanwhile the kitchen was a hive of activity as hundreds of pancakes were poured, cooked, tossed and stacked ready for consumption.

The Aireys Inlet congregation would like to thank all those who helped out on the day - we sure couldn't manage it on our own. Thanks also to those who gave us their custom, with some even going back for seconds. The only complaints we heard were that the pancakes were too cheap! **\$480 was banked for UnitingCare Geelong**.