



Surfcoast Uniting Churches

26th July 2020

Worship together is available via video services on our website each Sunday from 9:00am
www.surfcoast.unitingchurch.org.au

Bellbrae is Live on Zoom at 11.00am
Airey's Inlet is Live on Zoom at 1:30pm Sunday

Minister: Rev. Suzie Castle

**Suzie is currently on sick leave until 6th August while she recuperates
so please contact your congregation leader with any queries**

An except of a reflection by Rev Dawn Hutchings July 16, 2020

.....The MYSTERY which is the LOVE which some of us call God is a strange attractor indeed, living and breathing in, with, through, and beyond us, sowing seeds of new life into the blessed darkness, ever-creating more and more glorious ways of being in the world. Even the tiniest of seeds are capable of giving birth to the most awesome creations. An obscure poor, brown, Jewish rabbi living in an oppressed part of a totalitarian Empire, his life and death continue to impact the world.

Your life, my life, our lives together, there are all sorts of possibilities. Random, perhaps, unintended consequences almost certainly. But also, splendid opportunities. You see, you are all wonderfully made, endowed with the capacity to choose. Which means that in addition to circumstances beyond our control, there are also circumstances within our control. Each and every one of us can choose to perpetrate random acts of kindness, outrageous outpours of generosity, ridiculously displays of hospitality, dangerous demonstrations of courage, along with extravagant acts of LOVE.

What does LOVE look like in these strange and chaotic times? LOVE looks like you: you speaking out when you hear of injustice, you listening with a fierce passion to someone who desperately needs to be heard, you standing in solidarity with the poor or the oppressed, you marching in the streets for change, or you tenderly touching the shoulder of someone who is lost, or you feeding the hungry, giving a cold glass of water, or welcoming a stranger, you daring to move beyond your comfort zone, you laughing out loud in the face of ignorance, you wearing a mask, you holding your lover, or you kneeling in prayer, or you refusing to give up, or you daring to hope, or dreaming new dreams.

LOVE is you and I working together with all the many embodiments of LOVE to live into the dream of the kingdom. It may appear to all the world that your one precious life is insignificant, hardly worth mentioning in the grand scheme of things. Then suddenly, like the flapping of a butterfly's wings, your random action begins a journey, we know not where. Meyers insists that, "To choose. Is life's most powerful, most spiritual, most God-like activity."

.....**Let us be random, outrageous, ridiculous, dangerous, extravagant sowers of the seeds of kindness, generosity, hospitality, and courage. Let us be LOVE in the world! LOVE which is BEYOND the BEYOND, and BEYOND that also!**

Lectionary Readings:

Pentecost 8: July 26th

Genesis 29:15-28

Psalms 105: 1-11, 45b

Romans 8: 26-39

Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-52

Pentecost 9: August 2nd

Genesis 32: 22-31

Psalms 17: 1-7, 15

Romans 9: 1-5

Matthew 14: 13-21

Donations of food and toiletries are still being collected for **UNITING**. They need soups and liquid soap, laundry powder, toothpaste and toothbrushes.

Please deliver to Robyn & Alan Harper at 53 Cowrie Road, Torquay. Many Thanks

Roma Julian has made facemasks for anyone interested. They are \$2.00 each with all funds going to the Church.

Contact Robyn Harper to order on 0407829926.



Elastic shortage

Roma has run out of her supply of elastic for these masks and as of last Sunday there was not any at Spotlight or Lincraft. Have only 3 face masks available at present, having sold 61 to date (Wednesday).

If you have an elastic – hat elastic and/or 3 mm or ¼ inch / 6 mm, the stock would be appreciated.

Please can you ring Robyn 0407 829 926 to let her know and she will pick up or it can be dropped off at her place.

A big thank you to

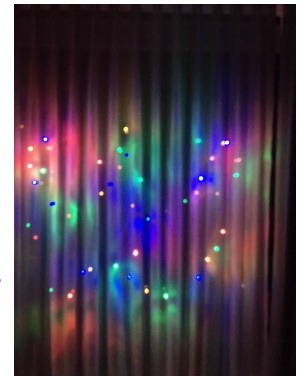
Rev. Peter Bachelor who will lead us in this week's online service.

Happy birthday to
Cheryl Merritt
and any others
celebrating this week.



Let us Join together in PRAYER

- * We pray for those newly diagnosed with Covid-19 virus and their loved ones, the grieving, the health and community service workers, the politicians, the police, and those struggling in the lock down.
- * We pray for those across our church membership and all our community service agencies who are responding compassionately and practically to this pandemic.
- * We pray for our world, for those working towards a vaccine.
- * We pray for those at war, where injustice still prevails, for those with little or no food, water or shelter.



May your Love enfold us all, and may we be your Love in the World. Amen

What's missing since last week?

Chimneys!



Airey's Inlet St Aidan's Church, 29 Great Ocean Road, Airey's Inlet. aireysinletunitingchurch@gmail.com

Bellbrae: Bellbrae Uniting Church. School & Anglesea Roads, Bellbrae

Torquay: Torquay Uniting Church, 27 Anderson Street, Torquay

BELLBRAE BRIC-A-BRAC OP SHOP & BOOK ROOM: Uniting Church Hall, School Road, Bellbrae. Ph: 5261 5139

NOTE: our churches are currently closed for worship as per COVID 19 restrictions

Weekly offerings can be made via direct debit or credit to the congregation account :

BSB: 083-929 and Account Number 93-009-8403 Please add notes in the deposit area to identify your congregation:

Aireys Inlet:3231AI, Bellbrae:3228BB or Torquay:3228TQ

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS and all queries to: newslettersurfcoastuc@gmail.com DEADLINE: Thursday at 4pm