



Surfcoast Uniting Churches

13th September 2020

Join in our Surf coast service, available on our website each Sunday from 9:00am @

www.surfcoast.unitingchurch.org.au

Plus.....Bellbrae is Live on Zoom at 11.00am, Sunday

Airey's Inlet is Live on Zoom at 1:30pm ,Sunday

Torquay Coffee Zoom at 10:00am

All welcome to all services

Minister: Rev. Suzie Castle m:0421023197

Email: suzie.castle@gmail.com

Dear Everyone,

The Surf Coast Linked Congregations Council representatives met with some members of the Presbytery Pastoral Relations Committee and the Presbytery Administration, Property & Finance Committee on September 2nd 2020. This meeting was held via Zoom due to the current restrictions. The meeting was called to receive a report from the Administration Property & Finance Committee and communicate their decision to the SCLCC and Anglesea UC. Also, Presbytery met with Anglesea representatives immediately prior to this meeting.

Anglesea UC is now independent of the SCLCC and has been recognised as such by Synod. The Presbytery of Port Phillip West is supporting the congregation to forge a way forward. Rev Dr Kevin Yelverton has been appointed to assist Anglesea with ministry and pastoral care, and Presbytery Minister Rev Narelle Collas is assisting with their move to independence.

The financial withdrawal and division of assets was the focus of this meeting. With help of Robin Dennis (Treasurer SCLCC), and Margot Davey (Treasurer of Anglesea UC), Presbytery AP&F Committee examined financial reports extending back to the formation of the SCLCC in 2008. This included the income and expenditure attributed to Anglesea UC. Presbytery also considered the relationship of the Manse for Manse Fund, which was created by the sale of land belonging to Torquay UC. The technicalities of this were explored with the help of the Synod Property Services. The proposed settlement would leave SCLCC financially secure for the future, although the impact of COVID-19 is not yet known.

Recommendations were made in the report and both the SCLCC and Anglesea UC have 21 days to respond to the recommendations, following which there will be a meeting on 29th September with Presbytery, SCLCC and Anglesea UC, with the aim of reaching a consensus. This will then go to Presbytery Standing C'tee for a final determination and their decision will be final.

Presbytery has consistently given support to our congregations and continues to do so with Rev Deacon Jeanne Beale appointed to work with SCLCC.

This has been an intense time for many people involved and your prayers and support are welcome. The SCLCC is developing closer ties and improved communication and has commenced some leadership meetings across all three congregations. We wish Anglesea UC every blessing from God as they make their way forward independent of the congregations of Bellbrae, Aireys Inlet and Torquay. Of course we continue to welcome anyone who wishes to worship with us and receive our weekly information.

If you would like further information, your SCLCC representatives can assist you.

Rosemary Thompson
Chairperson SCLCC

An invitation to all :

Aireys Inlet Uniting Church worship by Zoom Contact Mary by email bremnerkm@gmail.com.

Bellbrae gathering by Zoom . Contact Maxine Flake-more, maxiiflake@gmail.com .

Torquay Zoom Coffee Chat.. Contact Jane Skelton @ janekelton2@gmail.com

Lectionary Readings:

Pentecost 15: Sept 13th	Pentecost 16: Sept 20th
Exodus 14: 19-31	Exodus 16: 2-15
Psalms 114	Psalms 105: 1-6,37-45
Romans 14: 1-12	Philemon 1:25-30
Matthew 18: 21-35	Matthew 20:1-16

Dear Surf Coast friends,
Another week has gone by with some people letting me know the effect this second COVID lock down has brought. Many others are keeping busy with gardening and Spring cleaning. No matter where you find yourself, I hope you take comfort in the promise Jesus made to never leave us. God is with you. This week I will call a few more people from the directory to check in and see if you need anything. A few members receive deliveries from Surf Coast Feed Me each week which has been helpful and appreciated by many. We double up the delivery on some homes as it is then shared with neighbours. If you know of anyone in need please let me know.

Last week we said goodbye to two travellers who finally got to fly home to their families. Both had no money left for the trip so we were able to give them \$200. This came out of the \$1000 donation Aspley Uniting Church gave a month ago. They are a generous congregation who go looking for a different cause to support each year. I received a call from Everal Compton a few months back seeking to hear what outreach I was investing in during the Victorian COVID crisis. The church chose to prayerfully and financially support Surf Coast Feed Me. We are blessed.

Peace be with you, Rev Suzie Castle

BELLBRAE OPSHOP Facebook Sales...

Suzie is adding items for sale regularly and has over 300 followers and sold over \$150 worth of goods. Please let Suzie know if you have any goods or furniture to sell after your spring clean!

Search for "Bellbrae Op Shop and Book Room" on Facebook to like the page and follow all the action.

For Sale Today : Timber letter holder with lovely patina. \$20



Our Multi Purpose Building in Torquay is moving along well with new windows and flooring going in this next week. As mentioned, we are looking for a name suggestion. There is some doubt whether we can call it after a person or place, and the lovely oak tree in the backyard is the reason for the 'oak' based names.

The short list is: (with 2 new additions)

Uniting Church Meeting Place
Acorn Place
Anderson House or Anderson Place (may not be allowed)
Oak Tree Place
Oak Tree House
NEW: Koinonia (from the Greek meaning fellowship)
NEW: Uniting Church Sanctuary

Email to Ro Thompson or the newsletter with your comments and choices.



Torquay UC Trading Table is postponed until October because of ongoing restrictions

Keep crafting though!

Please start saving clean plastic & paper bags for use on the Trading Table day.

Donations of food and toiletries are being collected for

UNITING.

Please note only Coffee in jars of 50 or 100g.

No large jars.

Please drop at 53 Cowrie Rd, Torquay. Many Thanks

Our Link Council Treasurer, Robin Dennis will be retiring from this position in December 2020. Please pray and think carefully about a replacement for Robin. Do you know anyone, even from another community, who may be able to assist us in this trusted role?

If so, please contact Ro Thompson.



Happy Birthday to

Edie Barton and Robin Purdey

Matthew 18: 22. Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times"

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**

The Horsemen

By David Parris

Do you hear the distant thunder?
Getting closer every day
It's the thunder of the hoof beats
Of the horsemen on their way.

Getting closer every moment
With their messages of doom
Come the horsemen in the distance
Sent to cover Earth with gloom.

With their messages of horror
These four horsemen, old and wise
Sent to every town and city.
Block your ears and block your eyes.

These four horsemen filled with wisdom
Each with stories dark and true.
Block your ears, avert your eyes
And they will, maybe, not find you.

Every horseman with a story
Tells of famine, war or death
They will seek you till they find you
They will range across the Earth.

I come to warn of wars and battles,
Roaring guns on every hand
Wars boil across all nations' borders
There is no peace, and no safe land.

Battles rage in fields and cities
Brothers kill their brother's sons
There is no place of peace and safety
Bought with missiles or with guns.

You who killed your friends and brothers
Fear the second horseman's glance
All your missiles and your weapons
Will not stop the plague's advance.

I can see your armies fading
Dying screams and sickbed reek
You cannot stop the plagues advancing
Despatching both the strong and weak

Hears the screams of dying children
Dying in their family's arms
Killing both the child and parent
No one's fully safe from harm.

Your families all are ripped asunder
You who once sat at your ease
Not even farmers are protected
Their crops lie dying in their fields.

For you who once sat rich and easy
With food aplenty in your shops
I come to warn of famine's biting
As the sun burns all your crops

All your plenty will soon vanish
As your farmers' output drops
As the sun burns down with fury
On endless queues to empty shops.

To the millions weak with hunger,
I will bring a tale of hope
To tell the lines of starving men
That all of this quite soon will stop.

I bring a tale of hope and courage
Of a great and glorious king
He will stop the wars and sickness
He will end the famine's sting.

But a great and glorious leader
Leads us down the road to hell
To end the famines, wars and sickness
He will weave us in his spell.

Down the road to hell not heaven
Adolf, Stalin, Mao, led us
How they held us in their thrall
Smiling as they cyanide fed us.

As the glorious leaders fail us
You will ask, what have we done?
To deserve a fate like Jonestown
Finding love and hope have gone.

What have you done? Do you not know?
The horsemen's sad refrain
You placed your trust, your hope and love
Into the power of your brain.

We horsemen are but messengers
Of the God you all so scorned.
It is the power of your minds
That on you brought this horror down.

Who is this God of love and hope,
To treat us with such hate?
Who brings this horror down upon us
And leaves us to our fate?

It's not your God who hates you so,
The answer's in your hearts
It surely is not yet too late
To go back to the start.

In your hearts you know you boasted
Of your growth in wealth and power
It's not too late to change your fate
Your expectations simply lower.

To help you grow your wealth and power
You burnt your coal and cleared your
farms
And as your wealth grew higher, higher
Your stricken Earth began to warm.

Your planet now so burnt and empty
Once was filled with life so sweet
Now as your planet gets much hotter
Bodies pile up in the streets.

A planet filled with green and beauty
With food for all and filled with hope
But now the bodies lie unburied
Victims of your lack of love.

To feed us all and give us courage
To start again and find His way
To learn to love again not hating
To give our planet's death its stay.

To find our way and start again
A message to us in our plight.
To save our planet from its pain
Horsemen riding through the night.

This poem was written by David Parris, a
member of our Airey's Inlet Church.

He writes to Suzie saying "*I have made
small changes over the years, and am open
to polishing it further, but here is what I read
to you.
I would love to be part of a group sharing all
or some of poetry, writing, music, snapshot
writing, philosophy, theology, economics, you
name it.
In Peace and Community*

Thank you for sharing with us David.

