



# Surfcoast Uniting Churches

29th November 2020

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

[www.surfcoast.unitingchurch.org.au](http://www.surfcoast.unitingchurch.org.au)

**Bellbrae will meet to worship in their church @ 11:30am**

**Airey's Inlet is Live on Zoom at 3:00pm this Sunday**

**Torquay Coffee Zoom at 10:00am**

**All welcome to all services & chat times**

**Rev. Suzie Castle**

**Mobile:0421023197 Email: [suzie.castle@gmail.com](mailto:suzie.castle@gmail.com)**

Dear friends,

So much can change in a week. It's wonderful Bellbrae will be heading back into the church building for worship as of this Sunday. They have worked so hard at preparing the Opshop and Book room and church to be COVID safe. Heading into opening on a Saturday will no doubt be wonderful for the faithful volunteers who serve the community through friendship, conversation and recycling. I wish them every blessing as they go forth. This past week, Torquay Uniting Church has been registered as the Anderson Street Champions for the "Hello Surf Coast" day.

This makes us responsible for inviting our Anderson Street neighbours to the December 4th event. If anyone is free please come at 5:30pm to meet outside the Torquay Church. The aim is to draw neighbours onto our street to say "Hello" and connect together. This event has come out of the Bellbrae/Jan Juc, Torquay community leaders monthly meeting that seeks to support and connect the community. Any guitar players are welcome to join us and provide some background music.

We are also invited to make a promo video for the occasion that will be shared around various local Facebook pages such as Torquay Community House and Surf Coast Feed Me. If you are free please come to the Torquay Church at 10:00am Friday 27th November. I realise this is last minute but the event has only been announced and we are all trying to get out advertising as much as we can.

God had provided many opportunities for us to connect with our local community during this unusual year. This is one of the public opportunities we have before us so it'd be good if as many people as possible could assemble at 10am in the morning (I am writing this Thursday afternoon)

The other invitation I have is to anyone who would like to appear in our online Advent services as Advent candle lighters. I need a few more participants for Advent 3 and 4. One has a speaking part. It is also a good opportunity to connect grandchildren with our worship tradition.

Last bit of news this week, the Thursday coffee gathering at Bomboras cafe will run for another 2 weeks. After that it will be difficult finding a park or seat. Thank you to all who joined in, I hope it has been a needed time of good coffee, catch ups and conversations.



Peace be with you

Rev Suzie Castle....

Minister of the Word.

## Lectionary Readings:

### Advent 1: Nov 29th

Isaiah 64:1-9

Psalms 80: 1-7, 17-19

1 Cor 1: 3-9

Mark 13: 24-37

### Advent 2: Dec 6th

Isaiah 40:1-11

Psalms 85:1-2, 8-13

2 Peter 3: 8-15a

Mark 1: 1-8

An invitation to all :

**Aireys Inlet Uniting Church worship by Zoom** - Contact Mary by email [bremnerkm@gmail.com](mailto:bremnerkm@gmail.com).

**Torquay Zoom Coffee Chat** - Contact Jane Skelton [janeskelton2@gmail.com](mailto:janeskelton2@gmail.com)

We acknowledge that we meet to worship on the land of the Wadawurrung people and pay our respects to their elders past and present. Find out more at [www.wadawurrung.org.au](http://www.wadawurrung.org.au).

**Bellbrae OP SHOP and BOOK SHOP** will be opening every Saturday commencing on Saturday November 28th, from 10:00am to 4:00pm

All Covid requirements, set out by Uniting, are being adhered to to protect both volunteers and visitors. Several gathered on Tuesday to tidy the garden ready for the big day.



A successful op shop Christmas decorations sale was held last Saturday and fun had by all.

**Bellbrae Congregation** are excited to announce that they have complied with all requirements re:covid and have been given permission to **worship again** at Bellbrae. Services will recommence Sunday 29th with Rev. Suzie leading at 11:30am.

#### News from Airey's Inlet.

Very unfortunately, we have had to cancel the Aireys Inlet Combined Churches Community Carols, set for December 6th. The COVID19 restrictions and our inability to work with the children to put together the nativity pageant make it impossible to go ahead. We look forward to staging a wonderful event next year.

Please note our Zoom service is a 3pm for this Sunday 29th NOV.

#### A word on Charities:

We thought it might be helpful to have a bit of information about 3 of the charities that help the people of the Surf Coast: **Feed me Surf Coast; The Torquay Food Bank and Uniting.**

**This week the information is about Feed me Surf Coast.**

It is a Community Food project collecting spare food and excess produce and sharing with the community who need it with no questions asked. This is run by volunteers of the Surf Coast. Many of the overseas workers who found themselves unemployed doing lockdown were helped by this group.

#### First Sunday of Advent



#### Hope for school girls in Afghanistan

The coronavirus is making it even harder for girls in Afghanistan to get an education and realise their dreams. Schools closed in March and most children don't have internet, TV or radio to learn remotely. Act for Peace's local partner is distributing self-learning packages to children, advocating for girls' education, and getting schools ready to reopen. You can help this vital work. **Please give today.**



CALL: 1800 025 101 VISIT: [actforpeace.org.au/christmasbowl](http://actforpeace.org.au/christmasbowl)

The Christmas appeal of Act for Peace, the international aid agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia. ABN 86 619 970 188

**Join in for a Surfcoast UC Community Catch up over coffee or tea,**

at Bomboras café on **Thursday 3rd and 10th Dec. between 10am and 11.30 .**

**The 10th will be the last one for a while as the town fills with tourists for the holidays.**

**DINE OUT** . This coming Monday.....

**Monday 30th November. Beach Hotel at Jan Juc at 12 noon.**

Contact Jean on 0409 969 392 to book your spot and confirm details. Num-

Robyn Harper still has Christmas cards available to purchase from UNITING.. Please see her soon... time to get those greetings sent away.

## UNITING

are now organising the Christmas Hamper Program as well as working with the Geelong Advertiser and the Adopt a Family program to assist families with gifts and food.

#### CAN YOU HELP WITH DONATIONS OF -

Staple foods such as pasta sauce, tinned fruit and vegetables, rice, tuna, long life milk and cereal.

Christmas treats such as puddings and cakes, custard, tinned ham, sweets and chocolates,

juices and drinks are bonus items we offer if available.

Grocery gift cards for purchase of food which is in short stock.

**Donations can be delivered to the Harpers, or to our Grovedale office at 272 Torquay Rd by Monday December 7<sup>th</sup>.**



**Airey's Inlet** St Aidan's Church, 29 Great Ocean Road, Airey's Inlet. [aireysinletunitingchurch@gmail.com](mailto: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: Torquay and Airey's Inlet 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](mailto:newslettersurfcoastuc@gmail.com) DEADLINE: Thursday at 4pm**