

Surfcoast Uniting Churches

14th March 2021

Welcome to the Surf Coast Uniting Church newsletter.

All our sermons can be viewed at www.surfcoast.unitingchurch.org.au

Rev. Suzie Castle : m: 0421023197 e: suzie.castle@gmail.com



Note: Rev. Suzie will be on holiday from Monday March 1st returning Monday March 15th

SURFCOAST SERVICES each week: 9.30am at Airey's Inlet & Torquay. 11am at Bellbrae

We acknowledge that we meet to worship on the land of the Wadawurrung people and pay our respects to their elders past and present, and emerging. Find out more at www.wadawurrung.org.au.

Thoughts for the Fifth Week of Lent.

Climate Change

We hear so much about Climate Change, but how much, as individuals do we really know and understand? Scientists tell us that the earth's average surface temperature has risen by 1.1 degrees Centigrade, over recent years. That may not sound very significant to us, but the earth's ecosystem is so finely balanced, that "any" increase results in increased heat, drought and insect activity, which in turn results in declining supplies of fresh water, increased likelihood of wildfires, and then reduced agricultural yields. At the same time, an equivalent increase in ocean temperatures has resulted in greatly increased ice melting at the polar icecaps, small increases in ocean depth, and coastal flooding, particularly on Pacific islands and Bangladesh.

The major cause of global warming in recent years, has been man-made, caused by the burning of fossil fuels (coal, oil and gas) throughout the world, and the destruction of native forests, and global warming becomes a worldwide problem which does not recognise national borders! The burning of fossil fuels generates excessively high levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, which create a thermal barrier, thereby increasing earth temperatures. We know that trees absorb large quantities of carbon dioxide, and will reduce atmospheric effects, but is it enough?

How can we, as individuals, slow down the global warming phenomena? We can reduce our consumption of electricity, gas and oil in our homes, by turning down our domestic heating, avoiding excessive use of coal, oil and wood heaters, buying the best energy efficient appliances, installing better home insulation (no draughts and reduced heat loss) installing solar panels for electricity generation, buying more fuel-efficient cars, using more public transport, turning off unnecessary lighting, using LED light globes, and washing clothes in cold water. All small changes on their own, but if we all work together, we can do it!

And save our wonderful earth in good condition for generations to come...



Plan Ahead for Easter sharing:

Thursday 1st April—Shared Passover meal at Oak Tree Place (we need a few more volunteers to cook our butterfly lambs please.) More details soon...

Friday 2nd April—Good Friday Services. (Torquay 9.30am. Bellbrae & Airey's Inlet tbc)

Afterwards Hot Cross Buns to share at the Genats 8 Gogoll Crescent, Torquay, All welcome BYO buns

Sunday 4th April: Easter Sunday. Services as usual.

"Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him. For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

John 3: 14-16



Lectionary Readings

March 14th: Lent 4	March 21st: Lent 5
Numbers 21: 4-9	Jeremiah 31: 31-34
Psalms 107: 1-3, 17-22	Psalms 51: 1-12
Ephesians 2: 1-10	Hebrews 5: 5-10
John 3: 14-21	John 12: 20-33

Preaching Roster

March 14th: Lent 4	March 21st: Lent 5
Airey's Inlet & Bellbrae: Michele Hardy	Airey's Inlet & Bellbrae: Rev Suzie Castle with Communion
Torquay: Communion & Rev. Kenneth Ralph	Torquay: Rev Narelle Collas.

Plan your Week: Diary Dates

Torquay and Aireys Inlet Lenten Study Group

on Thursdays at 10:00am in Oak Tree Place and at 2 pm at Aireys Inlet. Come along and take this special time of Lent to reflect on what it means to you and the world.

This week at Airey's Inlet the study is "Experiencing Freedom". All are welcome to come and join the discussion.

At Torquay: "Who is my Neighbour". Please join us—no experience necessary

PANCAKES ARE BACK! The Airey's Pancake Day is rescheduled for **Friday 19th March from 10 to 4**. Make a date to visit, have a delicious pancake and support this wonderful effort. Bring a couple of friends too!



Uniting needs the following:

Tinned peas, carrots, green beans, (420gm tins), Sugar (1 kg) vegetable oil for cooking, Tomato sauce, Cornflakes, Instant coffee (150gm), tissues, Toilet rolls, toothpaste, laundry powder or liquid (small).

All these items can be left at the Harpers front door (53 Cowrie) And—margarine, butter & cheese - but these need to be handed to Robyn personally.



Bellbrae Opshop & Bookshop Roster: (with new EFTPOS machine!)

Saturday 13th: Doreen, Karlene, Carleen, Robyn H, Fran & Anna

Saturday 20th: Carol. Bev, Carleen, Joan, Lyn B & Helen G

The Geelong Commandery of the Order of St John of Jerusalem, invites you to a **TRIVIA AFTERNOON**

on Sunday 18th April from 1.30pm to 3.30pm, Christ Church Hall, Moorabool Street. Geelong
\$20 per ticket (includes delicious afternoon tea)



All proceeds raised will support the work of Cottage by the Sea

Contact: Gayle Dougall 0429 679 549 or our own Ro Thompson 0408 319 385



TORQUAY CONGREGATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This will be held after worship on **Sunday March 21, 2021.**

Business : Reception of Reports, Financial Statements and Election of Chairperson, Secretary, Presbytery Representative and Election of church council members.

Nominees for Church Council are:

Tricia Genat (3 years), Margaret Hirth (2 years), Robert Packett (1 year) and Jane Skelton (3 years).

Also consideration of two motions:

1. From the Linked Council: That the hours of the Minister in Placement be reduced to 80% of a full time placement as a result of reduced financial resources available to the SCLCC. This will impact Rev Suzie Castle's hours as soon as this is agreed by the Presbytery of Port Phillip West Placements Committee.
2. From the Torquay Church Council: That the Torquay Uniting Church approves the serving of alcohol in Oak Tree Place only.

Thank you to all those who made food, picked produce and manned the tables for the Trading Table. We made just over \$700, showed 4 separate groups from our community through Oak Tree Place and enjoyed a lovely morning. *Do I hear you ask when the next one will be?* Possibly 12th June (long weekend)

Our Members News:

New & Last WHO AM I? I was born in Horsham and have worshipped at Torquay for 14 years. I was an Art teacher and still enjoy painting. **ANSWER : Bev Boxshall**

And anyone wanting to contact Jeanette Jones who has moved from Torquay—please call or text Robyn Harper for details.

And Happy Birthday to Robyn Harper.



Did you celebrate International Women's Day this month on Monday 8th? The theme this year is: **# Choose to Challenge.** It's never ever too late to challenge gender bias.

MONDAY

Dineout

3rd Monday of month 12:00 noon@ The Beach Hotel, Jan Juc
All welcome . Call Jean on 0409969392

Sadly March DINE OUT is cancelled



TUESDAY

Prayer Shawl Knitters;
2:00-4:00pm ..weekly in Anglesea church

Beaut Beanies:
10:30am in Torquay Church Foyer weekly

WED THURSDAY

Bomboras Coffee Ministry
10:00am.. Café on esplanade. Torquay. Rev Suzie attends on the LAST Thursday of the month.

Worship at Elouera ,st
Thursday of Month , at 2:15pm

FRIDAY

Coffee & Kids
9:30-11:00am
In Oak Tree Place

SATURDAY
Op Shop at Bellbrae from 10:00-4:00pm

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

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