

Welcome to the Surf Coast Uniting Church newsletter.

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*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](http://www.wadawurrung.org.au).*

## **A CALL TO PRAYER : Week 5 : Madam Jeanne Guyon 1648 -1717**

(by Maxine Flakemore)

Her life was tragic because of the beliefs and practises of the times, but she remained close to God always. Considered a mystic, persecuted and imprisoned by the catholic church, her diary and words on prayer have inspired many Christians since. Her belief and practise always was to pray at all times.

Jesus told a parable in Luke 18:1 "to **always** pray and not lose heart or give up." The first part of chapter 18 up to verse 14 gives examples of the type of prayer that God listens to.

I once felt guilty because I always felt like praying when I was sitting on the toilet. It was not the sort of question that I could pose to anyone, so I continued to feel guilty and became quite anxious to find out the right way to pray. At the time I was going through a very busy stage in my life. The only time that I felt peaceful and alone was when I entered the toilet. I felt that I had no time to stop and take time out to just pray. I had grown up thinking that prayer had to be something really special that only occurred at church. I thought that God only responded to the correct approach and wording and that only ministers or church leaders were able to pray properly.



During this questioning time I came across Madame Jeanne Guyon's diary written in the late 1600s.

***"One who has a pure heart will never cease to pray and will be in constant prayer. And shall know what it is to have a pure heart."***

It was also during this time I read this little article on prayer. *"Prayer can be like breathing, regular, easy, second nature and we can pray through our life as part of the way we live. Just as our physical lives are sustained by breathing, so our spiritual lives should be maintained by praying. We can pray out loud or we can pray silently. We can pray sitting down, standing up or lying on the floor. We can pray while we are moving or while we are sitting still. We can pray while we are shopping, waiting for an appointment, participating in a business meeting, doing household chores, driving or taking a shower. We can pray at all these times in a thanksgiving way, "Thank you Lord for everything you're doing, I know you are with me in this situation."*

I was so relieved to realise that: ***Prayer is simply talking to God throughout our day, including God into every aspect of our life, anywhere, anytime."***

I became a prayer and experimented with talking to God throughout my day. I started with giving thanks in every situation and quickly began to notice that I felt less stressed. I began to feel an empowerment in my work as I included God into every decision. For many years prior to this I think I was living on adrenalin at work and performing tasks that I always felt overwhelmed by. And I pray joyfully whilst on the toilet!

Prayer points for this week are: **1. To ask for Jesus' peace to prevail and be apparent in all we do.**

**2. To continue in waiting on God's will for our financial and spiritual direction here on the Surf coast.**

### **Lectionary Readings**

**July 4: Pentecost 6**

2 Samuel 5:1-5,9- 10

Psalms 48

2 Cor. 12: 2-10

Mark 6: 1-13

### **Preaching Roster**

**July 4th: Pentecost 6**

**Airey's Inlet 9.30am**

**& Bellbrae: 11:00am.**

**Rev Suzie Castle**

**Torquay 9.30:**

**Brian Shaw to lead**

**July 11th: Pentecost 7**

**Airey's Inlet 9.30am**

**Bellbrae: 11:00am..**

**Torquay 9.30:**

**Rev Suzie Video Sermon**

One South Australian  
church offers COVID advice



**A notice for the Torquay Congregation:** A meeting is called for after the service on 4th July 2021 to discuss the Financial Models paper circulated by FIF (Forward in Faith) sub committee of the Surf Coast Linked Congregations Council. Models have been put forward to enhance the financial viability for the three remaining congregations. No decisions need be made, this is an opportunity for shared discussion and questions. The meeting will be chaired by Rosemary Thompson who is joined by Mary Bremner.

Please see Robyn Harper if you need a copy of the paper.

### Opportunities for Giving:

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

BSB: 083-929 and Account Number 93-009-8403

Account Name: **Surfcoast Uniting Church**

Please identify your congregation in the notes area:

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



At Torquay this week we said farewell to two favourite members. Vale to Jenny Hergstrom and Frank Barkla.

Frank was a valued and cheerful member at Torquay and we remember his wife, Liz and their families at this grieving time. Frank and Liz contributed to Social justice fundraising with many generous donations from their nursery over the years.

Liz and the family extend their deep gratitude to Torquay Uniting Church & friends for the amazing spread of treats after the celebration of the life of our beloved Frank.

Thank you too to Alan for his technical wizardry & Robyn for her support. Grateful thanks to Suzie for her guidance, care and support.



### OPSHOP NEWS - we'd love a few more winter workers please call Helen on 0438 639 609 to fill a space

**Friday 2nd JULY:** 1pm to 4pm: Lyn B, Ro T (one vacant space)

**Saturday 3rd JULY:** AM: Bev, Carleen, Karleen

**Saturday 3rd JULY PM:** Bev, Martin, Anna

**WANTED:** Tip vouchers for the Anglesea Tip. Do you have any excess Tip Vouchers for this year? The OPSHOP is always needing to dump material which they cannot sell and would love to keep costs low by using any unused Tip Vouchers. Call Bev Hooper on

At **Oak Tree Place**, we have classes in Yoga, Qigong, Bridge, Karate, Wellness & Meditation & Surfside Choir plus our church Coffee & Kids playtime. In Term 3 there will be some vacant times slots. Email [oaktreeparcerentals@gmail.com](mailto:oaktreeparcerentals@gmail.com) to enquire re renting space.

### FUTURE events: PUT THEM IN THE DIARY...

#### Sharing Food & Fellowship

**AT AIREYS INLET: Lunch & Chat** Join a lunch group at the Airey's Pub at midday on **Friday 2nd July** Ring Mary to confirm 0427 701 275.



**SURFCOAST ARTS Trail** is back on for 2021 and both Torquay & Bellbrae congregations will be involved.

Venues are dotted around the Shire where artists who don't have home studios will be on hand to talk visitors through their artistic process, in the presence of their work .

Call John A at Bellbrae, or Robyn H at Torquay to volunteer.

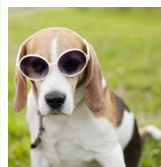


**NAIDOC Week** Starts on Sunday 4th July. This is an important time to celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and cultures - the world's oldest, living, continuing cultures. As a movement of people pursuing Jesus and Justice, this is another opportunity to listen deeply to the calls for treaty, truth telling and justice by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Pray for *Healing Country*



#### OUR NEXT COMBINED SERVICE:

Sunday 29th August @ Bellbrae—Celebration of Ministry: Time, Talents, Creation & Treasure



Join the Pet Fair Team—planning for the **Family Pet Fair** at Aireys Inlet on Saturday 16th October. Please let Rev Suzie know if you would like to be involved.

All dogs and humans welcome!

#### A Prophet Without Honour

6 Jesus left there and went to his hometown, accompanied by his disciples. <sup>2</sup> When the Sabbath came, he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were amazed.

"Where did this man get these things?" they asked. "What's this wisdom that has been given him? What are these remarkable miracles he is performing?" <sup>3</sup> Isn't this the carpenter? Isn't this Mary's son and the brother of James, Joseph, <sup>[a]</sup> Judas and Simon? Aren't his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him.

<sup>4</sup> Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honour except in his own town, among his relatives and in his own home." <sup>5</sup> He could not do any miracles there, except lay his hands on a few sick people and heal them. <sup>6</sup> He was amazed at their lack of faith.

FROM THE SERMON THIS WEEK

**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

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS and all queries to: [newslettersurfcoastuc@gmail.com](mailto:newslettersurfcoastuc@gmail.com) DEADLINE: Thursday at 4pm