

Welcome to the Surf Coast Uniting Church newsletter.

Rev. Suzie Castle : m: 0421023197 e: suzie.castle@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, and emerging. Find out more at www.wadawurrung.org.au.

A CALL TO PRAYER Week 7 by Maxine Flakemore

Dr Catherine Hamlin. 1924 - 2020 "The Saint of Addis Ababa."

A few years ago, I read a wonderful autobiography, "The hospital by the river," the story of Catherine Hamlin, an Australian Dr who lived her life in Ethiopia.

Catherine and her husband Reg originally travelled to Ethiopia to work for 3 years to help train midwives.

They were overwhelmed after meeting the "leaking women", young girls, outcast in their village. Girls who came from a desperately poor culture where they were married off at 8-12 years of age. After childbirth from labour lasting up to a week, they were left with an obstetric fistula leaking urine and faeces and spurned for life.

Catherine and Reg both realised that God was calling them to serve there.

Together they founded the first Fistula hospital in Addis Ababa in 1974.

In Germany they learnt the surgical technique needed to change these girls lives and restore them to their communities. They changed thousands of lives. Each girl restored to her village with a new life and wearing a new dress!

Following Reg's death, Catherine remained in Ethiopia and continued to work in faith for over 60 years.

Each morning prior to 4 hours of surgery she always spent time in prayer.

Catherine took her inspiration from **Mathew 25:40**

"Truly I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me".

She never set out to change the culture of the country but changed many lives through her humble service to the people. Revered by the people, Catherine continued to work undisturbed, through decades of political unrest, conflict and dictatorships. In 2020 she received an Ethiopian State funeral.

Catherine said: ***"My faith has been strengthened and my soul more firmly anchored to Jesus as the only one to whom we can turn. Jesus never promised us a smooth or trouble-free passage through life."***

Prayer points for this week.

To continue with thanks for all our continuing blessings and to trust that God already knows and hears our deepest need.

To ask for His continued teaching as we continue to learn more about prayer and how to include it into our lives.

To pray for continuing support for the work of the Catherine Hamlin Foundation restoring lives in Ethiopia and other parts of the world.

Lectionary Readings

July 18th:

2 Samuel 7: 1-14a

Psalms 89: 20-37

Eph: 2: 11-22

Mk 6: 30-34, 53-56

Preaching Rosters

July 18th: Pentecost 8

Airey's Inlet 9.30am
& Bellbrae: 11:00am.

Ms Jean Murray

Torquay 9.30:

Mr. Brian Shaw

July 25th: Pentecost 9

Airey's Inlet 9.30am
Bellbrae: 11:00am.

Rev Suzie Video Sermon

Torquay 9.30:

Café Church

OUR OPSHOP SERVICE ROSTER

Fri. 16th JULY PM: : Karleen, Noelene, TBA

Sat 17th JULY: AM: Val, Karleen, Carleen

Sat 17th JULY PM: Suzie, Tricia G, Ro T

1 John 4:19. Our love for others is our grateful response to the love God first demonstrated to us.

FOR YOUR DIARY...

The Torquay UC are hosting a Christmas in July Casserole Lunch with Plum Pudding.

A great opportunity to have some fun and enjoy company and a delicious meal.

On Sunday July 25th we will worship in a café church style in OTP at 9:30am and then follow through with some carol singing before the casserole lunch. If you can't attend worship you are still very welcome to come to the luncheon, beginning about 11:30am; the cost is \$10 per person



Notes from the Linked Council:

The Forward in Faith group has been hard at work and many of you have engaged in meetings where Mary Bremner and Noni Johnson have presented information about current and future financial models.

We have agreed to the following plans:

1. A Stewardship campaign over September and October with the topics of **Talents, Time, Care for Creation and Treasure**. These themes will carry through the church services. A combined service on August 29th at Bellbrae will kick off the campaign with a visiting speaker, Jonathan Cornford, to introduce the concepts
2. Information will be distributed to congregation members on the financial needs of the church, current income, including giving and the future plans. Over two months, congregation members will be given the opportunity to *make a pledge of their giving to the church*. We propose a target for annual giving, both weekly offering and fund raising. The target will be calculated according to the number of regular church members for each congregation with the current estimate for Torquay 70%, Bellbrae 18% and Aireys Inlet 12%. Final figures *have not been finalised*.

Please prayerfully discuss these issues and raise questions with your representatives on Forward in Faith or SCLCC. Church Councils will be asked to formally adopt these in principle plans by August 22nd.

Thank you from the Chair of SCLCC, Rosemary Thompson

P.S. Copies of all the slides and the full details are available in paper format from Ro—just ask anytime.

Phone: 0408319385



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

OUR NEXT COMBINED SERVICE: Sunday 29th August @ Bellbrae— A Celebration of Ministry: Time, Talents, Creation & Treasure

SURFCAOST ARTS Trail is back on for 2021 and both Torquay & Bellbrae congregations will be involved. To Help: call John A at Bellbrae (0431 920 806) or Robyn H at Torquay (0407 829 926)

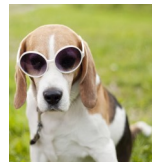


There will be refreshments offered as well as the Trading Table and Opshop open for additional browsing & buying.

Come and enjoy, bring your neighbours and family.

Aireys Inlet congregation is planning to have a

"FAMILY PET FAIR" church grounds on Sat 16th October— 10:00am-1:00pm.



This will be Aireys' major community outreach for the year. Planned activities include 'Pet Blessing', face painting, pet grooming, pets as therapy, native birds in your garden, pet rock painting, and novelty pet competitions. We hope to run a raffle, a pet related OP Shop stall, a coffee Van and a BBQ lunch.

To help & volunteer please contact Mary B (0427701275)

Donations also needed: For three raffle prizes— a basket of goodies, a children's' basket, and a Pet related basket. And for the POP UP OP-SHOP—Second hand pet articles and children's' books sheets, towels, etc, suitable for use by the Wildlife Rescue people.

To donate please call Edie (5289 7415 or Suzie (0421023197)

The Geelong Progressive Christianity Discussion Group –

Thursday 22nd July 1.30 -3.30pm

This discussion group meets at the Waurn Ponds Library Meeting Room (next to Leisurelink).

Our topic will be: An evening with **Michael Morwood – Reshaping religious imagination.**

Michael's talk was recorded in June 2019 at St Pauls United Church Methodist Church Houston. It is an hour long so please have a look at it before our meeting.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lg8953oNsvg>

All welcome in person or via zoom. _ New zoom participants please contact heather.bowe.dennis@gmail.com for zoom details

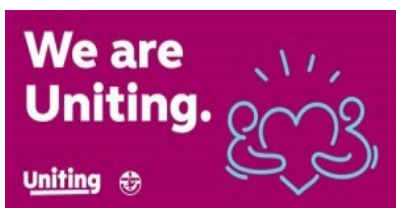
Mathew 25:40 "Truly I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me".

Have you enjoyed the series on prayer brought to us by Maxine? We certainly have and have created a small booklet of each weekly contribution which is available for your private prayer times.

Email or text the newsletter editors on:

newslettersurfcoastuc@gmail.com or 0419 340056 and ask for your copy to be delivered..

MORE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY...



UNITING still needs your donations of food for our local people who may be doing it tough this wet winter. Small packages of coffee, tea, long life milk, cereal, pasta, soups etc are all very much appreciated. Place in the basket in your church foyer or deliver to Harpers in Torquay.

For knitters - any new donations are also collected and distributed to keep people warm.

FILM AFTERNOON

@ 2 pm Sunday 1 August Queenscliff Uniting Church are screening a film called *"The Merger"*.

This is a fundraising event presented by Queenscliff Rural Australians for Refugees. Please join us and raise money to support refugees in the Bellarine community.



Doors open 1.30pm. Film begins 2pm.

Ticket \$10 includes refreshments at the end of the film.

Book online here: <https://www.trybooking.com/BSVVL>

'The Merger' is a funny, heart-warming movie about the Bodgy Creek 'Roosters,' a failing footy club who decide to team up with some local Refugees and end up winning more than just a game

The Marriage Course : to help couples strengthen their relationship

WHERE: Torquay Christian Fellowship
2 Pimelea Way Torquay (off Grossman's Rd)

WHEN: Monday evenings
26th July - 6th September

TIME: 6pm for 6:30 dinner – 8:30pm

COST: \$150 per couple (includes a meal each week and resources)

TO REGISTER: <https://www.trybooking.com/BSQMV>

Please talk to Rev Suzie about attending & the cost.

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

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