

Surfcoast Uniting Churches

1st August 2021 Edition 128

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.

Our Covid lockdown has ended although there are still restrictions on numbers gathering, we cannot meet in homes and we must remember to wear a mask at all times and register attendance wherever we go. Our Worship this week is back in our buildings:

Bellbrae @ 9.30am & Airey's Inlet @ 11 am with Rev Suzie Castle, Torquay @ 9.30am led by Michelle Hardy.

A CALL TO PRAYER- Week 9 Inspirational Prayers -1 Corinthians 6:19-20

As a nurse I have cared for many people. I call myself a Christian and am writing about prayer, with the awareness that I have never really experienced true hardship. By accident of birth, I live in a blessed, prosperous country. When I nurse people who have experienced a life changing disability, I am inspired by how they can still continue on, have faith and be happy in life.

Joni Eareckson Tada comes to mind. *Joni calls herself a God reflector.* She became a quadriplegic at 17 and has since become an inspirational Christian writer. She prays, using scripture. ***"I pray using God's word, as I know it is reflecting God's language and is pleasing to Him."***

On describing her week, she said. ***"I have a different look every day. On Monday I have the Barbara look. Barbara likes to use lots of makeup and a big hairdo. Tuesday, Beverly dresses me, she can be grumpy and doesn't like makeup and sometimes forgets to comb my hair. Julie comes on Wednesday and parts my hair on the other side. Thursday, Bella is often rushed and forgets to wash my face and on Friday I look just right as Jane always takes time to listen to what I like....."***

Joni says that ascribing value to our life is about reminding ourselves of the price Jesus paid. I often used her thoughts to teach about empathetic caring, whilst teaching nurses.

One inspiring person stands out. He lived at Grace McKellar Centre, where I once worked.

His name was **Wally Shultz. He was the happiest person I have ever encountered.** Wally came from Grovedale and started life as a farmer. He suffered Multiple Sclerosis for 50+ years and to top that, became blind in the years preceding his death. **Wally was completely dependent on others for all his needs.** He had every excuse to complain but never did. All Wally could do was talk and he did so cheerfully non-stop whilst being fed, which could be very annoying. Dosed several times daily with many tablets he would say, "Put all 12 in at once. It's easier that way, then stick my straw in, down the hatch!" Wally's straw was made from a long piece of flexible plastic tubing, the type used in fish tanks. Every Sunday, Wally attended the Lutheran church in North Geelong, transported on the tray of a utility happily sitting upright in his electric wheelchair, long before the days of maxi taxis! He faithfully brought back with him, tapes of the weekly sermon from his church.

Wally had such a presence, that whilst feeding him, nurses tended to tell him their troubles. He would say. "Now I would like you to open my locker, second drawer and you will find a tape there. I want you to take it and have a listen. Just return it when you are finished." I also poured out my troubles once to Wally and received a tape, which I politely

Lectionary Readings

AUG 1: Pentecost 10

2 Samuel 11:26 to
12: 13a
Psalm 51: 1-12
Eph 4: 1-16
John 6: 24-35

Preaching Roster

Aug 1st: Pentecost 10

**Airey's Inlet 9.30am
& Bellbrae: 11:00am.**
Rev Suzie Castle
**Torquay 9.30: led by
Michelle Hardy**

Aug 8th: Pentecost 11

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

OPSHOP Service Roster

Friday 30th July: Josie, Geoff G, John A
Sat 31st JULY: AM: Bev, Tricia, Carleen
PM: Robyn, Ro, Sam
Fri 6th Aug: Ro & helpers TBA
Sat 7th Aug AM: Doreen, Sam, Carleen
PM: Anna & TBA

.....placed in my bag and promptly forgot about.

Three months later whilst experiencing a very difficult time I found Wally's tape, still in my bag. I felt guilty for not having listened to it or returning it sooner. I quickly decided to skim through it so that I could honestly say that I had listened to it before returning it. ***I felt like God had sent me a personal message!***

Excitedly returning it I said how it had been so what I needed to hear at that time. Wally burst into tears. His wife explained to me that he had been giving tapes to nurses for many years and mine was the first to be returned, with the first feedback he had ever received! She said that ***Wally saw his main task for God in life, as trying to help the nurses who cared for him.*** He told me that he asked God every day to take him. I was able to say to him that perhaps God still needed him to minister here. He obviously had no awareness of how he was such an inspiration to others.

Prayer points for this week:

- **To think of all those who are so afflicted.**
- **To ask God for His continuing presence and comfort in their lives.**
- **To give thanks for people like Joni and Wally, who though disabled still care for others.**

Three new words to mull over as we enjoy celebrating all the Olympic wins this week:

MUDITA: a Buddhist word meaning to delight in another's good fortune or an unselfish joy.



NACHAS: a Yiddish word meaning pride in others accomplishments (usually children)

CONFELICITY: an English word meaning pleasure in another's happiness.



Are you a Facebook user? Please join our Church pages to broaden our reach and encourage the activities. BELLBRAE OPSHOP & Book Room, SURF COAST UNITING CHURCH, & COFFEE & KIDS Playspace. Spread the good news...



Happy Birthday to Betty E.

REMEMBER your donations for UNITING
THANK YOU



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

FUTURE events: PUT THEM IN THE DIARY...

OUR NEXT COMBINED SERVICE:

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



Plan ahead 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 pets and their humans very welcome! There will be blessings, games, face painting and goods to purchase.

An on-line workshop **"Aligning your Finances with your Faith"** is available *free* by registering at TRYBOOKING.com, with code: BPHPL.

The workshop covers practical banking, superannuation, and investments within a Christian context and is led by Quaker, Sue Ennis and UCA's Jamie Thom. Suitable for all, no matter what size your bank balance.

Dates: Tues 3rd August, Thurs 12th August. At 7.30pm.



Sacred Edge Festival is a wonderful Christian Arts celebration at Queenscliff Sep 5-7. You are invited to attend as a paid guest, and also as a volunteer

Register your interest to volunteer with Margot at sacrededge@iinet.net.au.

For tickets and information go to the website:

Festival info here <https://unitingqueenscliff.org.au/sacrededge-festival/>

Getting Together...

1. **Dine Out Lunch** is on Monday 9th Aug at The Beach Hotel, Jan Juc at 12.30. Call Jean Elder to register 0409 969 392. Bring suggestions for alternate venues with better access.

2. **Back To Bombora's** for **Thursday Coffee (or Tea) 10am** while the restrictions say we can't meet in homes. We can support local cafes and enjoy each other's company.

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**

sacrededge

Festival arts • music • stories **LAUNCH**

We would be delighted
if you could join us for the

Sacrededge Festival Launch

6pm Wednesday August 11



Scott Darlow

Learn about the 30+
Presenters and Performers
Indigenous, Refugee, LGBTIQ+
Climate Scientists



Kerryn Fields

& Carers for the Earth



Claire Dunn

Hear about the Tamil Feast
Art Exhibition
Childcare arrangements
Enjoy Wine & Cheese



David Karoly

Still Point at 5.30pm

Launch at 6pm

Community Meal 6.30pm

All Welcome



Kavisha Mazzella



Awale Ahmed