

Surfcoast Uniting Churches

17th October 2021 Edition 139

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Airey's Inlet, Bellbrae and Torquay.

www.surfcoast.unitingchurch.org.au



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

Lectionary Readings

Oct 17th: Pentecost 21

JOB 23: 1-9, 16-17

PSALM 22:1-5-15

HEBREWS 4: 12-16

Mark 10: 17-31

Our OPSHOP is open

Friday 15th OCT:

Noelene, Bev, Geoff

Saturday 16th Oct:

AM: Helen, Tricia, Carleen

PM: Ro, Marg, Jane

Our services are back in
our **Church buildings.**

And can be found online
at

www.surfcoast.unitingchurch.org.au

Use your phone
camera and the QR
code above to access
online



The lovely
UNITING
Christmas

Cards are available to
order NOW

And Uniting still need
425gm tins of Tuna and
small packages of Laundry
soap powder & toiletries.

See Robyn Harper for
Cards or to deliver goods.

THANK
YOU



Week 7 of our Stewardship program: **TREASURE: Generous Giving**

Aireys Inlet 9:30am & Bellbrae 11:00am with Rev Suzie Castle / Torquay 9:30am

From the Ministers Desk...

How beautiful is this weather? Reminds me of Brisbane winters.

This week we find ourselves in the last two weeks of our stewardship program. Encouraging words have drawn us closer together which is of itself, is a good outcome. Many thanks to the congregation leaders who have wisely guided and generously shared their own time, talents and treasure as an example of working together in a joyful way. You are a blessing.

There's a program called **Spirited Generosity** aimed at helping our individual thinking and doing when it comes to following Jesus. It helps us to reflect on where we are when it comes to giving joyfully to God and others. I thought it could be helpful to share this with you especially the ideas about TIME and sharing. This resource has been written by Carolyn and Fuzz Kitto, and here are two of their guiding statements to stretch our thinking...

1. Our Time and the choices we make...

- "I am involved in charity work which takes my time and some of my money."
- "We volunteer and teach our children the value of volunteering."
- "I chose a profession where I can mainly work from home to save the travel time for other activities and contribute more to my local community..."

2. Our Possessions and the choices we make...

- "Money and values involves a constant checking process for me. I came from Presbyterian stock. I am careful with money but I love giving things away."
- "I donate things I don't need to charity rather than selling things on ebay. This way my excess goes to someone who needs it."
- "We chose to share our home with other people, both in having people to meals we cook and also in having people live or stay with us."
- "We have gone to a one car family and are walking more. We are finding that we can cooperate on car use."
- "We research all our big purchases for our needs. Once we identify that we really need something, we search for the best price."
- I buy locally rather than on-line, I choose to support our community businesses.
- I buy at sales and try not to impulse buy.

These are simple ways of thinking through how we are tracking what we are doing, what we want to do, and what we hope to do, in order to serve the Church and those in our wider community. But it's more than that, it is about how we are supported and encouraged in our community and how we support and encourage others in return. It serves us well to regularly review how we spend our time, talents and treasure.

We have choices – do we binge on Netflix or help out at Food Aid or make an encouraging and supportive call to someone.

We are journeying through TREASURE over the next two weeks and will be joined by Jonathon Cornford (video) and Rev Linley Liersch (video and live). Many of us have appreciated the thinking of both these theologians and I am feeling blessed they are generously sharing their time and talents with us.

Have a lovely week.

Peace Be with You. Rev Suzie Castle. Minister of the Word

Surfcoast UC Stewardship Calendar of Service

17 October: TREASURE: Generous Giving

24 October: TREASURE: Generous Living

31 October: Celebration : COMBINED WORSHIP @ AIREYS INLET

Diary Date: next FIF meeting is Mon 25th Oct (note change)

We Can Do It!

On Sunday October the 31st we will be celebrating the culmination of our three month long stewardship program with a "combined" service. The COVID restrictions have blown up our plans for a gathering of the three churches in one location to sing, praise God for His goodness, pray for our shared future as linked congregations and share great food. However, we are not to be thwarted and will use the wonders of technology to link us together.

The Bellbrae congregation will be joining with Alreys Inlet in the Aireys Community Hall, where Suzie will preside and the Bellbrae musicians will provide the music. Our tech gurus are currently working on a way of linking us with the folk in Torquay, who will be meeting in the church and Oak Tree Place. Following the Victorian COVID road map, we are counting on being able to have a maximum of 20 people, or 30 fully vaccinated people, in each location.

After the service we will have an outdoors picnic - BYO food, drinking vessels and utensils.

Blessings to all from the FIF team.

Christmas Themed Trading Table & Art Show

Torquay UC Lawns and Oak Tree Place

Saturday 6th November

(assuming all Covid restrictions allow)



Tables include craft, home baked/made goods, garden produce and some invited plants. (Deliver to TUC Friday 5th @ 2pm)

Contact: Tricia for Trading Goods (0419340056) & Robyn for the Art Show (0407829926)



Our congregation members are part of many groups—Community Gardens, Choirs, Refugee Action & U3A classes to name a few...

Robin Purdey and John Peck from Torquay have been

enjoying the U3A "Writing & Poetry" Class and will be part of the Surfcoast Shire's POSITIVE AGEING activities on THIS Friday 15th at 1.30pm to launch their book and talk about their class. Email Rose Salvo at SC Shire on rsalvo@surfcoast.vic.gov.au to register and receive the Zoom link.

Airey's Inlet St Aidan's Church, 29 Great Ocean Road, Airey's Inlet.

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, Bellbrae

News from Torquay Congregation:

1. Our Council held its September 28th Meeting in person and was pleased to welcome co-opted member Sam Nolan. Our next Congregation Meeting with elections will likely be in early December. This date to be confirmed. Chat to a Council member anytime.
2. **Coffee & Kids** playgroup will be running a fundraiser at BUNNINGS Torquay on Sat. 23rd Oct from 10 to 4pm Thankyou to everyone who has volunteered for duty and also provided Jane with their vaccination status as required.
3. The gardens are looking good this Spring and we even have sunflowers planted! Next steps will be mending & painting parts of the church.

Moses said to the whole Israelite community, "This is what the LORD has commanded: ⁵ From what you have, take an offering for the LORD. (EXODUS 35)

Have you been tested for COVID at either of the Surfcoast testing stations at Torquay or Spring Creek? There will be baskets of goodies delivered to our hard working test staff at both locations on Monday. If you have something suitable to pop in a basket please bring it to Torquay church on Sunday.



Thanks Sylvia Peck.

NB: If you are a volunteer either involved in Worship and/or activities at our Surfcoast Uniting Churches, we need to register your vaccination status. As of Friday October 15th, it is mandatory that an employer gathers and records the vaccination status information on any person working anywhere other than from their own residence. This applies to all staff, paid and unpaid volunteers. This is a requirement throughout the entire state of Victoria. The register will be held by each Congregation or Council Chair. This information will be treated confidentially and known only to us.

The document indicates that as of Oct 15th, all workers/ volunteers must have one vaccination and by November 26th be fully vaccinated.

At the Zoom meeting this week with Presbytery we discussed many issues around Covid. One issue was to clarify what a volunteer is.

Until we hear otherwise we are regarding anyone who does work for the church in a voluntary capacity is a volunteer.

For this or any questions regarding vaccination certificates and the link to your MY Gov accounts please talk to your Chairs—Jane, Keith, Maxine or Rev Suzie.

Thank you

Weekly offerings can be made via direct debit or credit to:

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