# Surfcoast Uniting Churches

Aireys Inlet 9.30am, Bellbrae 11am, Torquay 9.30am.

www.surfcoast.unitingchurch.org.au

NOTE: Rev. Suzie Castle is on Long Service Leave from 28th Feb to 8th May 2022

For assistance, please contact your Congregation Council Chairs:

Jane Skelton:0400 190 580

Maxine Flakemore:0422 632 809

Keith & Mary Bremner:0427 701 276

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We acknowledge that we meet and 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.



As we journey through Lent the newsletter front page will use ideas and reflections from the Uniting World Lent Event booklet called "How to be a Good Global Neighbour" This is available to download HERE

# WHO is my Neighbour?

### Matthew 25

31 When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. 32 All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, 33 and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. 34 Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; 35 for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, 36 I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' 37 Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? 38 And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? 39 And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' 40 And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' 41 Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; 42 for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, 43 I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' 44 Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' 45 Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' 46 And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.

Christians have long debated the role played by 'good works' in setting us in right relationship with God. Rather than having a clear-cut answer, what we have is this dynamic tension between two true teachings. First, that faith in Christ reconciles us to God; and second, that faith that does not lead to action is no faith at all (James 2:14-16).

The story above is a classic demonstration of this dynamic. We are to love God. And our love for God is embodied in our love shown to others in tangible ways. To follow Christ is not just to believe in Him, but to imitate Him.

"Jesus' command to love calls us to love with our whole selves and our whole lives "

"It is the act of loving another that makes us a neighbour, and it is to that act that we are called and commanded."

"We become neighbours when we are willing to cross the road for one another." - Henri Nouwe

## Worship leaders March 27th

**Aireys and Bellbrae** services will be lead by **Natalie Sims** from Brunswick Uniting Church.

Torquay's service will be lead by Joe Diffen.

#### **LOCAL NEWS & DIARY DATES:**

\*Our Thursday Cuppa's are back. It's very casual! There may be three or thirteen! Meet at Bombora's in Torquay about 10.30 for a coffee and chat.

\*Sat 2nd April. Coffee & Kids Bunnings BBQ.
Thanks to the extra volunteers that made up the numbers.
If you aren't helping do pop up for a Sausage or two.

\*Surfcoast ARTS Trail is back on 6/7 AUGUST. Registrations open on 16th March. See Robyn Harper if you are interested.

The return of the **Mother's day High Tea** in Oak Tree Place on **Saturday 14 th May. This date has change too.** 

The next **Torquay Trading table** will be on **APRIL 23rd.** More information to come soon, but a good time to get busy with your craft creations, pickles and jams.

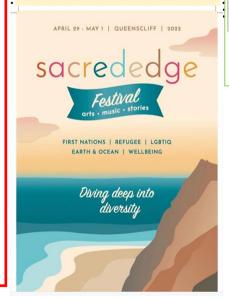
**Dineout** is at Jan Juc Beach Hotel **Monday 11th April at 12:00**. Please contact Jean
Elder so she can book numbers. A great
opportunity to catchup with folk over a
lovely meal.



# **SURFCOAST UC BBQ**

A reminder that there will be a BBQ at 53 Cowie Rd, the Harper's home ,on Sunday March 27th at 1:00pm. This is a way of sharing with and thanking Natalie Sims from Brunswick Uniting Church, who will be leading worship at Aireys Inlet and Bellbrae that morning.

Please bring your own meat plus a Salad or sweet to share. Contact Robyn to confirm your attendance and what you are bringing on 0407829926 Our Bellbrae Opshop & Book Shop Is open as usual.



The SurfCoast Prayer Shawl group have been very busy creating their beautiful shawls over

the last year. But they need people to give them to. If you know of anyone who would welcome the comfort and love these shawls provide please contact Marilyn Wendt or one of your church lead-

# **Lectionary Readings**

March 27th: Lent 4 April 3rd: Lent 5

Jos 5:9-12 Is 43:16-21
Ps 32 Ps 126
2 Cor 5:16-21 Phil 3:4b-14
Lk 15:1-3, 11b-32 Jn 12:1-8

# **ASYLUM SEEKER EVENT**

THE SHAPE OF HOPE BOOK LAUNCH
AIREYS INLET COMMUNITY HALL
SATURDAY 26 March 2pm



#### **GUEST SPEAKERS**

- ♦ Asylum seeker reading from The Shape of Hope
- ♦ Sally Morgan, Hope Co-op

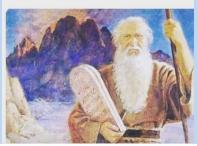
Drinks provided. Gold coin donation. Bookings encouraged at Try Booking: https://www.trybooking.com/BXJLD



Special Guest: Hannie Rayson, patron of AIRAR Sponsored by Aireys Inlet Rural Australians for Refugees

Also books for sale on the day \$35. All profits from sales to support the HOPE Co-operative.

So technically Moses is the first man to download files from the cloud using a tablet.



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

**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 Friday & Saturday

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS and all queries to: <a href="mailto:newslettersurfcoastuc@gmail.com">newslettersurfcoastuc@gmail.com</a> DEADLINE: Thursday at 4pm</a>