

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



17th April 2022 Edition 165

*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.*

Easter on the Surfcoast



(Today) Maundy Thursday: Tenebrae Service at 7.30pm at Torquay. You are welcome...

Good Friday 15th April

There will be a service **at Torquay at 9.30am** with Rev. Deacon Jeanne Beale. All welcome

Enjoy **Hot Cross Buns** after the services at Geoff & Tricia's, 8 Gogoll Crescent, Torquay. Please BYO buns to share, and all other refreshments provided. Arrive & leave as you please. Dogs, children and visitors welcome.



Easter Sunday 17th April

6.30am Dawn Ecumenical Service at Cosy Corner, Torquay with breakfast snacks to follow

Aireys Inlet at 9.30am and Bellbrae at 11am led by Geoff Thompson (Assoc Prof Systematic Theology)

Torquay at 9.30am led by Robert Packett

Continuing reflections from the Uniting World Lent Event booklet called "How to be a Good Global Neighbour"

Today - A Uniting World Supporter Story—all these resources are available to download [here](#).



"Do you feel that your personal expenditure reflects compassion for those in need?"

That Bible study question really got me thinking. When I looked at my life, I saw countless blessings – a quality education, opportunities to travel, a generous and supportive family, great friends and a good job. Yet what was I giving back? The amount was tiny. It came entirely from my excess. I remembered the story of the widow's offering – the poor woman who gave just two small coins, which was all she had to live on (Mark 12:41-44). She gave humbly, generously, and sacrificially. I couldn't give everything, but I could be more like her.

That week I prayed, I researched, and then I increased my donations more than tenfold. I began to give a good chunk of money – one that I could not miss on my monthly bank statement. It is now one of my biggest regular expenditures, after paying for the roof over my head.

How do I afford it? Well, I now have to be more careful with my money – it is like a permanent Lent Event where takeaway coffees and other luxuries are the exception, not the norm. But I don't begrudge it for one second! I see it as God's money – my contribution – to making this world a better place.

I chose to give to one organisation rather than many, because the impact would be greater. I would only get one set of mail-outs, and thus a greater proportion of my money would reach the people I wanted to help.

I chose to give regular monthly donations because I knew that planned giving was more helpful to organisations. Nonetheless, I still sometimes give to appeals, and I love purchasing the 'Everything in Common' gift cards to share the good news with family and friends.

I always thought that I would make a large contribution in my will (and indeed, I still plan to) but doing it while I am still alive excites me more! We pray in the Lord's Prayer, 'your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth...' and I hope that I will see that day – when extreme poverty is gone, when all children have an education, and when the marginalised are empowered. Imagine that!

This is my story. What is yours? Do you feel that your personal expenditure – of your time, your money, or your purchasing decisions – reflects compassion for those in need? I encourage you to pray and to ponder.


The full story is published here: www.unitingworld.org.au/giving-supporter-story/

Worship leaders this Sunday April 17th

Aireys and Bellbrae services will be lead by **Geoff Thompson**

Torquay's service will be lead by **Robert Packett**

Join in prayer this week for

- Our political leaders as they joust for our attention before an election on Saturday 21st May. Pray they make good decisions for all our communities.
- Those with seriously ill family or friends. May their times together be special and comforting.
- Bold and innovative action on climate change and for climate policies that prioritise care for creation and people.
- The millions of people displaced and impacted by the conflict in the Ukraine and for a path to dialogue and peace. Bless those who are raising money and offering hospitality to refugees. 
- The many visitors and their families who will be on the Surfcoast this week for surfing, walking, swimming and eating. May they be safe

Our Trading Table is back for 2022

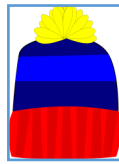
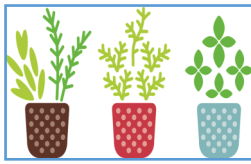
Saturday April 30th from 10am to 12 noon

On the lawn at Oak Tree Place

Lovely food, garden produce, jams, chutneys, knitted goods, useful and beautiful craft, plants, some clothes & books.

Volunteer cooks & helpers needed

All enquiries to Tricia Genat at 0419 340056 or to the newsletter email address.



Our AUTUMN Book Club is on Tuesday 3rd May at 2.30pm at Oak Tree Place. The theme is **LOVE STORIES**. No groans! BYO book and chat about it. Fiction, non fiction, travel, biographies.

Thank you to all those who are honouring their financial pledges to our Surfcoast Congregations each week. Your contribution is valued and keeps us open. For Bank deposits- Acc: **Surfcoast Uniting Church** NAB BSB: 083-929 and Account Number 93-009-8403 Use notes AIREYS: AI3228 BELLBRAE:BB3228 TORQUAY: TQ3228

Lectionary Readings

April 17th: Easter Sunday

April 24th: Easter 2

Acts 10: 34-43

ACTS 5: 27-32

Psalm 118: 1-2,14-24

Psalm 118: 14-29

1 Cor 15: 19-26

Rev 1: 4-8

Luke 24: 1-12

John 20: 19-31

LOCAL NEWS & DIARY DATES:

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



Mother's Day High Tea in Oak Tree Place on Saturday 14th May at 2.30pm

More details soon—mark the date and invite your friends, neighbours and partners.

Tickets \$15

Delicious sandwiches, cakes & drinks

Our OPSHOP is closed on Good Friday

And open on :

EASTER SATURDAY: 10am to 4pm

EASTER MONDAY: 10am to 4pm

Extra volunteers are encouraged—we would love to have you on the team. Call Bev Hooper to chat about this.

An INVITATION from the Torquay Congregation Council to join a discussion about **Pastoral and Community Care** on **Tuesday April 26th at 2:00pm in Oak Tree Place**. This topic is a priority for us in the year ahead and we welcome everyone's thoughts.

April 29 - May 1, 2022: Sacrededge Festival is 30+ musicians, artists and presenters across the weekend at Uniting Queenscliff. Diving Deep into Diversity, the Festival's themes of First Nations, Refugees, LGBTIQ, Earth & Ocean, and Wellbeing are explored and celebrated through Music, Stories, Art, Panels, Workshops, Food, suitable for all ages.

Tickets: <https://www.trybooking.com/BGOJM>

Sacrededge [Facebook](#). Sacrededge [Instagram](#).

sacrededge
Festival
arts • music • stories



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 OPEN Friday & Saturday 10am to 4pm.

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