

Surfcoast Uniting Churches

16th October 2022 Edition 191

www.surfcoast.unitingchurch.org.au

For assistance, please contact your Congregation Council Chairs :

Jane Skelton:0400 190 580

Maxine Flakemore:0422 632 809

Keith & Mary Bremner:0427 701 276

Rev Bob Thomas : 0479 169 931



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.

Anti-Poverty Week begins today.

Anti-Poverty Week supports the Australian community to have an increased understanding of poverty and to take action collectively to end it. There is a diverse network of individuals and organizations who share this purpose. Since 2002, they have been active each year in the week around the 17th of October, the United Nations Day for the Eradication of Poverty. Their key message is: Poverty exists. Poverty hurts us all. We can all do something about it. It is one of hope, not despair. Did you know that 774,000 children or 1 in 6 Australian children aged 0-14 years lived in poverty in 2017-18 (the latest available data). At 17.7%, the percentage of children living in poverty is higher than the percentage of any other age group – including those aged 65 years and over.

There are some excellent fast fact sheets on the website and some suggestions for hosting an event or getting involved in reducing poverty. antipovertyweek.org.au

How does God respond to suffering?

In his book

"Reaching for the Invisible God"

Philip Yancy writes,

"Jesus gives God a face, and that face is streaked with tears."

The image resonated with my own experience that when it hurts, God is with us and cares. The Song "Our God who Weeps" grew out of that.

Anne Scull © 2006



Stand ,o , stand firm; stand ,o, stand firm;

Stand ,o, stand firm and see what the Lord can do.

Words: Traditional PD.

Music: original unknown © 1990 Wild Goose resource group, GIA Publications Inc.

A TV Review on *The Australian Wars* program

The SBS series *The Australian Wars* tells the history we were never taught at school. Superbly directed and presented by Rachael Perkins, this documentary covers the frontier wars that were waged between our First Nations people and the early colonists. The first episode covers the early days of settlement in NSW, the second episode looks at the endeavours to wipe out the indigenous Tasmanians and the final episode focuses on the frontier wars of northern Australia.

One of the central planks of the Uluru Statement from the Heart is "truth telling" and this documentary, with historians presenting many original accounts from the era, tells some very confronting truths. The frighteningly realistic re-enactments are hard to watch, but it is right that we be horrified by this shameful part of our country's history.

Although it's not covered in the documentary, our churches played a part in the events that took place. I believe we now have a responsibility to embrace an honest recognition of past wrongs, so that we can move forward to a more just society for all Australians.

Watching this documentary is good step in that direction. All three episodes are now available on SBS On Demand.

Mary Bremner (Aireys Inlet)

Lectionary Readings

Oct 16th: Pentecost 19 Oct 23rd : Pentecost 20

Jer 31:27-34

Jl 2:23-32

Ps 119:97-104

Ps 65 2

2 Tim 3:14 - 4:5

Tim 4:6-8, 16-18

Lk 18:1-8

Lk 18:9-14

Sunday 16th October

Aireys Inlet at 9.30am & Bellbrae at 11am Rev Bob Thomas
Torquay at 9.30am with Natalie Sims

Sunday 23rd October

Aireys Inlet at 9:30am Rev Bob Thomas (Video),
Bellbrae at 11am with Brian Shaw
Torquay at 9:30am with Rev Bob Thomas

LOCAL NEWS & DIARY DATES:

Dates to note...

Thursday Gatherings at Bomboras. From 10.30am. Come one and all.



Sunday October 23rd. Aireys Inlet Church Council special meeting. After church Sunday October 23rd. To discuss the proposal that the Aireys congregation form a support group to host a refugee family to settle in our community. What an inspiring idea!

The Christmas Choir :

The Torquay UC Choir is now meeting each Thursday at 5pm. This is for November and Advent choir music. We are always looking for new members, come along and add your voice to our choir".

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PPW (Presbytery of Port Phillip West) Regional Gatherings

Several representatives from our three congregations attended the first of the Regional talks with others on the Surf Coast and Bellarine on September 20th at Oak Tree Place. This was hosted by Revs L. Linley, N. Collas, and Rev Deacon J. Beale.

The second meeting is on Oct 19th at the Leopold church at 4pm. Again reps from the three churches will be attending. It is a invitation to consider the future in our area together.

The Link Council are meeting with Rev Linley Liersch on Tuesday 18th October at 10:00am at Oak Tree Place to discuss all the **Mission Priorities and Congregational Viabilities** information we have completed at our three churches over the last couple of months. We will endeavour to keep you up to date as this process continues.

Congratulations to Ros and Bernie Long
celebrating
60 years of
marriage.



Community Notices:

Thursday 17th November: A lecture on Scammell House: Both Cheryl Baulch and our very own *Carleen Thoernberg* will give a U3A Surfcoast Occasional Lecture at the Lesley McQuinn Centre, Price St. Torquay. 1.30pm to 2.45pm. Check out the details of this and other U3A events at www.u3asurfcoast.org.au.

Cottage by the Sea Queenscliff Inc.

Geelong Branch

Presents **AN AFTERNOON TEA** with

TOM HARDING

"HOW TO RESTORE AN OUTBACK ABANDONED TOWNSHIP

FOR \$850"

Thursday 27th October 2022 at 2.00 pm

Waurm Ponds Community Church

48 Waurmvale Drive, Belmont

Cost \$10

Inquiries & Booking of Tickets – Robyn – Ph 0407 829 926

RSVP 23.10.2022



Yes, the lovely UNITING Christmas cards are available for purchase as you start to plan your summer

Order on line at
[www.unitingvictas.org.au/
product](http://www.unitingvictas.org.au/product) Or fill in an order sheet
on Sunday. Or call 1800 668 425

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: AI3231 BELLBRAE:BB3228 TORQUAY: TQ3228

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, School Road. Bellbrae OPEN Friday & Saturday 10am to 4pm.