

# Surfcoast Uniting Churches

[www.surfcoast.unitingchurch.org.au](http://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

18th December 2022 Edition 200

*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](http://www.wadawurrung.org.au).*



This sea of bags is being distributed to over 200 families and individuals in the Bellarine & Geelong area who may need extra care and assistance this Christmas time.

## THANK YOU

To all those who shopped, donated, sorted, packed and cajoled us into giving to Uniting. Hampers are packed with staples, Christmas food and toys for kids, and then laid out for clients to make choices according to the size of their family .

You have made a difference this year.

**Uniting**



### Our Christmas Services:



Do you feel like singing?

9.30am this Sunday 18th at Torquay Church for a Carols Service choc full of favourite old and new carols, readings and joy.

Everyone is welcome—we don't mind if you're late!

And Christmas Eve @ Bellbrae Church at 10pm (TBC)



<sup>24</sup> When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. <sup>25</sup> But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son.

And he gave him the name Jesus.

MATTHEW 1

### Lectionary Readings

#### Dec 18th: Advent 4

Isaiah 7: 10-16

Psalms 80: 1-7, 17-19

Romans 1: 1-7

Matthew 1: 18-25

#### Dec 25th: Christmas

Isaiah 9: 2-7

Psalms 96

Titus 2: 1-14

Luke 2: 1-14, 15, 20

### Sunday 18th December

Holy Communion: Airey's Inlet @ 9.30am & Bellbrae @ 11am

Carols Service @ Torquay, 9.30am

Christmas Eve at 10pm at Bellbrae

Sunday 25th December: Christmas Day

Airey's Inlet @ 9.30am & Bellbrae @ 11am

Torquay, 9.30am

## Diary Dates and local events:

**Thursday Coffee Gatherings at Bomboras in Torquay.** From 10.30am. Come one and all. Every week, Rain, Hail, Sun or Holidays!

Also this Sunday at Torquay we continue to receive Christmas baubles to decorate our tree. Please add your ornament and feel free to speak to its story if appropriate. Thank you.



### Save the dates:

The Camino Walk at Aireys Inlet is back on the calendar we hope for late January. More details soon.

Sunday 29th January—we have a combined Congregation Service and Meeting to be held at Torquay

A mixed group of campers and cabin dwellers across our congregations have booked a few days holiday in Dimboola in early February. You are welcome to join us. Walking, BBQ, coffee, books and general R&R. Call or text Tricia Genat (0419 340056) to query.

### In Our Wider Community:

The *Spiegletent* opens at Barwon Heads on 17th December. Lots of shows to enjoy. ([www.wonderlandspiegletent.com.au/barwon-heads](http://www.wonderlandspiegletent.com.au/barwon-heads)) to check the shows and book tickets.

The Cowrie Market is back for the last time in 2022—Sunday 18th - 10am to 3pm on the Esplanade at Torquay.

Community Carols: at Torquay on Sat. 17th December at 4pm & at Anglesea by Candlelight 6.45pm on Wed 21st Dec

THE *light shines* IN THE DARKNESS  
JOHN 1:5

Dear Lord, help me to add light  
to this world and not darkness.

Be still!

And let God's peace wash over you like waves lapping over  
stones,  
smoothing those rough edges of insurmountable worries to tiny  
insignificant gains of sand,  
taking away the jaggedness of sin to leave smooth shining love.  
Be blessed!

In the name of God who forgives.

In the name of God, who loves.

In the name of God who daily calls us to action,  
in God's life-sustaining, liberating and transforming grace.

*Amen!*

### OPSHOP & BOOKROOM NEWS:

Our last trading day for 2022 will be on Saturday 17th December and we reopen on Friday 6th January 2023.

Many thanks to everyone who makes this mission such a success.

*Remember!* We are still looking for additional volunteers for monthly or fortnightly shifts. Full training provided.

Call Bev Hooper on 0419221514.



Thanks to all who are honoring their financial pledges and those who give what they are able, so we may continue to worship and serve our communities. Gifts are valued in electronic or paper format.

Surfcoast Uniting Church. NAB : BSB: 083-929 & Acc No: 93-009-8403.

ADD notes: Aireys AI3231; Bellbrae BB3228; Torquay TQ 3228

**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.