

Surfcoast Uniting Churches Newsletter

For assistance, please contact :

(Torquay) Jane Skelton:0400 190 580

(Bellbrae) Maxine Flakemore:0422 632 809

(Aireys Inlet) Keith & Mary Bremner:0427 701 276

Rev Bob Thomas : 0479 169 931



Sunday 22nd January 2023

We acknowledge that we meet and worship on the land of the Wadawurrung people and pay our respects to their elders past and present.

Find out more at www.wadawurrung.org.au.

Jan 22nd, 2023 . Epiphany 3 Is 9:1-4 Ps 27:1, 4-9 1 Cor 1:10-18 Mt 4:12-23

Services this week. Aireys Inlet (9:30) and Bellbrae (11:00) —Worship team with Rev Bob Thomas via video:
Torquay (9:30) - Rev Bob Thomas

January 29th. Combined service at Torquay U.C. (9:30) Rev Linley Liersch



DAY OF MOURNING 2023

A worship service for faith communities to reflect on the effects of invasion and colonisation of Australia's First Peoples.



Since 2019 the **Uniting Church has marked a Day of Mourning** to reflect on the dispossession of Australia's First Peoples and the ongoing injustices faced by First Nations people in this land. For those of us who are Second Peoples from many lands, we lament that we were and remain complicit.

The observance of a Day of Mourning on the Sunday before 26 January arises from a request from the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress (UAICC) which was endorsed by the 15th Assembly in 2018. We invite you on or around Sunday 22 January to reflect on the effects of invasion, colonisation and racism on First Peoples.

Below is a prayer to share speaking of the beauty of this land, and encouraging us to join our hearts to beat of her joy.

Our land is alive with the glory of God; desert sands hum and gum trees dance.
Brown grasses sing and mountains breathe their stillness.

All created things add their rhythms of delight and even stones rap out their praise.

Let our voices mingle with those of the earth; may our hearts join the beat of her joy, for our triune God is with us: the Source of all being surrounds and upholds us.

Christ Jesus walks beside and before us.

The Spirit moves within and between us. Blessed be God, our wonder and delight . Amen.



As promised , this week's front page features the folk of **Bellbrae Uniting Church**. A welcoming place for all, including for furry friends. Their services are enriched by their trio of musicians, and they are very open to participating in Bob's sharing time during the service.

They even have Fran's dog ,Al ,trained to sing the 3 fold Amen.



Next Sunday January 29th. A VERY IMPORTANT DATE!

There will be a **Combined Service of all Surfcoast churches at Torquay** at 9:30am.

Rev Linley Liersch will be leading this service. It will be followed by a Congregational meeting led by Linley to share the Mission study findings before we move onto the JNC process.

A lunch will follow. Please bring finger food to share.



Great Future events to pop on your calendars and other interesting items.

COFFEE TIME >>>>Thursdays 10:30am @ Narana

An invitation to join a Surfcoast Uniting Church **CAMINO WALK**

From the Split Point Lighthouse to Urquhart's Bluff

When: Sunday January 22, 2023, starting 3 PM

Where: Meeting in Aireys Inlet at the Lighthouse

What to bring: Don't forget the essentials: hat, sunscreen, water, good walking shoes.

The Camino Pilgrims are invited to join in a picnic dinner (BYO to share) at Urquhart's bluff at the end of the walk



Please note:

All Uniting Church Events are cancelled on days of fire danger ratings of extreme or higher. The Camino planning committee reserves the right to cancel the event if the weather conditions on the day are considered unsuitable for the planned activity. Please consult the church website for further information. Website:

<https://surfcoast.unitingchurch.org.au/new-s-blog/>

Please RSVP to Mary, bremnerkm@gmail.com or on 0427 701 275, by January 15, 2023, if you would like to join the Camino.

INVITATION

Pilk Purriyn


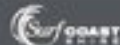
Truth-telling Event

Thursday 26 January 2023, 5:30am-7am
Cosy Corner, Torquay

Presented by Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation in partnership with Surf Coast Shire Council.

Pilk Purriyn means "sunrise".
Come join us as the sun rises on this day for deep-listening and reflection

Event begins with a Welcome to Country ceremony and Smoking Ceremony.
For more information and to register attendance:
surfcoast.wic.gov.au/pilk-purriyn

Remember that UNITING still need your donations and if you have any stamps from your Christmas cards gathering dust, drop them off at church for **Sammy Stamp.**

Lots of things/ lunches/ events are still on holiday during January, but please let the newsletter team know when all your activities begin again.



WANTED

Tip vouchers needed by the Op shop to take all the unwanted unusable rubbish that gets left at the Shop. If you have spare ones please donate to Maxine or Carlene at Bellbrae.

The Cottage by the Sea fete

was a great success last Saturday. 7 folk from Torquay U.C. volunteered to help with the Cream teas that Robyn Harper organizes every year. I think we are all dreaming of scones, and more scones.....

Overall the day raised over \$70,000.
What a fabulous result for such a great charity.



Some of the faithful of the OP Shop .

Fran, Judith (behind Fran), Carlene, Cheryl, Bev, and Doreen sharing afternoon tea after a busy Tuesday afternoon sorting donations .

Wood for Sale: Bellbrae have trimmed several of their fir trees and have lots of great wood for sale. \$20 a trailer load. Call Fran or Maxine.

Do you have any great ideas for fellowship and fundraising functions we can hold in Oak Tree Place. Put on your thinking caps and let's utilize this great space , share in our community and have fun too.

Let Jane or Tricia know....

Please Note that on Extreme and Catastrophic Fire Risk days the church services on the Surf Coast will be cancelled, and OpShop closed.

Next week: Photos from the Camino Walk; Information from Aireys about CRISP and their hope to sponsor a refugee family; Combined service photos.

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.

NB: Newsletter deadline 4pm Thursday. Email: newsletter-surfcoastuc@gmail.com.

OUR CHURCHES
ON THE SURF-
COAST

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
REOPENS Friday 6th January & Saturday 7th: 10am to 4pm.