

# Surfcoast Uniting Churches Newsletter

For assistance, please contact :

(Torquay) Jane Skelton: 0400 190 580

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

Rev Bob Thomas : 0479 169 931



Sunday 19th March 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](http://www.wadawurrung.org.au).



*"In the beginning God made a home.  
Not a house with four walls and a door -  
a place of belonging and safety for all.  
For bodies with wings and tails,  
or fins and scales,  
or human skin  
like you and I exist within.  
We could describe this space  
as one that was marked with Common Grace -  
a Common Home."*

Copyright to poet Will Smith  
[www.w.commongrace.org.au](http://www.w.commongrace.org.au)

*"Lent is a time of  
going very deeply into  
ourselves... What is it  
that stands between us  
and God? Between us and  
our brothers and sisters?  
Between us and life,  
the life of the Spirit?  
Whatever it is, let us  
relentlessly tear it out,  
without a moment's  
hesitation."*

—Catherine Doherty

Catherine Doherty (August 1896–December 1985)  
was a social activist and foundress of the Madonna House  
Apostolate. She was a pioneer of social justice.

This is the time of year when we stop to reflect on the past year within our congregations on the surf coast. All our churches have had or will have an AGM (Annual General Meeting) and maybe elections during this period and we pray for guidance to our council members for the year ahead. All the dates and details are over the page in the Surfcoast Events section.



## Plan ahead for Easter :

- Sunday 2nd April: **Palm Sunday**  
Aireys Inlet @ 9.30am, Bellbrae @ 11am, Torquay @ 9.30am.
- Wednesday 5th April: **Bellbrae Taizé Service at 7pm**
- Thursday 6th April: **Service at Elouera Aged Care at 2.15pm, helpers welcome**
- Thursday 6th April: **Maundy Thursday Service at 7.30pm at Torquay**
- Friday 7th April: **Good Friday Service at Torquay at 9.30am**  
**Hot Cross Buns** @ Genats following the service. 8 Gogoll Crescent, Torquay. All welcome
- Sunday 9th April: **Ecumenical Dawn Service at Cosy Corner** followed by snack breakfast with the gathered. 6.30am
- Sunday 9th April: **Easter Day:** Aireys Inlet @ 9.30am, Bellbrae @ 11am, Torquay @ 9.30am.



**Please Note that on Extreme and Catastrophic Fire Risk days the church services on the Surf Coast may be cancelled, and the Op Shop closed.**

NB: Newsletter deadline 4pm Thursday. Email: [newslettersurfcoastuc@gmail.com](mailto:newslettersurfcoastuc@gmail.com). ALL news welcome

## Sunday March 19th: Lent 4

Aireys Inlet @ 9:30am Rev Bob Thomas  
Bellbrae @ 11am Rev Bob Thomas  
Torquay @ 9.30am Worship Team

## Sunday March 26th : Lent 5

Aireys Inlet @ 9:30am Worship Team  
Bellbrae @ 11am Worship Team  
Torquay @ 9.30am Rev Bob Thomas



**NOTE:** All video sermons are available on the Surfcoast website: [www.surfcoast.unitingchurch.org.au](http://www.surfcoast.unitingchurch.org.au)

### Surfcoast Uniting Events:

#### Thursday morning Coffee: at Bomboras in Torquay from 10.30am



**It's not too late to join...an ecumenical Lenten Bible Study** being held at St Aidan's Church, Aireys Inlet. Every Thursday at 10:30 am. Rev Bob Thomas will lead the remaining studies. We use the Anglican Board of Mission study booklet, *"The Imaginary Doorway"* by Stephen Daughtry. All welcome. For more information contact, [celebrant.noni@gmail.com](mailto:celebrant.noni@gmail.com)

**AGM @ Torquay Congregation** will be held after the service on **Sunday 26th March**. There are vacancies on our Council, and voting papers and further information are available this week. Jane Skelton, Robert Packett, Heather Dennis and Marg Hirth are concluding their terms and may be available for re-election. There are 2 additional vacancies on Council for you to consider.

**Bellbrae AGM on Sunday 19th during the service.**

**Surf Coast Link Council AGM on 21st March at 2.30pm and all are invited to attend—at the Airey's Inlet Hall.**

**Errata: Apologies, these are the correct names for the Link Council:** Jane, Keith, Maxine, Noni, Robyn, Ro and Fran and Linda (Treas).

You are invited to

**AN AFTERNOON**

**TEA**

with **Maria Baade**

from the Australian Lions

Hearing Dogs Association. **Thursday 23rd**

**March**

**At 2pm**

Waurm Ponds Community Church

48 Waurmvalle Drive, Belmont

\$10 entrance for Cottage BY the Sea



**This week we focus on the Frontier Services, the people, the Chaplains, the donors and the need. Your prayers, donations and constant interest are valued.**



### Out & About: Local Dates for your Diary.

**Sunday 19th March:** Cowrie Market on the Torquay Foreshore.

**Thursday 23rd March 1.30 to 3.30pm:**

**The Geelong Progressive Christianity Discussion Group** –This discussion group meets at the Waurn Ponds Library Meeting Room, 230 Pioneer Rd Grovedale. *All welcome.* This month Rev Mike Lewis will lead a group discussion **"Thinking about Easter"**. There is no video or other material to view ahead of the meeting this month. Our meetings are also on Zoom. For Zoom details please call Heather Dennis 0409176319

**Thursday 30th March :** Join some surf coast friends at the wonderful **"Fashions on Parade"** at St Luke's Hall at 1.30pm. Their Afternoon Tea is famous! \$10 donation at the door. See Tricia or Annette to join the group.

**Saturday 1st April:** Geelong Memorial Brass Band performs at Portarlington Bandstand. Gold coin donation.

**Sunday 2nd April:** Daylight Saving ends for Victoria



We seem to have lots of birthdays in March. We wish everyone a lovely year ahead:

Bernie Long, Keith Tirrell, Valma Griffiths and Barry Skelton.

If we have missed anyone, we owe you cake!

Everyone is welcome to the Ecumenical Dawn Service on Easter Day 6.30am at Cosy Corner, Torquay



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

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  
Open Fridays and Saturdays 10am to 4pm.