

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 21st May 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.

Lectionary readings Easter 7 Acts 1:6-14 Ps 68:1-10, 32-35 1 Pt 4:12-14, 5:6-11 Jn 17:1-11

Respect First Peoples, let us speak out.

Excerpts from this article in the May edition of tma.melbourneanglican.org.au

by Glenn Loughrey.

"Is it about politics? No. Is it about giving one group of people special privileges others do not have? No. Is it about fixing the past? No. Is it about First People issues and problems? No.

The referendum on Recognition and Voice to Parliament is about people and the trauma of voiceless dispossession. Voice, Treaty, Truth, and Makarrata (coming together after a dispute) before we arrive at the centre, which is ongoing healing, and wholeness—justice. ...

We First Nations people are not issues. We are people whose lives have been and continue to be decimated by ongoing racism in this country. As the late Aunty Rosalie Kunoth-Monks said, "I am, we are not the problem." Our situation comes because of the invasion of our countries by people who, when they were unable to exterminate us, made our voice obsolete, language, law and spirituality. By designating us *persona nullius* (non-people) they possessed us and our country.

White Australia continue to decide who can speak and what they can speak about, what is right for us and what is not, what we can or can't do, even in the case of the Statement from the Heart and the absurdly generous offer to walk with those who caused and continue to cause our trauma.

A close reading of the Statement itself will reveal no angry words, no threats of violence and no condemnation, just an invitation to walk together into a better future."

Rev Canon Glenn Loughrey is a Wiradjuri man, a member of the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglican Council and artist in residence at St Paul's Cathedral in Melbourne. This year, he is the Diocese of Melbourne's designated advocate for the recognition of First Nations people in the constitution, and an enshrined Voice to Parliament. His memoir is titled, **On Being Black-fella's Young Fella.**

You can hear him speak on this topic at

https://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/soul-search/a-voice-to-parliament-a-voice-to-the-church/102232184utm_campaign=abc_radionational&utm_content=mail&utm_medium=content_shared&utm_source=abc_radionational

Giving Hope on the Coast – Aireys Inlet Uniting Outreach

Report and Appeal for Donations

We are reaching the exciting final stages of our project, now that we have finished our training and submitted our Settlement Plan and Group Profile to CRISP. It won't be long before we start the process of being matched with a family who are somewhere overseas in a refugee camp, waiting to be given a fresh start at life here on the beautiful Surf Coast.

To achieve our goals we need your help. We have now launched a public appeal through the online platform Shout For Good. All donations through this site are tax deductible. If you would like to donate click on this link <https://shoutforgood.com/fundraisers/aireysinletunitingoutreach>

It is also still possible to donate by a direct deposit into our account: Account name: Surf Coast Uniting Church
BSB: 083-929 Account: 20-987-6337 **use the reference CRISP and add some identifying information.**

Sunday May 14th

Aireys Inlet 9:30am Rev Bob Thomas
Bellbrae 11:00 am Rev Bob Thomas
Torquay 9:30am Rev Bob Thomas Video

Sunday May 28th ... Pentecost Sunday

Aireys Inlet 9:30 Rev Bob Thomas Video
Bellbrae 11:00 Brian Shaw
Torquay 9:30am Rev Bob Thomas

NOTE: All our video sermons are available on the Surfcoast website: www.surfcoast.unitingchurch.org.au

Surfcoast Uniting Events:

Thursdays at 5pm at Torquay: The choir have begun singing a selection of songs leading up to and including Pentecost.

Thursday Coffee Morning at Bomboras 10:30am. All welcome

Coffee and Kids at Torquay 9:30-11:00 am @ Oak Tree Place

Next Regional Meeting is on June 15th in Oak Tree Place at 10:00am

Winter Solstice Lunch —June 23rd at Oak Tree Place.. More info to come

A study on The VOICE... end of July , Thursdays 10:30 @ Aireys Inlet...more info to come

A Dadirri Walk at Aireys Inlet on July 16th @ 2:30pm More info to come.

Safe Church Training: Time again to update our Safe Church training. You can do it yourselves on line by going to <https://safechurch.ucavictas.org.au/safe-church-training> or you can attend a session which we will hold in Oak Tree Place towards the end of July. Please download the workbook at [http:// safechurch.ucavictas.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/20/UCACHildSafeTrainingWorkbook.pdf](http://safechurch.ucavictas.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/20/UCACHildSafeTrainingWorkbook.pdf)



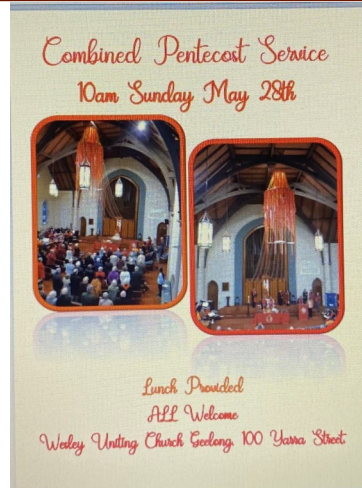
This concert will be a fundraiser for our work in the community of **Armstrong Creek**. It is will a fun afternoon of music provided by local artists including Possums on the Porch, The Modewarries, a Uke group and Grovedale Green Singers just to name a few.

It is \$10 entry and afternoon tea will be provided.



Last Sunday at Aireys Inlet, Linda Wannan celebrated her Confirmation, surrounded and upheld by all the congregation.

Blessings to you, Linda.



UNITING ; always in need of goods to help others through these cold days.

Please give as you are able.

May 18th-25th is the week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

May 15-21st- has been National Volunteer week. Thanks to all those who volunteer their time and energies helping others in so many ways.



Torquay will be hosting **"The Biggest Morning Tea"** on the last two Sundays of May – 21st & 28th. Enjoy the delicious morning tea provided and donate to this great cause.

You can also donate online at <https://www.biggestmorningtea.com.au/s/60594/84138>

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
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.