

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 18th June 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 : Genesis 21: 8-21. Jeremiah: 20: 7-13, Romans 6: 1b-11, Matthew 9: 35– 10:8 (9-23)

The Soul – Sign of God's Fatherhood

The soul isn't a thing, so however powerful the microscope you use, you will never manage to see it.

Neither can you grasp it; you may as well try to get hold of a ray of sunlight.

This invisible and intangible gem has definite qualities, however.

These qualities are divine qualities – the soul is free, intelligent and continues to exist forever, just like God.

This divine spark points to your identity as a child of God.

It shows that you are created in the image and likeness of the Father.



Excerpted from The Mindful Our Father by Thomas G Casey SJ (p.44)

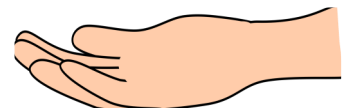
Giving it all away:

At this time of year we are all inundated with mail, emails and phone calls encouraging us to donate to charities and organisations as the end of financial year looms. For many, gifts are a valuable tax deduction, for others, this no longer applies. For everybody it should be part of faithful, considered planning and budgeting each year.

For those on fixed incomes, it is helpful to make considered decisions about which charities and their organisations you chose to support at the *start* of the year. Adding in a discretionary amount also helps with sudden disasters or events you may wish to also support. Your donations may take the form of volunteer hours, and either regular or annual giving commitments. Or a combination of both. Some may also consider leaving gifts in their will.

Our Uniting Church family always appreciates your support – Your local church and its programs, Uniting Care, Uniting World, Frontier Services.

Whatever your plan, every dollar helps those in need. *Thank you*



Come along, learn and share:

"A Study entitled: A Voice in the Wilderness: Listening to the Statement from the Heart. This is an 8 part study and will be led by Rev Bob Thomas. All are welcomed and you are encouraged to attend, especially in the light of the upcoming referendum on The Voice.

Starting on Thursday, June 22nd, at Aireys Inlet Church, 29 Great Ocean Road at 10:30 AM.

The study booklet can be downloaded or a paper copy can be ordered at the following site;

<https://www.abmission.org/resources/a-voice-in-the-wilderness/>

If you are planning to attend, please register your interest by email to aireysinletunitingchurch@gmail.com or by phone on 0418 360 807. (so we can have an idea of numbers and can notify attendees of any last minute changes)

All are welcome. Bob has offered to select some secular readings, as well as, Bible readings, so please feel free to bring friends and neighbours."

Deadline for items for our newsletter to be sent to newslettersurfcoastuc@gmail.com by 4pm on Thursday of each week

Sunday June 18th

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

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

Sunday June 25th

Aireys Inlet 9:30 Worship Team
Bellbrae 11:00 Worship Team
Torquay 9:30 Rev Bob Thomas

What's Happening where we live?

ANOTHER CHANGE!

Next Uniting Churches Region 4 Meeting is on Monday June 19 at Bellbrae Church at 10am.



Coffee is back at **Bomboras** on the Torquay Esplanade, Join us at 10.30 & say Hi!

Coffee & Kids Playgroup

9.30am Every Friday at Oak Tree Place. Perfect for Mum's, Dad's and Grandparents, extra volunteers are welcomed.



The Geelong Progressive Christianity Discussion Group –Thursday 22nd June 1.30 -3.30pm

This discussion group meets at the Wairn Ponds Library Meeting Room, 230 Pioneer Rd Grovedale (next to Leisurelink). All welcome

This month we will share a group discussion *'Do differences in the funding of Independent / Church schools and government schools result in educational inequity? Does this accord with Christian theology of justice?'*

The discussion will be led by Rev Neil Tolliday with input from Pam Jones and Heather Dennis.

Our meetings are also offered on Zoom.

For details, please call Heather Dennis 0409176319

CONGRATULATIONS! Beaut Beanies raised \$1300 on Sat 10th at their Torquay Farmers Market stall. BB meet every Tuesday at 10.30am in the Torquay church foyer and you are very welcome, they are knitting sleeveless mittens for the next few weeks, or bring your own project. Funds raised will go to various charities.

SURFCAST ARTS TRAIL Is back for 2023.

Saturday 5th & Sunday 6th AUGUST
At Bellbrae and Torquay locations
Trading Table, cakes & crafts also available for sale



ADVANCE NOTE:

Bunnings BBQ Fundraiser
Sat 12th August.

Safe Church Training: at Oak Tree Place

at 3pm on Thursday 3rd August

You can do it yourselves on line by going to <https://safechurch.ucavictas.org.au/safe-church-training/>

OR you can attend an in person session. 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 is a requirement for all church volunteers. It may be fun, AND it will be useful.

Winter Solstice Lunch for all our congregations — Friday June 23rd at Oak Tree Place at Noon. This is an opportunity to catch up with friends, bring a neighbour or a family member. *It's Free.* Hot lunch, lovely music, delicious desserts and coffee & tea with friends old and new.

Call Robyn or Tricia to **RSVP** or if you'd like a ride or with any dietary requests. Let's fill the Hall!

It's not too late to come along and enjoy lunch with each other. There will be plenty to share.



Giving Hope on the Coast – Aireys Inlet Uniting Outreach

To achieve our goal of sponsoring a Refugee family we need your help. We have 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 possible to donate by a direct deposit into our account:

Account name: Surf Coast Uniting Church

BSB: 083-929 Account: 20-987-6337

Please use the reference CRISP.



Community Refugee Sponsorship Australia

Winter Share Appeal through Uniting VicTas

Winter brings colder days and longer nights but the light of Christ continues to shine on our hearts.

We all face challenging times with an increased financial strain on our pockets.

But for many among us, the rising cost of living means people already in challenging situations face even greater hardship every day - with tough choices to make.

Your spirit of generosity will enable us to help people in many areas of their lives and to offer hope.

Please consider and help where able by donating through the website, or in the envelopes at Church.

Donations can be made through the website at <https://www.unitingvictas.org.au/share-appeal/>

Airey's Inlet St Aidan's Church, 29 Great Ocean Rd, Airey's Sunday Service at 9.30am
Bellbrae: Uniting Church. School & Anglesea Roads, Bellbrae Sunday Service at 11.00am
Torquay: Torquay Uniting Church, 27 Anderson Street, Torquay Sunday Service at 9.30am

BELLBRAE BRIC-A-BRAC OP SHOP & BOOK ROOM : Uniting Church Hall, School Road. Bellbrae
Open Fridays and Saturdays 10am to 4pm.

Your Offering for our churches, programs and outreach is very welcome. Direct Deposit or Cash
BSB:083 929 ACC: 20987 6337
Quote TQ, AI or BB