

# Surfcoast Uniting Churches Newsletter

For assistance, please contact :

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Rev Bob Thomas : 0479 169 931



Sunday 25th 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](http://www.wadawurrung.org.au).*

**Lectionary readings : Genesis 21:8-21, Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17, Romans 6:1b-11, Matthew 10:24-39**

## Let's Pray:

Between Pentecost (28 May) and the Uniting Church Anniversary (22 June) this year, we're calling the whole Uniting Church to join in prayer.

Uniting in Prayer is 26 days of prayer and connection in the middle of the Act2 Project, which is currently grappling with the ferment and change we are experiencing as the Uniting Church like many other Christian communities around the world. As we seek to discern the outlines of our future life, this is a chance to pause, holding our Church before God and upholding each other in love and prayer. All who call the Uniting Church home are invited to join together in thanksgiving and hope to pray and seek the leading of the Spirit for the years ahead. During these days of prayer we'll give thanks to God for our past, reflect on our present, and listen to God's calling and each other.

On the Surfcoast we have been paired with **Launceston North Uniting Church**, where their Minister is on a cancer health journey and their congregation continues to connect strongly with their community. Check out their FB page called "The Haven LNU" to get an idea of what's happening.



Launceston North Uniting Church

### A Prayer to share with Launceston North from the website resources of the Uniting Church

Loving God, Thank you for this day.

For the opportunity to breathe and stretch and move and feel the sunlight on our skin.

Thank you for placing us here, wherever we are, and for your faithful and enduring presence as we navigate our place in the world.

In all our little outposts of the kingdom we are your hands and feet, Jesus.

Help us as we try to follow in your footsteps.

We pray for the earth under our feet. For the hills and valleys and rivers and oceans.

For the creatures of land and sea and sky.

God who holds the universe, send your Holy Spirit to keep us connected to your creation, as you desire for us.

Give us the curiosity of children and the wisdom of elders.

We confess that too often we act as consumers rather than custodians, forgive us, and reconnect us with the world from which we have become separated.

We pray for the communities in which we live. For the people we know and those we don't.

For the faces we see every day and the ones that are hidden away.

Help us follow Christ's example of radical hospitality and generous welcome, especially to those who have been excluded.

Help us, your church, to fulfill the call to care for all those around us.

When we come together as communities of faith,

empower us with your Holy Spirit to be the church.

In the name of Jesus I walk and pray,

Amen.

*Written by Rev Beth Donnelly Bear, minister at St David's Uniting Church in Albury, on the border of Victoria and NSW.*

*You can also watch a wonderful video of this prayer! <https://vimeo.com/833647629>*

## ***You are invited to join our study every Thursday:***

**"A Study entitled: A Voice in the Wilderness: Listening to the Statement from the Heart.** led by Rev Bob Thomas. All are welcomed and encouraged to attend, especially in the light of the upcoming referendum on The Voice. Every Thursday from 22nd June to 3 August, **at Aireys Inlet Community Hall, 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](mailto: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)

Deadline for items for our newsletter to be sent to [newslettersurfcoastuc@gmail.com](mailto:newslettersurfcoastuc@gmail.com) by 4pm on Thursday of each week

### Sunday June 25th

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

### Sunday July 2nd

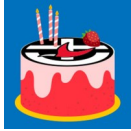
Aireys Inlet 9:30 Rev Bob Thomas  
Holy Communion  
Bellbrae 11:00 Rev Peter Greenwood  
Torquay 9:30 Rev Peter Greenwood

### Thursday 6th July

Torquay takes the service  
2.15pm at Elouera Aged Care.  
All welcome to come & sing along.

## What's Happening where we live?

Happy Birthday to the UNITING Church of Australia for their 46th year.



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

### Coffee & Kids Playgroup

This Friday at 9.30am is the last session for Term 2. We start again on Friday 14th July.



### SURFCAST ARTS TRAIL 2023.

Saturday 5th & Sunday 6th AUGUST At Bellbrae and Torquay church locations

Trading Table, cakes, craft and soups will also be available for sale. Both Torquay and Bellbrae locations would love some additional volunteers for Devonshire Tea, Trading Table, Set up and general welcoming.

Come along to the ARTS TRAIL TASTER SHOW at The Hoop Gallery 10am to 4pm, Thursday to Sunday from 6th to 30th July. One of our own, Annette Packett, will have work at the gallery as well as the ARTS TRAIL.

To volunteer at Bellbrae contact: Helen Gaylard on 0438 639 609

And for Torquay: Tricia on 0419 340056 for Trading Table, Craft and Teas, and Robyn for ART exhibition 0407 829926.



*Thank you for all the kind thoughts and hugs this past week from our Uniting friends as we both grieve the passing of our very special brother in law, Bruce Bertram.*

*Geoff & Tricia Genat*

After many changes to the date and misinformation in this very newsletter, please take note that the next Regional Meeting for our Uniting area churches is at 10am at Bellbrae Church on Wednesday 19th July. See you there!



### 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/](http://safechurch.ucavictas.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/20/)

This is a requirement for all church volunteers. It may be fun, AND it will be useful.

### Community Dates and Events:

- Saturday 1st July is Canada Day
- Sunday 9th July is the Aireys Inlet Community Market
- Friday 14th July is Bastille Day
- Thursday 20th July the Women's FIFA competition starts, Aussies host
- Friday 28th July is National Tree Day

**Bellbrae Opshop and Bookroom** is open throughout the chilly winter weekends. Friday and Saturday 10am to 4pm. Extra volunteers welcome any-time, Shoppers always welcome. Grab a bargain book & jacket!



### 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