

# 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 23rd July 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 28:10-19a, Solomon 12: 13,16-19 Romans 8:12-25, Matthew 13:24-30,36-43**

There will be a special display of heritage lace and needlework inside the Torquay Church during the ARTS TRAIL weekend.

You are invited to share your family heirlooms.

Contact Roma Julian on 52613183, or Joan Duval on 0458612490 to register your interest in a display however small. No charge to enter or exhibit.

## ARTS TRAIL WEEKEND: Saturday 5th & Sunday 6th August

**At Bellbrae** there will be Art on show in the Church, soup for sale, crafts and of course the OPSHOP and Book Room open on Saturday (10 to 4). To help out, call Fran Griffiths on 0420 355 082

**At Torquay** there will be Art on show for Saturday and Sunday in Oak Tree Place (10 to 4) and a Trading Table with cakes, jams, chutneys, sausage rolls, craft & some plants on Saturday from 10 to Noon. AND the Beaut Beanies will be showing & selling their knitted beanies. AND, there will be an Heirloom Lace & Needlework display in the Church building on Saturday. Free entry.

To help out with baked goods, or behind the counter contact Tricia on 0419 340056 And for the Art Show—Robyn on 0407 829 926

*Encourage friends, family and strangers in the street to come and enjoy.*



## *When our words fail us...*

During these past wintery weeks, many of us have remembered, old friends no longer with us, dear ones we may have lost to illness and their friends and families who still grieve. This prayer is from the Uniting Church website resources page (along with many other useful words to share). (<https://ucaassembly.recollect.net.au>)

*Compassionate God,*

*We commend to you your children who have gone from this mortal life*

*We know that you will gather them to you and hold them as a mother holds her child*

*May they know the light of your presence and be set free from all that binds them down*

*Give those of us left behind, faith that in this time of darkness and shadow we may,*

*without fear, entrust those who are dear to us to your never-failing love,*

*in this life and the life to come.*

*Into the freedom of wind and sunshine...We will let them go.*

*Into the dance of the stars and the planets...We will let them go*

*Into the wind's breath and the hands of the star maker...We will let them go*

*Into the arms of God's waiting embrace... We will let them go*

*Amen.*



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

Find our sermons online:

[https://  
surfcoast.unitingchurch.org.au/  
worship-faith/our-sermons/](https://surfcoast.unitingchurch.org.au/worship-faith/our-sermons/)

**Sunday July 23rd**

Aireys Inlet 9.30am Worship Team  
Torquay 9.30am & Bellbrae 11am  
with Rev Bob Thomas

**Sunday July 30th**

Combined Worship at Bellbrae at 11am

## What's Happening where we live?

- UNITING needs the following this week—150gm jars of Vegemite and 50gm jars of coffee (any brand). As well as the usual long life milk etc. But please no tea as that is in plentiful supply!
- You are invited by Portarlington Uniting to join a YARN about the Voice. Speakers include members of the local Wauthaurong community and Libby Coker, Federal MP for Corangamite. Sunday 13th August at 2pm at St Andrews Uniting



### SOCIAL STUFF:

Coffee on Thursdays at 10.30am BOMBORAS on the Torquay Esplanade. Just turn up & chat.

All our church members working with children or adults are required to undergo SAFE CHURCH TRAINING regularly. Our next available session is at OAK TREE PLACE on Thursday 3rd August at 3pm. No charge but you do need to download the manual: available here <https://safechurch.ucavictas.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/UCACHildSafeTrainingModuleOne2022Individ-TrainingWorkbook.pdf>

Contact Jane to attend 0400 190 580

### You are welcome to join the Geelong Progressive Christianity Discussion Group on Thursday 27th July 1.30 -3.30pm

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

Rev David Walker and Heather Dennis will lead a discussion of a video on the contribution of theologian John Shelby Spong to the lives of the speakers. Spong's work is introduced briefly by Rev Dr David Merritt, and then Dr Val Webb, Australian author and theologian, speaks about the way in which Spong's work has informed and affected her life. The link is as follows: <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=zCCFLIWDaMs>

Our meetings are also on Zoom. Call Heather Dennis 0409176319 for details

Please Note that a Taizé style worship will take place at Bellbrae on 6th August for the ARTS TRAIL.

**"All we have to decide is what to do with the time that is given us."** wise words from Gandalf the Grey as written by J.R.R.Tolkien.

Our Aireys Community shared their local bush, music and words with over 25 interested walkers and listeners during the chilly Dadirri Walk event last Sunday. Rev Bob Thomas gives an introduction to Dadirri from the Aboriginal elder Miriam-Rose Ungunmerr-Baumann's reflections. The walk began and ended in the beautiful Distillery Creek National park right on our doorstep. Many thanks to the organisers, wordsmiths and musicians.

Most of our intrepid listeners and walkers.



An introduction with flute before starting



Are you curious about the Barbie Movie? Join Jane & Tricia on Monday afternoon at Waurn Ponds to check it out! 2.15pm

### Community Dates and Events:

- Friday 28th July is National Tree Day
- 2.00pm Sunday 13 August: Conversation with Libby Coker and local Wathaurong Community members at ST Andrews, Portarlington. Please Enquire to Joy on 0406 307 433
- 3pm Sunday 13 August—Orchestra Geelong Concert—get tickets at [www.orchestrageelong.org.au](http://www.orchestrageelong.org.au)
- 

Can you squeeze one more thing into your calendar? Winter Book Club suggested date is Friday 28th July. 2pm at Oak Tree Place.

Topic : Nature and it's Consequences.

All welcome, BYO book and be prepared to share its joys.



**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