

Surfcoast Uniting Churches Newsletter

For assistance, please contact :
(Torquay) Jane Skelton
(Bellbrae) Maxine Flakemore
(Aireys Inlet) Keith & Mary Bremner
Rev Bob Thomas : 0479 169 931
Church Office:



Sunday 30th 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.

Lectionary readings : Genesis 29:15-28, Psalm 119:129-136, Romans 8:26-39, Matthew 13:31-33,44-52

Did you know?

- that every week Alan loads up the latest Surfcoast Newsletter on the web page and also the video of Rev. Bob's sermons. You never need to suffer from FOMO (fear of missing out). Click to access—<https://surfcoast.unitingchurch.org.au>. The Sermons are found under the "Ministry" tab and the newsletters under the "News" tab. We have also added the Presbytery and Victorian Council of Churches Newsletters.



Bellbrae

Our church, sometimes called 'The Church among the Pines', is set in a pretty valley location on Spring Creek.

This Sunday we worship together at Bellbrae Church at 11am.

The music and fellowship is extra special if *you* are there. The retiring offering is for our CRISP Aireys Inlet refugee program.

And morning tea is splendiferous (you may not need lunch!).

Call a friend if you need a ride.

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 is Art on show on 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.



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.

Call Roma on 52613183, or Joan on 0458612490 to register your interest in a display however small. No

Through the risen word and the spoken word, may we behold the living Word.

The Parable of the Weeds (Matthew 13)

²⁴ Jesus told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. ²⁵ But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. ²⁶ When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared.

²⁷ "The owner's servants came to him and said, 'Sir, didn't you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?' ²⁸ "An enemy did this," he replied.

"The servants asked him, 'Do you want us to go and pull them up?'"

²⁹ "No," he answered, 'because while you are pulling the weeds, you may uproot the wheat with them. ³⁰ Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.'

In the final months of the financial year supporters helped Uniting Care reach their target of \$500,000 to support the life-changing work of our partners.

The funds raised together helps them to co-invest along with the Australian Government and make a bigger impact through poverty alleviation and our climate change projects.

Thank you to everyone who helped Uniting Care get there! It will go a long way to help end poverty and injustice in our world through the love and dedication of our partners in the Pacific, Asia and Africa.



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

Sunday July 30th

Combined Worship at Bellbrae at 11am

Note: the retiring offering will be for our CRISP refugee project

Thursday 3rd August

2.15pm Service @ Elouera Aged Care

With Rev Bob Thomas & helpers

Sunday 6th August

Aireys Inlet 9.30am Communion. Rev Bob

Torquay 9.30am with Brian Shaw

Bellbrae 9am Taizé Service

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
- The ACT2 Project Team have launched 4 new videos to help everyone across the Uniting Church to engage in and understand the new ACT2 Report and respond to the directions and options it puts forward. Have a look [here](#).
- A successful Regional Meeting was held at Bellbrae this past week, where we shared news from across the Presbytery and talked about many issues as we look to the future. Next meeting at Drysdale Church in September.



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/UCACHildSafeTrainingModuleOne2022IndivdualTrainingWorkbook.pdf>

Contact Jane to attend 0400 190 580

Prayer Points from almost everywhere...

- ♦ Winter is miserable for some friends and congregation members. Hug them with a prayer. Pop in with some soup.
- ♦ War should not be happening but it does, pray now for Ukraine, Russia, Sudan, Iran, Israel and Palestine.
- ♦ Our Surfcoast JNC (Joint Nominating Committee), tasked with finding a Minister match. They meet, discern, talk and meet again.
- ♦ Our World suffers: too much rain causes floods in South Korea, too much wind and sun causes wild fires in Greece. Families, workers and children are in need.
- ♦ Our Surfcoast leaders & our Rev Bob love to know that you are praying for them.

Some news about Oak Tree Place at Torquay:

1. Some additional glass screens will be fitted soon to provide extra weather protection and also safety on exit.
2. A new chopping board is available near the sink to assist when filling hot water jugs.
3. This month three youngsters have enjoyed their Birthday parties in the Hall. *Happy Days!*
4. To use the Hall anytime, call Tricia, Robyn or Jane. No charge for Church member activities.

Five curious members went to the Barbie Movie this week—it was funny, musical, sad and very pink!

A most enjoyable afternoon.



We are all imperfect mirrors, but that should not stop us from reflecting God's love into the world.

Community Dates and Events:

- 3pm Sunday 13 August—Orchestra Geelong Concert—get tickets at www.orchestrageelong.org.au
- 25-26 August, LOCAL WORD Festival at Geelong Regional Libraries check the website or ask at Torquay library for a program.
- Plan ahead for the DARK SKY event to be held again at Aireys Inlet in September. Dates & details soon
- Our fundraising BUNNINGS BBQ is on Sat 12th August DO Come BY!



Can you squeeze one more thing into your calendar? Winter Book Club 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
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