

Surfcoast Uniting Churches Newsletter

For assistance, please contact :
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Daylight Saving ends
next Sunday 1st Oct.
Clocks go FORWARD.

Sunday 24th September 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 : Exodus 16: 2-15, Psalm 105:1-6,37-45, Philippians 1: 21-30, Matthew 20: 1-16

An Update from our CRISP Refugee Project:

Giving Hope on the Coast



Community Refugee
Sponsorship Australia

It is so exciting to, at last, have a confirmed travel itinerary for our refugee family – they will be arriving in Aireys Inlet on the 28th of October after the long journey from Trinidad. Our planning for their arrival can now begin in earnest.

We have been truly blessed to secure a fully furnished house at a modest rent, so do not need any additional furniture.

The mother is absolutely thrilled to, at last, be on her way, four years after she fled her homeland of Venezuela. She is particularly anxious for her children, 11 year old twins, a boy and a girl, to be able to resume their education.

For more information about why families such as this have been forced to leave their country, see the following information from Amnesty International. [Amnesty International about Venezuela.](#)

As of May this year, there has been an exodus of 7.32 million from Venezuela since 2014. The people have inadequate supplies of food, water and medical supplies, there is harsh repression of dissent, including arbitrary detention and torture, violent crime is widespread and women are particularly vulnerable. The country has the second highest murder rate in the world.

There is also a very interesting segment on the situation in Venezuela on the SBS program

[Simon Reeve's South America](#) – episode 1, The Guiana Shield – available on SBS On Demand.

Our grateful thanks go to the Surf Coast UC community for your ongoing support and encouragement for this challenging and worthwhile project.

Mary Bremner, Aireys Inlet

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

¹⁶ Always be joyful. ¹⁷ Never stop praying. ¹⁸ Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.



It's not too late to drop in at Oak Tree Place anytime after midday this Friday 22nd to enjoy a meal, a desert, or even just coffee & chocolates.

Our Spring Fling Lunch is a lovely opportunity to stop, catch up with news and enjoy a Friday feast.

No cost, no expectations, just warm smiles and friendly faces.



Touch the Earth lightly, use the earth gently
Nourish the life of the world in our care:
Gift of great wonder, ours to surrender,
Trust for the children tomorrow will bear.
God of all living, God of all loving,
God of the seedling, the snow and the sun,
Teach us, deflect us, Christ re-connect us,
Using us gently and making us one.

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

Sunday 24th September

Torquay 9.30am—Rev Bob Thomas
Bellbrae 11am - Rev Bob Thomas
Aireys Inlet 9.30am – Worship Team

Check out our web page for all
the sermons and diary updates.

www.surfcoastunitingchurch.org.au

Sunday 1st October

Torquay 9.30am - Robert Packett
Aireys Inlet 9.30am & Bellbrae 11am
With Rev Bob Thomas and Communion

What's Happening where we live?

Community Dates and Events:

- Sunday 24th September at 2pm. You are invited to a service to recognise the witness of **St Andrew's Uniting Church in Geelong** and the de-consecration of the buildings. The congregation will now share worship with St Albans Park.
- October is Positive Ageing Month on the Surf Coast.
- Thursday 12th October at St Luke's Anglican in Pride Street. Tom Healy Pipe Organ Recital at 12.30pm to 1pm. Free to attend and enjoy.
- Sunday 15th October: At Aireys Inlet Community Hall at 2.30pm the **Victorian Welsh Choir in Concert**. Proceeds to Red Cross. Tickets: \$35. to reserve call Margo on 0412 742 117 or Christine 0408 444 199. Or Pay at the door.
- Sunday 22nd October at **St Luke's**. Surf Coast String orchestra plays Vivaldi and Mozart, Puccini and Joplin. Adults \$20 Concession \$15. Children Free.
- **Saturday 28th October**—our Airey's Refugee family arrives to settle into Australia. Pray for their safe travel and for all the arrangements to fall into place and for the welcoming committee to be supported.



Special Note: Torquay Community House has distributed the Term 4 timetable with lots of activities from Acting classes, Italian for beginners, Yoga and art. One particular art class has Colin Peel as Tutor—Watercolour and Drawing on Wednesday evenings. Phone the Community House at Price Street, Torquay on 5261 2583 from 10 to 4 on weekdays for more information.

In our Uniting neighbourhood:

Regular weekly activities include:

Coffee on Thursdays at 10.30am

BOMBORAS on the Torquay Esplanade.

Beaut Beanies—10:30am Tuesdays in Torquay church

Coffee & Kids—9.30am every Friday during Term.

Bellbrae Opshop & Bookroom open every Friday & Saturday from 10 to 4pm.

Regular Monthly activities include:

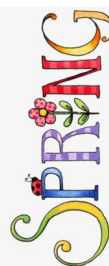
Pub Lunch at Aireys—Noon, first Friday of the month

Aged Care Service 2pm at Elouera, - First Thursday

ALL activities are for Everyone. Turn up and Enjoy!

WORKING BEE'S

As a response to Spring & our Season of Creation, Working Bees are planned for Torquay and Bellbrae church properties. Watch this space for dates & times and BYO gloves & MT.



Come & join the Geelong Progressive Christianity Discussion Group – Thursday 28th September 1.30 - 3.30pm

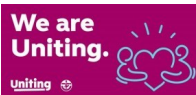
This discussion group meets at the Waurn Ponds Library Meeting Room, 230 Pioneer Rd Grovedale (next to Leisurelink). Rev Peter Burnham will lead a discussion on *Progressive Christianity and Prayer*. *Everyone is welcome...*

Please note that video access to our meetings is no longer available. Enquiries welcome to Heather Dennis 0409176319

Christmas is coming...

Mince pies are in the supermarket and Uniting has sent us their information about Christmas Cards, as well as their annual request for additional items for the summer and holiday season.

Check your Uniting Newsletter for details.



We say farewell to an old friend: Vale Dr Margaret Murdoch 11.3.1936 to 28.8.2023

Several of our Surf Coast Uniting community attended a memorial service at Anglesea Uniting Church, conducted by Rev. Kevin Yelverton, to commemorate the remarkable life of Margaret. Her life was inspiring and interesting, despite many personal challenges. Margaret was a person of deep faith and conviction, who was greatly loved by her family. She lived her whole life in service to others and when growing up, nurtured her three younger siblings for many years, living in a mission school in Scotland, whilst her parents served on a mission in Africa. An immigrant from Scotland, she was the first female doctor in Sunshine, where she specialised in Obstetrics and delivered many of the Western suburbs babies whilst also raising her young family and supporting her husband. Retiring to Anglesea she joined the church and with her thick Scottish accent, she became a much loved, regular volunteer at Bellbrae op shop. The Anglesea church was packed with family and friends from Melbourne and there was only one seat left vacant. During the service, Kevin noted the fact that the seat that had been left vacant for no particular reason, just happened to be the seat that Margaret had sat in every week. I'm always amazed when I attend the funeral of someone I have known, only to discover that I never really knew much about them.

Report from Maxine Flakemore

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