

Surfcoast Uniting Churches Newsletter

For assistance, please contact :
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(Bellbrae) Maxine Flakemore
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Sunday 29th October 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 : Pentecost 25. Deuteronomy 34:1-12 , Psalm 1, 1 Thessalonians 2: 1-8 Matthew 22:34-46

Being Christ in our Neighbourhood:

Presence

The more we call on God, the more we can feel God's presence. Day by day we are closer to the living heart of God

Freedom

Lord, you gave me life and the gift of freedom.
Through your love I exist in this world
May I never take the gift of life for granted
May I always respect the right to life of others

Consciousness

Conscious of your presence, Lord
I look over my recent past.
Let me be honest with myself about how I've been
And what I've done,
Because I know you love truth in the heart
And accept me just as I am.



from SacredSpace.ie

This week we all join together for Worship.

9.30am at the Torquay Church, Anderson Street.

It's all about FOOD!

We welcome speakers from:

Torquay Food Bank: Michael Buckley

Feed Me Surf Coast: Lyn & David McCusker

Uniting Care: Ro Thompson

Please bring yourselves, friends, family, some long life food for donating to the Food Banks and a small plate to share for Morning Tea. Thank you!



Thank You.

1. From the Cancer Council for our donation from **The Great Australian Morning Tea**, over \$14m was raised.
2. From Peter & Marg Hirth for our care and prayer as Marg continues to mend slowly after surgery.

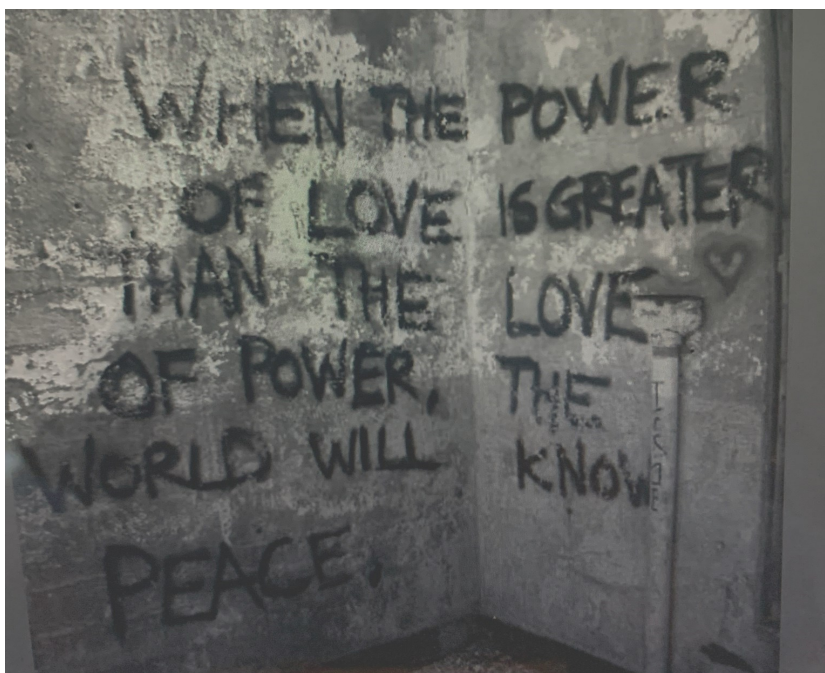
A Coffee Cup Challenge.

From Oct 1st through to Feb 13th **Uniting** have launched a coffee challenge.

Put aside the cost of a coffee once a week, to help many people in crisis in our community.

We are registered as a group, **Surf Coast Uniting Churches**, so you can add to that by bringing along your coins to place in a coffee cup at church each Sunday. Jane Skelton can answer all your queries.

Jane also has a number of boxes for using as collecting points in your homes or other places.



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

Sunday 29th October Surfcoast Uniting Combined Service @ Torquay 9.30am
“ **A Festival of Food**”

Please bring a plate to share and also your donations to our Food Charities who will be speaking: Uniting, Torquay Foodbank & Feed Me Surfcoast.

Sunday 5th November

Torquay 9.30am — Rev Greenwood
Bellbrae 11am -
Aireys Inlet 9.30am

What's Happening where we live?

Our Community Dates and Events:

- **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.
- At Bellbrae Roofing Repairs are being started in November on the Op Shop Roof and early 2024 for the Church Roof. Look out for workers and equipment if you are on site.
- **Saturday Nov 4th 6.30pm** : Trivia Night at St Lukes, Highton to support the Armstrong Creek faith Community. Lots of fun. Contact Jane Skelton to join the table 0400 190 580. **Only \$10 and to a very good cause!**
- **Sunday 5th November**: Drop in to a Garden Party at the Genat's, 8 Gogoll Crescent (off Cowrie) Torquay. From 2pm whatever the weather! No need for a plate—just join us to enjoy company, cake & celebrate birthdays.

December Dates:

- **Saturday 2nd December**: Amahl & The Night Visitors—a Christmas opera to enjoy as a fundraiser for World Vision Ukraine Appeal. St Lukes Uniting, Highton. See box for further details re tickets...
- **Thursday 7th December**: Fundraiser at Bunnings Community Event 6pm at Torquay Bunnings.
- **Sunday 10th December**: Aireys Inlet Carols Concert 7pm
- **Opshop** closes from Saturday 16th December, reopening on Fri 5th Jan.
- AND order your UNITING Christmas Cards ASAP

Did you know? Some facts about our Bellbrae Opshop & Book Room

Our **Bellbrae Opshop & Book Room** is considered part of the 'circular economy'. A circular economy seeks to design out waste and pollution, keeping products and materials in use for as long as possible. The work of charities and Op-shops like ours assists thousands of people in aged care services, education programs, emergency/crisis relief, home visits, hospital and health services, hostel accommodation, mental health services, suicide prevention counselling, medical research, prison visits and migrant/refugee assistance.

We send material to **Uniting Care** for use in such programs, and recycle older and unsaleable clothes to become rags. In diverting clothing from landfill, we also:

- reduced carbon emissions across the supply chain
- reduced global water consumption
- reduced global energy use
- generated more value to the Australian economy

So next time you stop in to browse or buy at our Opshop or another, or if you donate goods, or volunteer your time, **you** are helping in a small way to make a big difference.

For further reading: "Measuring the impact of the Charitable Reuse and Recycling Sector" March 2021 OR "The Inquiry into Australia's Waste Management and Recycling Industries".

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!



Remember the Giving Plate? it went around during our Stewardship drive a couple of years ago. Well, we did wonder where it was hiding and then Ro Thompson found it in the Op shop store room.

So we have given it a wash and it's on its way around again.

We thought that it would be a great tool to use when getting to know your

Pastoral Buddy... remember that's the person above you in the directory.

So when you get it perhaps you could pass it on. If that's not possible then bring it back to the church so it can continue its journey sharing **JOY** and a tasty treat, or flowers, or a book... the choice is endless and all yours!



Amahl & the Night Visitors

An Opera by Gian Carlo Menotti

"a delightful Christmas Opera with a touch of fantasy"

A fundraiser for the **World Vision Ukraine Appeal**.

Saturday 2nd December at 3pm and maybe 8pm (TBC)

St Luke's Uniting Church, 174 Barrabool Road. Highton

Tickets: Adult \$35, Concession \$25

Tickets at the door or at TryBooking.com under "Amahl and the Night Visitors by Cameo Community Opera"

"I have always imagined that Paradise will be a kind of Library"

Georges Luis Borge. Argentinian writer of note.

If you are needing a new book to read, remember that Oak Tree Place has a small shelf full of paperbacks to read, take away and perhaps return. Borrow or swap. All readers welcome. In the front foyer...



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