

Surfcoast Uniting Churches Newsletter

For assistance, please contact :
(Torquay) Jane Skelton
(Bellbrae) Maxine Flakemore
(Aireys Inlet) Keith & Mary Bremner
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Sunday 18th February 2024

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 : LENT 1: Genesis 9: 8-17, Psalm 25: 1-10, 1 Peter 3: 18-22, Mark 1: 9-15



The Little Uniting Church that stood its ground.

Many of us saw this lovely little country church at Pomonal last week while we were holidaying in Halls Gap.

Sadly 24 houses were lost in this week's fires but this little gem has survived. Firefighters and local community and CFA members worked tirelessly over that awful hot windy day in the Grampians on Wednesday 14th. Some members of our congregations—Maxine Flakemore and Geoff Genat have friends and family with close ties to Pomonal tiny township.

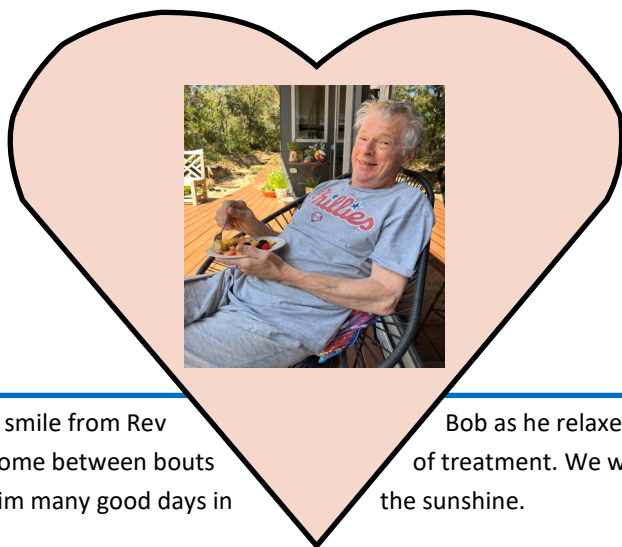
Our prayers are with those families who lost homes & farms.

Ministry in Action

The group who knit and crochet for the **Prayer Shawl Ministry** are keen to hear from you about anyone who may enjoy the gift of a shawl. These are lovely for comfort, solace or celebration. Many families within and friends of our congregation members have been blessed by these hand made gifts.

Please let Margo (0412 742 117) or Marilyn (0427 750 369) know if you would like a shawl for a friend, neighbour or a family member.

For men, women and children!



A smile from Rev home between bouts

Bob as he relaxes at of treatment. We wish him many good days in the sunshine.

Surfcoast Lenten Studies



The Aireys Inlet Uniting Church Congregation and the Surf Coast Anglican congregations invite you to join in their Lenten Studies.

WHEN: every Thursday at 10.30am for the 6 weeks of Lent.
WHERE: St Aidan's Church, 27 Great Ocean Road, Aireys Inlet

The study is the Vic.Tas. "*Tradition with a Future*", first presented in 2023 by Rev. Mat Harry. It tackles three areas of the modern church – Worship, Discipleship (Growing in Faith together), and also Mission (through relationships in our local communities, sharing the gospel).

Questions? Contact Noni at aireysinletunitingchurch@gmail.com

You may like to ride share and stop for lunch after the study?



TAIZÉ MUSIC
and outdoor worship

at 7PM on Sunday February 25TH

Bellbrae Uniting Church

Join us to share a reflective worship with music.

Sunday 18th February

Torquay 9.30am: Brian Shaw
Bellbrae 11am Worship Team
Aireys Inlet 9.30am : Worship Team

Thank you to the Bellbrae congregation and Maxine who led a reflective Ash Wednesday Service on 14th Feb. We shared coffee and cakes afterwards at Bowside Café.
A Surfcoast Lent Event.

Sunday 25th February

Torquay 9.30am:
Aireys Inlet 9.30am
Bellbrae at 7pm Taizé Service

Presbytery of Port Phillip West

Climate Action—Banner Caption Competition

All Congregations, Schools and Agencies are invited to participate in the Climate Action Banner Caption Competition. Who can come up with the catchiest caption? The prize will be a free banner measuring 4000 mm x 1000 mm, valued at \$150 which can be displayed at the winning Congregation, Agency, or School.
To register for this competition please email Richard Arnold from the Port Phillip West Climate Action Taskgroup: richarn50@gmail.com
NOTE: Captions need to be a maximum of eight words.
Entries will be received until Friday 22 March and the winner will be announced on Friday 12 April.
The winning banner will be presented in time for the Green Faith International "Global Week of Action" from 3 May to 12 May.
Whilst there will only be one winner of this competition, we encourage everyone to make or purchase your own banners.

Notes from our Congregations:

Aireys Inlet Congregation invite you to take part in the last few weeks of the Lenten Studies—Thursdays at 10.30am.

Bellbrae Congregation is trialling a Taizé Evening Service instead of a morning one for the next few months. First one is Sunday February 25th at 7pm.

Torquay will host a Service of Celebration for Jeanette Jones who passed away in January. Tuesday 27th February (note new date) at 11am followed by a light lunch in Oak Tree Place. A plate toward a light lunch would be appreciated. Thanks

What's happening in our wider neighbourhood?

Next Cowrie Market—Sunday 18th Feb on the Torquay foreshore. 10-3
Next Aireys Market—Sunday 10th March 9am to 1pm

Are you collecting the 10c bottles & cans? You can now choose to donate your refund to Torquay Food Aid or another charity of your choice. Check the CDS website or App.

25th Feb on the Torquay foreshore, don't wear your white shirt for the Festival of (thrown) Colours.

Friday 8th March: International Women's Day

15-17th March at Aireys—join the music festival. At the Aireys Pub Beer Garden and admission by ticket only on TryBooking.

Also on Sat 16th March at Torquay—the ONE PLANET Festival. Empowering Communities, Protecting Earth. Free.

Do you or someone you know need a mobility scooter?



One is available from Marjorie McKenzie, Call 0428 345 299 to check details.

Oak Tree Place News:

We have two regular tenants who have not renewed in 2024 for genuine reasons. This has left Wednesday and Thursday morning's free for new booking.

If you know a group who may be interested (book club, singing group, games group etc) please ask them to email Tricia at oak-treeplacerentals@gmail.com or call on 0419 340056.

Regular Weekly activities include:

Thursdays at 10.30am Coffee at BOMBORAS on the Torquay Esplanade. **Starts again this week.**
Beaut Beanies—10:30am Tuesdays in Torquay church foyer
Coffee & Kids—9.30am every Friday during Term. @ Oak Tree Place (*Term 1 has started*)
Bellbrae Opshop & Book room open every Friday & Saturday from 10 to 4pm. We would love extra volunteers if you have 3 hours a month to spare.

Regular Monthly activities include:

Pub Lunch at Aireys—Noon, first Friday of the month
Aged Care Service 2pm at Elouera, - First Thursday

Dates for your Diary in the coming weeks:

1st March WORLD DAY OF PRAYER. Our Surfcoast 2024 shared service will be at St Theresa's in Torquay.

Pancake Day

Flip for a good cause.



Learn more
unitingvictas.org.au/pancake-day

Uniting

Pancake Day is now scheduled for Friday 23rd Feb. at Aireys Inlet Community Hall after last week's cancellation because of the weather rating. We are all hoping for a mild calm day for attempt #2! Date and roster to be confirmed within the next week. Pencil in Friday 23rd!

Have you been collecting for COFFEE CUP Challenge raising funds for Uniting?



Please bring your final tally and cash to Church on Sunday for the treasurer to collect. In Torquay—please pass collection to Robyn Harper.

*In you, Lord
my God, I
put my trust.*

Psalm 25 : Verse 1

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 all our churches, programs and outreach is welcome.

Direct Deposit or Cash

BSB:083 929 ACC: 93009 8403

Quote TQ, AI or BB