

Surfcoast Uniting Churches Newsletter

For assistance, please contact :
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Sunday 4th 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 : EPIPHANY 5: Isaiah 40:21-31, Psalm 147: 1-11, 20c, 1 Corinthians 9:16-23, Mark 1: 29-39



Dear Readers,

Our Rev Bob and the worship teams from each of our Surfcoast Congregations are feeling there has been a bit too much THUMP and KAPOW to start the year every time they try to complete a plan for worship services.

It's a bumpy start but we are a resilient and resourceful mob and each of you is gratefully thanked for your part in reading, serving, praying and just turning up to share worship together.

Keep an eye on your email for any changes and this newsletter will attempt to be as up to date as possible with details.

Services Update:

Sunday 4th February: Worship services will use resources from Friends of the Fig Tree as provided by the Uniting Church.

Sunday 11th February: Bellbrae will host Michele Hardy, Torquay will host Rev David Thompson with Communion. All congregations will be led by their Worship Teams.

Surfcoast Lenten Studies - You are invited

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

WHEN: Starts on Thursday February 15th at 10:30 AM
Then every week 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).

The study will look at how we contribute to the communities we are part of and help us to focus on the question - can we do it better or differently, to increase the impact of being disciples of Jesus in our world?

You are encouraged to chat to friends about attending and sharing in this study as we continue to develop our Surfcoast faith journeys. Think about sharing drivers or stopping for lunch in lovely Anglesea.

Questions? Contact Noni at aireysinletunitingchurch@gmail.com

**Tradition
with a
Future**

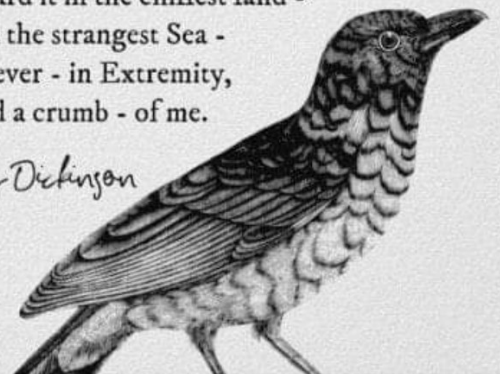


"Hope" is the thing with feathers -
That perches in the soul -
And sings the tune without the words -
And never stops - at all -

And sweetest - in the Gale - is heard -
And sore must be the storm -
That could abash the little Bird
That kept so many warm -

I've heard it in the chilliest land -
And on the strangest Sea -
Yet - never - in Extremity,
It asked a crumb - of me.

Emily Dickinson



We know that many of us have different opinions on Hope, but the editors rather like this one written by Emily Dickinson in 1861 and published in her first book of poems. Our crumbs are another's feast.

Sunday 4th February 2024

Torquay 9.30am: Worship Team
Bellbrae 11am
Aireys Inlet 9.30am : Communion TBC

Sunday 11th February 2024

Torquay 9.30am: Rev David Thompson with
Communion
Aireys Inlet 9.30am
Bellbrae at 11am: Michele Hardy

Special Invites:

2.15pm @ Elouera Aged Care on Thurs 1st Feb.
2.00pm Sunday 4th February at Ocean Grove
Uniting—the Ordination and Induction of Kyle
Moffat & Annie Brophy.

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 (Starts again on Friday 9th. February).
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:

- **Pancake Day** at Aireys Community Hall: Feb 13th. From 10.30am. Gluten Free available.
- ASH Wednesday Service at Bellbrae on 14th Feb at 10am, followed by sharing at the Bowside Café.
- Thursday 15th @ 10.30am, Surfcoast Lenten Studies at Aireys Inlet. (see further details on front page)
- COFFEE Challenge for Uniting concludes next week so bring in your collection boxes by Feb 11th please
- 1st March WORLD DAY OF PRAYER. Our Surfcoast 2024 shared service will be at St Theresa's in Torquay.

Notes from our Congregations:

Aireys Inlet Congregation invite you to fluffy pancakes and coffee to raise funds for Uniting on Tuesday 13th February. AND the start of our Lenten Studies at 10.30am on Thurs 15 Feb.



Bellbrae members invite you to share an **Ash Wednesday** Service on 14th February at 10am, and a **Taizé** service at 7pm on Sunday 25th Feb -there will be no morning service that day. The Taizé evening service will be repeated every 4th Sunday if interest is high.

Torquay will host a Service of Celebration for Jeanette Jones who passed away in January. Tuesday 20th February at 11am followed by a light lunch in Oak Tree Place.

A plate toward a light lunch would be appreciated. Thanks



Not quite 100%: these congregation members need our TLC & prayer

1. Our Rev Bob, still in hospital and in pain. We hold him close with our love.
2. Doreen Stephens also in hospital with more tests still to determine the cause of her severe discomfort.
3. Mary & Keith B as they put together the Pancake Day with their ready band of helpers.
4. Robyn H, Noni and Maxine as worship team leaders as we manage our services without a steady ministry presence.

What's happening in our wider neighbourhood?

Saturday 3rd Feb at Warralily—the summer market is the place to be. From 10 to 3. Food, craft and music for everyone.



torquaymotorshow.com.au - come and have a browse on Sun 11th Feb on the foreshore. Proceeds to local Rotary projects.

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.

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.

Congratulations

The Aireys Inlet congregation is thrilled to have two of its members honoured in this year's Australia Day Awards.



Kate Thompson was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for service to modern pentathlon. Kate has acted as Secretary/Director of sport at Modern Pentathlon Victoria since 1997. Kate has also held significant leadership roles with Modern Pentathlon Australia and is an international judge of the sport.. Modern pentathlon is an Olympic sport consisting of five events: fencing, freestyle swimming, equestrian show jumping, pistol shooting and cross country running.

Lindsay Carey was awarded the Conspicuous Service Medal. Serving as a Chaplain and Wing Commander in the Air Force, Lindsey has been instrumental in achieving recognition of moral injury - a trauma-related syndrome that can be suffered by members of the defence forces and in occupations such as emergency services. Moral injury can be caused when a person is exposed to inhumane acts that cause pain, suffering or death to others and find that they are doing or witnessing things that are incongruent with their values.

Congratulation to Kate and Lindsay on these well-deserved honours.

Pancake Day
Flip for a good cause.



Learn more
unitingvictas.org.au/pancake-day

Uniting

Take a short drive for a fluffy pancake with fruit and syrup and grow some funds for Uniting. At the Community Hall at Aireys Inlet from 10.30am to 3pm on Tues 13th Feb.

You are warmly invited to the Induction Service of Rev. Greg Crowe as the Minister at Queenclyff-Point Lonsdale Uniting Church at 5.30pm on Wednesday 14 February.

To assist with catering, please register your attendance.
Please book online: www.trybooking.com/COFVM
or contact Jan Hodge unitingqueenscliff@iinet.net.au

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.
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