# **Surfcoast Uniting Churches Newsletter**

For assistance, please contact: (Torquay) Jane Skelton (Bellbrae) Maxine Flakemore (Aireys Inlet) Keith & Mary Bremner Church Office: 03 5261 2369





#### Sunday 17th March 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 5: Jer 31:31-34 Ps 51:1-12 Heb 5:5-10 Jn 12:20-33

# The Fifth Sunday in LENT.. Excepts by John Davies.

On the road to Jerusalem everything is uncertain. It is uncertain for pilgrims travelling there in the hope of a faith-renewing experience, but fearful that their visit will be interrupted by bombs and gunfire.

And for Jesus and his followers on the road to Jerusalem everything was uncertain, too. They knew they were walking into conflict. Like migrants approaching a checkpoint knowing their papers are invalid....

On the road to Jerusalem there are few guarantees. Except the guarantee of companionship. Christ invites us to take this ragged road with him and enjoy the riches of his company, and we let him lead us through the roadblocks, conflicts and pain. His cup is all we need to nourish us, to cleanse, renew and refresh us as we go.

#### This Sunday's Poem for Lent 5

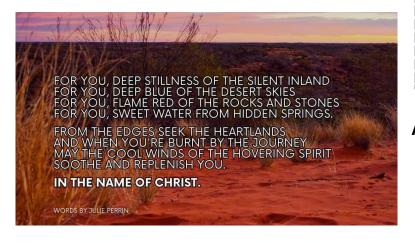
Help us to accept, O Christ that our paths may not be smooth and our journeys many often be risky. Help us to accept vulnerability with no promise of security. Help us to give you devotion with no promise of reward.

We don't know what we are asking when we ask for these things. But give us hands to take the cup you hold out to us... a cup of companionship:

Helps us to gladly immerse ourselves in the baptism you want us to share:

And to so know you on the road with us that all our anxious thought of status, security and reward wash away, and we are left with you, just you, astonished by your love for us again.

John Davies



# EASTER SERVICES ON THE SURFCOAST

Sunday 24th March: Palm Sunday

Aireys Inlet 9.30am with Worship Team
Torquay at 9.30am with Jonathan Feldman
Bellbrae at 11am with Jonathan Feldman

Wednesday 27th March

Bellbrae Taizé Service at 7pm

Thursday 28th March: Maundy Thursday

@ Torquay at 7.30pm

Friday 29th March: Good Friday

Aireys Inlet : Ecumenical Service at Anglesea
Anglican

9.30am at Torquay - Bellbrae & Torquay together

followed by fellowship & Hot Cross Buns @ Geoff & Tricia's. 8 Gogoll Crescent.

Sunday 31st March: Easter Sunday. He is Risen

Dawn Service at Cosy Corner, Torquay. @7.00am

> Aireys Inlet at 9.30am Torquay at 9.30am Bellbrae at 11am

As one week closes, another opens.

Peace be with you

#### Sunday 17th March: Lent 5

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

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

www.surfcoastunitingchurch.org.au

#### Sunday 24th March... Palm Sunday

Aireys Inlet 9.30am : Worship Team At Torquay 9.30am and Bellbrae 11am Jonathan Feldman

#### **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. The study booklet for this week is attached to the newsletter email for your

Come along next Thursday to enjoy discussion.

Bellbrae: will hold their monthly Taizé service on Wed 27th March at 7.30pm

<u>Torquay</u> Congregation give notice that they will hold their <u>AGM on</u> Sunday 24th March directly after the morning service.

Nominations for Council members are welcome. Last year's minutes and new nomination forms and details for those providing reports are available.

### Surfcoast 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",

You are welcome to join in and the current study pages are attached to this weeks email as a PDF for easy download,

Questions? Contact Noni at aireysinletunitingchurch@gmail.com

# What's happening in our wider neighbourhood?

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

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

Sat March 23rd at Drysdale ——A Pilgrimage of Opportunities.. See notice.

# 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

#### Regular Monthly activities include:

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

# Plant and Pot Sale

Robin & Heather Dennis are preparing to move house and have donated many plants in pots and pots without plants for fundraising for the Trading Table. On the lawns at Torquay.

Pick your pot or plant and make a donation. Assistance is available for larger pots. Please see Geoff Genat.

Happy birthdays to all this week,

especially Valma Griffiths who turns 100!

And to Robyn Harper... nowhere near that age.

> We wish you both joyful celebrations.



#### Prayer Shawl Ministry...

We have shawls in reserve but no recipients. Please, if you know of anyone who would appreciate a shawl or knee rug, let either Marilyn or Margo know as soon as possible.

We would love to continue this ministry, but we can only do it with your help. Thanks

Marilyn 0427 750 36 & Margo 0412 742 117



# Pilgrimage of **Opportunities**

Saturday 23 March 2024



Starting at 9.30 am at Drysdale Railway Station, High St. and finishing at Curlewis clifftop about 11.45 am with lunch then at the church.

Walk, or drive, between the various stations to hear readings, to pray, to contemplate, to talk with others about the place of the stories in our Christian lives.

Open to all. Lunch provided.

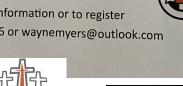
NO cost.

"Colossians 4: 5b—Make the most of every opportunity."

Organised by Drysdale Uniting Church

Reaching out with God's love and care

Contact Wayne for more information or to register attendance—0407 355 996 or waynemyers@outlook.com









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