

Surfcoast Uniting

For assistance, please contact :
Rev Tina Lyndon Ng: 0423 715 590
(Torquay) Jane Skelton
(Bellbrae) Maxine Flakemore
(Aireys Inlet) Keith & Mary Bremner
Newsletter email: newslettersurfcoastuc@gmail.com.. All items in by Thursdays at 4pm



Churches Newsletter

Sunday December 14th 2025

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 this week **Advent 3** : Is 35:1-10 Ps 146:5-10 Jas 5:7-10 Mt 11:2-11 or Luke 1: 46b-55



This year Torquay have displayed a wooden nativity scene under our cherry tree. The lights change colour to add an extra sparkle.

Thanks Tricia and Geoff

WORSHIP and other things for Advent & Christmas

THIS WEEK

Sunday 14th December: ADVENT 3

Aireys Inlet 9.30 am Rev Peter Greenwood

Bellbrae 11 am Rev Peter Greenwood

Torquay 9.30 am Communion Rev Tina

At the Pub Airey's Inlet Pub 5pm Community Carols

Sat 20 Dec: Aireys Inlet Blue Christmas 3pm Anglican
Rev Sharon Valentino

Sunday 21st December: ADVENT 4

Aireys Inlet 9.30 am Rev Tina

Bellbrae 11 am Rev Tina

Torquay 9.30 am Carol Service

Christmas Eve Torquay 7pm Family Carols (NEW this year) Rev Tina

Christmas Eve Bellbrae Carols 10.30pm Rev Tina

Christmas Day Aireys Inlet 9.30 am Rev Tina

Christmas Day Torquay 9.30 am Rev Stephen Rowe

Say to those who have an anxious heart,

**"Be strong;
fear not!"**



WEEK 4 – THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Date: Sunday, 14 Dec 2025 (Year A)

Focus Region: Indonesia

Theme: Joy through resilience: preventing displacement by building climate adaptation in vulnerable communities.

Lectionary Readings:

First Reading: Isaiah 35:1-10

Psalms: Psalm 146:5-10 (or Luke 1:46b-55)

Second Reading: James 5:7-10

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

THE CHRISTMAS BOWL IN INDONESIA

In Central Sulawesi, Indonesia, Eko* (pictured) and his family have lived through multiple floods that devastated their rice fields and community. Through the Christmas Bowl, they've joined the DREAM program, learning farming techniques that improve crop quality and help them adapt to climate change.

The DREAM program, led by our partner Church World Service (CWS), equips farming families like Eko's to withstand floods and natural disasters. Eko has gained knowledge and tools that strengthen crops, reduce expenses, and improve family resilience. Across Indonesia, CWS is helping communities prepare for disasters and adapt to a changing climate.

Learn more about Eko and our partner CWS at christmasbowlactforpeace.org.au/resources



Regular Surfcoast Uniting Events

- **Tuesdays at 10.30am.** Beaut Beanies meet at Torquay to knit and crochet, socialise and plan their donations.
- **Thursdays at 10.30am**—Coffee at Bomboras
- **THIS Thursday at 2.15pm**—once a month at Elouera Aged Care. **This month is a Carol Service**
- **Friday and Saturday from 10am to 4pm**—our OP-SHOP at Bellbrae opens for business. Call Doreen to add your name to the roster (0479 164 938). We'd love to have you. Full training provided.
- **Aireys Inlet Lunch at the Pub** held on the first Friday of each month. Enjoyed by locals and our own Aireys congregation. All welcome.
- **Prayer Shawl group...** contact Marilyn Wendt if interested in joining this faithful group.
- **Silent Worship** is being trialled at Aireys. Meeting in a private home to explore & evaluate this type of Spiritual engagement.

The story of the holding crosses – Rev Tina

It's been around thirty years since I walked into a wood working workshop at the rear of Brighton Uniting and met with Ray. We both belonged to an ecumenical healing ministry team. I'd bought an olive holding cross and asked Ray whether he could make me some crosses like it. Ray offered to make me one hundred holding crosses. It took him months. Ray would make some crosses; his friend would varnish them and a Monsignor from the Catholic church across the road would bless them. Then I would find them homes.

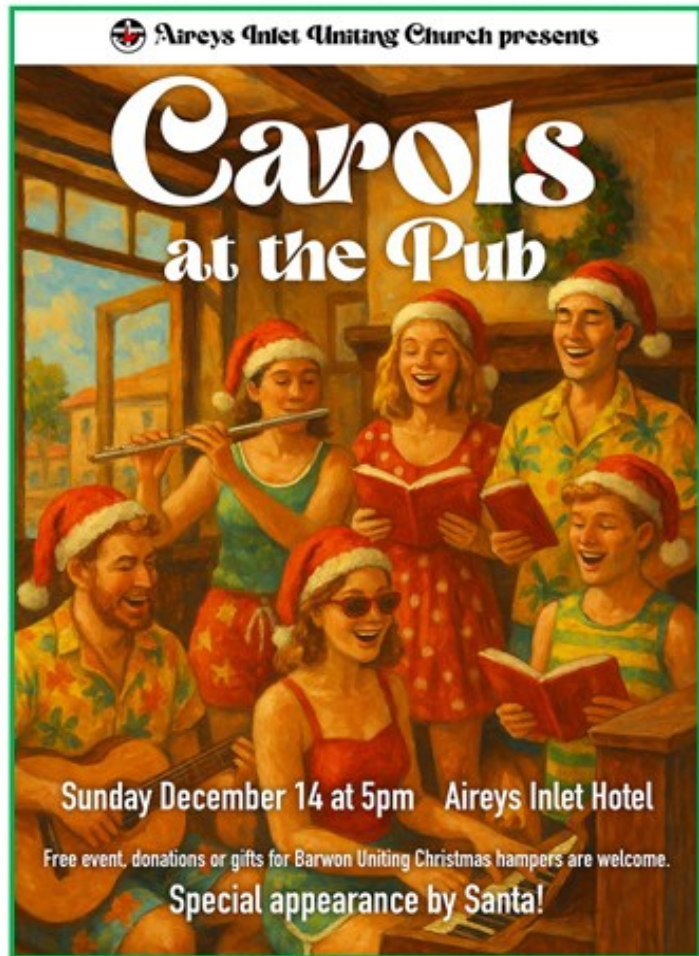
Recently, I only had a few crosses left and Ross Lamont from Aireys Inlet congregation asked his friends at a men's shed in Geelong to make another one hundred holding crosses. Making holding crosses isn't easy. The men worked hard to make the holding crosses on their equipment; to sand them and varnish them. It took them nine months. I'm very grateful to Ross and his mates for making the holding crosses. I hope to find them homes over the next five years.

Please contact me on 0423 715 590 if you would like one of the crosses.



A Prayer for this week and always

Go forth with joy,
for the desert shall bloom and the wilderness
sing.
Carry with you the hope of Christ, the strength of
the Spirit,
and the joy that no storm can wash away.
Remember the people of Indonesia,
whose resilience points us to God's renewing
work.
Go to live as people of Advent, sowing joy,
resisting despair,
and rejoicing in the God who makes all things
new.
Amen



This special appeal has been launched to help provide treatment for my nephew Campbell McLennan's wife, **Melissa Clarke**. They have an adorable two year old boy and Melissa was enjoying her pregnancy with their second child until she received the devastating news that she has a brain tumour. A proven life-extending drug is available but it costs \$27,000 a month. All donations small and large will help. **Many thanks, Mary Bremner**

If you can help in any small, or BIG way please go to the go fund me page by clicking [here](#)



Airey's Inlet St Aidan's Church, 29 Great Ocean Rd, Airey's Bellbrae: Uniting Church. School & Anglesea Roads, Bellbrae Torquay: Torquay Uniting Church, 27 Anderson Street, Torquay

www.surfcoast.unitingchurch.org.au

Facebook: Surf Coast Uniting Church

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