

# Surfcoast Uniting

For assistance, please contact :  
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Newsletter email: newslettersurfcoastuc@gmail.com.. All items in by Thursdays at 4pm



# Churches Newsletter

Sunday December 7th 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](http://www.wadawurrung.org.au).

Lectionary this week **Advent 2:** Is 11:1-10 Ps 72:1-7, 18-19 Rom 15:4-13 Mt 3:1-12

## A Meditative Walk

On the last Saturday of November, Aireys Inlet Congregation hosted a Meditative walk through a rewilded block of land in the Painkalac Creek Valley. The weather forecast was dire, but we were pleased to experience a mixture of sunny skies with times of cloudy skies but no rain during the walk. We explored new beginnings, a physical new beginning for the land on which we were walking, and spiritual new beginnings for ourselves this Advent season. We were amazed at the beauty of the rewilded land and the habitat that it has created for the return of native animals. And we were challenged to look at our lives knowing that God always welcomes us to new beginnings. And examine if there are areas that we felt led to change and do differently starting this Advent.



## WORSHIP and other things for Advent & Christmas

### THIS WEEK Sunday 7th December : ADVENT 2

Aireys Inlet 9.30am Communion Rev Tina

**AND Christmas Movie Showing at 4.30pm at Aireys Community Hall**

**"It's a Wonderful Life" starring James Stewart**

Bellbrae 11 am Communion Rev Tina

Torquay 9.30 am Café Church Rev Stephen Rowe

### 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

A very Happy 80th birthday to Doreen Stephens. Apparently there were many celebrations, but this one was with the Tuesday OP shop sorters. Delicious cake by Michelle.



### 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.*



"Prepare the way for the Lord!"

Matthew 3:1-12




## WEEK 3: SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### BRINGING OPPORTUNITY TO YOUNG REFUGEES IN JORDAN

Hassan fled conflict with his family and struggled to find work. Through Act for Peace's partner – the Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees (DSPR) – he joined the Forsa Youth Project, learning hospitality and business skills that opened doors to new opportunities.

"This program changed my life," says Hassan.

Your gift helps young people like Hassan gain skills, confidence and hope for a brighter future.




DSPR Jordan/Act for Peace

### HOUSE OF HOPE


Fran Griffiths, from Bellbrae, was recently published in the Surf Coast Times writing about "House of Hope", a Christian based not-for-profit centre in Mt Duneed, that Bellbrae support, making a real difference for women suffering addictions.

"These women have suffered and are broken, the structured program includes daily exercise, nutrition, creative expression, counselling and teamwork..... Community run residential settings such as this one are proving to be highly effective and are on the rise." Please check out this week's paper to read more.

**Well done Fran.**



LEBANESE HOUSE  
☆☆☆  
RESTAURANT  
UM KHALIL



### PRAYER

God of promise,  
Strengthen the hands of those rebuilding their lives in peace and perseverance.  
Amen.

**BELLBRAE OPSHOP and BOOKROOM has some terrific books and bargains too. Open every Friday and Saturday from 10am to 4pm. Last day for 2025 is Saturday 20th. We reopen again on Friday 2nd January.**

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](http://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**