

Surfcoast Uniting Churches Newsletter

For assistance, please contact :

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Newsletter email: newslettersurfcoastuc@gmail.com.. All items in by Thursdays at 4pm



Sunday 25th January 2026

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 : Epiphany 3: Isaiah 9: 1-14, Psalm 27: 1, 4-9, 1 Corinthians 1: 10-18, Matthew 4: 12-25



DAY OF MOURNING 2025

A worship service for faith communities to stand in solidarity with Australia's First Peoples as we remember, reflect and on the effects of invasion, forced dispossession, oppression and suffering.



Let us begin this year as we have others with a time to remember the wonderful power of words and prayer.

This is the **Covenant Prayer** by John Wesley and it's age does not make it any less relevant.

I am no longer my own, but yours.

Put me to what you will, place me with whom you will.

Put me to doing, put me to suffering.

Let me be put to work for you or set aside for you,

Praised for you or criticized for you.

Let me be full, let me be empty.

Let me have all things, let me have nothing.

I freely and fully surrender all things to your glory and service.

And now, O wonderful and holy God,

Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer,

you are mine, and I am yours.

So be it.

And the covenant which I have made on earth,

Let it also be made in heaven.

John Wesley (1703-1791)

Resources for the acknowledgment and worship around a national Day of Mourning are available from the Uniting Church website for all to read. The artwork depicts the story of Christ's presence among First Peoples of these lands of his creation for many generations.

Artist Zoe Belle is a Guwa Koa and Kuku Yalanji (Queensland) woman and writes "As a young Aboriginal woman I show my honour for the sacrifice and heartbreak of my elders, by seeking to grasp with both hands, all of the opportunities that have been hard fought for my benefit. I seek to know and be comforted by the light of Jesus and to let that light shine into the darkness."

John 1: 1. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Matthew 4: 23.

Jesus went through Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease & sickness among the people.



Word of the Day



Meliorism:

The belief that we can change and improve the world through acts of love, compassion and kindness.



Aireys Inlet St Aidan's Church, 29 Great Ocean Rd, Aireys Inlet. *Sunday Worship at 9.30am*

Bellbrae: Uniting Church. School & Anglesea Roads, Bellbrae. *Sunday Worship at 11am.*

Torquay: Torquay Uniting Church, 27 Anderson Street, Torquay. *Sunday Worship at 9.30am*

Find us at : www.surfcoast.unitingchurch.org.au

ON Facebook: Surf Coast Uniting Church and Bellbrae Opshop and Bookroom

Regular Surfcoast Uniting Events

- **Beaut Beans** meet at Torquay each Tuesday at 10am to knit and crochet, socialise and plan their donations. STARTING FEBRUARY
- **Coffee SPOT—Thursdays at 10.30am** AT Oak Tree Place in January and at Bomboras again in February. Come and Go as you are able. Coffee and conversation guaranteed.
- **Calvary Elouera Aged Care NEXT ONE on Thursday 5th Feb at 2.15pm**—Rev Tina and Robyn H lead this Ministry
- **OPSHOP and BOOKSHOP at Bellbrae - every Friday and Saturday from 10am to 4pm**—open for business in 2026. 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 & the 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. Every second Thursday, 7.30 to 9.30pm

What's Happening in our 'Hood?

Bike Races—from Geelong to Lorne and in between. Wed 28th January to Sunday 1st Feb. Check for road closures!



Torquay Motor Show is back on Sunday 8th February at Elephants Walk. All morning.

MAY 1-3 | WADAWURRUNG COUNTRY | QUEENSLIFF

sacrededge

2026
celebrating diversity



Arts Community Music Storytelling Food Movement

Voices of the edges:

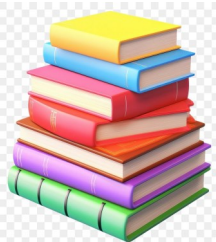
- First Nations
- All Abilities
- Environment & Climate
- Refugees & Immigrants
- LGBTQIA+



Together we'll explore voices of the edge — through talk, workshop, dance, and more. A session, meeting, session.

Early Bird Tix Available NOW

More info and tickets: www.unitingqueenscliff.org.au



Grovedale Uniting at 272 Torquay Road (cnr Reserve) will be having their monthly used book sale from 10 to 2pm on

Friday 6th and Sat 7th February

Friday 6th and Sat 7th March.

Adult Books \$1 Children's 50c

All proceeds to UNITING

A Day of Rest by Patience Strong

Here and there along the road you still can find a place—that keeps its ancient Sabbath peace and its accustomed pace...The clock upon the old grey tower records the passing day, while the traffic rumbles by full speed upon its own way.

Now and then in streets or lanes you catch a distant chime—and you are reminded of a truth as old as time: that it is in His wisdom God asked a day of quietness. And how much we need it in this age of strife and stress.



- Our Surfcoast Churches Shared Services & Socials - there are lots of ways we can share ourselves and the Word amongst our local and coastal friends.**
1. "Not" the Church camp is at Port Fairy Gardens caravan Park this year from Tuesday 17th to Friday 20th March. Good food, walks, shared conversation, R&R. Call Tricia on 0419 340056 for further details.
 2. Facebook Socials—Follow our FB pages at "Bellbrae Opshop and Bookroom" and "Surf Coast Uniting Church". Like and Share as much as you are able. Spread the word.
 3. We now have an CCLI licence to show movies and stream movies and documentaries as long as the audience numbers are below 50 and do not pay (donations are OK). Plan some fun!

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