

Surfcoast Uniting Churches Newsletter

For assistance, please contact :

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Newsletter email: newslettersurfcoastuc@gmail.com.. Deadline Thursdays at 4pm



Sunday 16th August 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 Pentecost 12: Genesis 45: 1-15, Psalm 133, Romans 11: 1-2a, 29-32, Matthew 15: 10-20, 21-28

You may have missed the Memorial Service for John Peck this last Tuesday 11th at Torquay. Here is the link to the video which will be available on the Surfcoast Uniting YouTube page.

Note: there are no hymns recorded - so the video will skip these. Also note that the first 2.35 minutes are a static photo.

<https://youtu.be/Kly9HNeRM5c?si=KgTOFZ8C1dZQ1zu2>

News from our travellers:

Rev Tina and John are enjoying their time in England and have visited both Southwark Cathedral and Wesley Chapel in London. Photos below—or follow along on the SurfcoastUniting facebook page.



Here is Hodge the Southwark Cathedral cat, who is probably well fed as it abuts the famous Borough Markets. Shakespeare has a deep connection to this cathedral (known as St Saviour's) when he lived & worked close by.



The portrait of Wesley is by George Romney c1789.

Barry & Jane Skelton are heading home next week from the sunny Sunshine Coast as Barry continues to recuperate from his hospital stay. Safe Driving as you come back to the still wintry weather! They caught up with Marie & Melva from the TQ church while visiting the Eumundi Market.

Many happy and restful travel days to all—whether its Sri Lanka, the Gold Coast or Swan Hill!



Psalm 133 NIV

A song of ascents. Of David.

¹ How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!

² It is like precious oil poured on the head, running down on the beard, running down on Aaron's beard, down on the collar of his robe.

³ It is as if the dew of Hermon were falling on Mount Zion.

For there the Lord bestows his blessing, even life forevermore.

Join in worship together at Aireys Inlet on Sunday 30th August at 10am.

Our theme is Frontier Services and the wonderful work they achieve with our help. Our Speaker: Rev Noel Williams, Barwon Remote Area Bush Chaplain.

We will share a BBQ after the service and you are invited to bring—salads (Torquay) and sweets (Bellbrae).

For transport—check with Tricia, Robyn or Maxine.

Uniting Church Services on the Surfcoast : This Sunday 16th August.

Aireys Inlet: 9.30am : Rev Sue Townsend, Bellbrae: 11.00am: Rev Stephen Rowe

Torquay : 9.30am: Rev Ann Key and Communion



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

Worship next week:

Sunday 23rd August:

- * **Aireys Inlet 9:30am: David Wright**
- * **Torquay 9:30am : Brian & Thelma Shaw**
- * **Bellbrae 11am : Taizé with Rev Peter Greenwood**

Coming Soon...

The global *'Season of Creation'* (1 September to 4 October 2026) is inspired by Ezekial 47: 1-12, where God's life giving river flows from the temple, bringing healing wherever it goes. As the river deepens, barren land is restored, waters are revived, and creation flourishes. It is a beautiful picture of God's desire to bring renewal, abundance, and life to the whole creation. In a world facing an escalating climate crisis, that vision feels more important than ever. *Season of Creation* invites us to slow down and pay attention—to delight in the beauty of God's creation, lament what is being lost, and respond with hope as we join God's work of restoration, justice and reconciliation.



Quote taken from the Victorian Council of Churches newsletter.

Whispers of a Grey Day

Damp air clings to my skin,
a gentle shroud, the day begins.
Soft shadows dance in muted light,
as grey pulls close, day turns to night.

Each droplet falls like whispered sighs,
painting dreams in overcast skies.
A stillness wraps the world around,
in this embrace, a peace is found.

The trees stand still, their leaves aglow,
in silver mist, where secrets flow.
Let time stretch soft beneath this weight,
embracing all while we wait.

*This poetry corner
is brought to you
by ANON, or AI.*

*No one is sure, but
the words are
poignant.*

TECH TIP CARTOON



"Edor the Wise, I think you're on transmute."

Copied with permission from
www.ANDERTOONS.com

Regular Surfcoast Uniting Events

- **Beaut Beanies** meet at Torquay each Tuesday at 10am to knit and crochet, socialise and plan their donations.
- **Coffee at Bomboras** every Thursday at 10.30am. Come and Go as you please, take time to connect and chat and rest.
- **Calvary Elouera Aged Care** Rev Tina and Robyn H lead this precious Ministry monthly on the first Thursday.
- **OPSHOP and BOOKSHOP at Bellbrae - Friday & Saturday from 10am to 4pm** Call Doreen to add your name to the roster (0479 164 938). We'd love to have you. Full training is provided.
- **Aireys Inlet Lunch at the Pub** held on the first Friday of each month. Enjoyed by locals & the Aireys congregation. All are welcome.
- **Prayer Shawl group...** contact Marilyn Wendt if interested in joining this faithful group.
- **Silent Worship** i Meeting in a private home to explore and to evaluate this type of our spiritual engagement. Monthly on the second Thursday, 7.00 to 9.00pm
Contact Jill on 0417 798 396

Volunteering Roles for your consideration:



Thinking about a holiday to Perth? This October, more than 600 delegates will converge on Fremantle for the **Fijian National Conference**. **Volunteers** are needed for a range of roles, from registration and ushering to children's activities, airport transfers and luggage assistance. It's a wonderful opportunity

to experience Fijian faith and culture, connect with Uniting Church members from across Australia, and offer a warm welcome and hospitality. Click [here](#) to complete an EOI.

Our OPSHOP and Bookroom loves new volunteers. We will be holding a new volunteers induction day very soon— call or text Doreen Stephens (0479 164 938) to be added to the list. Bring a friend!



Feed Me

Feed Me in Geelong, Bellarine or the Surf Coast always need volunteers. Many of our church members already offer their time. Sessions are held on Thursdays for newbies. Fill in the form [here](#) for the next step.

Fill the Freezer/Empty the Freezer: In the back vestry at TQ there is a freezer with casseroles, cakes and more for distribution as needed and where needed. No cost, no questions. Grab one for yourself on a grey day when the pantry is bare, or ask a neighbour over to share. We often need cooks and distributors. Containers are available. Check in by phone or text with Marg Hirth (0407 346 085) or Tricia (0419340056) for more details.



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