

ALPHA

An Alpha Course (10 weekly sessions) will be held at SpringDale Neighbourhood Centre, beginning on February 27, from 6.30 pm to 9 pm. The course is being organised by Central Baptist Church and is open for anyone who might be interested in exploring the Christian faith in a relaxed, non-threatening and fun setting. If you have been to an Alpha Course at some time, here is an opportunity to invite someone you know who may want to think about some of life's difficult questions. It is also a good refresher for all of us and an opportunity to share with people from other churches. There are some registration forms on the table at the hall entry. Please take one. Or, contact Brett of SpringDale on 5253 1960 or email Anna Leong at annnaseetho@yahoo.com

I can go through
a couple of hankies
at a movie
or while reading
certain books

but

I cannot remember
when I last
(if ever) wept
after hearing your words,
God of all languages.

Am I indifferent
bored
too stressed
exhausted . . .

is my heart hardened,
my soul shrivelled;
do my ears recoil
at words such as yours?

perhaps
I should weep
because I don't . .

May the words of your mouth
shatter the complacency
of my heart,
my Strength,
my Joy,
my Redeemer. Amen.
(c) 2004 Thom M. Shuman

Rosters for 10 February
PORTARLINGTON
Managers: Malcolm &
Margaret Campbell
Morning Tea: Bob & Wendy
Sharp
Pastoral Carer & Prayers:
Lorraine Hughes
Reader: David Hughes
Communion Prep/Serve:
Lorraine Hughes
Communion Serve: Heather
Gould, David Hughes, Alex
Eagleson
Power Point Preparation: Joy
Porter

DRYSDALE
10.45am
Duty Elder & Prayers: Bob
Stevenson
Readings: Jen Davis
Door: Margaret MacGillivray
Morning Tea: Joy Krahe &
Merrilyn Lloyd
Flowers: Judy Grimm
Worship @ 9
Kitchen: Graeme's Team
Counting: Denise McLaverty

ST LEONARDS 9.00am HC
Combined Anglican
Brass & Flowers: Helen
Steogen

THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA



St Leonards



Portarlington



Drysdale

EPIPHANY 4

Sunday, 3 February 2013

God calls and sends us to do the work of loving and redeeming the world. When the call came to Jeremiah, he objected that he was too young. When Jesus brought God's call to his own community, they resisted hearing the word from someone they knew. Human beings resist the call of God. We fail to trust the in-breaking of God's new life. We cannot seem to accept God's message of love and possibility. Yet, God knows us and knows our potential far better than we ever will.

Abingdon Worship Annual

LECTIONARY

February 3 Jer 1:4-10
Epiphany 4 1 Cor 13:1-13

Ps 71:1-6
Lk 4:21-30

February 10 Ex. 34:29-35
Transfiguration of Jesus

Ps 99
2 Cor 3:12 – 4:2
Lk 9: 28-36, (37-43a)

LINKED MINISTER:

Phone
Email:
Mobile:

Rev. Marion Latham
5253 2199
marlat41@optusnet.com.au
0414383101

CHURCH OFFICE:

Phone:
Email:
Web

Drysdale Church Centre
5253 1336
drysdaleuc@yahoo.com.au
<http://drysdale.unitingchurch.org.au>

UNITINGCARE OPSHOP:

Village Walk Drysdale

THIS WEEK IN OUR CONGREGATIONS:

SUNDAY 3 February

Portarlington

9.00am Rev Brian Giddings

Drysdale

9.00am Worship @ 9 Rev Marion Latham, HC Jenni's team assisting

10.45am Rev Marion Latham HC
Loose change & Food bank both services

St Leonards

7.00pm Rev Marion Latham

MONDAY 4 February

7.30pm Drysdale Growing & Learning Meeting

TUESDAY 5 February

7.30pm Portarlington Worship Committee

WEDNESDAY 6 February

10.00am Drysdale Coffee & Chat
AM Drysdale mainly music
1.30pm Portarlington G&L & COER

THURSDAY 7 February

9.00am Portarlington & Drysdale
Choir Practice
7.30pm Drysdale Pastoral Care Mtg

FRIDAY 8 February

9.15am Drysdale Friday school

SATURDAY 9 February

7.30am Portarlington Fellowship
Breakfast

SUNDAY 10 February

Portarlington

9.00am Rev Ian Porter HC
Loose Change & Food Bank

Drysdale

9.00am Worship @ 9 Jenni's Team
10.45am Rev Ian Porter

St Leonards

9.00am Combined with Anglican HC

OUR CONGREGATIONS NEWS

PORTARLINGTON

The Portarlington/St. Leonards Annual Congregation Meeting & Election of Church Councillors are coming up

The Congregation meeting will be held immediately after worship on Sunday 10 March, to be followed by morning tea.

These are the Elders and Church Councillor's whose terms have expired:
Elders: Jan Dryden & Heather Gould.
Councillors: David Hughes, Lorraine Hughes, Dorothy Knights. Each of these members offer themselves for re-election. Any other member who believes they have the gifts and talents to serve in the capacity of Elder or Church Councillor should talk to either David Hughes or Barry Ruler. Nomination forms are in the Narthex. Nominations close on Sunday 24th Feb and the election will be held on Sunday 3rd. March.

Would all Ministry Team Leaders please submit their annual reports by email to Barry Ruler (bruler@bigpond.com) by Sunday 17th Feb.

Portarlington Fellowship Breakfast

The first Fellowship Breakfast meeting for 2013 will be held on Saturday, 9 February, commencing at 7.30am.

Guest Speaker will be Ms Merrin Hughes, daughter of David & Lorraine Hughes. Late last year, Merrin spent some months in Tanzania helping to build accommodation for local dispensing staff who were without facilities. She will tell us of some of her interesting experiences.

All members of the Linked Congregations and their friends are most welcome to attend. Acceptances to Barry Ruler on 5259 3304 by Thursday evening 7 February.

U.C.A.F. Commitment Service.

The U.C.A.F. will start the year with a Commitment Service in the church at 1.30pm on Monday 11th of February. The service includes communion and is open to all who wish to start their year's activities in the church and wider community in this way. Fellowship over afternoon tea follows the service. For any enquiries phone Elizabeth on 52592442 .

February is BACKPACKS month.

The 'Backpacks for Kid's Backs' program supports the Millennium Goal of a primary school education for every child by providing basic school requirements in a backpack. The U.C.A.F. is seeking donations for the 'Backpacks' program in the Pacific Islands, facilitated by the Mission Liaison Group. Donations can be given to either Margaret Campbell or

Elizabeth Thompson up to and including Sunday 3rd of March 2013.

FOR ALL CONGREGATIONS

A workshop is being held on "Mission Shaped Introduction" at Western Heights Uniting Church on Tuesdays 19, 26 February and 5 March, 5.30 – 8.30pm. Book with Adam McIntosh on 0414725887 by 4 February.

There is also a Worship Leaders Education Day on Saturday, 16 February, 10.00am – 2.00pm at Hoppers Crossing UCA. Book with Adam also.

Oppression in the Philippines

Belmont/Highton social issues committee has arranged for Pastor Berlin Guerrero to speak at Belmont UC hall on Sunday 10th February 2013, at 5 pm. A light meal will be provided.

Pastor Guerrero was tortured, imprisoned and threats were made against his life, because of his support for the rights of the local people in the Philippines. He was brought to Australia through the partnership of the UCA and United Church of Christ in the Philippines and has been granted a permanent protection visa.

He works 2 days at the Justice and International Mission unit and is studying 3 days at the Centre for Theology and Ministry. He is applying for acceptance as a candidate for the ministry in the Uniting Church. Donations will be accepted to assist in human rights defence in the Philippines.