

The image of the vineyard in Isaiah 5 becomes a metaphor for the people of God—human, flawed, wilful, and contrary. Then, as now, we may find ourselves resentful of our need for God’s strong, nurturing, and judging hand. We cry out in pain, feeling abandoned. Yet, when we ask for help, God is there. Hebrews’ “great cloud of witnesses” directs us to look to Jesus as our example, our hope and our redeemer.

Ministry Matters



The Gospel call of justice is bringing division to our world and even to the Church, as Jesus predicted it would. In the face of economic struggle, there are those who are eager to ‘prophesy’ prosperity, without the need to change the underlying systemic flaws that bring about inequality and injustice. There are many voices in our world that want to ‘prophesy’ lies – to ignore the signs of injustice, poverty, excessive consumption, and health care and education failure. And those who insist on proclaiming the Gospel message of repentance, justice and simplicity will need to embrace the cross, for they will not avoid it in the divisive responses that result. The big challenge we face is whether we are willing to embrace the suffering of living out the Gospel message that we preach, while also embracing the suffering of the mocking, accusations and rejection that will come from those who refuse to live differently or to acknowledge the brokenness of our economic, political, healthcare, education, immigration, security and justice systems.

Sacredise

## Rosters for 25 August

### PORTARLINGTON

**Managers:** Barry Ruler & Alf Cork  
**Morning tea :** Cath & Alex Eagleton  
**Pastoral Care :** Barry Ruler  
**Prayers / Reader :** Drysdale Lay Team  
**Power Point :** Joan Kelly

### DRYSDALE

**W@9**  
**Kitchen** Denise’s Team  
**Counting** Linda Smith  
**10.45am**  
**Elder:** Joy Krahe  
**Prayers / Reader:** Drysdale Lay Team  
**Door:** Sue Taylor  
**Morning tea:** Marg & John MacGillivray  
**Flowers:** Marguerite Edgar

### ST. LEONARDS

**Welcome:** June Blair  
**Reading./Prayers:** Drysdale Lay Team  
**Brass & Flowers:** June Blair & Joan Sadler



St Leonards



Portarlington



Drysdale

## Pentecost 18

## Sunday 18 August 2013

It can be easy to give up. Maybe we think we are being punished, or perhaps we feel like the world is out to get us. Today’s scriptures grapple with such situations. Yet the letter to the Hebrews dares to come forward and say, “yes, bad things happen. They have happened for years. And yet God is with us. Always. So we dare not give up.” Life is unsettling. We want easy answers, and they are usually elusive. We want to understand a world that often defies explanation. But maybe that’s not the point. Maybe we would do well to let go of the things that weigh us down, and simply persevere, looking at the example of Jesus who went through suffering and even death to proclaim the message of God’s justice.

Seasons of the Spirit

### LECTIONARY

August 18 Pentecost 13	Isaiah 5: 1-7 Hebrews 11: 29-12: 2	Psalm: 80: 1-2, 8-19 Luke 12: 49-56
August 25 Pentecost 14	Jeremiah 1: 4-10 Hebrews 12: 18-29	Psalm 71: 1-6 Luke 13: 10-17

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## THIS WEEK IN OUR CONGREGATIONS

### SUNDAY 18 August

#### Portarlington

9.00 am Rev. Marion Latham

#### Drysdale

9.00 am Graeme's team

10.45 am Rev. Marion Latham

#### St. Leonards

5.00pm HC Rev Marion Latham

*Loose change and Food bank*

### MONDAY 19 August

9.30am KYB at Linda's

### TUESDAY 20 August

10.00am Worship at Drysdale Grove

7.30pm Bible Study at Handley's

### WEDNESDAY 21 August

9.30 am-12.30pm Drysdale mainly  
music

10:00 am Drysdale Coffee and Chat

### THURSDAY 22 August

9.00am Drysdale & Portarlington  
Choir Practice

7.30 pm Linked Worship Team at  
Drysdale

### SATURDAY 24 August

Presbytery Education Day on  
evangelism @ Hoppers Crossing UCA.

### SUNDAY 25 August

#### Portarlington

9.00 am Drysdale Lay Team  
(Ken and Pat Handley)

#### Drysdale

9.00 am Rev Marion Latham  
Wayne's team assisting

10.45 am Drysdale Lay Team

#### St. Leonards

5.00pm Drysdale Lay Team

## OUR CONGREGATIONS NEWS

### ST. LEONARDS

St. Leonards U.C.A.F. will meet at the church on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> August at 2pm to "car pool" then go to the "Dunes" at Ocean Grove for afternoon tea. Further info Marj 5257 1096

### DRYSDALE

**The film afternoon** at the Gaynor Theatre showing of "The Last of the Blonde Bombshells" returned a nett profit of \$422.00 Many thanks to those who supported this effort.

**The produce stall** has raised \$497.80 for the year up to July 31<sup>st</sup>. Our thanks to the generous folks who provide the goods for sale and also to those who purchase the goods. A special thank you to Margaret Freemantle for making the yummy lemon cordial.

### Tradewinds Tea and Coffee

An order will be placed for tea and coffee items on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> August. Should you wish to purchase any of the goods available please refer to itemised list on the foyer notice board and then complete an order form (attached to the notice board) and place the completed form in the letter box slot in the office door. Payment will be required when the goods are delivered. See Harvey Davis for further details.

### Bible Studies

There will be two Bible studies/discussions held as follows:

Tuesday August 20<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 pm

Topic: Overview of the book of Genesis.

The story of creation.

Tuesday August 27<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 pm

Topic: The book of Revelation. Does this book have a message for today.

Everyone is welcome, come along and bring your ideas about these somewhat controversial subjects.

Any questions contact Ken. 5251 3075

Venue: Ken & Pat Handley's home,  
Unit 6, Belleview. 66 Wyndham Street.  
Drysdale 3222

N.B. Will those attending please park in  
Wyndham Street.

(Mind the new 'No Parking' signs)

### U.C.A.F.

Drysdale U.C.A.F. will meet on  
Wednesday 28 August at 1.30pm.

Marguerite and Merrilyn will show us an  
"English Country Garden" All welcome.

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I would like to sincerely thank my church family for their prayers, thoughtfulness and support to us and my family during Bob's illness; it was a great comfort to him. Also many thanks to all who helped with Bob's funeral and for the loving messages. May God bless you,

Mary Grieve

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### ALL OUR CONGREGATIONS

Combined Bellarine church's prayer meeting: The next combined church's prayer meeting will be held on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> August at 7.15 pm for a 7.30 pm start, at Springdale Community

hall. Take this opportunity to join with many others for one hour in praying for our region and our nation.

Nearly three months ago, about 80 folk from churches across the Bellarine Pen. joined together in the Springdale community hall to pray for the various local churches and their outreach into their communities, for the Geelong region and our nation as a whole. The next combined quarterly prayer meeting is to be held at Springdale on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> August (see notice). It would be good and very desirable if more members of our UCA congregations were involved in this combined prayer meeting. Put this date in your diary and plan to attend.

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**Forward notice:** Thursday Aug 22, 7.30 – 9 pm Linked Worship Workshop. This is for anyone involved in preparing or presenting worship in any of our three congregations: lay teams, readers, pray-ers, powerpoint preparers – anyone! At this gathering we will be thinking about ways in which we can / already do use visual aids in worship, so that those of us who respond best to visual symbols are able to be better involved in the worship of God. We will also decide on scripture passages and themes for worship for October to December. Your ideas and suggestions will be valuable.

