

# THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA



## Rosters for 23 February

### Portarlinton

**Managers:** Harold & Heather Gould

**Morning Tea:** Keith & Heather Pigdon

**Pastoral Care:** Barry Ruler

**Prayers & Readings:** Drysdale Worship Team

**PowerPoint:** Bruce Bertram

### Drysdale

**9.00 am**

**Kitchen:** Wayne's Team

**Counting:** Margo Jones

**10.45 am**

**Duty Elder:** Gerald Edgar

**Prayers & Readings:** Drysdale Lay Team

**Door:** Joy Krahe

**Morning Team:** Marg McLeod & Audrey Shepherd

**Flowers:** Marjorie McLeod

### St Leonards

**Welcoming:** Margo Jones

**Prayers & Readings:** Drysdale Lay Team

**Brass & Flowers:** Wyn Moriarty & Marie Alexander

### Thought for the day:

I learned that courage was not the absence of fear, but the triumph over it. The brave man is not he who does not feel afraid, but he who conquers that fear.

*Nelson Mandela*

## CRAG (Combined Refugee Action Group) public forum in Geelong on 18 February.

*'We are One, but We are Many', Working Towards a Humane Refugee Policy*

Tuesday 18 February 2014, 7.15 p.m. at Geelong West Town Hall (rear entry from car park), 153 Pakington Street, Geelong West.

### Speakers

*Kon Karapanagiotidis*, CEO and Founder of the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre, now the largest provider of aid, advocacy and health services for asylum seekers in Australia.

*Bishop Vincent Long*, Auxiliary Bishop, Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne, Bishop for the Western Region and a former asylum seeker and refugee, who has enriched the fabric of our community.

**Professor Louise Newman**, Psychiatrist, Convenor of the Alliance of Health Professions for Asylum Seekers, and an advocate for the rights of asylum seekers and refugees.

## Epiphany 6

**Sunday, 16 February 2014**

Today's readings challenge us to choose life. As the church, we are called to focus on what God's kingdom requires, what it blesses, and how the worshipping community is to live out its distinct calling to be the body of Christ. Moses reminds the people of their covenant to worship God alone and to walk in the ways of the Lord. Paul helps the congregation at Corinth to understand and reframe its views of leadership, particularly in relation to understanding the gift of growth that comes through the power of the Spirit. In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus begins to move his followers from their assumptions about the ways of God: "You have heard that it was said. . ." to the ways of the gospel: "but I say to you. . ." The teachings of Jesus confront us with choices, each carrying its own unique consequences. Jesus calls us to choose the practices that will bring God glory and honour.

*Abingdon Worship Annual*

## LECTIONARY

16 February  
Epiphany 6

Deut 30: 15-20  
1 Cor 3: 1-9

Ps 119: 1-8  
Mt 5: 21-37

23 February  
Epiphany 7

Lev 19: 1-2, 9-18  
1 Cor 3: 10-11, 16-23

Ps 119: 33-40  
Mt 5: 38-48

### LINKED MINISTER:

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### UNITINGCARE OPSHOP:

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5251 3640

## THIS WEEK IN OUR CONGREGATIONS:

### Sunday, 16 February

#### Portarlington

9.00 am Rev Marion Latham

#### Drysdale

9.00 am Worship @ 9 Graeme's Team

10.45 am Rev Marion Latham

#### St Leonards

7.00 pm Rev Marion Latham HC  
Loose change & food bank

### Monday, 17 February

9.00 am KYB

### Tuesday, 18 February

10.30 am Drysdale Grove Service

7.30 pm Joint Coordinating Committee

### Wednesday, 19 February

9.30 am – 12.30 pm mainly music

10.00 am Drysdale Coffee and Chat

### Thursday, 20 February

9.00 am Drysdale & Portarlington  
Choir practices

11.00 am Anne Nichol Service

7.30 pm Drysdale Church Council

### Friday, 21 February

9.15 am – 10.00 am Friday School

### Sunday, 23 February

#### Portarlington

9.00 am Drysdale Lay Team

12 noon St. Andrew's congregation  
Fellowship Lunch @  
Portarlington Golf Club

#### Drysdale

9.00 am Worship @ 9 Rev Marion,  
Graeme's Team assisting

10.45 am Drysdale Lay Team

#### St Leonards

7.00 pm Drysdale Lay Team

## OUR CONGREGATIONS NEWS

### DRYSDALE

#### Pancake Dinner

This year's pancake fundraising event will be held at the church on Tuesday, 4 March, 5.30 pm to 7.30 pm with an all you can eat pancake meal, \$15 adults, \$5 under 12.

The focus for funds raised this year is homeless Australians. How about you get a table of your friends to come along for wonderful food and fellowship and supporting a great cause?

While tickets can be purchased on the night we encourage you to purchase your tickets before hand to help with catering. Tickets available from Val Lestrangle or Jenni Nickelson.

#### Congratulations

Margaret and Tony Freemantle will celebrate 50 years of marriage on 22 February 2014. Congratulations to them from your church family.

Congratulations also to Wilma Mansell who will celebrate her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday today. Best wishes for a great day Wilma.

#### Toolbox Parenting Program

A session for parents of 0-6 year olds will be held at the Drysdale Church Hall on Tuesday evenings for 6 weeks from 4 March. Please pass this information on to anyone you may think interested.

Further details available from the Facilitator, Val Lestrangle, 5251 3125.

## PORTARLINGTON

### Annual Elections and Annual

**Congregation Meeting** will be held on Sunday 9 March, immediately following worship, then morning tea.

Election of Office Bearers for the congregation will take place at the meeting and nominations will be taken from the floor.

After 11 years as our Presbytery Representative, Lorraine Hughes is retiring from this important position. Lorraine has been a wonderful representative, always bringing back to Church Council very full and interesting reports. Our thanks go to Lorraine for a job very well done. We are now calling for a new Presbytery Representative to be elected to that position. The job entails attending Presbytery Meetings during the year (these are generally held on a Saturday several times a year) and reporting back to Church Council. The Presbytery Rep becomes a member of Church Council.

Any member interested should speak to either Lorraine Hughes (Chair Congregation) David Hughes, (Chair Church Council) or Barry Ruler (Secretary.) Please give this position serious consideration.

There is no need for an election for Church Council this year (other than for the Presbytery Rep.) as no other church councillor's term expires.

A reminder to Ministry Team leaders that your annual report should be emailed to

Barry Ruler ([bruler@bigpond.com](mailto:bruler@bigpond.com)) by no later than 14 February 2014.

### Portarlington Fellowship Lunch

The fellowship lunch will be held at the Portarlington Golf Club on Sunday 23 February at 12 noon. Please let Jan Hall know if you will be attending.

### Justice and Mission

The JAM Committee at St Andrew's in Portarlington will begin a Justice letter-writing group, at St Andrew's on FRIDAY 28 FEBRUARY at 10am. The inaugural morning tea will be a celebratory scones, jam and cream event! Please bring writing paper, envelopes and stamps. Information and assistance for letter writing will be offered. Bring your own laptop with battery if you prefer to send an e-mail or two. The letters will reflect the concerns outlined by the synod in the February issue of "Just Focus", due out tomorrow. All welcome. Inquiries to Marilyn Bertram 5251 1102.

## ST LEONARDS

### Uniting Church Adult Fellowship

St Leonards UCAF will meet for a business meeting on Monday, 24 February at Church Hall.

Queries to Marj Wilson 52571096