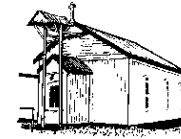


THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA



FOR ALL CONGREGATIONS

Sea of Galilee

Matthew 4: 12-23

resistance is useless,
beside the sea,

no measured, calculated
response,
no weighing up the options,
like the day's catch;
floundering, gasping,
breathless, on the beach

one minute you're working away,
next minute you're walking away,
with the one who calls you by
name
and changes life's game
from fish to people

leave it all
nets, boats, father and follow
because

it is now so near,
you can reach out
and can touch the hem
of heaven
if you know how

and he will show you
if you follow
immediately,

beside the sea

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Rosters for 2 February

Portarlington

Managers: Marg Hutcheon, Sue
Handley, Peter Gibbs

Morning Tea: Bruce & Merrilyn
Bertram

Pastoral Care & Prayers: Geoff
Pryor

Reader: Pam Pryor

Drysdale

Combined Service at 10.15am

Communion Elder: Jen Davis

Duty Elder & Prayers: Marguerite
Edgar

Readings: Gerald Edgar

Door: Mary Grieve & Margaret
MacGillivray

Flowers: Judy Grimm

St Leonards

Welcoming: Marj Wilson

Reading & Prayers: Margo Jones

Brass & Flowers: Shirley Hadden

God of the kingdom near at hand,
you sent your son to let us know
you are in our neighbourhood.
Now you call us from our old nets,
into a much bigger sea
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and
the Holy Spirit,
one God for ever and ever. Amen

Bob Eldan, Lander, Wyoming

Epiphany 3

Sunday, 26 January 2014

Life presents us with many choices. Often we are overwhelmed by these decision points because we are uncertain about the right answer, or we regret having to give up options by picking one decision path. At the same time, hinge points created by God present us with a gift, offering moments for defining decisions and shining a clarifying light on our path. God calls us to extraordinary discipleship; we hear this in Matthew as Jesus calls the first disciples to follow. These scriptures also help us hear Jesus' call as a gift. Jesus' call creates a decision point for the disciples; they are given the gift of free choice. They are given the opportunity to move from the former time into the later time. Christ creates a hinge point for them that defines them and gives them unity as followers of Jesus.

Seasons of the Spirit

LECTIONARY

| | | |
|------------|----------------|---------------|
| 26 January | Is 9: 1-4 | Ps 27: 1, 4-9 |
| Epiphany 3 | 1 Cor 1: 10-18 | Mt 4: 12-23 |
| 2 February | Mic 6: 1-8 | Ps 15 |
| Epiphany 4 | 1 Cor 1: 18-31 | Mt 5: 1-12 |

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:

Phone:

Village Walk Drysdale

5251 3640

THIS WEEK IN OUR CONGREGATIONS:

Sunday, 26 January 2014

Portarlington

9.00 am Portarlington Lay Team
(David & Lorraine Hughes)

Drysdale

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

10.45 am Portarlington Lay Team

St Leonards

7.00 pm Portarlington Lay Team

Wednesday, 29 January

10.00 am Drysdale Coffee and Chat

Thursday, 30 January

9.00 am Drysdale & Portarlington
Choir practices

Sunday, 2 February

Portarlington

9.00 am Keith Pigdon

Drysdale

10.15 am Combined service, followed
by Annual Congregation
Meeting and Election of
Elders, then a shared lunch.
Rev Marion Latham, HC,
Loose change & food bank.

St Leonards

7.00 pm Rev Marion Latham

Thought for the day

"Find a place inside where there's joy,
and the joy will burn out the
pain."

Joseph Campbell

OUR CONGREGATIONS NEWS

DRYSDALE

Election of elders

Nominations for elder positions have
been received from:

Vince King
John MacGillivray
Ian McLaverty
Jenni Nickelson

The formal election will take place next
Sunday, 2 February at the Annual
Congregation Meeting, directly after the
Combined Service at 10.15 am. After
which all are encouraged to stay for
fellowship and a shared lunch.

Borrowing Library

Our borrowing library has been reviewed
and indexed. You can search the index
by Book Title, Author or the following
Subject headings:

Bible
Bible – chapter studies
Devotional
Faith
Fiction – Christian based History
Jesus
Leadership Music
Prayer

Please have a look; there are a lot of
inspirational books to read. We could
use a few book ends to separate
categories, so if you have some surplus
at home, please consider donating them!

Perhaps if you read a good book you
could write a book review for the news
sheet.

PORTARLINGTON

Portarlington Fellowship Breakfast

Our first breakfast meeting for the New
Year is on Saturday 8 February,
commencing at 7.30 am.

Guest Speaker will be Dr. Ross Farnell
(Son of Elaine & Ken.)

The title of Ross's address will be
"Building & Running an Arts Centre in
the Dandenong Ranges".

All members of the Linked
Congregations and friends are warmly
invited to attend.

Acceptances please to Barry Ruler by
Thursday evening 6 February on
5259 3304.

Annual Elections and Annual Congregation Meeting

The Portarlington Annual Congregation
Meeting will be held on Sunday 9 March,
immediately following worship. Morning
Tea will follow the annual meeting.

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) by no
later than 14 February 2014, so that the
Annual Report can be put together in
time for the Annual Meeting.

