

The UCA President, Andrew Dutton, calls us to pray:

- for all refugees and asylum seekers, and especially for those who seek shelter and help in Australia;
- for political leaders and the staff of government departments who have responsibilities in this area, that a longing for justice and peace will guide them in the exercise of their responsibilities;
- for Uniting Justice Australia and its work of analysis and advocacy;
- for chaplains to the detention centres and volunteers who regularly visit, and all who endeavour to extend the hand of welcome and care to strangers in need.

He encourages us to be informed about the issues at stake here – the faith issues as well as issues of human rights, society and politics – so that we will be ready to contribute a Christian perspective to the conversation when this “barbeque stopper” comes up with our family, friends or colleagues.

Justice for Asylum Seekers – A call to prayer. Uniting Justice

Hello darkness, my old friend
I've come to talk with you again
Because a vision softly creeping
Left its seeds while I was sleeping
And the vision that was planted in my brain
Still remains

Within the sound of silence
(Author unknown)

Rosters for 30 June

COMBINED SERVICE PORTARLINGTON

Managers: Marg Hutcheon, Sue Handley & Peter Gibbs

Morning tea: John & Jan Hall

Pastoral Care : Combined Service

Prayers Combined Service

Reader Combined Service

Power Point Preparation: Pam Prior

ST. LEONARDS

Brass & Flowers: Shirley Hadden

Another Comment on the Lectionary

The reality of evil and the destruction it brings is brought into sharp focus in this week's readings. The threat that the forces of darkness pose to justice, and to those who work for it, is shown by Elijah's isolation in the face of Jezebel's threat, in the cries of the psalmists facing persecution, and in the diseased mind and body of the Gerasene demoniac. The hope of God's people, though, is that evil does not have the last word. As we seek to stand for God's justice, it is important that we keep God's grace and love in mind, and that we rightly choose what to oppose and what to embrace.

Sacredise

THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA



St Leonards



Portarlington



Drysdale

Pentecost 5

Sunday 23 June 2013

The steadfast love of God is evident throughout the passages for this day. Elijah becomes the expression of resolute and determined faith, an example rewarded by God carrying him to safety. The psalmist reminds us that throughout times of distress and dark nights of the soul, God is ever present. The Epistle passage proclaims that we are justified by faith in Christ, who claims us all as children of God. The promise of belonging to Christ is echoed

in the healing of the Gerasene demoniac who Jesus instructs to share how much God has done for him.

Abingdon Worship Annual

LECTIONARY

June 23	1 Kings 19:1-4,(5-7)	Psalm 42 & 43
Pentecost 5 (12)	Galatians 3:23-29	Luke 8:26-39
June 30	2 Kings 2:1-2,6-14	Psalm 77:1-2,11-20
Pentecost 6 (13)	Galatians 5:1,13-25	Luke 9:51-62

LINKED MINISTER:

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Phone: 5251 3640

THIS WEEK IN OUR CONGREGATIONS

SUNDAY 23 June

Portarlinton

9.00am Port Lay Team
Ian & Joy Porter

Drysdale

9.00am Worship @9 Rev. Marion
Latham Graeme's team
helping

10.45am Port Lay Team
Ian & Joy Porter

5.00pm Messy Church

St Leonards

5.00pm Port Lay Team
Ian & Joy Porter

MONDAY 24 June

9.30am KYB Bible Study
12.30pm St. Leonards UCAF

TUESDAY 25 June

7.30pm Portarlinton Justice and
Mission

WEDNESDAY 26 June

9:30am -12:30pm Drysdale mainly music
10:00am Drysdale Coffee and Chat
2.00pm Drysdale UCAF

THURSDAY 27 June

9.00am Drysdale & Portarlinton
Choir Practice

FRIDAY 28 June

9.15-10.00am Drysdale Friday School

SUNDAY 30 June

10.15am Rev Marion Latham
Portarlinton, Drysdale & St Leonards
Combined Service
at Portarlinton.

OUR CONGREGATIONS NEWS

DRYSDALE

U.C.A.F.

Drysdale U.C.A.F will meet on
Wednesday 26th June at 1.30pm.
Members and friends are each asked to
bring a treasure for "show and tell"
Edna and Norma are hosts for the
afternoon.

Messy Church tonight

Starting at 5.00pm in the Church Hall
with creative activities with a Seasons
theme (crafts, sweets ,picture ,mind
activity), then a celebration service in the
church and finishing at 6.30pm after a
shared tea(bring something if you are
able).What do you think the reading will
be?-come along to hear! All welcome.

Film afternoon

Come along to our Film Afternoon at the
Gaynor Leopold Theatre on Sunday 11
August. The film will commence at
1.30pm and be followed with tea/coffee
and biscuit afternoon tea.The film
chosen is the highly acclaimed "The
Last of the Blonde Bombshells" starting
Judi Dench, Ian Holm, Leslie Caron and
Joan Sims.Tickets costing \$14.00 are
available from Margaret Freemantle and
Wayne Myers - there are only 49 seats
so buy your ticket early.

End of Financial Year Clearance

Time to start collecting treasures for **our
Garage Sale on Sat. 26th October**, just
4 months away. This year it will be a
"Springtime Sale" so our gardeners
might like to plan ahead with seeds and
cuttings Maybe you could mark the date
the week before to plan some baking,
cleanout the linen press, crystal cabinet,
shed some winter clothing, tidy the
garden shed or garage in preparation.
Let's plan ahead.
Enquiries this year to Lynda Smith on
52531007 or grlsmith@gmail.com. Items
may be placed in the church shed at any
time. No electrical please.

ST. LEONARDS

U.C.A.F.

The next UCAF meeting at St. Leonards
will be at 12.30pm on Monday 24th June
when we will have a soup and sandwich
lunch together. Please bring a plate.
Margo is making the soup. Margo and
Marj for further info.

FOR ALL CONGREGATIONS

CEILING STORIES, LOOKING DOWN AT US.

We are invited to a Covenanting and
Reconciliation day at Narana, 410
Torquay Road, Grovedale, from 10 am
to 3 pm on Tuesday, July 9. This is an
event organised by the Victorian
Congress and the UCA Synod of
NAIDOC Week Vic/Tas and is part of the
events. As we need to RSVP by June
28, please let Marion know if you'd like
to come.

Some changes in the preaching plan

You have received a preaching plan for
July to September this year. Since we
printed it, there have been a few
changes. Please make a note of them,
as follows:

July 14: Rev. Malcolm Campbell will
preach and preside at St. Leonards at 9
am

July 21 at Drysdale 10.45. Mr. John
Norman will preach (John isn't a Rev., as
we had been informed)

August 4 at Portarlinton. Rev. Ian
Porter will preach instead of Mr. Geoff
Pryor, who is unable to lead, for family
reasons.

SOME TRUTH ABOUT ASYLUM SEEKERS & REFUGEES

In 2000, the Ninth Assembly of the
Uniting Church in Australia expressed
our commitment to seek "fair,
humanitarian, adequately resourced and
culturally appropriate government
policies and procedures for the
processing of refugees and asylum
seekers".It was a relatively long, detailed
resolution – an attempt to respond to the
Gospel in the face of obvious human
need. But that was before Tampa, before
the "Pacific Solution", and before the
global challenge of refugees was turned
into a domestic party-political argument.
Since that time the Uniting Church's view
of the issues has continued to be shaped
by the Gospel, while our energy for the
struggle has been constantly refreshed
by hope in God's promise of "that
reconciliation and renewal which is the
end in view for the whole creation"
(*Basis of Union* para. 3).