

THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA



FOR ALL CONGREGATIONS

.A DESTINY TOGETHER

The Assembly of the Uniting Church is encouraging us all to participate in a week of nationwide prayer and fasting to demonstrate support for Australia's First Peoples. You will probably have seen the reference to this week in Crosslight. The focus is a public prayer vigil outside Parliament House in Canberra on Tuesday March 18. For those of us unable to make it to Canberra, we are being encouraged to commit to being daily involved in our homes, or by initiating informal small groups, to mark this important witness to justice and reconciliation. For information and resources use your search engine and go to A Destiny Together. Choose the 2nd Uniting Church Assembly entry. Scroll down to the red text "A DESTINY TOGETHER: JUSTICE FOR FIRST PEOPLES. Click there then scroll down and click on Resources. There you will find a week of readings, reflections and readings, and daily prayers as well as other information. If you are able to be involved in either of the above ways, please inform Rev Marion or Merylyn Bertram 5251 1102, so that we can pass that on to the Synod JiM Unit.

Rosters for 23rd March

Portarlington

Managers: Keith Knights & Peter Gibbs

Morning Tea: Robert & Wendy Sharp

Pastoral Care: Barry Ruler

Prayers: Port Lay Team

Readings: Port Lay Team

PowerPoint: Joan Kelly

Drysdale

9.00 am

Kitchen: Jenni's team

Counting: Ian McLaverty

10.45 am

Duty Elder: John MacGillviray

Prayers: Port Lay Team

Reading: Drysdale Lay Team

Door: Vince King

Morning Tea: Brenda Jacobs & Alma Milvain

Flowers: Beryl Stanley

St Leonards

Welcoming: Mirriam Tobin

Reading: Port Lay Team

PrayerPort: Port Lay Team

Brass: Beryl Woodcock

Lent 2

Sunday, 16 March 2014

A crucial aspect of the Lenten journey is the invitation to make a choice. First, we must choose whether or not to even participate in this journey. Ash Wednesday gave us the opportunity to say yes to that choice. But the decisions don't end there! The Lent 1 readings outlined the choices we are confronted with when temptation knocks on the door. And the Lent 2 readings present the choice between blessing and curse. In the very short Genesis passage, Abram makes the choice look easy, but the psalmist reminds us that we constantly look for blessings in the wrong places. Even when God's own Son shows us the way to salvation, like Nicodemus before us, we have trouble choosing to accept the blessing offered. What choice will we make today?

Abingdon Worship Annual

LECTIONARY

16 March	Genesis 12: 1-4a	Psalm. 121
Lent 2	Romans 4: 1-5, 15-17	John 3:1-17
23 March	Exodus 17:1-7	Psalm. 95
Lent 3	Romans 5:1-11	John 4:5-42

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THIS WEEK IN OUR CONGREGATIONS:

Sunday, 16 March

Portarlington

9.00 am Rev Marion Latham

Harvest Thanksgiving

Drysdale

9.00 am Worship @ Jenni's Team

10.45 am Rev Marion Latham

St Leonards

7.00 pm Rev Marion Latham

HC, Loose change and Foodbank

Monday, 17 March

9.30am Drysdale KYB

7.30pm Drysdale Lenten Study

Tuesday 18 March

10.30am Drysdale Grove service

7.30pm Toolbox Parenting

Wednesday, 19 March

9.30 am – 12.45 pm mainly music

10.00 am Drysdale Coffee and Chat

Thursday, 20 March

9.00 am Drysdale & Portarlington

Choir practices

11.00 am Ann Nichol Service

Friday, 21 March

9.15 am – 10.00 am Friday School

Sunday, 23 March

Portarlington

9.00 am Port.Lay Team

Drysdale

9.00 am Worship @9 Rev Marion

Latham. , Wayne's Team assisting

10.45 am Port. Lay Team

St Leonards

7.00 pm Port. Lay Team

OUR CONGREGATIONS NEWS

DRYSDALE

Lenten Bible Study

The Lenten Studies will continue on Monday 17 March at 7.30 pm at the church. Then on 24th, 31st March and 7th and 14th April. The study is titled "The Way".

Drysdale Retreat

Saturday March 29. Drysdale Retreat @ Portarlington Guide Hall. All day. Open to all from DUC or elsewhere. Come for as much as the day as you are able. Guest leader: Rev. Peter Gaydor-Whyte. Put it in your diary or on your calendar NOW.

New Geelong Supporter.

Congratulations to Wayne Myers on the birth of a new grandson Luke Graham Myers. Born Monday 10 March to Ashley and Meagan.- All well

Inspiring Church Service

Wayne, Jonnie, Sue P. and Nicola led their service about instructions. Nicola gave a testimony about God in her life, living and worshipping in Heeling, UK then off to Uni. in Manchester then (praise God) she came to us here at DUC. Wayne spoke about instructions given to scouts, i.e. Scouts are courageous, kind, take care of the environment - positive instructions. Wayne made chocolate pudding with Sophie and William following the instructions very methodically. We then had a snack for morning tea. We thought about how useful GPS's are in giving

instructions when driving. We were asked if we remembered the 10 commandments and thought about what a wonderful instruction book we have to read - The Bible. The music as usual was excellent.

PORTARLINGTON

Harvest Thanksgiving

On Sunday 16 March at Portarlington we will celebrate Harvest Thanksgiving. God had greatly blessed us so that we might be a blessing to others. Please bring gifts of non-perishable goods for display and as a sign of our thankfulness for God's grace towards us. After the service these goods will be taken to Concern for distribution to those in need.

FOR ALL CONGREGATIONS

Silent Vigil – 20 March

Do you feel helpless and wonder what you can do to influence our Government and Opposition's policy on refugee matters.

If so, you may like to join to join a silent Vigil being held outside the offices of our Federal Politicians beginning with the Liberal Member's office.

The first silent vigil by concerned Geelong citizens will be held at the Electorate Office of Sarah Henderson MP, Federal Member for Corangamite, 3A / 195 Colac Road, Waurin Ponds Thursday, March 20, 2014, at 10.30 am. More details speak with Joy Porter 52592538 or check out the flyer on the notice board at St Andrew's Portarlington

Essendon Choral Society PSA.

Would all members of the Linked Congregations please make a diary note that the renowned Essendon Choral Society will present an afternoon of choral music to suit all tastes at Portarlington on Sunday 4 May, commencing at 2-30pm. Many will remember the Choir's great performance in November '12 when they presented Handel's Messiah in Parks Hall. More of the same and plenty of varied music on May 4th. Cost \$12 with a cuppa and home made biscuits and slices afterwards. Details from Barry Ruler on 5259 3304.

JOHN 3:1-17

In the dark of night one might photograph the stars with one exception.

To capture the sun it's best to recognise it by the light of day.

Nicodemus came in the night to the Teacher, the light of the world.

Nicodemus left not recognising the light and still in the dark.

Jeff Shrowder, 2014.