

Another thought on the lectionary

The immediate thought that comes to mind when thinking about this week's theme is the issue of foreign debt and the corrupt system of international finance and trade regulations that has left so many third world countries irreversibly impoverished. The call of God's generous, inappropriate grace can not be mistaken – there needs to be a rising up of God's Jubilee people calling for these debts to be written off, and for effective aid to be offered where needed. But, it also goes further than this. For those of us in wealthy countries there is a tremendous responsibility to watch how we use our wealth and opportunity. We need to avoid anything that is exploitative, using our buying power to ensure that fair trade practices are employed and fair wages are paid to those who produce what we use, and that the impact on our planet is likewise just and sustainable. When we use our opportunity to accumulate wealth for ourselves, we are essentially "dishonourable", but when we use it to uplift others, we bring honour and dignity both to them and to ourselves. As Rev. Dr. Mvume Dandala once said: "The opposite of poverty is not wealth. It is dignity."

Sacredis

Rosters for 29 September

PORTARLINGTON

5.00pm Combined @ St. Leonards
Managers: Keith & Heather Pigdon
Morning tea : Dorothy & Keith Knights
Pastoral Care : Combined Service
Prayers : Combined Service
Reader : Combined Service
Power Point.: Margaret Campbell

DRYSDALE

10.15pm Combined
Elder: Vince King
Prayers: Combined service:
Readings: Combined service:
Door: Ken Handley
Morning tea: Margeret & Tony Freemantle
Flowers: Wilma Mansell

ST. LEONARDS

5.00pm Combined @ St. Leonards
Brass & Flowers: Margo Jones



St Leonards



Portarlington



Drysdale

Pentecost 18

Sunday 22 September 2013

Stewardship is a natural way to focus these readings. While Jeremiah and the psalmist cry out to God for help in the midst of Israel's distress, there is much that bodies of faith can do to ease one another's suffering. In Luke, Jesus tells the perplexing parable about the dishonest steward who, after being fired for mismanaging his master's accounts, acts shrewdly to ingratiate himself to those who owe his master money. Jesus challenges the children of light to be as wise with their generation as was this dishonest steward. Proper management of our time, talents, and treasure matters, for if we cannot be trusted to be good stewards of dishonest wealth, how can God trust us to be faithful stewards of true riches?

Abingdon Worship Annual

LECTIONARY

September 22
Pentecost 18

Jeremiah 8:18-9:1
Timothy 1:2:1-7

Psalm 79:1-9
Luke: 16: 1-13

September 29
Pentecost 19

Jeremiah 32:1-3a,6-15
Timothy 1:6:6-19

Psalm 91:1-6,14-16
Luke: 16: 19-31

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UNITINGCARE OPSHOP:

Village Walk Drysdale

Phone: 5251 3640

THIS WEEK IN OUR CONGREGATIONS
SUNDAY 22 September

Portarlinton

9.00 am Drysdale Lay Team
Jen & Harvey Davis

Drysdale

W@9 Denise's Team
10.45 am Drysdale Lay Team
Jen & Harvey Davis

St. Leonards

5.00pm Drysdale Lay Team
Jen & Harvey Davis

MONDAY 23 September

2.00pm St. Leonards UCAF

WEDNESDAY 25 September

10:00 am Drysdale Coffee and Chat
11.00 am Drysdale Pilgrimage
Planning Meeting
1.30pm Drysdale UCAF

THURSDAY 26 September

9.00am Choir practice

SUNDAY 29 September

St. Leonards

5.00pm Combined Service
Rev Marion Latham

Portarlinton

5.00 pm Combined Service
At St. Leonards
Rev Marion Latham

Drysdale

10.15 am Combined Service
Rev Marion Latham

OUR CONGREGATIONS NEWS

DRYSDALE

Drysdale UCAF invites members of the congregations to celebrate with us our 100th birthday anniversary on Wednesday 25 September at 1.30pm. Entertainment by Coryule Chorus. RSVP by Friday 13 September to 5251 2352 or 5251 3075

Garage Sale Sat 26th October

Please mark the date and start setting aside goods or planting pots etc. Contact Wayne Myers or Lynda Smith

Pilgrimage Planning

Are you interested in helping to prepare the liturgy for this year's Pilgrimage being held on Saturday 9th November? Come along to the church on Wednesday 25th September at 11.00am to help. This years theme is Trees of Life.

Loose Change Offering

Our offerings until the end of year is going to Uniting World's Women's Leadership project in the Solomon Islands. This project will take training and resources to a wide range of women from local communities. The Uniting Church if Solomon Islands has a membership of 56,000 and sees this project as extending its development activity.

Toolbox

Toolbox helps great parents to grow great kids!

The program is six sessions to equip parents to enjoy their kids and get the best from the Early Years.(0-6)

Venue : Drysdale Uniting Church

When :Six sessions on Tuesday evenings 15,22 &29 October and 5,12 & 19 November.

Time :7.30-9.30pm

Cost \$40 Single, \$70 Family

This includes an extensive manual for each person/family to keep and supper.

The most important years in a child's development are these early years. So what really matters? Learn how to lay the building blocks for great future

Contact :Val Lestrangle

Email :rayvall01@bigpond.com

ST.LEONARDS

St.Leonards UCAF

Everyone is invited to St.Leonards UCAF "Dutch Auction"

To be held on Monday 23rd Sept 2 pm
Afternoon tea

Further information Margo Jones
52571221

ALL OUR CONGREGATIONS

Advance Notice

The annual General meeting of the Drysdale Uniting Care Op-Shop Management committee will be held at the Drysdale Uniting Church on the 13th November at 1.30pm.

The Op-Shop has been very successful outreach for the church. We are looking for "New Blood" to sustain our momentum.

Show your support. Please come along

Using our Wealth

God of extravagant and inappropriate grace, we thank you for the wealth we enjoy,
and for all the opportunities we have to share it.

Where nations buckle under the stress of impossible debts,
may we use our wealth of influence and voice
to bring about liberation;

Where communities wrestle with inequality and dividedness,
may we use our wealth of love and welcome
to bring about equity and connection;

Where people suffer from poverty, lack of opportunity and shame,
may we use our wealth of money
to bring about sufficiency and dignity;

Teach us, God, to release our devotion to meritocracy,
individualism and correctness,
and to embrace your inappropriate justice,
your scandalous grace,
and your indiscriminate love.

John van de Laar