

THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA



St Leonards



Portarlington



Drysdale

ROSTERS FOR 10 AUGUST

Portarlington

Pastoral Care : Elaine Farnell

Prayer: Elaine Farnell

Reader: Bruce Bertram

Managers: Keith Knights & Peter Gibbs

Morning Tea: Lorraine & David Hughes

Power Point presentation:

Catherine Eagleson

Comm. Prep/Serve: Elaine Farnell

Comm. Serve: Ken Farnell

Drysdale

Flowers: Dawn Edsall

Food Bank delivery: N. Morrish

9:00am

Kitchen: Wayne's Team

Counting: Lynda Smith

10:45am

Duty Elder: Pat Handley

Prayers: Pat Handley

Reader: Margaret Freemantle

Door: Joy Krahe

Morning Tea: Marg Jeffery & Val Place

St Leonards

9:00am

Anglican Combined Service

Brass/Flowers: June Blair, Joan Sadler

Rejected and Pursued

*You, who yearned for solitude
and found a crowd;*

*You, who sought the barren
place*

*to pour your grief and hide your
face;*

*You drew them out and still they
come,*

*with deepest hunger,
and we don't know
how to feed them.*

*We despair at what we're
holding,*

*fearing that it isn't worthy;
subscribing to the rumour
that it's best to go and buy it
from a market where there's
plenty*

*rather than our meagre
offering...*

*And You stop us in our panic,
seat the hungry,
take our labours...*

*When misery meets mercy
compassion's bread is broken,
hurt transforms to healing,
death becomes redundant
and abundant blooms
the feast*

within the desert of release

©

Jennie Gordon 2008

Pentecost 8

Sunday, 3 August 2014

In the old hymn we are joyously told to "count our blessings, name them one by one." This is easy to do during "good times," but there are moments in all of our lives when it is hard to see where and how God is at work. Sometimes, it is too hard to even name a blessing, let alone count them! In the scripture readings this week, we are given an opportunity to wrestle with the concept of blessings and how they affect our lives and ministry. Some blessings, like Jacob's mysterious wrestle, come out of struggles; and some blessings, like the feeding of the 5000, are a result of struggles. Yet all of God's blessings are good news, even if they result from bad circumstances. This does not mean that bad things happen for a reason, or that God creates such hardship so that we can search for God's grace and blessing. Rather, in our struggles and hardships, God will always be with us providing and sharing a blessing.

Seasons of the Spirit.

LECTIONARY

3 August	Genesis 32: 22-31	Psalms 17: 1-7, 15
<i>Pentecost 8</i>	Romans 9: 1-5	Matthew 14: 13-21
10 August	Genesis 37: 1-4, 12-28	Psalms 105: 1-6, 16-22, 45b
<i>Pentecost 9</i>	Romans 10: 5-15	Matthew 14: 22-33

LINKED MINISTER:

Rev. Marion Latham
Phone 5253 2199
Email: marlat41@optusnet.com.au
Mobile: 0414383101

CHURCH OFFICE:

Drysdale Church Centre
Phone: 5253 1336
Email: drysdaleuc@yahoo.com.au
Web: <http://drysdale.unitingchurch.org.au>

UNITINGCARE OPSHOP:

Village Walk Drysdale
Phone: 5251 3640

THIS WEEK IN OUR CONGREGATIONS:

Sunday, 3 August – Pentecost 8 Portarlington

9:00 am Mr Brian Shaw

Drysdale

9:00 am W@9 H.C., Rev M. Manning,
(Denise's team Assisting)
Loose change and Food Bank.

10.45 am H.C., Rev B Stevenson,
Loose change and Food Bank.

St Leonards

5:00 pm Denise & Ian McLaverty.

Monday, 4 August

9:30 am Drysdale KYB @ Lynda's
7.30 pm Drysdale Growing & Learning

Tuesday, 5 August

9:30am Portarlington Justice&Mission
7.30pm Portarlington Worship C'tee

Wednesday, 6 August

9:00-12:45 Drysdale Mainly Music
10.00 am Drysdale Coffee & Chat
1:30 pm Portarlington G&L COER

Thursday, 7 August

9.30 am Drysdale and Portarlington
Choir practice

Friday, 8 August

9.15-10:00 am Friday School

Saturday, 9 August

7: 30 am Portarlington. Fellowship
Breakfast.

Sunday, 10 August – Pentecost 9

Portarlington

9:00 am H.C., Rev Anne Key,
Loose change and Food Bank.

Drysdale

9:00 am Jenni's Team,
10.45 am Rev Malcolm Campbell

St Leonards

9:00 am, Combined Holy Communion
Service with Anglicans

OUR CONGREGATIONS NEWS

ALL CONGREGATIONS

Marion's Annual Leave

Marion will be back 'on deck' as from August 5. A huge thank you from Marion to everyone who has so ably kept things going over the past weeks, especially those involved with the recent funerals. You have all been in her thoughts and prayers at these sad times.

Safe Church Training

Synod are holding a Safe Church Worship on Saturday 9 August at East Geelong UC 9.30am – 1.30pm. This is open to those in leadership and pastoral roles, involved with young people, or interested in the making church property safe. Contact Barry Ruler or Wayne Myers if you would like to attend.

Portarlington Fellowship Breakfast

Next Breakfast Meeting will be on Saturday 9 August at 7.30am. Guest speaker will be Rev Margaret Manning. Margaret has not long returned from 3 weeks touring Wales and will tell us about her journey. All members of the Linked Congregations and their friends are warmly invited to attend.

Acceptances to Barry on
5259 3304 by Thursday evening
7 August

DRYSDALE

Advanced notice

Garage Sale

Saturday 15th November
Start preparing now!
Clear out your garden shed or garage. Storage is available in the church garage (small furniture items only)
Contact Lynda Smith 5253 1007

Presbytery Representative

Expressions of interest are sought for someone to become the congregation's Presbytery Representative. There are four meetings during the year, on Saturdays, along with reporting to the Church Council, another four meetings a year. Please speak to Wayne Myers to obtain more information.

Fund Raising Film Afternoon

Sunday, 17 August,
Film Afternoon at Leopold Theatre – **The Butler**.
For those who haven't been to this theatre, it is a very pleasant, cosy and intimate venue. Seats are limited though, so buy your tickets NOW from Margaret Freemantle

PORTARLINGTON

Portarlington Community Group
Email Tree - call for contributions
The fortnightly email tree is a Portarlington Community Association voluntary service. It may be an appropriate place to list some of our activities. The next tree will be Wednesday 6 August 2014. Please have your contributions in by Tuesday 5 August 2014.

Portarlington Fete

An early reminder to all Portarlington members. Our annual "**Blooming Plants and Home Made Fete**" is on Saturday November 15th. Please mark the date in your calendar. For further information contact Barry Ruler. 5259 3304.