

THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA



St Leonards



Portarlington



Drysdale

Listening to the Language of the Bible

Exerpts from a book by Lois Tverberg.

The Importance of Family. B'khor The Firstborn of the Father.

An idea that comes up often in the Scriptures is the concept of the first, in terms of firstborn (*b'khor*) or firstfruits (*bikkurim*). We focus on the literal meaning, as being the initial child born or initial crop produced. But if we understand the significance that all 'firsts' had in the Scriptures, it will give us a better grasp of het Bible's meanings. The firstborn son of a family had great honour and usually received the largest inheritance. He was the successor to the patriarch, and the other children treated him with respect, even as they grew up together. Because of this, the term 'firstborn' could be used figuratively to mean 'preeminent in status' or 'closest in relationship', even if it wasn't about something that literally came first. Since Jesus is co-eternal with the Father, it seems wrong to speak of him as firstborn, suggesting that he is a created being, not fully God. But it makes sense to think of him as firstborn in terms of having the greatest honour and being closest to God.

Rosters for 16 August

Portarlington

Managers: Keith & Heather Pigdon

Morning Tea: Keith & Dorothy Knights

Pastoral Care: Geoff Pryor.

Prayers : Geoff Pryor

Readings: Pammi Pryor

Power Point Prep. Joan Kelly

Drysdale, W@ 9

Kitchen: Jenni's Team

Counting: Jonnie Mander

Drysdale, 10.45

Duty Elder: Ken Handley

Prayers: Ken Handley

Readings: Win Baker

Welcome: Wilma Mansell

Morning Tea: Mary Grieve & Margaret MacGillivray

Flowers: Win Baker

St. Leonards

Welcome: Miriam Tobin

Reading & Prayer. Margo Jones

Flowers & Brass. Margo Jones

Pentecost 11

Sunday, 9 August 2015

These texts lend themselves to a number of themes, including the grief of war, the forgiveness of God, patience in listening for the direction of God, spiritual hunger that is fed only by bread from heaven, and the encouragement to live a life of integrity and authenticity as followers of Christ. Vietnam, Afghanistan, and Iraq are all indications of an impatient world that is hungering for something beyond our reach. So, God reaches out to us in our humanness and gives us this example, this person, Christ.

Ministry Matters

LECTIONARY

9 August	2 Samuel 18: 5-9, 15, 31-33	Psalm 130
Pentecost 11	Ephesians 4: 25 - 5:2	John 6: 35, 41-51
16 August	1 Kings 2:10-12, 3:3-14	Psalm 111
Pentecost 12	Ephesians 5: 15-20	John 6: 51-58

LINKED MINISTER:

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UNITINGCARE OPSHOP:

Village Walk Drysdale
Phone: 5251 3640

THIS WEEK IN OUR CONGREGATIONS:

Sunday, 9 August

St Leonards

9.00am Combined H.C. Anglican

Portarlington

9.00am Rev Ian Porter

Drysdale

9.00 am W@9 Jenni's team

10.45 am Rev. Ian Porter

5.00 pm Messy Church

Monday, 10 August

9.30 am KYB at Lynda's

12.30 pm Portarlington UCAF

7.30pm Drysdale Growing & Learning

Tuesday, 11 August

7.30 pm Drysdale Property meeting

Wednesday, 12 August

9.30 am mainly music (Teddy day)

7.30 pm Portarlington resources

Thursday, 13 August

9.00 am Portarlington Choir practice

9.30 am Drysdale Choir practice

7.30 pm Portarlington Church council

Friday, 14 August

9.15 am Friday School Drysdale

1.30 pm Prayer Service at Drysdale

Saturday 15 August

8.30 am Drysdale Prayer Breakfast at Zoo Cafe

Sunday, 16 August

Portarlington

9.00am Rev Marion Latham

Drysdale

9.00 am W@9 Denise's team

10.45 am Rev. Marion Latham

St Leonards

5.00pm Rev Marion Latham.

HC Loose change & food bank

OUR CONGREGATIONS NEWS

DRYSDALE

Loose Change

Another bicycle achieved by this month's loose change offering of \$113.20.

The Uniting World program of bicycles for girls in Africa to get to schools really appreciates our support in this small way. Thank you all

Mainly Home Made Fete/Shed Sale,

October date to be confirmed. Only 2 months away. Start preparing plants, take cuttings, make chutney, sauces, etc, knit some items or plan what you might bake. Co-ord. -Lynda Smith 52531007

PORTARLINGTON

U.C.A.F.

The U.C.A.F. will meet tomorrow at the Flying Brick Cider House, Wallington ,at 12.30pm for lunch. Everyone is welcome and if you have not booked earlier, please speak to Elizabeth after the service this morning.

The Social Justice Letter Writing Group

will meet again at 10:15am in the St Andrew's hall, next Friday, 14 August. All welcome, come and check us out. Inquiries to Merilyn, 0439966370

FOR ALL CONGREGATIONS

Prayer Services.

The weekly Friday Prayer services this week will be Drysdale (Friday 14 August)

Dates and venues for the services.

August 14 Drysdale

August 21 Portarlington

August 28 Drysdale

Marion's Farewell

The final service for Rev Marion Latham will be on Sunday 30 August. This will be a combined service at Drysdale at 10.15am. It will be followed by a shared lunch and presentation.

Kevin Fuller

Kevin Fuller , who grew up in the Drysdale church, has set up a mission in Madagascar , one of the world's poorest nations, to assist local folk to start up their own small businesses with financial and training assistance. Vince King's son , Tim, was invited recently to travel to Mauritius, to preach at the 40th anniversary of the church that Vince's father started. While there Tim was able to travel to Madagascar to learn more of the work of Kevin Fuller's mission.

Presbytery of Port Phillip West – Prayer Cycle

- We remember today:
- Hoppers Crossing- Rev. Paul Blacker.
- St. Stephen's Keilor- Pray for the Lay Leadership Team
- Kyneton Cluster- Pray for the congregation and leadership.

Lord guide and bless your work in our Presbytery that it may flourish for the good of the people and for your glory.

Orchestra Geelong

There has been a change of date for the next concert “ Music of the Stage” which will now be held on Sunday 16th August at The Geelong College, Aphrasia Street, Newtown

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come and believe
John 6:35, 41-51

firstly we must move
towards you
unable to fed by proxy
we must face your way
bodily orientated in the direction
of you
and walk, run, creep, skip, shuffle
or be carried to where you are

then, in order to feed, we must believe
that you will provide all we need

and not look elsewhere in bargain
catalogues
where discount deals for bulk
orders
ensure tomorrow's cheap supply
or rubbish bins of dark discarded dreams
where food is fast and never what it seems

and when we stand before you
with open hungry hands
in order to be fed
your broken body yields the feast

living bread
Jennie Gordon 2009