

Christian Christmas Cards

Drysdale Central Baptist have a large range of Christian Christmas (single cards, packs and calendars) and would like to make them available to the members of our congregations. They are very reasonably priced.

They also have a range of normal greeting cards and bibles available for purchase. Anyone wishing to make a purchase can come to the church on Tuesday or Thursday mornings between 9.00 am and 1.00 pm.

Prayer Cycle : Presbytery of Port Phillip West

We pray for Uniting Church Agencies, Congregations and Schools, together with the Ministry Agents who serve God in their various placements. We remember today:

- Presbytery Ministers:
 - Rev Ann Key (Pastoral)
 - Rev Dr Adam McIntosh (Education and Mission)
 - Rev Robert Renton (Admin.)

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

Amen

Short Term Housing Available

The unfurnished manse is available for short term accommodation for a family in need. It would be on a month by month basis with a maximum of six months. If members of the congregations know of anyone please contact Graeme Dryden on 0409 431835 for details.

Next week will be the last newsheet for 2015 until Sun 22 January 2016.

As we sing songs of the season, O God - songs of hope, peace, and love - show us the way to transformation. We desire to be refined. May we be rid of those things we carry that are no longer useful. Light a fire in our bellies that burns those things away, that they might be fuel for something new. Send your Spirit to help us find direction and purpose in all that each day brings. *Amen*

Rosters for 20 December

Portarlington

Managers: Graham and Brenda Vohmann

Pastoral Care & Prayers: Keith Pigdon

Reader: Heather Pigdon

Morning Tea: Alex & Cath Eagleson

PowerPoint: Pammi Pryor

Lawn Roster 23/24: Contractor

Drysdale

Worship @ 9

Counting: Jenni Nickelson

Morning Tea: Wayne's Team

10.45am

Duty Elder & Prayers: John MacGillivray

Readings: Win Baker

Welcome: Wilma Mansell

Morning Tea: Margaret & Tony Freemantle

Flowers: Audrey Shepherd

St Leonards HC

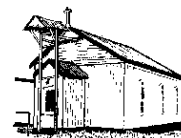
Welcome: Miriam Tobin

Reading: Margo Jones

Prayers: Marj Wilson

Flowers: Margo Jones

THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA



St Leonards



Portarlington



Drysdale

Advent 3 Sunday, 13 December 2015

With the exception of the Gospel lesson, Philippians captures the mood of the day: "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, Rejoice" (v. 4 NRSV). God's salvation is at hand. Isaiah and Zephaniah invite us to sing aloud and shout for joy. Through God, the warrior receives victory, while the lame and outcast no longer live in shame. While three of today's lections celebrate the joy of our salvation, the Gospel lesson reminds us that salvation demands more than our joy, it calls for repentance as well. John the Baptizer warns of God's wrath for those who hear the good news yet reject it. Salvation requires justice; it also entails judgment, and we need to be ready. Yet, in all this, we are called to rejoice.

Abingdon Worship Annual

LECTIONARY

13 December Advent 3	Zep 3: 14-20 Phil 4: 4-7	Is 12: 2-6 Luke 3: 7-18
20 December Advent 4	Mic 5: 2-5a Hebrew 10: 5-10	Luke 1: 47-55 or Ps 80: 1-7 Luke 1: 39-45 (46-55)

CHURCH OFFICE:

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Email:

Web

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<http://drysdale.unitingchurch.org.au>

UNITINGCARE OPSHOP:

Phone:

Village Walk Drysdale

5251 3640

THIS WEEK IN OUR CONGREGATIONS:

Sunday, 13 December

Portarlington

9.00 am Rev Jan Taylor, *HC, Loose Change and Food Bank*

Drysdale

9.00 am Jenni's Team
10.45 am Rev Jan Taylor
6.00 pm Drysdale Special Birthdays tea @ Drysdale Hotel

St Leonards

9.00 am Combined HC
UCA/Anglican, Anglican led

Monday, 14 December

1.30 pm Portarlington UCAF -
Christmas Celebration

Tuesday, 15 December

10.30 am Drysdale Grove Service

Thursday, 17 December

9.00 am Portarlington Choir Practice
9.30 am Drysdale Choir Practice
11.00 am Portarlington Arcare Service

Friday, 18 December

9.15 am Drysdale Friday School -
final for year
1.30 pm Drysdale Communal Prayer

Sunday, 20 December

Portarlington

9.00 am Rev Ian Porter, Choral
Service

Drysdale

9.00 am Graeme's Team
10.45 am Rev David Walker

St Leonards

7.00 pm Rev Ian Porter, Choral
Service

OUR CONGREGATIONS NEWS

DRYSDALE

Pilgrimage

Saturday 2 January, 9.30 am start and 1.00 pm finish at Percy Cherry Park, Curlewis. The theme is "Living Land" with the liturgy written by members of our congregation.

Only short distance walking or driving. Lunch supplied. No cost. Please book in on the sheet in the foyer or with Wayne.

Empty Christmas Tree

Members of the congregation are invited to add a gift to the Christmas Tree. These will be given to Uniting Care Concern Geelong.

Special Birthday Tea

If you would like to attend the birthday tea tonight it may not be too late! Speak to Wayne after the service.

Congregation Service Meetings

The services survey report will be distributed and explained at congregation meetings today for about 10 minutes at the end of each service. This will also be your opportunity to provide feedback on the draft Mission Study distributed last week.

Loose Change Offering

This month's offering was \$170.75, which gives us just over the \$2,000 total being 20 bicycles. A wonderful result.

Thank you all.



PORTARLINGTON

U.C.A.F.

The U.C.A.F. will meet tomorrow in the meeting room at 1.30 pm. We will be celebrating Christmas with a short service, focusing on the gifts we can share with each other at this time of the year. Everyone welcome.

Messiah a great success

Almost 200 people attended Parks Hall on Sunday 29 November to hear Melbourne Opera, Orchestra, Soloists, and Essendon Choral Society & Singularity combined choir, present Handel's Messiah.

The quality of the Soloists was of the highest order, the 55 voice choir performed admirably and the Orchestra, under the baton of Mr. Greg Hocking, complemented the performance.

A small profit was made but the outreach to the community was the big plus.

Portarlington Rosters first half of 2016

Shortly I will be preparing all the rosters for the first half of 2016. Any member who has not been on one or more of the rosters previously and would like to be, please let me know ASAP. Could all please advise me of known absences for the first half so that we can avoid confusing changes to the prepared rosters. I need to know urgently so please email me forthwith at bruler@bigpond.com or hand me a note with the details.

Thanks. Barry Ruler. 5259 3304.

Food Bank

During the weeks of Advent, we are asking for special donations for the Portarlington Food Bank, which can be used in the Christmas hampers to be given to our clients. Anything that might make Christmas dinner a bit more festive would be greatly appreciated.

ST LEONARDS

Please note that St Leonards will not have a service on 27 December.

FOR ALL CONGREGATIONS

Prison Fellowship

Prison Fellowship are holding an information evening in Ocean Grove on Tuesday 15 December. The evening is designed to inform people of the work that we do within the prison system and indicate what areas of service there are within the Prison Fellowship organisation. For more info. see website http://www.prisonfellowship.org.au/programs_158_7.html

Rick Hunt, Church Engagement & Training Coordinator, Prison Fellowship

The **Moorabool Light Orchestra**, based at Bacchus Marsh, will present its Annual Christmas Concert on Sunday afternoon 20 December at 2pm in the Bacchus Marsh Public Hall.

Special Guest Artists will include Roger Lemke (Baritone) and Victoria Hewson (Soprano).

www.Moorabool-Light-Orchestra.com