

OUT of the DARKNESS Exhibition
7th-15th February 2015 10am - 5pm
Uniting Church Hall, Queenscliff.

FREE ENTRY

Out of the Darkness' combines paintings, fibres, graphics, photography, sculpture and text.

Be encouraged to stand together to reinstate the UN Refugee Convention into Australian law and confirm that we, as a humane and caring society, can shine a light in the darkness.

Listening to the Language of the Bible. Excerpts from a book by Lois Tverberg.

Lessons for Our Lives. **Lashon HaRa**
The evil tongue.

This is the Hebrew term for gossip. It is defined as defaming a person by revealing negative details about him or her to others. It is different from slander, which is telling lies about others. Gossip wears down friendships and undermines trust. Jewish thinkers point out that other actions close to *lashon hara* should be avoided as well. For instance, finding a newspaper editorial that you don't like and then showing it to others so they will scoff at it is called 'dust of *lashon hara*'. It also includes sarcastic comments. Even laughing when someone else gossips qualifies as *lashon hara*, because it communicates your negative feelings. It is truly a difficult task to avoid damaging others through subtle comments and even body language. If we genuinely care as much about others as ourselves, we will try to protect their reputations as much as we do our own.

Rosters for 15 February

Portarlington

Managers: Margaret Hutcheon, Sue Handley

Morning Tea: Bruce & Marilyn Bertram

Pastoral Care & Prayers:

Margaret Campbell

Reader: Malcolm Campbell

Power Point Preparation: Joan Kelly

Lawn Roster: 18-19 Feb David Hughes, Graeme Dryden, Graham Vohmann

Drysdale

Worship @ 9:

Kitchen: Jenni's Team

Counting: Margo Jones

10. 45 am

Duty Elder & Prayers: Jen Davis

Readings: Marguerite Edgar

Welcome: Ken Handley

Morning Tea: Brenda Jacobs & Alma Milvain

Flowers: Marguerite Edgar

St Leonards

Welcoming: Miriam Tobin

Reading: Marion McGillivray

Prayers: Marj Wilson

Brass & Flowers: Shirley Hadden

Prayer is not a 'spare wheel' that you pull out when in trouble, but it is a 'steering wheel' that directs the right path throughout the journey.

THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA



St Leonards



Portarlington



Drysdale

Epiphany 5

Sunday, 8 February 2015

While God's power is a prominent theme in all of today's scriptures, the Hebrew scripture lessons emphasize God's power for the powerless, the weak, and the broken. Those who wait and hope for God will be lifted up, healed, and strengthened. The healing of Simon's mother-in-law exemplifies the way Jesus embodies strength and healing power for those who wait and hope. In this passage, "making disciples" is not achieved by preaching and healing, but simply by bringing people directly to Jesus for healing and strength. All who are in need are invited to wait and hope, for God's power heals and strengthens the weak.

Abingdon Worship Annual

LECTIONARY

8 February Epiphany 5	Is 40: 21-31 1 Cor 9: 16-23	Ps 147: 1-11, 20c Mk 1: 29-39
15 February Epiphany 6	2 Kgs 5: 1-14 1 Cor 9: 24-27	Ps 30 Mk 1: 40-45

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THIS WEEK IN OUR CONGREGATIONS:

Sunday, 8 February

Portarlington

9.00 am Rev Marion Latham HC
Loose change & Food Bank

Drysdale

9.00 am Worship @ 9 Jenni's team
10.45 am Brian & Thelma Shaw
5.00 pm Messy Church

St Leonards

9.00 am Combined HC Anglican

Monday, 9 February

9.30 am KYB
1.30 pm Portarlington UCAF Meeting

Tuesday, 10 February

7.30 pm Drysdale Property Committee
7.30 pm Joint Coordinating Committee Meeting

Wednesday, 11 February

9.30 am mainly music, Drysdale
10.00 am Drysdale Coffee and Chat
7.30 pm Portarlington Resources Committee

Thursday, 12 February

9.00 am Portarlington Choir practice
9.30 am Drysdale Choir Practice
7.30 pm Portarlington Church Council

Friday, 13 February

9.15 am Friday School

Saturday, 14 February

7.30 am Portarlington Breakfast

Sunday, 15 February

Portarlington

9.00 am Rev Marion Latham

Drysdale

9.00 am Worship @ 9 Denise's team
10.45 am Rev Marion Latham

St Leonards

7.00 pm Rev Marion Latham, HC,
Loose Change & Food Bank

OUR CONGREGATIONS NEWS

DRYSDALE

Pancake Dinner – by popular demand

On Tuesday, 17 February, 5.30 pm to 7.30 pm with a savoury and sweet all you can eat pancake meal, \$15 adults, \$5 under 12.

All proceeds from this fundraiser will go to UnitingCare. How about you get a table of your friends to come along for wonderful food and fellowship and supporting a great cause?

While tickets can be purchased on the night we encourage you to purchase your tickets before-hand to help with catering. Tickets available from Val Lestranger or Jenni Nickelson.

Loose Change Offering

Our first loose change offering for the year resulted in \$153.30 for World Vision's Bicycles program.

This will provide 1 ½ bikes, so is a great start. Thank you to all.

Messy Church

Our first Messy Church for the year is tonight, at 5.00 pm.

The theme will be "**The Armour of God.**" The activities have all been set and the discussion questions are being prepared. Please help us to get a good attendance.

PORTARLINGTON

Portarlington Fellowship Breakfast

The first breakfast meeting for 2015 will be on Saturday, 14 February, commencing at 7.30 am. Late last year, David & Lorraine Hughes spent time visiting Myanmar (Burma) and will tell us of their journey. All members of the Linked congregations and their friends are warmly invited to attend. Acceptances please to Barry Ruler by Thurs. evening 11th Feb. on 5259 3304.

Loose Change contributions by St Andrews and St Leonards towards Kids Plus in Geelong and the Sudan Midwifery Project for December and January, were \$236.90.

U.C.A.F.

The Commitment Service to start the year's program will be on Monday, 9th February at 1.30pm in the church. Anyone is welcome to join in this service of commitment and hope which includes the sacrament of communion. The offering will be forwarded to Samaritan House, an outreach to homeless people in Geelong. If you need more information, please phone Elizabeth, 52592442.

FOR ALL CONGREGATIONS

Presbytery of Port Phillip West – Prayer Cycle

Each week we will be asked to pray for Uniting Church Agencies, Congregations and Schools together with the Ministry Agents who serve God in their various placements. We remember today:

- Altona – Trinity and Rev Bruce Watson
- Kalkee Uniting Age Well Belmont – the CEO and staff

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

Amen

Sacrededge 1-3 May, at Queenscliff Uniting Church

A festival of arts, music, and spirituality. See www.untiingqueenscliff.org.au
Festival enquiries: 5258 1986,
Registration: 5258 2854

World Day of Prayer

'The Bahamas' written by The Bahamas WDP Committee

Friday, 6 March, 10.30 am at St Thomas Catholic Church, Peninsula Drive, Drysdale. Everyone welcome.

Future Synod Meetings Task Group

Expressions of interest are invited. See noticeboard for more information.

The Passion of Christ – Lenten Studies

Wednesdays, at 7.00pm at churches in Geelong. See flyer on noticeboard for more details.