

THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA



St Leonards



Portarlington



Drysdale

Pentecost 6

Sunday, 5 July 2015

During the Season after Pentecost, we are reminded of how much we can accomplish when empowered by God, but it is not uncommon to experience frustration and failure. The readings this week invite us to discern God's wisdom as we move forward, embracing challenges and hurdles with faith and imagination. Trusting in the power and love of God, who desires us to experience justice, wholeness and peace, often does not translate into the miraculous transformation of the world around us. Instead, our efforts can be met with rejection, suffering, and failure. Yet God is continuing to work in and through our weaknesses and human limitations. Our call is to continue to follow God's lead and continue to work towards a more loving and peaceful world.

Seasons of the Spirit

LECTIONARY

5 July Pentecost 6	2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10 2 Corinthians 12:2-10	Psalm 48 Mark 6:1-13
12 July Pentecost 7	2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19 Ephesians 1:3-14	Psalm 24 Mark 6:14-29

Listening to the Language of the Bible

Excerpts from a book by Lois Tverberg.

Words in Living Colour *B'reisheet*.
beginnings, almost.

In Hebrew, the name of the book of Genesis is *B'reisheet*, which is also the first word in the book. It is translated as 'In the beginning' in our Bibles. The Hebrew letter *bet* is the second letter of the Hebrew alphabet. It is the second letter of the Hebrew alphabet. The rabbis asked the question, "Why do the Scriptures begin with the second letter of the alphabet rather than the first?" Their insightful answer was, "To show that the Scriptures do not answer every question, and not all knowledge is accessible to man, but some is reserved for God himself." God has chosen to allow some things to remain a mystery to human beings. Greek intellectualism has influenced our thinking, and it tends to led Christians to believe that we are capable of understanding anything we might ask God. But, just as Moses could not see all of God's glory and live, so we would be overwhelmed by the enormity of God's thoughts. We forget that God designed everything from neutrinos to galaxies, and that we are just specks in comparison to God's vastness. There is wisdom in being able to humbly say, "I don't know" and letting God alone know.

Rosters for 12 July

Portarlington

Managers: David & Lorraine Hughes

Morning Tea: Ken & Elaine Farnell

Pastoral Care: Heather Gould.

Prayers: Heather Gould

Readings: Elaine Farnell

Power Point Prep. Catherine

Eagleson

Lawn mowing. Harold Gould, Peter Gibbs, Len Stratton.

Drysdale, Worship @ 9:

Kitchen: Jenni's Team

Counting: Glenda Vuillerman

Drysdale, 10.45

Duty Elder: John MacGillivray

Readings: Gerald Edgar

Prayers: John MacGillivray

Welcome: Ken Handley

Morning Tea: Margaret & Tony

Freemantle

Flowers: Colleen Diamond

St Leonards

Welcome: Margo Jones

Readings & Prayers: Marj Wilson

Flowers: Marj Wilson

LINKED MINISTER:

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Village Walk Drysdale

5251 3640

THIS WEEK IN OUR CONGREGATIONS:

Sunday, 5 July
Portarlington
9.00am Rev. Margaret Manning

Drysdale
9.00 am W@9 Rev. Ian Porter,
HC, Jenni's Team assisting.
10.45 am Rev. Margaret Manning, HC
Loose Change & Food Bank both services.

St Leonards
5.00 pm Rev. Margaret Manning

Monday, 6 July
9.30 am KYB Bible Study @Jen's

Thursday, 9 July
9.00 am Portarlington Choir practice
9.30 am Drysdale Choir Practice

Friday, 10 July
1:30 pm Portarlington Prayer Service

Saturday, 11 July
7.30 am Portarlington Fellowship
Breakfast Meeting

Sunday, 12 July
Portarlington
9.00am Keith Pigdon
12.00 pm Portarlington "After Church
Lunch Series"

Drysdale
9.00 am W@9 . Wayne's Team
10.45 am Rev. Margaret Manning

St Leonards
9.00 am Combined HC UCA
Rev. Margaret Manning

OUR CONGREGATIONS NEWS

DRYSDALE

Church Roof
Thank you to all who have contributed to the Roof Fund which has resulted in \$6600 and exceeded our target. We praise God for the generosity of members of the congregation and others from outside of our congregation. Work on the roof will commence next week.

Special Birthday Tea
Members wishing to attend the special birthday tea on Sunday 12 July are asked to write their name on the list in the foyer or to contact Wayne Myers.

PORTARLINGTON

Congregational Meeting
Following Worship next Sunday, 5th July, there will be a short congregation meeting to discuss some proposed changes to the church refurbishment project. Written details will be available at church today to enable consideration prior to the congregation meeting. Barry Ruler. 5259 3304.

U.C.A.F.
The U.C.A.F. will meet at the home of Brenda and Graham Vohmann, 1/19 Bennett St, Drysdale on Monday, 13 July at 1.30pm where we will watch a DVD of 'The Hedghog', an interesting French subtitled movie. Please direct enquiries to Elizabeth, 52592442.

Fellowship Breakfast Meeting
Next breakfast meeting will be held on Saturday 11th July, commencing at 7-30am. Speaker will be our own Graham Vohmann and his topic will be "Insights/Reflections/Influences, 6 Decades On." All members of the Linked Congregations and their friends are warmly invited to attend. Acceptances please by Thursday evening 9th July to Barry Ruler on 5259 3304.

After Church Lunch
Our "After Church Lunch Series" continues with a booking for noon on Sunday July 12th at the Portarlington Golf Club. Please reserve your place at the table by letting Lorraine know in person, by phoning 5259 2364 or emailing hughestwo@bigpond.com. by Monday 6th July.

FOR ALL CONGREGATIONS

Rev Marion Latham on leave.
Rev Marion Latham will be on leave during July. Please contact your elder with any concerns.

Presbytery of Port Phillip West – Prayer Cycle
We remember today:
• Geelong East (incorporating Sth Geelong) & Leapold - Rev. Ikani Vaitohi & Rev. Nicholas Randell

- Geelong St Andrews & St. Albans Park - Pray for the Congregation and supply Ministry.

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

mission
Mark 6:1-13

how I longed to go home
town that taught me to walk
whose dusty streets I see in dreams
filled with familiar rhymes
of sight, sound and smell
house of shelter, arms of welcome
well-worn tales to tell

but I could never go back
once I had embarked on the journey
because the box they kept for me
was far too small and I can do no more
than wonder at what they're missing
while I'm kissing them goodbye

now I am sending you
go, and be unencumbered
by homesick longings for the past
lest you should miss
the raging, healing, babbling
baptismal beauty of this day

take nothing, shake off rejection,
leave your unfettered blessing,
and when the going gets too tough
my flowing grace will be enough

Jennie Gordon