

Listening to the Language of the Bible

Exerpts from a book by Lois Tverberg.

Words in Living Colour **Ba'ash** Don't be a stench!

Often the word *ba'ash* is used when one person is despised by another because of something obnoxious he or she has done. The ancients noted that we have strong emotional responses to both beautiful aromas and terrible smells, and they used this concept to describe being praiseworthy and attractive as compared to be repulsive. In the New Testament, Paul uses this imagery also. (2 Corinthians 2: 14-16) We 'smell' like Christ, and the response toward us can be either positive or negative, depending how we 'smell'. The more visible Christians' love for Christ becomes, the more their behaviour tends to convict and irritate people who are immature Christians or nonbelievers. On the other hand, just as we smell like Christ, Christ smells like us! If we are rude to others or dishonest, to those who don't know Christ this is a potent witness *against* him. We must always remember that our words and actions are an aroma that goes out into the world. May they bring the 'fragrance of life' to others.

An ecumenical Bible Reflection and

Meditation will be held at St Paul's Anglican Church, St Leonards on 2nd & 4th Thursdays of the month at 9.30 am commencing on 11 June.

As the Meditation group lead by the Catholic Church members is unable to continue, the Anglican church of St Paul's would like to take the initiative in providing a similar time of reflection on a fortnightly basis.

Members of all churches and their friends are invited to participate. For information please contact Wyn Moriarty, 5257 1441.

Presbytery of Port Phillip West –

Prayer Cycle

We remember today:

- Essendon North - Rev Fran Barber
- Gannawarra Mission Centre - Ms Kaari Rowell

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

Rosters for 21 June

Portarlington

Managers: Bruce & Merylyn Bertram

Morning Tea: Graham & Brenda Vohmann

Pastoral Care & Prayers: Geoff Prior

Reader: Pammi Prior

Power Point Prep: Joan Kelly

Drysdale, Worship @ 9:

Kitchen: Jenni's Team

Counting: Colleen Diamond

Drysdale, 10.45

Duty Elder/Prayers: Pat Handley

Readings: Ken Handley

Welcome: Mary Grieve

Morning Tea: Lavina Howard & Merrilyn Lloyd

Flowers: Merrilyn Lloyd

St Leonards

Welcome: Miriam Tobin.

Reading: Sandra Giddings

Prayers: Marj Wilson

Flowers: Shirley Hadden

THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA



St Leonards



Portarlington



Drysdale

Pentecost 3

Sunday, 14 June 2015

As people of faith, we are often called upon to trust in things that are beyond ordinary means of seeing. While this often means trusting in a God who moves in invisible and mysterious ways, we are also invited to look beyond appearances and see the potential that God sees in all of us. God provides Israel the way to the future through a child shepherd. God, in contrast to human understanding, sees into the hearts of people and calls forth their potential. Jesus also sees deeply, assuring that God's realm grows from mustard-seed beginnings. As we live in faith, we are invited to look upon the world and ourselves with a God's-eye view.

Seasons of the Spirit

LECTIONARY

14 June	1 Sm 15: 34- 16:13	Psalm 20
Pentecost 3	2 Cor 5: 6-10 (11-13) 14-17	Mark 4: 26-34
21 June	1 Sm 17:1a, 4- 11	Psalm 9:9-20
Pentecost 4	2 Cor 6: 1-13	Mark 4: 35-41

LINKED MINISTER:

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UNITINGCARE OPSHOP:

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THIS WEEK IN OUR CONGREGATIONS:

Sunday, 14 June

Portarlington

9.00am Rev Marion Latham, HC
Loose Change & Food Bank

Drysdale

9.00 am W@9 Graeme's Team,
10.45 am Mrs Michele Hardy

St Leonards

9.00 am Combined HC Anglican

Monday, 15 June

9.30 am KYB Bible Study @ Lynda's

Tuesday, 16 June

10.30 am Worship @Drysdale Grove

Wednesday, 17 June

9.30am mainly music

Thursday, 18 June

9.00 am Portarlington Choir practice
9.30 am Drysdale Choir Practice
10.00 am Worship@ Arcare
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Friday, 19 June

9.15am Friday School Drysdale
1:30 pm Drysdale Prayer Service

Saturday, 20 June

8.00am Prayer Breakfast @the Zoo
Cafe

Sunday, 21 June

Portarlington

9.00am Rev Marion Latham.

Drysdale

9.00 am W@9 Denise's Team,
10.45 am Rev Marion Latham

St Leonards

9.00 am Rev Marion Latham, HC
Loose Change & Food Bank

OUR CONGREGATIONS NEWS

DRYSDALE

Loose Change

One more bike!
Thank you for the \$99.50 collected last week for our loose change offering for Uniting World.

Church Roof

Church Council recently decided to accept a quote of \$4,000 to make repairs to the church roof, without the major cleaning previously thought necessary. The profit from the church dinner will be used to start off a one-off appeal to the congregation for donations to fund this repair work. Donations can be made directly to Wayne Myers or by placing in a named envelope in the offering plate.

Coffee and Chat

This group is in recess until further notice.

PORTARLINGTON

Portarlington Rosters

I am about to prepare rosters for the second half of the year. Some of you have already advised me of your known absences and I thank you for that. For those who haven't, please email me urgently at bruler@bigpond.com within the next day or two so I can complete the rosters within the next week. Thanks for your help.

ST.LEONARDS

U.C.A.F.

The next meeting of the St. Leonards U.C.A.F. will be on Monday 22 June 12.30 pm . Please note the earlier time as it is our Bush Lunch.

FOR ALL CONGREGATIONS

Preaching Plan

The preaching plan for July and August is available now. The planning group did not plan for September due to Marion's retirement leaving many gaps. We cannot expect our retired ministers to fill them all. So some decisions will need to be made which the planning group felt are out of their jurisdiction.

In July Marion will be on Annual Leave. Many thanks to Rev. Margaret Manning for generously offering to fill gaps in the preaching plan for that month, but she will not be available to do so much in the future.

Marion's Retirement

Previously Marion did not feel able to give a definite date for her finishing date in this placement. After talking with a few other ministers who suggested that it is not good for any of us for a retiring minister to remain longer than three months and with a new contact with my house-building firm, the date has been set as 31 August . Thanks you for your patience in my lack of decision before this.

Prayer Service

Every Friday at 1.30 pm, the people of the Body of Christ in the Uniting Churches of the Linked Congregations have an opportunity to meet together in a service of worship that is worship through prayer. It is based on an order of service in our Uniting in Worship book.

The prayer service alternates between Drysdale and St. Andrews Portarlington. This service has the potential of becoming the 'powerhouse' of our congregations. It is a time when we praise God, bring to God our concerns for others and for the world, share with God our joys and our plans and ask for God's guidance in decisions and in the life of our congregations. If you do not have a regular commitment at that time, why not try to make yourselves free to be there to pray together.

God of heaven and earth,
you have been farming
longer than any of us have noticed.
From our small seeds
you make goodness to sprout
in our lives.
Awaken our eyes to see
what you have done
while we slept.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our
Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and
the Holy Spirit,
one God for ever and ever. Amen
Bob Eldan