

## Prayer of the Body

In all our congregations there are always matters for us to pray about. I am greatly encouraged by the number of people who pray privately for the people and work of our church and for issues in the wider community and the world. Apart from our prayer together on Sundays, we have little opportunity to pray specifically as the Body of Christ. So, both Church Councils have agreed that we will set aside a time to pray together as congregations. Communal prayer of the Body of Christ will be held at both Drysdale and St. Andrews on Friday afternoons at 1.30 pm on alternating weeks. The prayer service will follow the guidelines in our Uniting in Worship book. Many of the prayers are available to us in our 'blue books' that are in the pews. Being prayer of the whole Body of Christ, we will be able to use prayers written by other Christians as well as our own extemporary prayers. Please join us, beginning on March 13 at Drysdale, then on March 20 at St. Andrews.

If you would like to be part of our praying together, but are unable to come on Fridays at 1.30 pm, please speak with Marion.

## Listening to the Language of the Bible

Exerpts from a book by Lois Tverberg.

**Lessons for Our Lives.** *Hokmah* Giving of His Wisdom.

We westerners think of wisdom as being able to think great thoughts. The Hebrew word *hokmah* also applies to the manual labourer who pounds nails or paints wall. The Bible speaks of people who are skilled labourers as being people who have 'wise hearts'. *Hokmah* describes the ability to function successfully in life, whether it is by having the right approach to a difficult situation, or the ability to weave cloth.

It is practical and applicable to this world, not just otherworldly. This is part of the Hebraic affirmation of day-to-day life in this world. All of our day-to-day lives are of concern to God. God is practical and down to earth. His desire is that we have wisdom in all things in order to live the life he gave us to the very best.

## Rosters for 8 March

### Portarlington

**Managers:** Keith & Heather Pigdon

**Morning Tea:** Wendy & Robert Sharp

**Pastoral Care & Prayers:** Heather Gould

**Reader:** Elaine Farnell

**Communion Prep/Serve:** Heather Gould (Prep) Alex Eagleson

**Communion Serve:** Catherine Eagleson, Barry Ruler

**Power Point Prep:** Joan Kelly

### Drysdale

#### Worship @ 9

**Kitchen:** Wayne's Team

**Counting:** Ian McLaverty

**10.45 am**

**Duty Elder & Prayers:** John MacGillivray

**Readings:** Vince King

**Welcome:** Mary Grieve

**Morning Tea:** Marguerite & Gerald Edgar

**Flowers:** Audrey Shepherd

### St Leonards

**Welcoming:** Margo Jones

**Reading:** Margo Jones

**Prayer:** Marj Wilson

**Brass & Flowers:** Beryl Woodcock (no flowers)

## THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA



St Leonards



Portarlington



Drysdale

## Lent 2

## Sunday, 1 March 2015

Following Jesus is not about a specific set of beliefs, it is simply about faith. Peter held certain beliefs about how the Messiah would act, but Jesus tells him clearly that he's got it all wrong. Peter is not alone. The truth is, most of us get it wrong. We try so hard to believe, but we lose hope when logic gets in the way. From the unbelievable story of Abram and Sarai getting pregnant late in life to the amazingly good news of the incarnate Son of God, these scriptures offer us hope upon hope upon hope. All we need is faith.

*Abingdon Worship Annual*

## LECTIONARY

1 March Lent 2	Genesis 17: 1-7, 15-16 Romans 4: 13-25	Psalms 22: 23-31 Mark 8: 31-38
8 March Lent 3	Exodus 20: 1-17 1 Corinthians 1: 18-25	Psalms 19 John 2: 13-22

### LINKED MINISTER:

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### CHURCH OFFICE:

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### UNITINGCARE OPSHOP:

Phone:

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5251 3640

## THIS WEEK IN OUR CONGREGATIONS:

### Sunday, 1 March

#### Portarlington

9.00 am Rev Margaret Manning  
12 noon. St. Andrews Congregation  
lunch @ Port Golf Club

#### Drysdale

9.00 am Rev Marion Latham, Wayne's  
team assisting  
10. 45 am Rev Marion Latham,  
*Loose change, food bank and  
HC both services*

#### St Leonards

7.00 pm Rev Marion Latham  
Harvest Thanksgiving

### Monday, 2 March

7.30 pm Lenten Studies, Drysdale

### Tuesday, 3 March

10.30 am Lenten Study St. John's  
Anglican, Portarlington

### Wednesday, 4 March

9.30 am mainly music, Drysdale  
10.00 am Drysdale Coffee and Chat  
7.30 pm Portarlington Pastoral Care

### Thursday, 5 March

9.00 am Portarlington Choir practice  
9.30 am Drysdale Choir Practice

### Friday, 6 March

9.15 am Friday School  
10.30 am St. John's Anglican,  
Portarlington; St. Thomas  
Roman Catholic @ Drysdale

### Sunday, 8 March

#### Portarlington

9.00 am Rev Marion Latham, HC  
*Loose change & Food Bank*

#### Drysdale

9.00 am Café Church  
10. 45 am Rev Margaret Manning

#### St Leonards

9.00 am Combined HC UCA Rev  
Margaret Manning

## OUR CONGREGATIONS NEWS

### DRYSDALE

#### Lenten Bible Studies

Continue on Monday nights @ 7.30pm to  
30 March. The theme is 'Journey with  
Jesus'. Come along and join us at the  
Drysdale Church.

#### Working Bees – Advance Notice

Please note, working bees to do jobs  
around the church property will be held  
on the following dates - 8.00am to noon.

Saturdays, 9 May, 6 August & 7 Nov.

Place the dates in your diary, and come  
along and help if you can.

#### High Tea

– 19 April, RSVPs due today.

### PORTARLINGTON

#### UCAF Outing

On Monday 16 March, the UCAF are  
planning to visit Summer Sensations  
Cafe and Berry Farm, 1440  
Bannockburn - Shelford Rd, Teesdale,  
where we will enjoy lunch, purchase their  
produce if we like, and inspect their  
gardens.

We will carpool and leave the church car  
park at 11.15am and we welcome  
anyone wishing to come on this outing  
with us.

Booking is essential for catering  
purposes and must be made with  
Elizabeth Thompson no later than  
Friday, 6 March, by email,  
[peldan7@gmail.com](mailto:peldan7@gmail.com) or by phone,  
52592442. Enquiries to Elizabeth.

**Ecumenical Lenten Studies** Continue  
on Tuesdays, at St John's Anglican  
Church at 11.00 am. Enjoy a cuppa and  
fellowship at 10.30am before the study.

#### Portarlington Election of Elders and Church Councillors and Annual Congregation Meeting.

The following Elders and Church  
Councillors terms have expired and  
these people are eligible for re-election if  
they choose to nominate.

Elders Term Concludes: Elaine Farnell,  
Margo Jones, Marj Wilson, Barry Ruler.  
Church Councillors term concludes: Ken  
Farnell, Keith Pigdon, Neil Bell.

Other members of the congregation who  
may wish to serve in either of these roles  
are invited to speak to David or Lorraine  
Hughes or Barry Ruler. Nomination  
forms are in the Narthex and should be  
completed and handed to Secretary  
Barry Ruler no later than Sunday 15th.  
March. Election will be held on Sunday  
29th March. The Annual Congregation  
Meeting will take place on Sunday 12th  
April, immediately following Worship.  
Enquiries to Barry Ruler.

#### Fellowship Breakfast at Portarlington

The next fellowship Breakfast meeting at  
Portarlington will be on Saturday 14  
March at 7.30am. Guest Speaker will be

Mr. Adolph Deppe. Adolph is a  
Psychologist who has worked in prisons;  
written books used by universities and  
for the past 20 years has researched the  
influence of colour and light on mood.  
All members of the Linked  
Congregations and their friends, are  
warmly invited to attend. Acceptances to  
Barry Ruler on 5259 3304 by Thursday  
evening 12 March please.

## FOR ALL CONGREGATIONS

#### UCA Culture Survey

The Synod Major Strategic Review  
(MSR) is conducting an online survey to  
tell it more about the Uniting Church's  
existing and desired culture: through the  
lens of the Church's values and  
behaviours.

We are inviting all those involved with  
any aspect of the Church to participate in  
the survey. It will be available online to 6  
March 2015.

#### Survey link:

<https://survey.valuescentre.com/gabby>

**User name:** uca **Password:** values

All responses will be confidential and  
anonymous and it will take about 15  
minutes to complete.

#### Presbytery of Port Phillip West – Prayer Cycle

We remember today:

- Ascot Vale, Rev Ron Rosinsky
- Lay Preachers, Mr Rob Coulson  
(Coordinator & all lay preachers  
Lord, guide and bless your work in our  
Presbytery that it may flourish for the  
good of the people and for your glory.

Amen