

Preaching Plans and Focus Scriptures

The **preaching plan** for the next quarter, April to June 2015, is available at the three churches. Please check the narthex/foyer if you have not received a copy.

The list of **focus scriptures and suggested themes for each Sunday** are also available now. If you did not receive one by email and if you are part of a worship team, or a Bible reader, or for any other reason need to know what are the scripture readings our congregations will be thinking about each Sunday, please see Marion.

Presbytery of Port Phillip West – Prayer Cycle

We remember today:

- Barrabool, Ceres and Moriac
UnitingCare, Lay Leadership Team;
- Werribee Support and Housing, Ms Carol Muir (CEO)

Lord, we thank you for these dedicated people. Give them wisdom and confidence to continue your work of kindness and witness in their communities. Amen

Prayer of the Body

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. 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 cannot come on Fridays at 1.30 pm, please speak with Marion.

Rosters for 22 March

Portarlington

Managers: Harold and Heather Gould

Morning Tea: Ken and Elaine Farnell

Pastoral Care: Barry Ruler

Prayer and Reader: Drysdale Lay Team

Power Point Prep: Pammi Pryor

Drysdale

Worship @ 9

Kitchen: Denise's Team

Counting: Jenni Nickelson
10. 45 am

Duty Elder: John MacGillivray

Prayer and Readings: Drysdale Lay Team

Welcome: Hazel Wyllie

Morning Tea: Win Baker and Andrea Lindsay

Flowers: Beryl Stanley

St Leonards

Welcoming: Miriam Tobin

Reading and Prayer: Drysdale Lay Team

Brass & Flowers: Beryl Woodcock (no flowers)

Thought for the Day

Friendship is like a BOOK.

It takes a few minutes to burn, but it takes years to write.

THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA



St Leonards



Portarlington



Drysdale

Lent 4

Sunday, 15 March 2015

God's love for humanity explodes like light from a supernova in these lections. In these readings, we hear three phrases that paint the backdrop for God's saving action: "For God so loved the world" (John 3:16), "his steadfast love endures forever" (Psalm 107:1b), and "out of the great love with which he loved us" (Ephesians 2:4-5). Even the Mosaic story of the serpents in Numbers serves as a prelude for the loving mission of Jesus Christ when the battered Savior is lifted up on a rapidly approaching Good Friday. Yet, for love to be fully realized, it demands a response. The appropriate response to God's love is faith. Jesus calls on us to believe, and the psalmist reminds us that faith is often the action of knowing from whom to ask for help, as the Israelites "cried to the LORD in their trouble, / and he saved them from their distress" (Psalm 107:19).

Ministry Matters

LECTIONARY

15 March Lent 4	Numbers 21: 4-9 Ephesians 2: 1-10	Ps 107: 1-3, 17-22 John 3: 14-21
22 March Lent 5	Jeremiah 31: 31-34 Hebrews: 5:5-10	Psalm 119: 9-16 or Psalm 51: 1-12 John 12: 20-33

LINKED MINISTER:

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UNITINGCARE OPSHOP:

Village Walk Drysdale
Phone: 5251 3640

THIS WEEK IN OUR CONGREGATIONS:

Sunday, 15 March

Portarlinton

9:00 am Rev Marion Latham

Drysdale

9.00 am Wayne's team

10. 45 am Rev Marion Latham

St Leonards

7:00 pm Rev Marion Latham, *HC, loose change and food bank*

Monday, 16 March

9:30 am KYB at Pat's

11.15 am Portarlinton UCAF outing

7.30 pm Lenten Studies, Drysdale

Tuesday, 17 March

St Patricks Day

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

10:30 am Drysdale Grove worship

Wednesday, 18 March

9.30 am mainly music, Drysdale

10.00 am Drysdale Coffee and Chat

Thursday, 19 March

9.00 am Portarlinton Choir practice

9.30 am Drysdale Choir Practice

11.00 am ARCARE Port. worship

Friday, 20 March

9.15 am Friday School, Drysdale

1.30 pm Communal prayer at St. Andrews, Portarlinton

Saturday 21 March

8:00 am Drysdale Prayer Breakfast, Zoo Café

11:00 am Wedding at Drysdale

Sunday, 22 March

Portarlinton

9:00 am Drysdale Lay Team

Drysdale

9.00 am Marion Latham, Graeme's team assisting

10. 45 am Drysdale Lay Team

St Leonards

7:00 pm Drysdale Lay Team

OUR CONGREGATIONS NEWS

DRYSDALE

Election of Elders

Nominations are called for election of elders at the congregation annual meeting on Sunday 29 March.

Nomination forms are available from Wayne Myers and are to be submitted by 16 March. All current elders would be happy to explain the role to those interested. The following elder's term concludes, but they may renominate: Jennifer Davis, Val Lestrangle, John MacGillivray and Lynda Smith.

Lenten Bible Studies

These studies will continue on Monday nights at 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 on the following dates - 8.00 am to noon, Sat. 9 May, 6 August and 7 November.

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

DUC List of Activities

This document has been updated and is included with the news sheet for your information. You will notice that instead of a 'Garage Sale' we will be having 'Mainly Home Made Fete'. More details to follow.

Also note the date of our Annual Dinner to be held on 23 May this year!

Wedding Bells

Best wishes and God's blessings are given to Nathan Polley and Huyen Thi Dang from Worship @ 9 who are to be married in the church on 21 March.

PORTARLINGTON

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.

Portarlinton Election of Elders & Church Councillors & Annual Congregation Meeting – Sun., 12 April

The following Elders and Church Councillors terms have expired and these people are eligible for re-election if they choose to nominate:
Elders: Elaine Farnell, Margo Jones, Marj Wilson, Barry Ruler.
Church Councillors: 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

today, 15 March. Election will be held on Sunday 29 March. The Annual Congregation Meeting will take place on Sunday 12 April, immediately following Worship.

Enquiries to Barry Ruler

FOR ALL CONGREGATIONS

Asylum Seeker/Refugee Week

Fellowship Breakfast

Saturday 11 April @ 7.30am, St Andrew's Uniting Church Portarlinton
Cost: \$5.

Speaker: Linda Cusworth on the work of the Combined Refugee Action Group.
Inquiries to Barry Ruler 5259 3304

Community Dinner

Wednesday 15 April @ 6.30pm St Andrew's Uniting Church Portarlinton.
Cost \$15. Speaker: A founding member of newly formed Grandmothers Against Detention of Refugee Children. 2 course delicious dinner. PLUS entertainment from Duo: Suzette Herft & Patrick Evan. Please wear a touch of purple (the colour the Grandmothers have adopted to highlight the plight of children in detention). Dinner inquiries by 8 April to Joy Porter 5259 2538 or Margaret Manning 0409 334 480.

Special Church Service

Sunday 19 April at St Andrew's Portarlinton, at 9 am. Led by Rev Marion Latham. All very welcome.