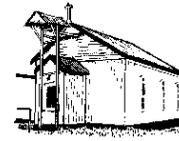


# THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA



St Leonards



Portarlington



Drysdale

## Plumber or Electrician Wanted

The Presbyterian Church in Vanuatu (PCV) is upgrading and improving existing church owned accommodation. The apartments will be used for short term and long term housing as an income generating program that will provide the PCV with money to be put towards future Disaster Risk and Recovery projects. The PCV has asked for qualified electricians and plumbers with their own tools who are able to join the building team for 1 week in early April. Basic accommodation will be provided during the week and non-skilled family members are welcome to join.

Does this sound like a role that you or someone you know might be interested in? If so, please contact me for further information.

Megan Calcaterra  
[meganc@unitingworld.org.au](mailto:meganc@unitingworld.org.au)

## Thought for the day

"Helping others is a healing for our souls; especially someone who doesn't have the means to ever repay you."

*Written in 2015 by Tafazal  
Mohammed.*

## Rosters 31 January 2016

### Portarlington/ St Leonards Combined Service 9.00 am

**Managers:** John & Jan Hall  
**Morning Tea:** Keith & Heather  
Pigdon

### Pastoral Care & Prayers:

Margaret Campbell  
**Reader:** Margo Jones  
**Power Point Preparation:** Bruce  
Bertram  
**Lawn Roster:** 3/4 Feb. Contractor

### Drysdale

**Combined Service @ 10.15am**  
**Duty Elder/Prayers:** Ken Handley  
**Readings:** Worship @ 9  
**Welcome:** Wilma Mansell  
**Morning Tea:** Worship @ 9  
**Flowers:** Judy Grimm  
**Counting:** Jonnie Mander

**UnitingWorld's Lent Event** is 40 days to live more simply, reflect on our faith and support people struggling to free themselves from poverty.

You can download the Lent Event App from your App store. For information on the *NEW Guide to Living Lent* (it's filled with ideas on what it means to rely on God and put faith into action), and a range of other worship resources and kids activities see

[www.lentevent.com](http://www.lentevent.com)

## Epiphany 3

**Sunday, 24 January 2016**

What kind of biblical contradictions are we stuck with this week? Both Nehemiah and Luke tell stories of words causing profound transformations in people's lives. Yet, Psalm 19 describes creation singing God's glory—without a single word. So which is the better witness: words or actions? "Preach the gospel always, and if necessary, use words." Although this quotation is widely attributed to St. Francis, there is no evidence he ever said it, and plenty of evidence that he was an articulate preacher who used lots of words. Francis is also credited with praying: "Make me an instrument of your peace." These beloved phrases remind us that both words and actions must go hand-in-hand, so that aspect of our lives—both words and actions—may communicate the love of God.

*Abingdon Worship Annual*

## LECTIONARY

24 January Epiphany 3	Neh 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10 1 Cor 12: 12-31a	Psalm 19 Luke 4: 14-21
31 January Epiphany 4	Jer 1: 4-10 1 Cor 13: 1-13	Psalm 71: 1-6 Luke 4: 21-30

### CHURCH OFFICE:

Phone: 5253 1336  
Email: [drysdaleuc@yahoo.com.au](mailto:drysdaleuc@yahoo.com.au)  
Web: <http://drysdale.unitingchurch.org.au>

### UNITINGCARE OPSHOP:

Phone: Village Walk Drysdale  
5251 3640

## THIS WEEK IN OUR CONGREGATIONS:

### Sunday, 24 January

#### Portarlington

9.00 am Drysdale Lay Team -  
MacGillivrays

#### Drysdale

9.00 am W@ 9 Jenni's Team  
10.45 am Drysdale Lay Team -  
MacGillivrays

#### St Leonards

7.00 pm W@9 Team - Jenni's Team

### Wednesday, 27 January

1.30 pm Portarlington G & L & COER  
Meeting

### Sunday, 31 January

#### Portarlington/St Leonards

9.00 am Combined Service, Rev Ian  
Porter

#### Drysdale

10.15 am Combined Service, Rev Neil  
Tolliday.  
Followed by congregation  
annual meeting and lunch.

## OUR CONGREGATIONS NEWS

### DRYSDALE

#### Congregational Annual Meeting

Following the combined service next Sunday the congregation annual meeting will be held. Lunch will follow the meeting and you are invited to bring along a plate of finger food to share. At the meeting apart from receiving reports there will be an election of elders with the re-nomination of Ken Handley, Denise McLaverty and Wayne Myers.

## Pancake Dinner

Tuesday 9 February is Shrove Tuesday and the date for our Pancake Dinner as a fundraiser for UnitingCare.

For \$15 (and \$5 for children under 12) you can have as many pancakes as you can eat. There will be both savoury and sweet pancakes with a choice of toppings. So give yourself a night off from cooking and come along to support this event from 5.30 - 7.30 pm.

Tickets can be pre-purchased from Jenni Nickelson or available at the door.

## Flower Roster for 2016

To help prepare this roster, please advise Wilma Mansell, phone 5253 1246 if you were on the roster for 2015 but do not want to be on the roster in 2016, or if you have not been on the roster but would like to do a turn or two throughout the year.

Please advise Wilma by next Sunday, 31 January.

## Messy Church

The first Messy Church for the year is on Sunday 14 February 5.00 - 6.30 pm with the theme of "Sand." This year Messy Church runs every second month on the second Sunday. This is a great opportunity for worship for those who prefer a less formal atmosphere. The questions to be considered whilst doing the craft can sometimes be quite enlightening.

## Prayer Chain

As we start the year would you like to join our email prayer chain. Special requests for prayer are sent by email as the need arises and members are asked to pray when they are able for the person or situation. Please speak to Wayne Myers if you would like to be included.

## Communal Prayer Time

The first prayer gathering for the year will be on Wednesday 3 February at 1.00 pm in the church. This is a new day and time so that hopefully more can attend. It runs for about 30 minutes and you can either be there to listen and support the prayers or to actually make a prayer. It will take place every fortnight.

## PORTARLINGTON

### Portarlington Fellowship Breakfast

The first breakfast meeting for the year will be held on Saturday 13 February, at 7.30 am. Guest Speaker will be Ms Marianne Bridge. Marianne is an expert in Auslan sign language and has been heavily involved in this area for many years.

Would those attending please ensure you are on time as we will be getting through the breakfast program ASAP so that we can retire to the church and view Marianne's video presentation on the church TVs. The presentation may take about 1 hour so we may finish a little later than usual.

All members of the Linked Congregations and their friends are warmly invited to attend. Acceptances please to Barry Ruler. phone 5259 3304 by Thursday evening 11 February.

## FOR ALL CONGREGATIONS

### Profile

The Joint Nominating Committee (JNC) completed the work on the profile document for a new minister and this was approved by the Church Councils on 10 January. It was submitted to Presbytery's Pastoral Relations Committee (PRC) and two representatives of the JNC will meet with them on Wednesday before it is forwarded to the Synod Placements Committee. There is not expected to be any issues raised by PRC but please pray for approval and the provision of a name in the coming weeks.

### Volunteers Wanted for Lazarus Community Drop In Centre

A committee of people from Wesley, St Mary's Christ Church and Uniting Care in Grovedale have been working towards creating a 'drop-in' centre for home isolated people at 202 Myer Street Geelong (Governor's Residence at Old Geelong Gaol). It will initially operate on Monday, Wednesday and Fridays from 9.00am and 4.00pm commencing on Monday 1 February.

Volunteers are needed to staff the centre on shifts of 4 hours. Training will be provided. More details can be obtained from Wendy Leigh, phone 5222 4101.