

JustAct - Syrian refugees left in limbo

Since the conflict in Syria began in early 2011 more than 10 million people have been affected. In the wake of outrage over the drowning of Syrian toddler Alan Kurdi, former Prime Minister Tony Abbott announced Australia would take in 12,000 extra refugees fleeing conflict in Iraq and Syria. But, at the time of writing, Australia has settled only 29 refugees from the Syrian and Iraqi conflicts. Canada, on the other hand, has welcomed more than 26,000 refugees from these conflicts since November 2015. The Refugee Council of Australia commented: "It is a shame for all concerned that the Australian resettlement program is so bogged down in bureaucratic delays, when the governments of Canada and New Zealand have proven that it is possible to move much more swiftly". The ramifications of inaction are significant; as United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees António Guterres stressed, "This conflict has not only caused one of the worst humanitarian crises in decades, but it is also the biggest threat to global peace and security the world has seen in a long time." *JustAct* urges us to write polite and respectful letters to: Prime Minister, The Hon Malcolm Turnbull, PO Box 6022, House of Representatives Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600 · Urge the Government to act on their promise to resettle the 12,000 Syrian and Iraqi refugees; Express deep concern about the delay in processing the refugees, in comparison to countries like Canada; Encourage the Government to do all it can to speed up the process to bring people here to safety as soon as possible; Highlight that the ramifications of inaction are significant as this is one of the worst humanitarian crises in decades; Reiterate that church communities from many denominations still standing-by ready to help.

Rosters 5 June

Portarlington

Managers: Keith Knights & Barry Rulerl

Morning Tea: David & Lorraine Hughes

Pastoral Care: Malcolm Campbell

Prayers: Malcolm Campbell

Reader: Margaret Campbell

Power Point Preparation: Joy Porter

Drysdale

Duty Elder:

Prayers

Readings:

Morning Tea:

Welcome:

Flowers: Pat Handley

Worship @ 9

Kitchen:Jenni's Team

Counting: Sue Polley

St Leonards -

Welcome:Miriam Tobin

Reading: Margo Jones

Prayer:Marj Wilson

Brass & Flowers: Shirley Hadden

The Annual Reconciliation in the

Park Event will be held again in Johnstone Park, 10 am to 3 pm, Sunday 29 May. Many activities for all ages.

Please consider supporting our Wathaurong people and the One Fire Reconciliation Group by attending this free celebration.

THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA



St Leonards



Portarlington



Drysdale

Pentecost 2 Sunday

Sunday, 29 May 2016

When it comes to worshipping God in the manner we have received, is it all or nothing? Elijah chastises the Israelites for following Ba'al and rejecting the Lord. The psalmist claims that the Lord is to be revered above all gods. Paul is astonished that the Galatians have so quickly deserted the One who called them in the grace of Christ, by accepting a perverted gospel. Jesus heals the servant of a Roman centurion and marvels at the soldier's faith—a faith greater than any he found in Israel. These texts suggest that when it comes to the purity of our faith and gospel no compromises are allowed. This is surely true if we are worshipping Ba'al or a perverted form of the gospel of Christ—but what do we tell people who practice Buddhist meditation and compassion, or who hold Native Peoples beliefs that Spirit animates all things? Some lines must be held at all costs, as in the case of Elijah. But during a time when Christian, Zionist, and Islamic fundamentalists are tearing the social fabric of our world apart, are we wise to insist that our tradition alone is faithful?

Abingdon Worship Annual

LECTIONARY

29 May	1 Kings 18:20-21(22-29)30-39	Psalm 96
Pentecost 2	Galatians 1: 1-12	Luke :7 1-10
5 June	1 Kings 17:8-16(17-24)	Psalm 146
Pentecost 3	Galatians 1: 11-24	Luke :7 11-17

CHURCH OFFICE:

Phone:

Email:

Web

Drysdale Church Centre

5253 1336

drysdaleuc@yahoo.com.au

<http://drysdale.unitingchurch.org.au>

UNITINGCARE OPSHOP:

Phone:

Village Walk Drysdale

5251 3640

THIS WEEK IN OUR CONGREGATIONS:

Sunday, 29 May

All Combined at Drysdale @10.15am

Rev. David Walker

Monday, 30 May

9.30am KYB at Lynda's
7.00 pm Portarlinton Seekers Social Night

Tuesday 31 May

7.30 pm JCC

Wednesday, 1 June

9.30 am mainly music

Thursday, 2 June

9.00 am Portarlinton Choir Practice
9.30 am Drysdale Choir Practice

Friday, 3 June

9.15 am Drysdale Friday School

Sunday, 5 June

Portarlinton

9.00 am Rev Ian Porter ,HC ,
Loose change & Food Bank

Drysdale

9.00 am Rev Malcolm Campbell ,HC
Loose change & Food Bank

10.45 am Rev Ian Porter ,HC ,
Loose change & Food Bank

St Leonards

5.00pm Rev Malcolm Campbell ,HC
Loose change & Food Bank

OUR CONGREGATIONS NEWS

DRYSDALE

Thanks

I would like to thank you all very much for your prayer support at this very sad time. Without your prayer support I don't know how I would get through this. I in turn pray that God will bless all of you who have prayed for us. I was very conscious of the love that was there. I'd especially like to publicly acknowledge the enormous help Irene and Bob have given to me and Colwyn. I am there for anyone else who is in need.
Yours in Christian love and friendship,
Merrilyn Lloyd.

DUC Activities Sheet

The Activities Sheet been updated and copies are now available for your own use or passing on to anyone who shows an interest or comes to our services for the first time.

Annual Dinner

Congratulations to all for organising, helping on the night, and attending our Dinner on Saturday night. Even though our numbers were down on last year, with the increased charge and generous donations we were able to clear \$830 profit. A great effort for a great night out.

PORTARLINGTON

Seekers

"seekers" social night will be held on Monday 30th May at 7.15pm at Hughes'

place.
Don't forget your memorabilia from the 40's, 50's 60's or 70's to share with the group. Hope to see you there.

From Church Council

* Following our recent meeting - Graham Vohmann was elected as Church Council Secretary, while Neil Bell [Treasurer] and David Hughes [Chairperson] agreed to continue in their positions.

* Keith Knights resigned his position of Elder, due to some personal reasons.

* Next Sunday, elections for the vacant position of Elder will take place.

* Rosters for the second half of the year are currently being prepared - if you haven't notified Graham of known absences, please do so as quickly as possible.

* If you have a current working with children accreditation and haven't advised Graham, could you please let him know the details, as these have to be registered with Synod.

* Portarlinton now has a official email address which can be used in future - portarlintonuc@gmail.com

FOR ALL CONGREGATIONS

Portarlinton Fellowship Breakfast Sat. June 18th, 2016.

Our June meeting is being held on the 18th June due to the Celtic Festival on the Queens Birthday weekend. Guest Speaker will be Ms Jacqui Myers. Jacqui is a registered nurse working at St. John of God Hospital, Geelong in the

pathology department. Jacqui regularly travels to Timor Leste as part of a medical team as a "train the trainer" to help the locals with their medical work and she will tell us of some of her experiences in this role. As a matter of interest, Jacqui is the daughter of our own Wendy Quill. Our congregation will remember that half of our loose change monthly collections are sent to help women's health in Timor Leste. All members of the Linked Congregations and their friends are warmly invited to attend. Acceptances please to Barry Ruler on 5259 3304 by Thursday evening 16th June.

The Coryule Chorus

Just alerting you to a forthcoming concert on **Wednesday June 15th at 2pm** at St James Anglican Church Drysdale.

The *Coryule Chorus* will present this benefit concert to assist both the St James building fund and choir funds.

We'd love to see you there if you are free. If you miss us in June, we will be in Portarlinton on Sunday October 2nd for an afternoon concert at St Andrew's Uniting Church and plans are afoot for a Seniors Week concert in Drysdale with the Newcomb Secondary College Band on Thursday October 6th .

So plenty of times to come check us out again .

Hope to see you at one of our events soon !
Kind regards
Joy