

ALPHA

An Alpha Course (10 weekly sessions) will be held at SpringDale Neighbourhood Centre, beginning on February 27, from 6.30 pm to 9 pm.

The course is being organised by Central Baptist Church and is open for anyone who might be interested in exploring the Christian faith in a relaxed, non-threatening and fun setting.

If you have been to an Alpha Course at some time, here is an opportunity to invite someone you know who may want to think about some of life's difficult questions. It is also a good refresher for all of us and an opportunity to share with people from other churches. To register, contact Brett of SpringDale on 5253 1960 or email Anna Leong at annnaseetho@yahoo.com

for who's sake?

why do i have trouble
telling others about you,
Steadfast Heart?

others call me names,
but you whisper
softly into my heart:
"You are My Delight,"
cradling me in the palm
of your hand
like a precious gift.

running on empty,
the arctic chill of loneliness
cracking my heart,
my soul parched by despair,
you touch my lips
with living water,
resting me in the oasis
of your grace.

you give me gifts
until my life brims over,
and then challenge me,
"now, pour yourself out
for my children."



for my sake
(and for the sake of others)
i will not keep quiet
but shout to the world:
"You won't believe what
God is doing . . .!"

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Rosters for the 27 January

PORTARLINGTON

Managers: Marg Hutcheon, Sue Handley, Peter Gibbs
Morning Tea: Ken & Elaine Farnell
Pastoral Carer & Reader: Barry Ruler
Prayers: M Campbell
Power Point Preparation: Margaret Campbell

DRYSDALE

10.45am
Duty Elder & Prayers: Jen Davis
Readings: Harvey Davis
Door: Hazel & Lindsay James
Morning Tea: Brenda Jacobs & Alma Milvain
Flowers: Hazel Wyllie

ST LEONARDS

Welcoming: June Blair
Prayer: Margo Jones
Reading: Marj Wilson
Brass & Flowers: Wyn Moriarty

THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA



St Leonards



Portarlington



Drysdale

EPIPHANY 2

Sunday, 20 January 2013

God delights in God's people and in all of creation. Redemption and reconciliation are not for Israel alone, but extend to the animals and the very land itself. The steadfast love of God we witness in the Psalms is seen in the bestowal of God's spiritual gifts. Since all gifts come from the same Spirit, we are to treasure one another's gifts. Jesus himself exhibits God's delight and the gift of hospitality as he gladdens the wedding of Cana by turning water into wine. God delights in Israel as a groom delights in his bride. Should we be surprised that Jesus' first miracle occurred at a wedding?

Abingdon Worship Annual

LECTIONARY

January 20 Epiphany 2	Is 62:1-5 1 Cor 12:1-11	Ps 36:5-10 Jn 2:1-11
January 27 Epiphany 3	Neh 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10 1 Cor 12:12-31a	Ps 19 Lk 4: 14-21

LINKED MINISTER:

Rev. Marion Latham
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Mobile: 0414383101

CHURCH OFFICE:

Drysdale Church Centre
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UNITINGCARE OPSHOP:

Village Walk Drysdale

THIS WEEK IN OUR CONGREGATIONS:

SUNDAY 20 January

Portarlington

9:00am Rev Marion Latham

Drysdale

9:00am Wayne's Team

10:45am Rev Marion Latham

St. Leonards

7:00pm Rev Marion Latham HC
Loose change & Food bank

TUESDAY 22 January

7:30pm Drysdale Worship Team Mtg

WEDNESDAY 23 January

10.00am Drysdale Coffee & Chat

THURSDAY 24 January

9.00am Drysdale and Portarlington
Choir Practice

SUNDAY 27 January

Portarlington

9.00am Mrs Pat Williams

Drysdale

9.00am Rev Marion Latham,
Denise's team assisting

10.45am Mrs Pat Williams

11.45am Drysdale Annual
Congregation Meeting
(including election of elders)
followed by a finger food
lunch to share.

St Leonards

7.00pm Rev Marion Latham

OUR CONGREGATIONS NEWS

DRYSDALE

Elections and Congregation Annual Meeting

The Congregation Annual Meeting will be held at the conclusion of the 10.45 service on Sunday 27 January and will be followed by a shared lunch.

Worship @ 9 members are asked to return for the meeting.

The agenda will include:

- Presentation of the Annual Report and Financial statements
- Conducting of Elections (elders/councillors/ Congregation Chair and Secretary)
- Welcoming new members
- Approval of loose change recipient for 2013

Nominations for election as elder/councillor have been received from:

Elders: Joy Krahe
Denise McLaverty

Councillors: Margaret Underwood
Pat Williams

Nominations are also sought for the positions of Congregation Chair and Secretary.

Coffee and Chat

Coffee and Chat will recommence at 10.00am on 23rd January.

All are invited to come along and join in on this informal gathering over a cuppa.

mainly music

Will recommence on Wednesday, 6 February with 2 full sessions and waiting lists for both sessions.

We reach approximately 70 families in our community through mainly music, a great opportunity to witness and serve.

We would like more volunteers from our church family (especially during 3rd term when some of our team will be away). Please consider if you can support this worthwhile program in some way and speak to Val Lestrangle.

Friday School

Friday School will re commence on Friday, 8 February.

Jenni Nickleson started this initiative last year – to provide an opportunity for families of young children (0 – 6 year olds) to hear a bible story, do a craft activity and have fun together. Jenni had a few regular families that came along each week and they were all keen to continue in 2013.

We hope to encourage more families from mainly music to come along and join in this activity which will run on Fridays during school term from 9.15 to 10.00 am. If you know someone who may be interested please encourage them to come along or speak to Jenni.

PORTARLINGTON

Portarlington Fellowship Breakfast

Portarlington will conduct the first Fellowship Breakfast meeting for 2013 on Saturday, 9 February, commencing at 7.30am.

Guest Speaker will be Ms Merrin Hughes, daughter of David & Lorraine Hughes. Late last year, Merrin spent some months in Tanzania helping to build accommodation for local dispensing staff who were without facilities. She will tell us of some of her interesting experiences.

All members of the Linked Congregations and their friends are most welcome to attend. Acceptances to Barry Ruler on 5259 3304 by Thursday evening 7 February.

FOR ALL CONGREGATIONS

A workshop is being held on "Mission Shaped Introduction" at Western Heights Uniting Church on Tuesdays 19, 26 February and 5 March, 5.30 – 8.30pm. Book with Adam McIntosh on 0414725887 by 4 February.

There is also a Worship Leaders Education Day on Saturday, 16 February, 10.00am – 2.00pm at Hoppers Crossing Uniting Church. Book with Adam also.