



Linked Congregations of the Bellarine



Uniting Church in Australia

Portarlington

Drysdale

News sheet for Sunday, 21 April, 2024

THIS WEEK IN OUR CONGREGATIONS

Sunday, 21 April

Portarlington

9.00am Rev. Karen Eller
Loose change and foodbank

Drysdale

10.30am Rev. Karen Eller

Sunday, 28 April

Portarlington

9.00am Lay team - Pigdon

Drysdale

10.30am Rev. Karen Eller

LECTIONARY READINGS

21 April Acts 4: 5-12
Easter 4 Psalm 23
1 John 3: 16-24
John 10: 11-18

28 April Acts 8: 26-40
Easter 5 Psalm 22: 25-31
1 John 4: 7-21
John 15: 1-8

Theme Ideas

The good shepherd and the shepherding love of Christ focus today's readings. While Acts focuses on the unique saving ability of Jesus Christ, John implies that other sheep are part of God's fold.

The familiar words of Psalm 23 become fresh when interwoven with the words of John 10 and 1 John 3. Though not in today's readings, conjoining Psalm 23 with Isaiah 40:31 provides a vision of strength and comfort.

Prayer (Psalm 23)

Shepherding God,
you bring us into your presence
and shower us with your love.
You lead us beside the still
waters and restore our souls.
Touch our hearts and minds,
that we may live your love
and abide in your grace. Amen.



Prayer (John 10, 1 John 3)

God of many pastures,
we never tire of hearing
the voice of our shepherd;
we never tire of hearing
the call to lay our burdens down;
we never tire of hearing
the invitation to dwell in your house forever.



Forgive us, loving shepherd,
when we try to keep you as our own—
thinking that we alone have your love,
thinking that others wander alone
without your care and guidance.

Open our eyes, that we may recognize the sheep of your fold
wherever they may be and whatever they may look like.
Amen.

Minister:
Reverend Karen Eller
Email: kareneller@gmail.com
Phone: 0407 519 759
Web:

Office, Drysdale Church Centre:
High Street DRYSDALE
drysdaleuc@yahoo.com.au
0490 452 325 (Office)
<http://drysdale.unitingchurch.org.au>

Drysdale Uniting Church Op Shop:
High Street DRYSDALE
Monday to Friday (11.00am – 4.00pm)
Saturday (10.00am – 12.30pm)
0490 452 325

ALL CONGREGATIONS

Sacrededge Festival 3-5 May, 2024



Queenscliff Uniting Church will host its annual Sacrededge festival from May 3-5, bringing people together for a weekend of arts, music and stories.

Sacrededge is our response to a sometimes harsh and fearful world. It is an opportunity to connect with people from diverse backgrounds.

Rather than debate and argue about issues Q&A style, this unique festival

listens to people from the edge... their stories, music, poetry.

Our presenters, artists & performers come from a range of backgrounds – First Nations, Refugee, LGBTIQA+ folk, Carers for the Earth and Ocean.

They are the voices from the edge who are vulnerable and not normally heard.

With a bunch of people from different spiritual traditions and none, people who love stories, justice, ideas, music and the arts, community is created.

Sacrededge is a lived experience of how we can treasure each other in all our glorious diversity and find our hearts and minds expanded and enriched.

Information & bookings: www.unitingqueenscliff.org.au Queenscliff Uniting Church.

Anzac Day in Villers Bretonneux 2024



With our own Wayne Myers attending the commemoration in Villers-Brettonneux this year, here are a few facts.

Throughout early April in 1918, Australian units helped defend Villers-Brettonneux from this onslaught, but at dawn on 24 April the Germans attacked and captured the town. Leading the British counter attack, the Australian 13th and 15th Brigades enveloped the town and successfully cleared it of Germans on 25 April, coinciding with the third anniversary of the Anzac landings at Gallipoli.

The Anzac Day Dawn Service on 25 April 2024, not only commemorates the Anzac landings at Gallipoli but also approximately 330,000 Australians who served overseas during the First World War, including over 295,000 who served on the Western Front. Some 46,000 were killed and more than 18,000 remain missing on the battlefields across France and Belgium. (*Department of Veterans' Affairs*).

The Official Anzac Day Dawn Service at Villers-Brettonneux begins at 5.30am and finishes at 6.30am. That's 1.30pm-2.30pm for us in Victoria.

Have you visited one of the many places and memorials in Europe, which commemorate the loss of lives from various battles/beach landings? I was struck by the daily tally of deaths – over 4000 allied troops in one day at Omaha Beach in Normandy on D-Day, June 6, 1944, with 5000 injured. And so many graves there are marked as "Known only to God."

Marie.

Lifeline - Over 60 years of hope



On 16 March 1963, at 5.00pm Lifeline was born to reach those in moments of despair, loneliness or crisis.

Concerned by the increasing phone calls

from people in distress, including a man who took his own life, Wesley Mission's then Superintendent, Rev Sir Alan Walker, founded the 24/7 telephone crisis support service. The line took 50 calls in the first night and 11,664 in the first year. "From a desperate call, the tragedy of suicide and a helplessness that was felt by many... the amazing work of Lifeline was born." – Rev Sir Alan Walker Since this day over 60 years ago, compassionate volunteers across Australia have kept the lines of Lifeline open every minute of every day, allowing the service to be there for people in their darkest moments.

Today, with 41 centres across Australia, Lifeline has answered 23 million calls and is the leading suicide prevention service in the country. Uniting's Lifeline Melbourne and Ballarat delivers crisis support and suicide prevention services, answering over 3,000 calls each day which is one call every 30 seconds. Since opening in 1963, compassionate volunteers have been the foundation of the service.

Dale.Barker-Harrington@unitingvictas.org.au

DRYSDALE

Coffee and Chat

There will be no Coffee and Chat this Thursday, due to the Anzac Day commemorations. We will be back together next week.

PORTARLINGTON

Large print wording

For anyone having difficulty reading the screens in worship, please note that a large print copy of the weekly worship service (especially hymns that are not in the large print *Together in Song* hymn book, responsive prayers, etc) can be made available.

Please speak with Joy or Joan if you would like one printed for you.

To place a church-related notice in this news sheet, email the wording to the church office, drysdaleuc@yahoo.com.au, by Tuesday evening. Notices are generally repeated once, or twice if there is sufficient space. So, please send them in ahead of the event or desired date.