



Linked Congregations of the Bellarine



Uniting Church in Australia

Portarlington

Drysdale

News sheet for Sunday, 20 April 2025

THIS WEEK IN OUR CONGREGATIONS

Sunday, 20 April Easter Day

Portarlington

9.00am Rev. Karen Eller, *loose change and Foodbank*

Drysdale

10.30am Rev. Karen Eller

Thursday, 24 April

10.00am Drysdale Coffee and Chat, Café Zoo

Saturday, 26 April

8.00am Breakfast Bible Study
Café Zoo

Sunday, 27 April,

Portarlington

9.00am Lay team – Rev. Mark Dunn

Drysdale

10.30am Rev. Karen Eller

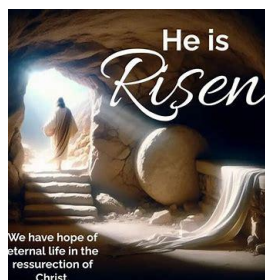
LECTIONARY READINGS

Sunday 20 April Easter Day

Acts 10: 34-43 or
Isaiah 65:17-25
Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24
1 Corinthians 15: 19-26
John 20: 1-18 or Luke 24: 1-12

Sunday 27 April Easter 2

Acts 5: 27-32
Psalm 118: 14-29 or Psalm 150
Revelation 1: 4-18
John 20: 19-31



Christ is risen!

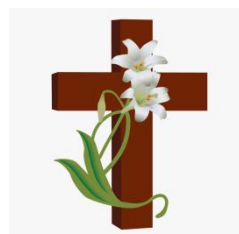
Christ is risen indeed!
For us the stone has been
rolled away.

Hallelujah!
The old has passed away, all
things have become new.
Hallelujah!

Let us with supreme happiness celebrate this feast
Christ is risen indeed!

Commentary on Acts 10 reading

For the first Christians, Easter was the real thing. Not superstition. Nor was resurrection merely a “lofty paradigm” as some suggest these days. It was not a paradigm of those events when hope rises up from desolation, courage from anxiety, success out of failure, love out of the ruins of hate, and life from the scenes of death. Easter was the real thing. Not a myth, not just a paradigm, not a parable. But an event!



Their Christ was alive and available to them in a new and permanent way. New creation was among them and around them and within them. Death could never again harm Jesus, nor could their own dying separate them from his living presence.

Like Mary outside the tomb, they heard and saw and experienced and believed. Only the power of that risen Reality was able to transform the monumental despair (that dumped on them when Christ had been crucified) into the exhilaration and confidence that followed Easter.

Bruce Prewer

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High Street DRYSDALE
Monday to Friday (11.00am – 4.00pm)
Saturday (10.00am – 12.30pm)

Easter: growing hope from heartache



The Easter Sunday promise of new life

And there's more good news! The Easter story doesn't end on Friday with Jesus' crucifixion and death. That heartache for his followers gave way to hope when Jesus rose back to life on the Sunday.

As we've seen in recent times, the Australian landscape is an amazing picture of God's Easter promise. Out of devastation – burnt stumps and dry ground – new life springs forth in the bush and in the paddock.

This reminds us of the resilience God has built into the human spirit. Even out of our heartache, there is hope for renewal and growth. Our landscape represents the promise we hold to that – even in our most difficult or devastating times – God assures us he is able to work out a good plan. Jesus died and was placed in a tomb. To the outside world, it seemed pretty hopeless. Jesus' family, friends and followers watched him die and "went home in deep sorrow" (Luke 23:48, NLT).

But God was at work. The resurrection of Jesus on the third day (Easter Sunday) is evidence of that. Jesus came back to life and offers us a new life with him. Even when we can't see what is going on beneath the surface of hard times and heartache, we can have hope that good things are still to come.

God's promises are for anyone and everyone. He promises to work out a good plan. He offers wholeness, salvation and hope. No one is outside God's love and the new life we can have through Jesus.

Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will live, even after dying" (John 11:25, NLT).

<https://www.salvationarmy.org.au/our-faith/easter/easter-growing-hope-from-heartache/>

Introduction to Meditation



Why Meditation?

From a well-being point of view regular meditation has been clinically proved to lower stress levels and therefore, have a positive influence on mind, body and spirit.

Meditation in the Christian tradition goes back to Biblical times and especially through the later desert mothers and fathers.

Peter Batten is offering a 5-week course in meditation.

Dates: 23 April, 30 April, 7 May, 14 May, 28 May

Place: Drysdale Uniting Church

Time: 8 - 8.30am

Peter has been practising and teaching meditation for many years in many different settings.

Further information contact Peter 0419 255 585

Pjbatten5@bigpond.com

PORTARLINGTON

Car Boot Sale Saturday 26 April 8.00am – 1.00pm

Our planned fund-raising effort has had good bookings from community members for this event, so now we need help from St Andrew's members to assist with a sausage sizzle, and a produce/cakes/ biscuits stall on that day.

To meet health regulations, please ensure your produce/ cakes/ biscuits are labelled with ingredients and phone number of the maker.



Speak with Heather, Keith, or any Church Council member to offer your support.

EVEN AN HOUR OF YOUR TIME THAT DAY WILL BE A GREAT HELP

Democracy Sausage Sizzle

St Andrew's Hall will be a polling place on Election Day 3 May so we plan to hold a Democracy Sausage Sizzle that day as a further fund-raising event.



YOUR help is needed to set up very early on Saturday May 3 and to cook and handle money during the day and to pack away afterwards.

Speak with Heather, Keith, or any Church Council member to offer your support.

EVEN AN HOUR OF YOUR TIME THAT DAY WILL BE A GREAT HELP.

Congregation Meeting

A short Congregation meeting will be held immediately following worship on Sunday 11 May to consider one matter concerning the property redevelopment.

YOUR INPUT IS VITAL, SO PLEASE PLAN TO BE THERE.

DRYSDALE

Thank you from the Jacobs

Mervyn and Brenda would like to thank all of their friends at Drysdale for their prayers, calls and wishes during Mervyn's recent period of illness.



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. Please send them in ahead of the event or desired date and indicate in which section you would like your notice to appear.