



Linked Congregations of the Bellarine



Uniting Church in Australia

Portarlington

Drysdale

News sheet for Sunday, 30 March 2025

THIS WEEK IN OUR CONGREGATIONS

Sunday, 30 March

Combined Bellarine Linked Congregations
at Portarlington

Shared lunch to follow

10.15am Rev. Karen Eller

Tuesday, 1 April

2.00pm Portarlington Lenten Study

Wednesday 2 April

2.00 pm Portarlington Midweek Service.
Rev. Karen Eller.

Thursday, 3 April

10.00am Drysdale Coffee and Chat, Café Zoo

Friday 4 April

10.30am Morning Tea with the Minister at
Drysdale

Sunday 6 April

Portarlington

9.00am Rev. Karen Eller

Drysdale

10.30am Rev. Karen Eller, *Holy Communion*,
Loose change and Foodbank.



LECTIONARY READINGS

Sunday 30 March

Lent 4

Joshua 5:9-12

Psalm 32

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Sunday 6 April

Lent 5

Isaiah 43:16-21

Psalm 126

Philippians 3:4b-14

John 12:1-8

Theme Ideas from Ministry Matters

Have you ever lost something? The wilderness had taken its toll on the people of God. For forty years Israel has been a transient nation, wandering throughout an endless desert wilderness with no destination. They were there because they broke covenant with Yahweh. And throughout those four decades they suspended covenant living, thus suspending the joy of the covenant God. If they were to regain the joy of covenant privilege there was a standard of living to be maintained. Joshua summons the joyless people to a new departure—a departure to joy.

Prayer from Ministry Matters

Gracious Lord, we have set aside this day to celebrate One Great Hour of Sharing, a time in which we can offer our help and our substance for the work of your kingdom in helping others. We have created a special day for this offering, yet you would have us adopt this attitude of sharing all of our days. Bring us to the understanding of the joy of sharing all that we have with others; of reaching out to others in compassion and love as you have done for us. We hear the need to be those who would bring peace and hope to others. Let us place our trust in you so that our sharing is a reflection of your forgiving and reconciling love. In Jesus Christ, we offer this prayer. AMEN

Minister: Office, Drysdale Church Centre: Drysdale Uniting Church Op Shop:

Reverend Karen Eller

Email: kareneller@gmail.com

Phone: 0407 519 759

Web:

High Street DRYSDALE

drysdaleuc@yahoo.com.au

0490 452 325 (Office)

<http://drysdale.unitingchurch.org.au> 0490 452 325

High Street DRYSDALE

Monday to Friday (11.00am – 4.00pm)

Saturday (10.00am – 12.30pm)

PORTARLINGTON

Rosters

It's not too late to volunteer for one or more of our rostered duties – manager, pastoral carer, reader, prayers of the people, morning tea, for the months of April, May and June. To any new volunteers and to those who have volunteered already would you please message me with any dates that you know you will not be available. Phone: 0419355492 or email hughestwo@bigpond.com. Many thanks, Lorraine.

Monthly After Church Lunch

Our after church lunch will be held at the Portarlington Golf Club on Sunday 13 April at 12 noon. Please book with Lorraine in person or message hughestwo@bigpond.com or 0419 355 492 before 10 April.

DRYSDALE

Pilgrimage



Saturday 5 April is your chance to join us as we walk 4.5 kms from Curlewis cliff top to the church. There will be stopping points along the way to join in and listen to the special liturgy being written

by our congregation. Starting time is 9.30am finishing at the church for lunch at about 12.00pm. Please add your name to the sheet in the foyer if you would like to take part. If walking that distance is a problem you can drive between each station.

Easter Stall

Our Easter stall is coming soon on Saturday 19 April. We invite members of the congregation to help with items to sell, with setup, selling and pack up. The normal stalls of crafts, cakes & slices, jams & preserves, plants & books will be there.

Drysdale Family Support Foodbank

Thank you to Drysdale Uniting Church for their generous donation of pantry items this week. We appreciate each person who contributed.

Drysdale Family Support is currently accepting donations of much needed pantry items such as pasta, pasta sauce, flour (plain and SR), cereal, tinned vegetables, tinned soups, crackers, dry biscuits, toilet paper, personal hygiene items, noodles, tea and coffee.

If you are able to help, please drop items to Drysdale Community Church on Jetty Rd in Curlewis. 100% of items donated go directly to those in need in our local community.

ALL CONGREGATIONS

Israeli and Palestinian Peace Groups - *JustAct* March 2025

Returning hate for hate multiplies hate ... Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that... So when Jesus says, "Love your enemies", He is setting forth a profound and ultimately inescapable admonition: Rev Martin Luther King, 1969

Seeking a lasting peace between Palestine and Israel will come only from meeting the needs of all the people involved, not beating one group into terrified submission. The heartening news is that there are number of peace groups in these warring countries that are working hard for effective communication and just peace. These groups lack resources for their important work compared to those dedicated to ongoing killings and destruction, such as Hamas and the Netanyahu government.

The Synod of Victoria and Tasmania provided \$5,000 to each of the **Wi'am**: The Palestinian Conflict Transformation Centre and **Parents Circle – Families Forum**. If we also want to make a financial contribution to one the groups, we can do this through our Synod.

Synod lists the following peace groups:

Wi'am - a grassroots Christian-led civil society organization based in Bethlehem. It promotes non-violent resistance to the Israeli occupation. See <https://www.alaslah.org/>

Refuser Solidarity Network - includes and supports Israelis who have been imprisoned for refusing military service in opposition to the current war.

See <https://www.refuser.org/>

Parents Circle – Families Forum - a joint Israeli-Palestinian organisation of families who have lost an immediate family member to the current war. They help bereaved parents speak publicly for peace.

See <https://www.theparentscircle.org/>

Peace Now - advocates for peace through the creation of a Palestinian state alongside Israel. It has identified illegal Israeli settlements as one of the largest obstacles to peace and so works to stop illegal settlement activity.

See <https://peacenow.org.il/en>

Standing Together - demands an end to the occupation of the West Bank and East Jerusalem and has a network of Israelis to protect Palestinians from violence in these places. See <https://www.standing-together.org/en>

Roots - a network of local Palestinians and Israeli settlers in the West Bank who work together to develop trust and end conflict. See <https://www.friendsofroots.net/>

Women Wage Peace and Women of the Sun - an Israeli based women's organization that brings together Jewish, Muslim, Christian and Druze women who, together, are demanding diplomatic negotiation, with full representation of women, to end the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

See <https://www.womenwagepeace.org.il/en/> Andrea

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.