



Linked Congregations of the Bellarine



Uniting Church in Australia

Portarlington

Drysdale

News sheet for Sunday, 25 May 2025

THIS WEEK IN OUR CONGREGATIONS

Sunday, 25 May

Portarlington

9.00am Lay Team – Ian and Joy Porter

Drysdale

10.30am Rev. Karen Eller

Thursday, 29 May

10.00am Drysdale Coffee & Chat, Café Zoo

Sunday, 1 June

Portarlington

9.00am Rev. Karen Eller
Holy Communion

Drysdale

10.30am Rev. Karen Eller; *Holy Communion*,
Loose Change & Food Bank

LECTIONARY READINGS

Sunday 25 May **Easter 6**

Acts 16: 9-15
Psalm 67
Revelation 21: 10, 22-22: 5
John 14: 23-29 or
John 5: 1-9

Sunday 1 June **Easter 7**

Acts 16: 16-34
Psalm 97
Revelation 22: 12-14, 16-17, 20-21
John 17: 20-26



Theme comments

In John 14:23-29, Jesus reassures his disciples of his continued presence through the Holy Spirit, emphasizing love, obedience, and the peace he offers amid their impending separation.
Working Preacher

Revelation 21 and 22 encapsulate the hope and promise of eternal life for believers, portraying a future where God reigns supreme, and God's people experience unbroken fellowship with the Divine One. The imagery of the New Jerusalem serves as a powerful reminder of the ultimate victory over sin and death, inviting believers to look forward to the fulfilment of God's promises in the new creation. These chapters encourage faithfulness and perseverance, assuring believers that their struggles will be transformed into eternal joy in God's presence.
Bible Study Tools

Psalms 67 is a prayer for God's blessing and a call for all nations to praise Him, emphasizing the universal scope of God's mercy and salvation.

Prayer from re: Worship

Loving God,
Through the gift of Your own Spirit,
You abide with us and in us.



We rejoice in Your love for us,
and in the life we have been given
through the loving gift of Your Son,
Jesus Christ.

Open our eyes to recognise Your presence here among us;
open our hearts to the love that You have for us;
open our minds to the truth You would reveal to us. Amen.

Meditation course

Peter Batten will conduct the final session on meditation, in the current series, this week.

Date: Wednesday 28 May
Place: Drysdale Uniting Church
Time: 8 - 8.30am approx.

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

For further information contact Peter on 0419 255 585 or Pjbatten5@bigpond.com



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

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: 10.30am – 1.00pm

ALL CONGREGATIONS

Just Act - Children Experiencing Family Violence

Love is at the core of Christian belief. Intimately connected to love is justice. Family violence preys on people in their vulnerability and attacks a person's most basic human values of trust, love, hope and self-worth.

When I was a young I used to volunteer at Christian Youth Camps. Most of the youngsters were happy to return home after a couple of weeks at camp. Not so one girl; she wept and clung to camp leaders in her distress at having to return home. She lived near my childhood home so I contacted someone there that knew the family. She told me that it was common for the girl's father to beat up her mother and the girl be given the job of cleaning up. The child was not beaten herself but the home was still hell.

JustAct's April update on government action to address family violence emphasises impacts on children. The Victorian Commissioner for Children and Young People, Liana Bung People, Liana Buchanan, recently raised concern that children experiencing family violence remain largely overlooked in the Victorian government's family violence response. She examined the suicide of 35 children in Victoria between 2007 and 2019 who were known to child protection services. In all but one case, the children's lives had been marred by family violence before their deaths.

Children have told the Commissioner they feel invisible in the system that is supposed to support survivors of family and domestic violence. They are usually treated as a mere extension of their protective parent. The Commissioner has raised concerns that currently, there are minimal, if any, crisis intervention and accommodation services designed specifically for young people who are caught up in domestic violence. As a result, young people escaping family violence risk homelessness and face government-funded systems that are ill-equipped to meet their needs.

What You Can Do:

Write to or email The Minister for Prevention of Family Violence 121 Exhibition Street Melbourne VIC 3000, e-mail: minofficehutchins@ecodev.vic.gov.au

Acknowledge efforts the Victorian Government has already made to reduce family violence, but that there is also urgent need to address:

- The protection of children and young people on an equal basis with abused adults.
- Impacts on young people results from seeing abuse as well as being abuse directly.
- Age appropriate provision for young people to apply to courts for family violence orders and for them to be named as protected persons in these orders.
- Court proceedings that avoid further trauma for young people.
- Investment in crisis and longer-term accommodation designed specifically for young people who are survivors of family violence.

Andrea Lindsay

Winter Appeal

For many struggling in our communities, the next few months will be spent fighting the harsh realities of winter. Without the basic essentials of blankets, warm clothing, swags, sleeping bags, thermos flasks, toiletries and non-perishable food, the search for warmth and safety can be exhausting and overwhelming.

Cost-of-living hikes have meant more and more people are being forced to live on the margins. Affording the basics is becoming an unachievable goal and families are having to choose between electricity or food, medicine or warmth. Today, we're asking for your help and your kindness to urgently provide warmth, comfort and a hopeful future to those who need it most this winter.

Go to unitingvictas.org.au/local-winter/ to find drop-off locations or to donate money.

Drysdale Uniting is currently collecting the winter woollies and will deliver them at the end of the collection time.

PORTARLINGTON

Communion Service

Please note, our usual Communion Service has been brought forward from Sunday 8 June to Sunday 1 June, at the usual time of 9.00am.

Sammy Stamp Collection

Thank you for placing your used postage stamps in the Sammy Stamp box in the narthex. Joy will be sending the next lot away to Sammy Stamp soon so, if you have any, please place them in the box in the next two weeks.

DRYSDALE

Australia's Biggest Morning Tea meets Minister's Morning Tea

Friday, June 6 from 10.30am to 12.00noon



This is part of a nation-wide fundraiser for the Cancer Council. Feel free to invite your friends, neighbours and extended family. Donations received for the Cancer Council.

We will have a sand tray in the church for anyone who would like to light a taper for loved ones impacted by cancer.

Thanks, *Karen*.

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.