



Uniting Church in Australia

Linked Congregations of the Bellarine



Portarlington



Drysdale

News sheet for Sunday, 27 July 2025

THIS WEEK IN OUR LINKED CONGREGATIONS

Sunday, 27 July

Portarlington

9.00am Portarlington Lay Team, Hughes

Drysdale

10.30am Portarlington Lay Team, Hughes

Thursday, 31 July

10.00am Coffee and Chat, Café Zoo

Friday, 1 August

10.30am Morning Tea with the Minister

Sunday, 3 August

Portarlington

9.00am Rev. Karen Eller

Drysdale

10.30am Rev. Karen Eller
Holy Communion
Loose Change and Foodbank

LECTIONARY READINGS

Sunday 27 July **Pentecost 7**

Hosea 1:2-10
Psalm 85
Colossians 2:6-15 (16-19)
Luke 11:1-13

Sunday 3 August **Pentecost 8**

Hosea 11:1-11
Psalm 107:1-9, 43
Colossians 3:1-11
Luke 12:13-21



Theme from Ministry Matters

Today's scriptures invite us to draw closer to God in a variety of ways. The Israelites must repent and return to God, if they are to embrace their blessings as "children of the living God." These texts remind us of the danger of wandering away and abandoning the God who both creates and saves us. The letter to the Colossians advises us to remain close to God, by being rooted in Christ and growing in faith with overflowing gratitude. And Jesus guides his disciples, then and now, to communicate so intimately and trustingly with God, that when they ask, God will answer.

Prayers from Ministry Matters

Christ Jesus, we come to your house this day,
knocking and asking that the door may be opened.
We come seeking your face
and yearning for your presence in our lives.
Open the door of our hearts,
as you have opened the doors of your church.
Lift our faces,
that we may see your face shining upon us.
Answer our yearning,
that our restive hearts may find their rest in you.
Grow in our lives, Christ Jesus.
Make our hearts larger
with each gift of your grace.
Make our spirits stronger
with each moment of your mercy.
As you fill our lives with your presence,
fill our hearts with your love,
that we might grow into your likeness.
As we grow in your love,
may we give our love and grace as freely
as you have generously given your love to us.
Amen.



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Drysdale Uniting Church Op Shop:
High Street DRYSDALE
Monday to Friday: 11.00am – 4.00pm
Saturday: 10.30am – 1.00pm

ALL CONGREGATIONS



Caring for God's Creation

Tech Waste and the Digital Divide

The Laptop Initiative is a small, volunteer-driven charity founded in 2024. Their mission is to bridge the digital divide by providing laptops to refugees, asylum-seekers, disadvantaged youth, and women escaping domestic violence.

By partnering with generous Corporate Heroes and dedicated charities, they repurpose unwanted laptops to empower those in need with education, employment opportunities and vital connections.

Every 3-4 years, companies replace their laptops. In Australia alone, 4 million laptops are sold annually, yet only 10% are recycled, with many ending up in landfills. Meanwhile, over 2 million Australians still live without access to a device or the internet. Students are falling behind in school simply because they don't have the tools to learn.

Australia throws out over 20 kilograms of e-waste per person every year – laptops, phones, tablets, anything with a plug or a battery. Perfectly usable tech which ends up in landfill.

The Laptop Initiative is here to flip that equation – turning tech waste into opportunity, bridging the digital divide and empowering the next generation to thrive.

Source: <https://thelaptopinitiative.com.au/>



The Victorian Government has plans to demolish 6660 homes in public housing tower blocks and as a result 10,000 residents will be displaced. Many of these people are from First Nations or asylum seeker and refugee backgrounds and this means that the most vulnerable in our community will be greatly affected.

Do attend if you can

Justice and Mission Team

DRYSDALE

Call to Prayer- Thursday 31 July 2025

The last day in July is our annual Call to Prayer for the work of CWCI (Christian Women Communicating International). We would love you to set aside an hour of your time on Thursday 31 July to continue bringing the people and ministries of CWCI before our loving heavenly Creator. Why not meet with a friend, or pray with your KYB group? You may also like to use the 2025 CWCI Australian Prayer Calendar to ensure you bring every aspect of our ministry before our loving heavenly Creator. A copy of the prayer calendar and the associated scripture verses can be found at <https://cwciaus.org.au/pray/>

Lynda Smith

PORTARLINGTON

St Andrew's Renovations

It is anticipated that our renovations will begin around mid-August. As a result, our first Sunday worshipping at the Portarlington Guide Hall (located in the Recreation Reserve in Boat Rd) will be **Sunday August 17th**

WORKING BEES!!! WE NEED YOU

To assist with the forthcoming renovations, we need all *hands on deck* to pack furniture and other church items from hall and church prior to the commencement of our renovations.

There will be **2 working bees**

Monday, 4 August at 2pm

Tuesday, 12 August at 2pm



WANTED

Some safe storage: a garage or spare room for our church TVs and audio equipment.

They will be carefully wrapped in protective *bubble wrap*.

We just need the space to store.

Speak with David or Joan if you can help.

Free Community Bus Service

Portarlington will get a free community bus service 18 months earlier than anticipated, thanks to KMG Community Events and the support of the Portarlington Golf Club.

This door-to-door service, run fortnightly by volunteers on Tuesdays and Thursdays, is to assist those who lack accessible transport. Pick-ups and drop-offs from Portarlington, Indented Head and St Leonards are at no cost, but donations are appreciated.

The next Tuesday service is on 29 July to the Drysdale shops (Coles and ALDI) and the next Thursday service is on 7 August to the Leopold shopping centre. Each service offers 2 hours of shopping from 10am to 12 noon.

To book a seat on the bus, call 0493 339 539 at least 24 hours in advance and you will receive a call back to confirm your booking.

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.