



Linked Congregations of the Bellarine



Uniting Church in Australia

Portarlington

Drysdale

News sheet for Sunday, 28 September 2025

THIS WEEK IN OUR LINKED CONGREGATIONS

Sunday, 28 September

Portarlington

9.00am Lay Team – Pigdon
Portarlington Guide Hall

Drysdale

10.30am Lay Team - Denise
Pet blessing service



Wednesday, 1 October

2.00pm Mid-week service
Portarlington, Marg Manning's home

Thursday, 2 October

10.00am Coffee and Chat, Café Zoo

Friday, 3 October 2025

10.30am Morning Tea with the Minister
Drysdale Church Hall

Sunday, 5 October

Portarlington

9.00am Rev Karen Eller, Portarlington Guide Hall
Holy Communion

Drysdale

10.30am Rev Karen Eller
Holy Communion
Loose Change and Foodbank

SCRIPTURE READINGS



**PEACE
WITH CREATION**
SEASON OF CREATION 2025

During September, we will be following the
Season of Creation readings.

Sunday, 28 September Psalms 104
Luke 15:1-7

Sunday 5 October Lamentations 1:1-6,
Pentecost 17 Lamentations 3:19-26 or
Psalms 137
2 Timothy 1:1-14
Luke 17:5-10

Theme from Ministry Matters

(Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15; Psalms 91:1-6, 14-16;
1 Timothy 6:6-19; Luke 16:19-31)

Today's Hebrew Scripture readings show the fulfilment of God's promises: return from exile, hope of new beginnings, and the assurance of new life springing from the ground. The New Testament readings focus on the trappings of wealth and the temptation to put our trust in money, rather than in God. Those who are wealthy have a responsibility to share their riches with the poor, for wealth is an opportunity to perform works of generosity. Paul and Jesus warn that hoarding our riches has eternal consequences.

Prayer from Ministry Matters

Generous Spirit, you call us to share our riches with the poor and disadvantaged, lest we follow self-interest to our ruin and destruction. Teach us to bestow your blessings on those in need, lest we be trapped by selfish desire. Set our hearts on the riches of good works, rather than the allure of earthly treasures. Help us take hold of the life that really is life. Merciful God, in our quest for riches and success, we often wander away from your ways and pierce ourselves with many pains. We yearn to be content with what we have, for we brought nothing into this world and take nothing from it when we leave. We long to focus on things that endure: righteousness, godliness, faith, love, and gentleness. Help us fight the good fight, that we might taste the sweetness of your salvation and touch the glory of eternal life in your name. 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

Housing for Victims of Family Violence – JustAct 21/09/2025:

While nursing her four-month-old baby one evening on the south coast of NSW, 'Elsa' called a family violence refuge hotline. It was her only opportunity to do so, as her abusive partner was out of the house. She was told that there was a ten-year waiting list for accommodation. Luckily, she could briefly couch surf with trusted friends before applying for a low-quality rental property. "If that had not happened, I may have had to go back to him".

Domestic and family violence is a form of oppression that breaks the human spirit, preys on people in their vulnerability and attacks a person's most basic human values of trust, love, hope and self-worth. In Australia, family violence is the leading cause of homelessness for women. In Victoria, in 2022-2023, 54% of all women, young people and children who visited a Specialist Homelessness Service reported they had experienced family violence. A lack of housing for those fleeing family violence can force them to return to abusive and dangerous partners. Children, women, and young people in urgent need of housing as a result of family violence are waiting an average of 19.5 months to get into social housing. One in four survivors of family violence does not get even emergency accommodation.

There is an increasing use of motels as crisis accommodation for people fleeing family violence. This is a stop gap. Motels frequently lack cooking facilities and have nowhere for children to play and spend time outside their motel room. They fail to provide safety and stability in the longer term.

What You Can Do:

(see <https://justact.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/Letter-writing-action-on-family-violence-and-housing-August-2025-1.pdf>)

Write or e-mails the Federal Minister for Housing - Minister for Homelessness and/or the Assistant Minister for Women and the Prevention of Family Violence.

Express your concern at the lack of housing for people having to flee family violence and ask that the Australian Government fund the provision of 30,000 homes as social housing annually over the next 20 years.

Request that the Australian Government fund additional Special Family Violence Service staff so that these services can better assist people impacted by family violence to find safe and secure housing; and, double crisis accommodation places for people fleeing family violence to reduce (expensive) reliance on hotels.

Andrea Lindsay



Caring for God's Creation

You can change lives in West Papua!

In remote West Papua, families are facing a dangerous mix of poverty, malnutrition, and climate-driven disasters. Crops are failing, fish stocks shrinking, and natural resources are being depleted. Life is becoming harder every day. But there is hope.

Our partners at the Evangelical Christian Church in the Land of Papua (GKI-TP) are leading bold, locally driven solutions that bring people and nature back into balance. They are helping families plant climate-resilient food gardens, restore forests, start small businesses, and equipping women and young people to lead as conservation champions.

Your gift will help families put food on the table today, while protecting the forests and livelihoods they need for tomorrow.

Here's what your gift can do:

\$25 can provide a family with 10 chicks, plus training to raise them for eggs and income.

\$50 can provide training to help someone build a sustainable income and create a better future for their family.

\$100 can provide 10 families with food supplements and cooking training to improve child nutrition

\$300 can equip 10 families with seeds, tools and training to grow sustainable kitchen gardens.

\$1000 can help five families establish a joint small business to generate lasting income.

In a part of the world too often forgotten, your gift makes a real difference. You'll be standing with our local partners to change lives where help is needed most.

Please give today at

<https://donate.unitingworld.org.au/spring-appeal-2025>

and together we can help families overcome poverty in ways that also protect God's creation.

With hope,

Dr Sureka Goringe

National Director

UnitingWorld

Diary Date

Peace Camino 2025, Queenscliff

Sunday 9 November, 2025, at 12pm

Holy Trinity Parish is offering a Sunday afternoon

Pilgrimage, walking 10km along the Bellarine Rail Trail from the Memorial Indigenous Gardens, Mannerim, to Holy Trinity Church, Queenscliff.

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.