

Linked Congregations of the Bellarine



Uniting Church in Australia



Portarlington



Drysdale

NEWS SHEET - SUNDAY, 1 MARCH 2026

MARCH IN OUR CONGREGATIONS

WORSHIP SERVICES

LECTIONARY READINGS

Sunday, 1 March

9.00am **Portarlington** Rev. Karen Eller.

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

Wednesday, 4 March

2.00pm **Portarlington** Rev. Karen Eller, worship at 34 Batman St., Portarlington

Sunday, 8 March

10.30am **Drysdale** Rev. Karen Eller, *Harvest Celebration (see Notices)*
Linked Congregations

Tuesday, 10 March

11.00am **Drysdale** Rev. Karen Eller, at Regis

Sunday, 15 March

9.00am **Portarlington** Rev. Karen Eller, *Holy Communion, loose change and Foodbank*
10.30am **Drysdale** Drysdale Lay Team - Wayne

Thursday, 19 March

11.00am **Portarlington** Rev. Karen Eller, at Arcare

Sunday, 22 March

9.00am **Portarlington** Portarlington Lay Team – Pigdon

10.30am **Drysdale** Rev. Karen Eller

Sunday, 29 March

10.30am **Drysdale** Rev. Karen Eller
Linked Congregations

Wednesday, 1 April

2.00pm **Portarlington** Rev. Karen Eller, worship at 34 Batman St., Portarlington

Thursday, 2 April

7.00pm **Drysdale** Rev. Karen Eller, *Maundy Thursday*

Friday, 3 April

9.30am **Drysdale** Rev. Karen Eller, *Good Friday*

Sunday, 5 April

9.00am **Portarlington** Rev. Karen Eller, *Easter Sunday Holy Communion*

10.30am **Drysdale** Rev. Karen Eller, *Easter Sunday Holy Communion, loose change and Foodbank*

Sunday, 1 March

Lent 2

Genesis 12:1-4a
Psalm 121
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17
John 3:1-17 or Matthew 17:1-9

Sunday, 8 March

Lent 3

Exodus 17:1-17
Psalm 95
Romans 5:1-11
John 4:5-42

Sunday, 15 March

Lent 4

1 Samuel 16:1-13
Psalm 23
Ephesians 5:8-14
John 9:1-41

Sunday, 22 March

Lent 5

Ezekiel 37:1-14
Psalm 130
Romans 8:6-11
John 11:1-45

Sunday, 29 March

Palm Sunday

Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29
Philippians 2:5-11
Matthew 21:1-11

Thursday, 2 April

Maundy Thursday

Exodus 12:1-4, (5-10), 11-14
Psalm 116: 1-2, 12-19
1 Corinthians: 11:23-26
John 13: 1-17, 31b-35

Friday, 3 April

Good Friday

Isaiah 52:13 - 53:12
Psalm 22
Hebrews 10: 16-25 or
Hebrews 4: 14-16; 5: 7-9
John 18: 1 - 19:42

Sunday, 5 April

Easter Sunday

Acts 10: 34-43 or
Jeremiah 31: 1-6
Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24
Colossians 3:1-4 or Acts 10: 34-43
John 20:1-18 or Matthew 28: 1-10

Minister: Office

Reverend Karen Eller

Email: kareneller@gmail.com

Phone: 0407 519 759

Web:

Drysdale Uniting Church

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

Portarlington Uniting Church

(St. Andrew's)

portarlingtonuc@gmail.com

Newcombe St PORTARLINGTON

<https://portarlingtonunitingchurch.org.au>

LINKED CONGREGATION NOTICES

6 March: 9.30am **Justice and Mission Team of the Combined Bellarine Congregations**

will meet at the home of Marg Manning, 34 Batman Street Portarlington.

21 March: Harmony Day

Harmony Day in 2026 is observed on 21 March, celebrating Australia's cultural diversity with the theme "Everyone Belongs". The Uniting Church in Australia observes this week by promoting inclusion, respect, and diversity across its communities.

1 April (Wednesday evening) due date for items for April's news sheet. Next news sheet comes out on **Sunday: 5 April**

DRYSDALE NOTICES

6 March: 10.00am **World Day of Prayer**

The World Day of Prayer is Friday 6 March
Drysdale Baptist Church, Central Rd, Drysdale.
The country of focus is Nigeria.

8 March: 10.30am **Harvest Celebration**

The Drysdale service on March 8 will be a Harvest Celebration. People may like to participate by bringing foodstuffs, home grown or bought. The donations of food will support Cottage by the Sea.

Karen

March 11,18, 25: 2.00pm **Lenten Study**

Lenten Study are books now available
A Cross at the Heart of God: Reflections on the Death of Jesus, 2020 by Samuel Wells.
Wednesday 11,18, 25 March at 2.00pm at the church.

Karen

21 March: 8.00am **Breakfast Bible Study** at Café Zoo.

Upcoming Events:

Easter Saturday Fête

Drysdale Uniting Church, High Street side
Saturday, **4 April**, 10am-1.00pm
This Easter we are trialling hanging pots and advanced plants in our garden stall.
Do you have a spot for one? Come along on **4 April** to choose from the range!
Jams, sauces, craft, cakes and slices.
Come along to support us as we also support our local community in many ways.
Have you noticed our freshly painted church, inside and out?
Our Op Shop will be open on Fête Day too!
All welcome.

PORTARLINGTON NOTICES

3 March: 10.00am **Church Council Meeting**

at the home of Lorraine and David Hughes. Election of Office Bearers will be conducted during the meeting.

PORTARLINGTON NOTICES (cont'd)

6 March: 1.30pm **World Day of Prayer**

The 2026 World Day of Prayer Service is hosted by St Andrew's Portarlington. Due to ongoing renovations to our Church, the service will be held at St Patrick's Church, Harding St, Portarlington. The country of focus is Nigeria. All are welcome to attend this ecumenical service with afternoon tea to follow.

March 11, 18 and 25: 12 noon **Lenten Study**

at the home of Lorraine and David Hughes.
BYO lunch. Tea and coffee provided.
Lorraine has copies of the study book
Conversations at the Edge of the Raft, 1993,
by Denham Grierson.

13 March, 9.30am **Justice and Mission Letter Writing**
at the home of Marg Manning.

15 March: 11.00am **Annual Congregation Meeting**
after the morning worship service.

15 March: After Church Lunch

Following the AGM, we will join together for lunch at the Portarlington Golf Club. If you would like to attend, please let Lorraine know by **Thursday 12 March**.
All welcome.

25 March: 10am **Pastoral Care Team**

meets at the home of David and Lorraine Hughes.

Small change projects

Our 2025 projects *Uniting AgeWell Music for David* project, which provides music therapy for people with dementia, and *Kitchen Gardens in Maluka* through Uniting World and *Indigenous Literacy Foundation* have been so well supported during the past year.

\$3,703.60 has been donated during 2025 and has been distributed as follows:

UnitingWorld: Growing sustainable livelihoods in West Timor \$1299.85
Indigenous Literacy Foundation \$893.65
Music for David Uniting AgeWell \$406.20
Thank you to everyone for your generous support.

Projects chosen for 2026 are

Food Assist 3223 (local) & UnitingWorld - Education for vulnerable girls in Amritsar India.
Joy

To place a church-related notice in this news sheet, email the wording to the church office, drysdaleuc@yahoo.com.au by the Wednesday prior to the first Sunday of each month and indicate in which section you would like your notice to appear.

Minister's Musings -

I have found in previous years that if there is hard stuff to attend to, then Lent is the time to attend it. It cannot be put off any longer. Lent is the season in which our lives are directed toward Jerusalem and the brutal impacts of abuse of power are laid bare for all to see. It is the time in the church's life for a re-orienting toward Christ, upon whom the church is founded. How do we in practical terms re-orient toward Christ? At Drysdale on Sunday, Jenny introduced the congregation to a Lenten Attending Practice. It is an easy to remember sentence that is shortened in each iteration of the prayer/meditation:

Be still and know that I am God
Be still and know that I am
Be still and know that
Be still and know
Be still
Be

Be
Be still
Be still and know
Be still and know that
Be still and know that I am
Be still and know that I am God

When justified toward the centre it looks like an hourglass or egg timer. Perhaps time is running out to attend to that which must be attended. Pray about it. If you need courage to do or say something bold, think of Peter who stepped out of the boat and found himself afraid and sinking. In desperation he cried out to Jesus, "Lord, save me!" (Matthew 14:30) and Jesus reached out his hand and saved him.

In our joys and in our struggles, we can trust the Lord of Life to guide us in right living and give us the courage to do or say the things that are life giving and life saving. May the light of love shine in our every moment, 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.