



Uniting Church in Australia

Linked Congregations of the Bellarine



Portarlington



Drysdale

NEWS SHEET - Sunday, 6 September 2026

WORSHIP SERVICES

SEPTEMBER IN OUR CONGREGATIONS

LECTIONARY READINGS

Sunday, 6 September

9.00am **Portarlington** Rev. Karen Eller

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

Tuesday, 8 September

11.00am **Drysdale** Rev. Karen Eller
Regis Aged Care Worship

Sunday, 13 September

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

10.30am **Drysdale** Lay Team - Jenni

Thursday, 17 September

11.00am **Portarlington** Rev. Karen Eller
Arcare Worship

Sunday, 20 September

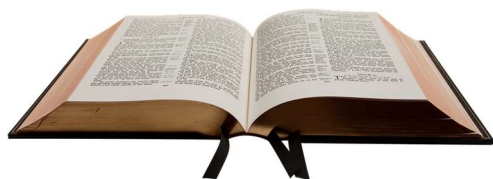
9.00am **Portarlington** Rev. Karen Eller
Loose change and Foodbank

10.30am **Drysdale** Rev. Karen Eller

Sunday, 27 September

9.00am **Portarlington** Lay Team – Marg

10.30am **Drysdale** Rev. Karen Eller



Sunday, 6 September

Creation 1 Forest Sunday 'Beneath the Canopy'

The Season of Creation invites us to rediscover our kinship with creation as we grieve what is being lost and nurture hope through practices of belonging and care.

Genesis 2:4b–22

Psalms 139:13–16

Acts 17:22–28

John 3:1–16

Sunday, 13 September

Creation 2 Land Sunday 'The Ground Beneath our Feet'

The violence in the Genesis story reveals that the land bears the fruits of our living. Land re-members both our wounds and our care, inviting us to become people whose lives leave traces of healing rather than harm.

Genesis 3:14–19; 4:8–16

Psalms 139:7–10

Romans 5:12–17

Matthew 12:38–40

Sunday, 20 September

Creation 3 Wilderness/ Outback Sunday 'When the Earth Groans'

Jesus enters the wilderness to prepare for his public ministry and experiences hunger and harshness. Earth shows the scars of lives out of balance and God weeps. This week explores how our weeping can lead to love and care.

Joel 1:8–10, 17–20

Psalms 18:6–19

Romans 8:18–27

Matthew 3:13–4:2 and Mark 1:9–13

Sunday, 27 September

Creation 4 River Sunday 4 'Where the River Flows'

As the Season of Creation draws to a close, we imagine God's future as a river running through the community of creation. All that is touched by God's love experiences healing and flourishing, and so, we consider how we might enter the flow.

Genesis 8:20–22; 9:12–17

Psalms 104:27–33

Revelation 22:1–5

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: SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER FILM EVENT

Sun, 11 Oct, 2pm - 4pm
Portarlington Guides Hall



The Justice Team at the Bellarine Linked Uniting Church Congregations (Portarlington and Drysdale) are proud to present the film 'The Price of Free.' which documents one man's quest in the liberation from child slavery.

Winner of the Grand Jury Prize for Best Documentary at the 2018 Sundance Film Festival, THE PRICE OF FREE (formerly titled Kailash) is a suspenseful yet intimate look at one man's groundbreaking struggle to liberate every child possible from slavery.

THE PRICE of FREE Tickets: \$15 ea.



TICKETS AVAILABLE BY SCANNING THE QR CODE BELOW,
OR FROM THE FOLLOWING WEBSITES: bit.ly/4q6lkEz
OR <https://portarlingtonunitingchurch.org.au>



Tickets for good, not greed
Humanitix dedicates 100% of profits from booking fees to charity

If you are unsure about booking online, please call
Joy Porter for assistance on 0406 307 433

An invitation from Portarlington Uniting Church
St Andrew's to remember a loved one who has died
in the past couple of years.

When: Sunday, 1 November 2026 at 9am
ALL SAINTS DAY

Where: Venue to be advised later

Why: To remember and be in solidarity with others
who have suffered loss.

How: A time in our 9am morning church service
to name a loved one, light a candle if
you wish and remember a loved one in a
reflective space.

If you wish, you are invited to share a digital photo that you
would like to be used in the service.

Morning tea will follow.

RSVP by October 25th and any further details:
Marg Manning mmanning47@hotmail.com
phone 0409 334 480



Next news sheet

The due date for items for October's news sheet is **Wednesday evening, 30 September**. Earlier contributions appreciated.
It will be distributed by **Sunday, 4 October**.

DRYSDALE NOTICES

Upcoming Events:

Friday, 4 September, 10.30am Morning Tea with the
Minister

Saturday, 19 September, 8.00am Breakfast Bible Study

Reminder: Are you ready for church early some days?
The kettle is boiled and tea/coffee ready from 10 am.
Come along early and have a cuppa with others before
church.

Friday, 2 October, 10.30am Morning Tea with the
Minister

PORTARLINGTON NOTICES

Upcoming Events:

Wednesday, 9 September, 12.30pm Church Council meeting
(Arrive at 12pm if you would like to eat lunch together. BYO lunch) at David and Lorraine's home

Friday, 11 September, 9.30am Justice Team meets at
Marg Manning's home

Friday, 11 September, 10.30am Justice letter writing at
Marg Manning's home

Wednesday, 23 September, 10.30am St Andrew's Pastoral Care
Team at David and Lorraine's home

Sunday, 27 September, 12.00pm After Church Lunch at
the Portarlington Golf Club.

Please message Lorraine on 0419 355 492 or
email hughstwo@bigpond.com if you are attending.

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

September 2026

September brings us into Spring, although it has felt 'Springy' for the past few weeks with longer days and wattles and daffodils blooming. In our church calendar we have also entered the Season of Creation, September 2nd until October 4th. The ecumenical theme this year is 'Living Water' inspired by the prophet Ezekiel.

"Swarms of living creatures will live wherever the river flows. There will be large numbers of fish, because this water flows there and makes the salt water fresh; so where the river flows everything will live. [...] Fruit trees of all kinds will grow on both banks of the river. Their leaves will not wither, nor will their fruit fail. Every month they will bear fruit, because the water from the sanctuary flows to them. Their fruit will serve for food and their leaves for healing." (Ezek 47:9,12)

There is rarely a day goes by where I don't catch at least a glimpse of the ocean. We are blessed on the Bellarine to have access to ocean and bay beaches, and to see many species of local and migratory bird species on land, sea and wetlands. Just yesterday I saw oyster catchers, crested terns, a pair of mountain ducks and later I saw a majestic pelican fly overhead. I can't help but marvel at our wonderful creation.

But what is our responsibility as champions of justice for God's creation? Last Sunday we heard the story of God revealing Godself to Moses on Mount Horeb, and requesting Moses remove his sandals as he was standing on holy ground. Removing one's footwear places us in closer connection with the earth, skin to skin so to speak. When we have a personal connection with a place, a species or an ecosystem we are more likely to be passionate about protecting it and nurturing it. As a church we acknowledge that we gather on Country, cared for by Wadawurrung peoples, and commit to joining in the task of caring for land, sea and sky and all that lives.

Wherever and whenever we make space for connection with the Divine One, we ourselves are on holy ground. To witness a group of four crested terns resting on an exposed reef at St Leonards, was for me a precious connection – but it also raised the spectre of their risk of dying from H5N1 bird flu. Other bird species, along with dolphins and seals are also at risk. We cannot close our eyes and ears to the groaning of creation. But we can be advocates for wildlife, for domestic life, for plants, landscapes, ecosystems, all the things necessary for humans to thrive in community together. May we as a God's church, join Ezekiel's vision for the healing of all that lives. The Living Water we receive through Christ Jesus continues to strengthen us and sustain us in God's mission.

Peace
Karen