



Uniting Church in Australia



Portarlington



Drysdale

Linked Congregations of the Bellarine

NEWS SHEET - Sunday, 1 November, 2026

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sunday, 1 November

9.00am **Portarlington** Rev. Karen Eller
ALL SAINTS DAY

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

Wednesday, 4 November

2.00pm **Portarlington** Rev. Karen Eller
Mid-week Service
at Marg Manning's

Sunday, 8 November

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

10.30am **Drysdale** Lay Team – Wayne

Tuesday, 10 November

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

Sunday, 15 November

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

10.30am **Drysdale** Rev. Karen Eller

Thursday, 19 October

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

Sunday, 22 November

9.00am **Portarlington** Lay Team – Manning

10.30am **Drysdale** Rev. Karen Eller

Sunday, 29 November

10.30am **Drysdale** Rev. Karen Eller
Combined Linked Service
Shared lunch to follow

Wednesday, 2 December

2.00pm **Portarlington** Rev. Karen Eller
Mid-week Service
at Marg Manning's

NOVEMBER IN OUR CONGREGATIONS

LECTIONARY READINGS

Sunday, 1 November

All Saints Day

Revelation 7:9-17
Psalms 34:1-10, 22
1 John 3:1-3
Matthew 5:1-12

Sunday, 8 November

Pentecost 24

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25
Psalms 78:1-7
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
Matthew 25: 1-13

Sunday, 15 November

Pentecost 25

Judges 4:1-7
Psalms 123
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Matthew 25:14-30

Sunday, 22 November

Christ the King

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
Psalms 100
Ephesians 1:15-23
Matthew 25:31-46

Sunday, 29 November

First Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 64:1-9
Psalms 80:1-7, 17-19
1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Mark 13:24-37

Safe Church Training

Our churches commit to doing all we can to ensure our churches are safe places for children and vulnerable adults. One of the ways the Uniting Church helps us is to provide Safe Church Training. This is compulsory for all members in leadership roles and needs to be renewed every 3 years. Those who completed it as a group in 2023 now need to repeat the training. This includes worship leaders, readers, people who lead prayers of the people, musicians, church council members, elders and congregation office bearers.

It is available online or can be provided in person.

For online training, you will need to register with the Synod Office.

These are processed on Tuesdays only, so you can expect to wait several days or more for the next step. There are 6 modules to complete. Individual Training Register -

<https://ucavt.powerappsportals.com/individual-training-register/>

For in-person training, there will be the following sessions

Portarlington Tuesday 24 November at 10.00am.

Drysdale Friday 27 November at 11.00am. Jenni Nickelson is the Drysdale Safe Church Officer.

More dates will be offered if needed.

Please ensure that your Working with Children Check is in date and bring it with you. *Karen*

Minister: Office
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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>

DRYSDALE NOTICES

Upcoming Events:

Friday, 6 November, 10.30am	Morning Tea with the Minister
Tuesday 10 November, 2.00pm	Linked Worship Committee meeting
Thursday, 19 November, 7.00pm	Church Council meeting
Saturday, 21 November, 8.00am	Breakfast Bible Study
Tuesday, 24 November, 2.00pm	Joint Co-ordinating Committee meeting
Friday, 4 December, 10.30am	Morning Tea with the Minister

LINKED CONGREGATIONS NOTICE

ADVENT STUDIES - Dates for your diaries

Christ Among Us: An Advent Journey from Watching to Living
by Philip Garside

Week 1: Learning to Notice

Week 2: Making a Way for Love

Week 3: Joining the Work of Hope

Portarlinton: Tuesdays 12.00pm: 24 November, 1 December & 8 December

Drysdale: Thursdays 2.00pm: 26 November, 3 December & 10 December

Please RSVP Karen to arrange for a copy of the material.

Next news sheet : The due date for items for December's news sheet is **Wednesday evening, 2 December**. Earlier contributions appreciated. It will be distributed by **Sunday, 6 December**.

Ministers Musings November 2026

We begin November with All Saints Day on Sunday, 1 November. There have been a host of saints through the course of my life: teaching, guiding, caring and sharing of all manner of kindnesses and ways of loving me. I am indebted to the church elders who saw gifts in me that I did not know. Even more, that they encouraged me to do new things and see for myself. Saying 'yes' to God's invitations were at times threshold moments.

I was sixteen when I was asked to teach Sunday School. At the time I didn't think much of it – a chance to learn some new skills and hang out with the grade five and grade six children. 'Materials' were provided and so each lesson was laid out with a reading, a theme and suggestions for ways in which to engage the little delights. In hindsight, I think I was learning more than the children as I was drawn deeper into the scripture and began to think more about what God might be up to in the world.

Later in life (I was barely thirty), I was asked (begged) to take on coaching two teams in hockey. I felt ill-equipped for the role and, as I was a player, would be unable to be on deck for many of the B grade matches. And yet, when I looked around, I saw that there weren't any other likely candidates. With some anxiety, I said "Yes" to becoming a hockey coach. Again, I was resourced. The club sponsored me to undertake Coaching Level 0 and I got on with the job. It was a fun season. It turned out I was quite good at identifying skills and helping players improve their skills and work together as a team. Our A grade team went from fifth on the ladder the previous season to making it to the preliminary final! One of our junior players was awarded 'Most Improved' player of the competition and it was my job to make an acceptance speech at the awards night on her behalf. There were over 200 guests and people said I spoke well. It helped that I had written the nomination! Little did I know that this one-year appointment would reveal so many gifts and capabilities!

Life lived in community together provides opportunities for gifts to be identified and realised. In the church, as the communion of saints, we keep learning and growing together as followers of Jesus in community together. We are to be on the alert for gifts in others and in ourselves that need to be brought into the light – for the full flourishing of the people – and for the full flourishing of the community. We can trust that God will resource us in our endeavours.

By the end of the month we will be entering the new liturgical calendar, Year B, the year of Mark, and commencing the season of Advent. Our congregations will come together with 'Hope' as the theme on 29 November. My hope is to see our congregations grow and flourish as we make invitations into new things. Dare we say 'yes'?

Peace, Karen

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.