



29 November 2020

Tamworth City Uniting Church

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Other Useful Local Contacts:

- **Southside Office:** Ph/Fx 6765 3714 PO Box 5101, South Tamworth 2340, Email tsuoffice@gmail.com, Website www.tsuc.org.au
- **Southside Lay Preachers:** David Bissett 0400 186 723; Rob Wood 0447 425 411; John Nash 0428 333 358
- **Young Family Worker:** Jillian Cumberland 0402 341 684 Email: jillian.steppingstones.uca@hotmail.com
- **Peel Valley:** Margaret Crowell Mb 0408 660 025
- **UNITING St Andrew's Village** 1800 864 846 Chaplain Rev Henry Swindon 0466 445 632
- **UNITING Rainbow Cottage** 6766 7655 Sharn Mason

*To continue to support our ministry financially by setting up a direct deposit into our accounts using phone or internet banking:
Account Name: Tamworth City Uniting Church
BSB: 634 634
Account No.:100026126
Reference: Offering*

Welcome to limited Face to Face Worship

Rev Betty Stroud will be leading us this week.

Don't forget to register each week for worship by lunchtime on Fridays, please. Take care everyone.



This Week's Notes

News Items

- I draw your attention to the 2nd part of the consultation process with Terence Corkin and the other 2 Uniting Church congregations in Tamworth. This will be held Saturday 5 December, 9.30 am at Southside. I urge everyone to come to this important discussion where we explore the information and ideas arising from the first workshops and discuss moving forward into the future with Terence.
- Congregational AGM on Sunday, 6 December following worship. Nominations for Congregational Chair—Peter Battle, Congregational Secretary—Pat Pryor, Church Council Secretary—Judy Phillips, Congregational Rep to Church Council—Dot Miles. No nominations received for Church Council Chair, Church Council Treasurer (refer Church Council notes). The Congregation will also receive annual reports (available in the church or the office) and nominate Presbytery Representatives.

Upcoming Events



Sunday, 29 November: Advent 1 9:30am Worship with Rev Betty Stroud (register with the office by Friday midday), Elder Robyn Hely, Door Pat Pryor, Sound Malcolm Miles. Christmas bowl envelopes out today.

Monday, 30 Nov: 9:30am Kairos Sewing in Jubilee Hall, 10am UNITING H&CC in St Andrew's Room, 5pm Dare2Dance in Jubilee Hall.

Tuesday, 1 Dec: 9am-2pm Church Office Tue-Fri, 9:30am Locomotive Line Dancing in Jubilee Hall, 12noon Adult Fellowship meeting for lunch at the Tamworth City Bowling Club (please let Lorraine 6761 7371) if you are coming or need a lift), 7:30pm Advent Bible Study in St Andrew's Room (Studies are titled 'The Coming King' if you'd like to join in contact Rev Betty or just turn up Tue 7:30pm or Wed 2:30pm.

Wednesday, 2 Dec: 10am Morning Tea (used to be Sorting), 2:30pm Advent Bible Study in St Andrew's Room, 4pm Worship Committee in St Andrew's Room, 6pm Meditation in the Church led by John Marsh.

Thursday, 3 Dec: 10am Stepping Stones Playgroup in Dunn Hall.

Friday, 4 Dec: 10am Craft group in St Andrew's Room, 3:30pm Elders Fellowship in St Andrew's Room.

Saturday, 5 Dec: 9:30am Workshop with Terence Corkin Vision and Future Direction of UC in Tamworth. The 2nd part of the process for participants and leaders of all 3 congregations to gather at Tamworth Southside. This will be a special time where the 3 congregations explore together the information and ideas arising from the first workshops, and develop a response. Rev Terence has indicated this will take place over a few hours, with space for both morning tea and a short lunch, hopefully concluding at approximately 2pm. Please bring your morning tea/lunch and a mug. Tea and coffee will be provided. Please register your interest to attend with the church office asap.

Sunday, 6 December: Advent 2 9:30am Worship and Holy Communion with Rev Betty Stroud (register with the office by Friday midday), Elder Mariette Duns, Door Heather McKenzie, Sound Malcolm Miles. We will do Communion without elements again—it was a very moving time in November. Covid change—we can sing from 1/12 if we are diligent about wearing our masks! Annual Congregational Meeting to follow worship.

Monday, 7 Dec: 9:30am Kairos Sewing in Jubilee Hall, 10am UNITING H&CC in St Andrew's Room.

First Sunday of Advent



Hope for school girls in Afghanistan

The coronavirus is making it even harder for girls in Afghanistan to get an education and realise their dreams. Schools closed in March and most children don't have internet, TV or radio to learn remotely. Act for Peace's local partner is distributing self-learning packages to children, advocating for girls' education, and getting schools ready to reopen. You can help this vital work. **Please give today.**



CALL: 1800 025 101 VISIT: actforpeace.org.au/christmasbowl

The Christmas appeal of Act for Peace, the international aid agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia. ABN 86 619 970 188

Tuesday, 8 Dec: 9am-2pm Church Office Tue-Fri, 9:30am Locomotive Line Dancing in Jubilee Hall, 10am Mental Health Support Group in St Andrew's Room, 7:30pm Advent Bible Study in St Andrew's Room.

Wednesday, 9 Dec: 9am DIFOF Christmas Hamper Day, 10am Morning Tea in Vestry, 2:30pm Advent Bible Study in St Andrew's Room, 6pm Meditation in Church.

Thursday, 10 Dec: 10am Stepping Stones Playgroup in Dunn Hall, 5:30pm Compassionate Friends Remembrance Service in Church then St Andrew's Room.

Friday, 11 Dec: 9am DIFOF Christmas Hamper Day, 5pm Dare2Dance in Jubilee Hall.

Sunday, 13 December: Advent 3, 9:30am Worship with Rev Betty Stroud (register with the office by Friday midday) Elder Paul Turner, Door Joan Crosling, Sound Judy Phillips, note that we are allowed to sing as long as we wear masks whilst doing so. 10:30am Sunday School get together in St Andrew's Room—craft, sausage sizzle.

Monday, 14 Dec: 9am DIFOF Christmas Hamper Day, 9:30am Kairos Sewing in Jubilee Hall, 10am UNITING H&CC in St Andrew's Room, 5pm Dare2Dance in Jubilee Hall.

Tuesday, 15 Dec: 9am-2pm Church Office Tue-Fri, 9:30am Locomotive Line Dancing in Jubilee Hall, 7:30pm Advent Bible Study in St Andrew's Room.

Wednesday, 16 Dec: 9am DIFOF Christmas Hamper Day, 10am Morning Tea in Vestry, 2:30pm Advent Bible Study in St Andrew's Room, 6pm Meditation in Church.

Thursday, 17 Dec: 10am Stepping Stones Playgroup in Dunn Hall.

Friday, 18 Dec: 9am Christmas Appeal Collection from Church Office, 10am Craft Group in St Andrew's Room.

Sunday, 20 December: Advent 4, 9:30am Worship with Rev Betty Stroud (register with the office by Friday midday), Elder Margot Hobson, Door Sandra Perkins, Sound Judy Carthew.

Limited Face to Face Worship

Things will look and feel different at church when you return (to comply with current restrictions and to keep you safe):

- Worship will commence at 9:30am, hand sanitizing station as you enter and leave, you will need to wear a mask while entering and leaving worship, (NEW we can sing if we wear masks from 1 Dec)
- Couples and families may sit together, everyone else will be seated 1.5m apart, (total 45 people)
- You will need to register with the office to attend each week by Friday midday,
- If you are unwell or have visited a Covid-Hotspot you will not be able to attend worship,
- You will be instructed on the process for departing by Rev Betty/Lay Leader immediately prior to leaving, particularly in regard to social distancing and waiting,
- An offering plate will be left at the entry table for envelopes and cash. Handed after the service with gloves.
- There will be no morning tea after worship (if you want to go somewhere else or have someone over to your place that is ok), you will be encouraged to leave the site as soon as possible after worship. Social distancing is the hardest thing to do!
- There will be one person on the door (making the role and counting 45), one sound desk operator, one preacher (lapel mic), one elder (lectern mic), one reader (pulpit mic), one organist.
- There will be markers outside the church to indicate 1.5m social distancing.

Food Pantry

Bring along something to the office anytime. A shopping list might look like this: 2x1lt UHT milk, 500g sugar, 25 tea bag box, 50g coffee, 100gm tuna/sardines, 2xcuppa coup, 2xrice/pasta pack, 250g biscuits, tin baked beans/spaghetti (ring pull), tin steak & veg (or similar), 2minute noodles, small tinned fruit, small cereal. Thank you everyone.

Church Council Notes

- Presentations from Youth Vision were made to PCYC for a video project \$1,000; Rainbow Cottage for paving and gardening \$1,000 and Tamworth Secondary Christian Education for conflict resolution resources \$1,000. Thanks was also extended to Judy Carthew and her team, this being the last presentation of funds.
- Note the approval of the Congregation for the changes to Church Council makeup.
- Rev Betty has moved into 2/84 Fitzroy. We thank Bec Wright for the use of her Croydon Ave home.
- Notes elsewhere about the Consultation with Rev Terence Corkin.
- Rev Betty Stroud will be in Orange during January and return in February 2021. Services in January will be covered by Barry Gillett 3 Jan, Elders 10 Jan, Peter Battle 17 Jan, Elders 24 Jan and Rev Simon Hansford 31 Jan. Note NO service 27 December.
- The Council approved motions with regard to unfilled positions: that Mrs Gai Newby and Mrs Nicolette Willis be asked to carry out the duties of the treasurer until a person is found to do this; and that Rev Betty Stroud carry out the duties of Church Council Chairperson until a person is found or another way of fulfilling this role is worked out.
- Church Council AGM will be held on 9 February 2021.
- Note resignation from eldership of Barbara McLean, Peter Battle, Lloyd Johnston and Norm Dezius.
- Closure of the Current Church group included votes of thanks to Barry Gillett, Edna Sheppard, Paul Turner, Convenors, members, Rev Betty and Nicolette.
- Transition matters were discussed including approval of Covid Safety Plans (now 6 members to approve); possible registration for QR code for entry to the church site.
- Church office closed 2-16 January. Nicolette on leave.



With Love to the World

Would you like to continue receiving the paper version? Let the office know and we'll arrange our order for 2021. The cost for next year will be \$25.

Prayers

Prayer Focus—Tamworth City

Today we focus on encouraging your individual commitment to prayer and service.

Ecumenical Prayer Calendar

Keep the people of Cameroon, Central African Republic and Equatorial Guinea in our prayers this week.

NENW Presbytery

Keep in your prayers our upcoming Preaching Workshop with Rev Bill Loader on 5/6 February 2021.

Lectionary Readings

Sun 29 Psalm 80:8-19*
Mon 30 2 Kings 1:2-18
Tue 1 Isaiah 40:1-11*
Wed 2 Luke 1:5-17

Thu 3 Mark 1:1-8*
Fri 4 Matthew 11:12-19
Sat 5 2 Peter 3:8-15a
Sun 6 Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13*

* Denotes Sunday lectionary readings



Peace Word Jumble

Peace	I	I	have	leave	said	with	this	you	to	my	you	peace	so	I	that	give	in	to	me	you	you	I
may	do	have	not	peace	give	in	to	the	you	world	as	you	the	face	world	persecution	gives	But				
Do	take	not	courage	let	I	your	have	hearts	conquered	be	the	troubled	world									

Starting with the first word, write it and every other word in the blanks below. Read the verse.

John 14:27
Peace. I leave with you, my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled. John 14:27

Now start with the second word and write every other word in the blanks below. Read this verse.

John 16:33
I have said this to you, so that in me you may have peace. In the world you face persecution. But take courage; I have conquered the world! John 16:33

Christmas Appeal

Tamworth City Uniting Church are again coordinating the local UnitingCare Target Christmas Appeal. Thank you to everyone who participated in the Zoom Trivia. Special thanks to our host Norm Dezius. Great fun was had by everyone and we raised over \$1000.

Maybe you know someone who is in need? Contact the office to register them. Identification will need to be shown when collecting vouchers on 18 December.



Be there for someone this Christmas!

Christmas can be a difficult time of the year for thousands of people living in Australia. For those facing financial burden, many people struggle to access daily necessities, such as food, living costs and housing.

The Target Christmas Appeal has partnered with UnitingCare Australia for the past 29 years to give customers the chance to be there for someone this Christmas. Giving to the Appeal will help reduce financial stress, allowing those who are undergoing hardship to enjoy the Christmas spirit.

The Appeal runs from the 1 November to the 18 December. Customers are encouraged to purchase a \$1 bauble found at cash registers in all Target Stores or make an online contribution.

100% of all contributions go directly to UnitingCare Australia.



Christmas Blessings from the Uniting Churches in Tamworth

**Merry Christmas from the Uniting Churches
in Tamworth. We extend a warm welcome
to you to worship with us:**

Tamworth City (Cnr Marius & Bourke Sts)
 Christmas Eve 7:30pm
 Christmas Day 8am

Tamworth Southside (Op Golden Guitar)
 Christmas Eve 11:30pm
 Christmas Day 9am

Peel Valley
 Christmas Day 9am Hallsville
 (Manilla Rd)