



Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

16-18 December 2016

Meg Mangan 0466 337 005

P.O. BOX 3315 WEST TAMWORTH

Isaiah 7:10-16 (NIV)

¹⁰ Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz,
¹¹ "Ask the LORD your God for a sign, whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights."
¹² But Ahaz said, "I will not ask; I will not put the LORD to the test."
¹³ Then Isaiah said, "Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of humans? Will you try the patience of my God also?
¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign:
 The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.
¹⁵ He will be eating curds and honey when he knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right,
¹⁶ for before the boy knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right, the land of the two kings you dread will be laid waste.

Psalms 80:1-7, 17-19 (NIV)

¹ Hear us, Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock
 You who sit enthroned between the cherubim, shine forth ² before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh.
 Awaken your might; come and save us.
³ Restore us, O God; make your face shine on us, that we may be saved.
⁴ How long, LORD God Almighty, will your anger smolder against the prayers of your people?
⁵ You have fed them with the bread of tears; you have made them drink tears by the bowlful.
⁶ You have made us an object of derision to our neighbors, and our enemies mock us.
⁷ Restore us, God Almighty; make your face shine on us, that we may be saved.
¹⁷ Let your hand rest on the man at your right hand, the son of man you have raised up for yourself.
¹⁸ Then we will not turn away from you; revive us, and we will call on your name.
¹⁹ Restore us, LORD God Almighty; make your face shine on us, that we may be saved.

Romans 1:1-7 (NIV)

¹ Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God—
² the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures
³ regarding his Son, who as to his earthly life was a descendant of David,
⁴ and who through the Spirit of holiness was appointed the Son of God in power by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord.
⁵ Through him we received grace and apostleship to call all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith for his name's sake.
⁶ And you also are among those Gentiles who are called to belong to Jesus Christ.
⁷ To all in Rome who are loved by God and called to be his holy people:
 Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.



PEEL VALLEY CONGREGATION

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Christmas Eve Service 24 December
 Gowrie 6.30pm Meg Mangan
Christmas Day Service 25 December
 Hallsville 9am Jim Newton



PEEL VALLEY CONGREGATION

Our goal: "To be transformed communities, experiencing, enjoying & sharing the gift of the friendship of Jesus."

Mission: "Called to be Free, Gifted to Serve."

Pastoral Care: Meg Mangan 0466 337 005

Elders: Margaret Crowell Barbara Murray Doss Wark
 Ross Davidson Bruce Jarrett



..... enjoy & share the gift of the friendship of Jesus



PRAYER LIST

- We pray for an awareness of the true meaning of Christmas within our community. Very few shops have carols playing. The focus seems to be to buy, buy, buy.
- We pray for Bruce and Marie Westbrook.
- We give thanks for the safe arrival of April Hana. She is the 8th great-grandchild for Myra and Bill Forrester.
- As our thoughts turn to past Christmasses, we pray for those friends we have lost track of. We also give thanks for happy times spent in their company.
- We give thanks for Marg, and her generosity in hosting the wonderful lunch last Sunday.
- We also give thanks for Rev. Bill Fischer, and his capable ministry during his time in Tamworth.

Meg's Musings

For the past ten days or so, I have been suffering from a sinus infection. With only days before Christmas, so much needs doing. But I have not able to get much done at all. Rest, plenty of fluids and take the medications prescribed..... a rough translation = WAIT! I have not been able to concentrate much, I haven't even been doing much reading. All the usual "distractions" have been stripped away. So rather than getting on with the many tasks awaiting me, I have had the opportunity to focus on what Christmas – and Christ – is really all about. I can ponder Christ's choice to come to earth for our sake. I can wonder what that was like for God. Sometimes having to wait can be frustrating – but opportunities may also present themselves. As Ecclesiastes 3 states, "there is a time for everything". Waiting can often provide some welcome time for what will refresh and renew us most – time with God.

Blessings from Meg



Matthew 1:18-25 (NIV)

Joseph Accepts Jesus as His Son

- ¹⁸ This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit.
- ¹⁹ Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.
- ²⁰ But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.
- ²¹ She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."
- ²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet:
- ²³ "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").
- ²⁴ When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife.
- ²⁵ But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

Let Every Day Be Christmas

Christmas is forever, not for just one day,
for loving, sharing, giving, are not to put away
like bells and lights and tinsel, in some box upon a
shelf.

The good you do for others is good you do yourself.
Peace on Earth, good will to men,
kind thoughts and words of cheer,
are things we should use often
and not just once a year.

Remember too the Christ-child, grew up to be a man;
to hide him in a cradle, is not our dear Lord's plan.
So keep the Christmas spirit, share it with others far
and near,
from week to week and month to month, throughout
the entire year!

~ Norman Wesley Brooks

What's In A Name? Acrostic

Use the numbered clues to find the word to fill in the boxes. Copy the letters from the shaded boxes to the fill in the blank in the sentence.

1						The opposite of FAST.
2						A tiny crawling insect that bites.
3						The opposite of EARLY.
4						A doctor for pets.
5						A fruit that is RED.
6						The opposite of SHORT.
7						The opposite of OUT.
8						The opposite of YOUNG.
9						The opposite of USED.

What's in a name? If the name is Jesus, there is

!

Christmas isn't a season. It's a feeling. ~ Edna Feber

CHURCH SERVICES

24 December	6.30pm	Gowrie	~ Meg Mangan
25 December	9am	Hallsville	~ Jim Newton
<i>Peel Valley congregation in recess until:</i>			
20 January	6pm	Hallsville	~ Rev S Hansford
22 January	COUNTRY GOSPEL BREAKFAST		
3 February	6pm	Hallsville	~ Rob Wood
5 February	8.30am	Gowrie	~ Rob Wood
5 February	9am	Hallsville	~ no service
5 February	11am	West	~ Rob Wood



1st Sunday of the month

~ Luncheon @ West

3rd Sunday of the month

~Trading Table @ West Tamworth

4th Sunday of the month

~ Markets @ Hallsville

26 January

..... enjoy & share the gift of the friendship of Jesus