



Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

17 December 2017

Meg Mangan 0466 337 005

P.O. BOX 3315 WEST TAMWORTH

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 (NIV)

The Year of the LORD's Favor

- 61 The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me,
because the LORD has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to bind up the broken-hearted,
to proclaim freedom for the captives
and release from darkness for the prisoners,
2 to proclaim the year of the LORD's favour
and the day of vengeance of our God,
to comfort all who mourn,
3 and provide for those who grieve in Zion—
to bestow on them a crown of beauty
instead of ashes, the oil of joy
instead of mourning, and a garment of praise
instead of a spirit of despair.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
a planting of the LORD
for the display of his splendour.
4 They will rebuild the ancient ruins
and restore the places long devastated;
they will renew the ruined cities
that have been devastated for generations.

Psalm 126 (NIV)

- 1 When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dreamed.
2 Our mouths were filled with laughter,
our tongues with songs of joy.
Then it was said among the nations,
"The LORD has done great things for them."
3 The LORD has done great things for us,
and we are filled with joy.
4 Restore our fortunes, LORD,
like streams in the Negev.
5 Those who sow with tears
will reap with songs of joy.
6 Those who go out weeping,
carrying seed to sow,
will return with songs of joy,
carrying sheaves with them.

Luke 1:46b-55 (NIV)

Mary's Song

- 46^b My soul glorifies the Lord
47 and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
48 for he has been mindful
of the humble state of his servant.
From now on all generations will call me blessed,
49 for the Mighty One has done great things for me—
holy is his name.
50 His mercy extends to those who fear him,
from generation to generation.
51 He has performed mighty deeds with his arm;
he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost
thoughts.
52 He has brought down rulers from their thrones
but has lifted up the humble.
53 He has filled the hungry with good things
but has sent the rich away empty.
54 He has helped his servant Israel,
remembering to be merciful
55 to Abraham and his descendants forever,
just as he promised our ancestors."

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 (NIV)

- 16 Rejoice always, 17 pray continually, 18 give thanks in all
circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ
Jesus.
19 Do not quench the Spirit.
20 Do not treat prophecies with contempt 21 but test them
all; hold on to what is good, 22 reject every kind of evil.
23 May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you
through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and
body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus
Christ.
24 The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do it.

"The only real blind person at Christmas-time is he
who has not Christmas in his heart." ~ Helen Keller

JESUS is
the *Reason*
for the *Season*.

Christmas 2017 with Peel Valley Congregation

Carol Service

15 December 7pm Hallsville ~ Margaret Crowell

17 December 8.30am Gowrie ~ Evelyn Keane

Peel Valley Congregation Service & Christmas Lunch

17 December 11am Hallsville ~ Rev Chris Wright

Bus to Hallsville ~ Southview-Edinburgh Street at 10:00am,
West Church at 10:15, and St. Andrews Village at 10:30

Christmas Eve Service

24 December 11 am West ~ Meg Mangan

24 December 7pm Gowrie ~ Meg Mangan

Christmas Day Service 25 December 9am Hallsville



Peel Valley Congregation is in recess from the
31 December 2017 resuming for 2018
at Hallsville with our traditional

Gospel Music Breakfast

21 January 2018 *All Welcome.*



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



IN OUR PRAYERS

- We pray for people who will be spending Christmas alone.
- We pray for health, and the absence of pain, for Monica, a friend of Meg's.
- We pray for Sue and Julian, who are friends of Pat and Kevin Hoyt. We pray for a return to health, and freedom from anxiety.
- We pray for the situation in the Middle East, following the declaration of President Trump about making Jerusalem the capital city of Israel.
- We pray for each other - that we may each be well enough to enjoy Christmas in the way that Christ would wish us to.

Meg's Musings

It's the time of year when cards - often containing catch-up letters - arrive in our letter boxes.

We read of new grandchildren, or great-grandchildren, changes of address or circumstances, and what has been happening in the lives of our friends in other parts of the country.

That is usually a happy time, and maybe a time of reminiscing.

In our fast-paced world, it is nice to know that friends have thought of us, and have taken the time and effort to put pen to paper.

God, in sending Jesus into our world, thought of us too - with love.

Instead of putting pen to paper, though, he put his son into human form, and took the risk of placing him among us.

What can we do to say "thank you" to God this Christmas?

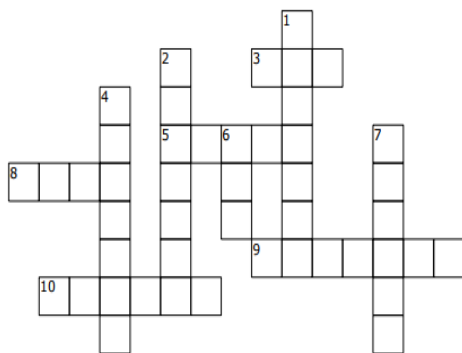
Blessings from Meg



The Light of the World

There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. John 1:6, 8 (NIV)

Based on John 1:6-8, 19-28 (NIV)



ACROSS

3. An adult male human
5. A source of illumination, such as a lamp, or a lantern
8. The man sent from God to prepare the way for Jesus
9. To give evidence based on personal knowledge
10. To reply to a question

DOWN

1. To immerse in water
2. To be convinced that something is true
4. To admit that something is true
6. The creator of the heavens, earth and its people
7. The Messiah, as foretold by the prophets

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



John 1:6-8, 19-28 (NIV)

⁶ There was a man sent from God whose name was John.

⁷ He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe.

⁸ He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

John the Baptist Denies Being the Messiah

¹⁹ Now this was John's testimony when the Jewish leaders in Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to ask him who he was.

²⁰ He did not fail to confess, but confessed freely, "I am not the Messiah."

²¹ They asked him, "Then who are you? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not."

"Are you the Prophet?"

He answered, "No."

²² Finally they said, "Who are you? Give us an answer to take back to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?"

²³ John replied in the words of Isaiah the prophet, "I am the voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way for the Lord.'"

²⁴ Now the Pharisees who had been sent ²⁵ questioned him, "Why then do you baptize if you are not the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?"

²⁶ "I baptize with water," John replied, "but among you stands one you do not know.

²⁷ He is the one who comes after me, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie."

²⁸ This all happened at Bethany on the other side of the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

"The Light of the World Is Jesus."

The whole world was lost in the darkness of sin,

The Light of the world is Jesus;

Like sunshine at noonday,

His glory shone in,

The Light of the world is Jesus!

Come to the Light, 'tis shining for thee;

Sweetly the Light has dawned upon me.

Once I was blind, but now I can see:

The Light of the world is Jesus.

Please Note:

CHRISTMAS IS CANCELLED

Apparently, YOU told Santa that
you have been GOOD this year ...



He died laughing



1st Sunday of the month

~ Luncheon @ West

3rd Sunday of the month

~ Trading Table @ West Tamworth

4th Sunday of the month

~ Markets @ Hallsville

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