



Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

26 August 2018

Meg Mangan 0466 337 005

P.O. BOX 3315 WEST TAMWORTH

1 Kings 8:1, 6, 10-11, 22-30, 41-43 (NIV)

8 Then King Solomon summoned into his presence at Jerusalem the elders of Israel, all the heads of the tribes and the chiefs of the Israelite families, to bring up the ark of the LORD's covenant from Zion, the City of David.

⁶ The priests then brought the ark of the LORD's covenant to its place in the inner sanctuary of the temple, the Most Holy Place, and put it beneath the wings of the cherubim.

¹⁰ When the priests withdrew from the Holy Place, the cloud filled the temple of the LORD. ¹¹ And the priests could not perform their service because of the cloud, for the glory of the LORD filled his temple

Solomon's Prayer of Dedication

²² Then Solomon stood before the altar of the LORD in front of the whole assembly of Israel, spread out his hands toward heaven ²³ and said:

"LORD, the God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth below—you who keep your covenant of love with your servants who continue wholeheartedly in your way. ²⁴ You have kept your promise to your servant David my father; with your mouth you have promised and with your hand you have fulfilled it—as it is today.

²⁵ "Now LORD, the God of Israel, keep for your servant David my father the promises you made to him when you said, 'You shall never fail to have a successor to sit before me on the throne of Israel, if only your descendants are careful in all they do to walk before me faithfully as you have done.' ²⁶ And now, God of Israel, let your word that you promised your servant David my father come true.

²⁷ "But will God really dwell on earth? The heavens, even the highest heaven, cannot contain you. How much less this temple I have built! ²⁸ Yet give attention to your servant's prayer and his plea for mercy, LORD my God. Hear the cry and the prayer that your servant is praying in your presence this day. ²⁹ May your eyes be open toward this temple night and day, this place of which you said, 'My Name shall be there,' so that you will hear the prayer your servant prays toward this place. ³⁰ Hear the supplication of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray toward this place. Hear from heaven, your dwelling place, and when you hear, forgive.

⁴¹ "As for the foreigner who does not belong to your people Israel but has come from a distant land because of your name— ⁴² for they will hear of your great name and your mighty hand and your outstretched arm—when they come and pray toward this temple, ⁴³ then hear from heaven, your dwelling place. Do whatever the foreigner asks of you, so that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as do your own people Israel, and may know that this house I have built bears your Name.

Psalm 84 (NIV)

¹ How lovely is your dwelling place, LORD Almighty!

² My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts of the LORD; my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.

³ Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may have her young—a place near your altar, LORD Almighty, my King and my God.

⁴ Blessed are those who dwell in your house; they are ever praising you.

⁵ Blessed are those whose strength is in you, whose hearts are set on pilgrimage.

⁶ As they pass through the Valley of Baka, they make it a place of springs; the autumn rains also cover it with pools.

⁷ They go from strength to strength, till each appears before God in Zion.

⁸ Hear my prayer, LORD God Almighty; listen to me, God of Jacob.

⁹ Look on our shield, O God; look with favor on your anointed one.

¹⁰ Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere;

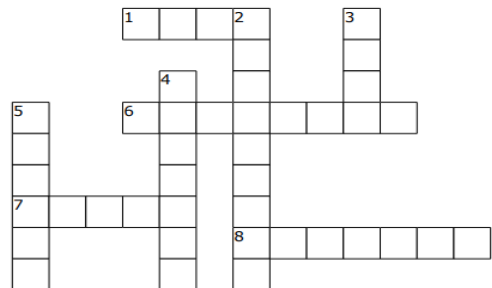
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

¹¹ For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favour and honour; no good thing does he withhold from those whose walk is blameless.

¹² LORD Almighty, blessed is the one who trusts in you.

To Whom Shall We Go?

"You do not want to leave too, do you?" Jesus asked the Twelve. Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. John 6:67-68 (NIV)
Puzzle is based on John 6:60-69



ACROSS

1. Difficult to understand, accomplish, or finish
6. Sharing knowledge with others
7. To go away from; depart; abandon or forsake
8. Continuing forever

DOWN

2. The original followers of Jesus
3. To reverse directions
4. To accept as true or real
5. To come after; to go behind someone

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



Meg's Musings

Father, the way You hear and answer my prayers amazes me. Strengthen my faith, that I will always believe in Your goodness and love.

When we ache over the challenges facing those we love, and fear the situation won't change, we may be tempted to believe that the Lord will not act. But we should never underestimate the power of prayer, for our loving God hears our pleas. We don't know how He will move in response to our petitions, but we know that as our Father He longs for us to embrace His love and to trust in His faithfulness.

Although we may be without Meg for a few more weeks, I am pleased to say her recovery has been remarkable. By the time you read this hopefully Meg will have been discharged from hospital. She and Laurie hope to be making their way home sometime in the coming week. Their son, Peter, will fly up and hire a car to bring them back to Tamworth. Meg sends her love to everyone and thanks you all so much for your prayers.

Meg asked that we think about the next "Church on a Bus" coming up in September, which will most likely be lunch at Wests. It would be helpful to have suggestions for the cuisine we should choose.

From the Secretary

Thank you to everyone who stayed on after last Sunday's service for the Council meeting. The Executive does try to keep these meetings short, but it is important that the congregation be informed, not only with what we are doing in our own congregation, but also with the decisions being made at Presbytery and Synod level. So again, thank you for attending and for your valued contribution to these meetings.

Our next meeting will be the Annual General Meeting to be held on 11th November after the service at Wests.

Freedom to Decide on Marriage

Two items of correspondence outlining the Uniting Church's decision on the celebration of marriage for both opposite gender and same gender couples, one dated 14 July from Rev Simon Hansford, Moderator, UCA, Synod of NSW/ACT and another dated 8 August from Rev Bronwyn Murphy, Associate Secretary, Synod of NSW/ACT will be handed to you today.

The congregation is being asked to prayerfully consider how they would respond to a request for our church to conduct services for same sex couples. At the AGM in November we will be seeking consensus from the congregation on this issue.



Blessings this week from Evelyn

CHURCH SERVICES

31 August	6pm	Hallsville ~
2 September	8.30am	Gowrie ~
2 September	9am	Hallsville ~
2 September	11am	West ~

TBA



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



	1st Sunday of the month ~ Luncheon @ West	4th Sunday of the month ~ Markets @ Hallsville
	3rd Sunday of the month ~ Trading Table @ West Tamworth	



John 6:56-69(NIV)

⁵⁶Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in them.

⁵⁷Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on me will live because of me.

⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven. Your ancestors ate manna and died, but whoever feeds on this bread will live forever."

⁵⁹He said this while teaching in the synagogue in Capernaum.

Many Disciples Desert Jesus

⁶⁰On hearing it, many of his disciples said, "This is a hard teaching. Who can accept it?"

⁶¹Aware that his disciples were grumbling about this, Jesus said to them, "Does this offend you?"

⁶²Then what if you see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before!

⁶³The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you—they are full of the Spirit and life.

⁶⁴Yet there are some of you who do not believe." For Jesus had known from the beginning which of them did not believe and who would betray him.

⁶⁵He went on to say, "This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless the Father has enabled them."

⁶⁶From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him.

⁶⁷"You do not want to leave too, do you?" Jesus asked the Twelve.

⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

⁶⁹We have come to believe and to know that you are the Holy One of God."

Ephesians 6:10-20 (NIV)

The Armor of God

¹⁰Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.

¹¹Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. ¹²For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers,

against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. ¹³Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. ¹⁴Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, ¹⁵and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. ¹⁶In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

¹⁸And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. ¹⁹Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

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