



# Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

9 December 2018

Meg Mangan 0466 337 005

P.O. BOX 3315 WEST TAMWORTH

## Malachi 3:1-4 (NIV)

<sup>3</sup> "I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come," says the LORD Almighty.

<sup>2</sup> But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears? For he will be like a refiner's fire or a launderer's soap.

<sup>3</sup> He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; he will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver. Then the LORD will have men who will bring offerings in righteousness, <sup>4</sup> and the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem will be acceptable to the LORD, as in days gone by, as in former years.

## Philippians 1:3-11 (NIV)

### Thanksgiving and Prayer

<sup>3</sup> I thank my God every time I remember you.

<sup>4</sup> In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy <sup>5</sup> because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, <sup>6</sup> being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

<sup>7</sup> It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me.

<sup>8</sup> God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.

<sup>9</sup> And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, <sup>10</sup> so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, <sup>11</sup> filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.

## Luke 1:68-79 (NIV)

<sup>68</sup> "Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come to his people and redeemed them.

<sup>69</sup> He has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David

<sup>70</sup> (as he said through his holy prophets of long ago),

<sup>71</sup> salvation from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us—

<sup>72</sup> to show mercy to our ancestors and to remember his holy covenant,

<sup>73</sup> the oath he swore to our father Abraham:

<sup>74</sup> to rescue us from the hand of our enemies,

and to enable us to serve him without fear <sup>75</sup> in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.

<sup>76</sup> And you, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High;

for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for him,

<sup>77</sup> to give his people the knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins,

<sup>78</sup> because of the tender mercy of our God, by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven

<sup>79</sup> to shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death,

to guide our feet into the path of peace."

Christmas is the perfect time to celebrate the love of God and family and to create memories that will last forever. Jesus is God's perfect, indescribable gift. The amazing thing is that not only are we able to receive this gift, but we are able to share it with others on Christmas and every other day of the year. ~ Joel Osteen

It came without ribbons. It came without tags. It came without packages, boxes, or bags.

The Grinch thought of something he hadn't before.

Maybe Christmas doesn't come from a store.

Maybe Christmas.. means a little bit more.



## CHURCH SERVICES

16 December 11am **West** ~ Rev Chris Wright

23 December 9am **Hallsville** ~ Meg Mangan

Baptism

23 December 11am **West** ~ Meg Mangan



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



**IN OUR PRAYERS**

- We pray for Patrick and for Mavis, as they each continue to recuperate.
- We pray for Eunice during her time of respite care at Alblas.
- We pray for all of our members in nursing homes - Viv Chaffey at McKay House, Judy Watts and Gordon Gibson at Alblas, and Doss at Nazareth House.
- We continue to pray for John Murray whose wife, Barbara, died recently.
- We give thanks to God for the wonderful Christmas lunch which we enjoyed last Sunday, and thank him for the generosity and energy of Marg Crowell. We also give thanks for all of the other helpers who made it such an enjoyable occasion.

**Meg's Musings**

Heather Budden's sister Hazel turns 100 this weekend, and the extended Budden family are at South West Rocks celebrating this very special occasion.

In previous times, turning 100 was almost unheard of.

But medical science has come up with all sorts of devices, tablets and strategies to help us to live longer, and better, than ever before.

Food is more plentiful, and more varied. And we have more labour-saving devices which help us to avoid much of the drudgery which people faced in the past.

How often do we pause, and give thanks to God, for the fact that we live in today's world, and enjoy so many benefits?

Blessings from Meg



**Luke 3:1-6 (NIV)**

**John the Baptist Prepares the Way**

**3** In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar—when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Traconitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene—<sup>2</sup> during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup> He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>4</sup> As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet:

“A voice of one calling in the wilderness,  
‘Prepare the way for the Lord,  
make straight paths for him.

<sup>5</sup> Every valley shall be filled in,  
every mountain and hill made low.

The crooked roads shall become straight,  
the rough ways smooth.

<sup>6</sup> And all people will see God’s salvation.”

**Prepare the Way**

As is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet: "A voice of one calling in the desert, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'" Luke 3:4 (NIV)

The activity is based on Luke 3:1-6



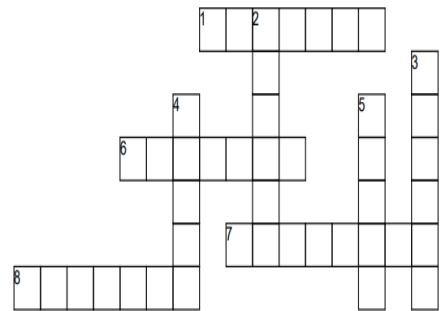
**Jesus Is The Reason**

In Bethlehem, God gave to us  
The source of Christmas joy;  
A star shown on a miracle:  
The virgin birth of a boy.

He was born both God and man,  
A Saviour for us all,  
The way to get to our heavenly home,  
If we just heed His call.

So as we shop and spend and wrap  
And enjoy the Christmas season,  
Let's keep in mind the sacred truth:  
Jesus is the reason.

~Joanna Fuchs



**HORIZONTAL**

- 1. To grant a pardon for sin.
- 6. Having bends, curves, or angles.
- 7. Having no bends or curves.
- 8. To make things one's own ready.

**VERTICAL**

- 2. To turn away from one's sins.
- 3. Having a surface free from roughness
- 4. What we use to speak.
- 5. Having an irregular, coarse, or shaggy surface

**NB:** Peel Valley will be in recess until **Country Gospel Breakfast 20th January.**  
First 2019 service at **West 27th January 2019.**  
First 2019 service at **Gowrie 10th February 2019.**

**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 Doss Wark Ross Davidson  
Bruce Jarrett



Is making coffee the man's job or the woman's job?  
There's a whole book dedicated to this.  
It's the man's job. He brews.

**CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE**  
**Hallsville ~ Henry Swindon**



**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month**

~ Luncheon @ West

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month**

~ Trading Table @ West Tamworth

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month**

~ Markets @ Hallsville

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