



Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

16 December 2018

Meg Mangan 0466 337 005

P.O. BOX 3315 WEST TAMWORTH

Zephaniah 3:14-20 (NIV)

¹⁴ Sing, Daughter Zion;
shout aloud, Israel!
Be glad and rejoice with all your heart,
Daughter Jerusalem!
¹⁵ The LORD has taken away your punishment,
he has turned back your enemy.
The LORD, the King of Israel, is with you;
never again will you fear any harm.
¹⁶ On that day
they will say to Jerusalem,
"Do not fear, Zion;
do not let your hands hang limp.
¹⁷ The LORD your God is with you,
the Mighty Warrior who saves.
He will take great delight in you;
in his love he will no longer rebuke you,
but will rejoice over you with singing."
¹⁸ "I will remove from you
all who mourn over the loss of your appointed
festivals,
which is a burden and reproach for you.
¹⁹ At that time I will deal
with all who oppressed you.
I will rescue the lame;
I will gather the exiles.
I will give them praise and honor
in every land where they have suffered shame.
²⁰ At that time I will gather you;
at that time I will bring you home.
I will give you honour and praise
among all the peoples of the earth
when I restore your fortunes
before your very eyes,"
says the LORD.

Isaiah 12:2-6 (NIV)

² Surely God is my salvation;
I will trust and not be afraid.
The LORD, the LORD himself, is my strength and
my defense;
he has become my salvation."
³ With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation.
⁴ In that day you will say:
"Give praise to the LORD, proclaim his name;
make known among the nations what he has
done,
and proclaim that his name is exalted.
⁵ Sing to the LORD, for he has done glorious things;
let this be known to all the world.
⁶ Shout aloud and sing for joy, people of Zion,
for great is the Holy One of Israel among you."

Philippians 4:4-7 (NIV)

Final Exhortations

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again:
Rejoice!
⁵ Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is
near.
⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in every
situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving,
present your requests to God.
⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all
understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds
in Christ Jesus.

Christmas is stressful so

"When you're STRESSED,
you eat ice cream, cake,
chocolate and sweets.

Why?

Because stressed spelled backwards is
DESSERTS."



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.**

CHURCH SERVICES

23 December 9am **Hallsville** ~ Meg Mangan (Baptism)

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

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE

25 December 9am **Hallsville** ~ Henry Swindon



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



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



IN OUR PRAYERS

- We pray for Daryl Lush and Patrick Johnston, who have both been unwell. We pray for a return to full health.
- We pray that people throughout the world may know the joy of Christmas.
- We pray for the gift of rain this Advent season - we give thanks for the rain which has fallen, and pray for further rain.
- We pray for all those people unable to celebrate Christmas with family members.

Meg's Musings

Last Saturday we enjoyed watching our 5 year old grand-daughter, Emma, participate in her first ballet concert.

As ballet concerts go, it was fairly low-key, and went for about 20 minutes.

There were about 12 or 15 little girls, and one little boy, which made for many Cinderellas and one Prince Charming.

All of the girls were happy that everyone got the chance to be Cinderella, and to wear a pretty blue tutu and a tiny tiara. No-one seemed to try to steal the limelight..... there was space for everyone to "shine".

In God's kingdom, each of us has the opportunity to "shine" too. We are all loved equally, even though we are all different.

Blessings from Meg



Secretary's Desk

Thanks to everyone who attended the combined worship service and Annual General Meeting last Sunday.

Margaret's report gave a wonderful summing up on all that we have achieved during the past year and thanked our congregation members and all our volunteers for their hard work and support of our church. The Executive officers were re-elected to serve in 2019; Chairperson – Margaret Crowell, Vice-Chairperson – Ross Davidson, Secretary – Evelyn Keane and Treasurer – Tony Orr.

We agreed to increase our Executive committee from four to six; Meg Mangan and Sue Budden were duly elected as our two new Executive officers.

We agreed to decrease the number of Council meetings from quarterly to bi-annually. Moving forward, Council meetings will be held in February and August.

The question "Would you consider allowing a same-gender marriage to be conducted in any of the Peel Valley churches?" was put to the congregation. A secret ballot was conducted and the result was more Yes votes than No, but not a resounding majority. Please contact Margaret if you would like to discuss the result of the ballot.

I wish you all a very happy Christmas and may you be blessed with the spirit of the season, Peace; the gladness of the season, Hope and the heart of the season, Love.

God Bless
Evelyn, Secretary



*The greatest gift that u can
give to others is the gift
of unconditional love and
acceptance*

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



Luke 3:7-18 (NIV)

⁷ John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath?"

⁸ Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham.

⁹ The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire."

¹⁰ "What should we do then?" the crowd asked.

¹¹ John answered, "Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same."

¹² Even tax collectors came to be baptized. "Teacher," they asked, "what should we do?"

¹³ "Don't collect any more than you are required to," he told them.

¹⁴ Then some soldiers asked him, "And what should we do?"

He replied, "Don't extort money and don't accuse people falsely—be content with your pay."

¹⁵ The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah.

¹⁶ John answered them all, "I baptize you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

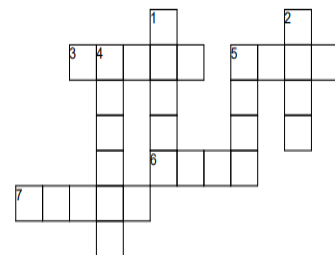
¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

¹⁸ And with many other words John exhorted the people and proclaimed the good news to them.

The Spirit of Christmas

John answered, "Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same." Luke 3:11 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 3:7-11



HORIZONTAL

3. A cloth garment worn on the upper part of the body.
5. What we eat
6. A large, woody plant with branches and leaves
7. To give part of what you have with others.

VERTICAL

1. The edible, usually sweet food that grows on trees and plants
2. A warm outer garment usually worn in winter
4. To feel the need for food.
5. Flames which are used to burn something