



February 4 WEEK LENTEN STUDY



Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

14 April 2024

Meg Mangan 0476 375 989

P.O. BOX 3315 WEST TAMWORTH

Matthew 28:16 -20 (NLT)

The Great Commission

¹⁶ Then the eleven disciples left for Galilee, going to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go.

¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshiped him—but some of them doubted!

¹⁸ Jesus came and told his disciples, “I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth.

¹⁹ Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

²⁰ Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

Other Lectionary Readings:

Acts 3:12-19 1 John 3:1-7
Luke 24:36b-48 Palms 4



In October 2018, as part of the **Fair Treatment campaign**, 100 supporters walked the 500,000 steps from Dubbo to deliver a message to NSW Parliament in Sydney – highlighting how far a person in regional NSW may have to travel to reach the drug treatment they need. The “Long Walk to Treatment” has now been made into a powerful and moving documentary telling the personal stories behind a movement to reform drug laws and policy and make fair treatment available to all. This is an issue of huge concern to our community. Watch this film and see what 60 organisations –are saying about how we can save lives and give people a better chance to turn their lives around at Tamworth Southside Uniting Church for free on Wednesday, 15th May 5:30- Free Sausage Sizzle 6:00- Movie Screening 7:30- Structured Discussion. To register please go to <https://events.humanitix.com/hams-tamworth>

Acts 16:25-34 (NLT)

²⁵ Around midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening.

²⁶ Suddenly, there was a massive earthquake, and the prison was shaken to its foundations. All the doors immediately flew open, and the chains of every prisoner fell off!

²⁷ The jailer woke up to see the prison doors wide open. He assumed the prisoners had escaped, so he drew his sword to kill himself.

²⁸ But Paul shouted to him, “Stop! Don’t kill yourself! We are all here!”

²⁹ The jailer called for lights and ran to the dungeon and fell down trembling before Paul and Silas.

³⁰ Then he brought them out and asked, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?”

³¹ They replied, “Believe in the Lord Jesus and you will be saved, along with everyone in your household.”

³² And they shared the word of the Lord with him and with all who lived in his household.

³³ Even at that hour of the night, the jailer cared for them and washed their wounds. Then he and everyone in his household were immediately baptized.

³⁴ He brought them into his house and set a meal before them, and he and his entire household rejoiced because they all believed in God.

CHURCH SERVICES

21 April 8.30am **Gowrie** ~Meg Mangan
21 April 11am **West Tamworth** ~Meg Mangan
28 April 11am **West Tamworth** ~Marg Crowell



Doubt kills more dreams than failure ever will

~ Suzy Kassem

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



IN OUR PRAYERS

- We thank God for babies - for the hope, the love and the joy which they bring into our lives.
- We pray for the people of the war-torn Middle East and Ukraine.
- We pray for healing for people who are unwell, or who have chronic diseases.
- We pray for those people travelling in the school holidays - that they will be safe.
- We thank God for the rain we had last week.

Meg's Musings

Suddenly it has been cool enough to do some gardening, and to enjoy walking in the neighborhood.

Autumn in Tamworth is a very enjoyable time of year.

After all the rain we had last week, this autumn should look spectacular!

As well as the leaves turning yellow, orange and red, there will be flowers to enjoy.

We get to put away our summer clothes and drag out our winter woollies - wondering what still fits, and what doesn't.

Season change. Some of the changes we enjoy, and others we make the best of.

However, there is one constant in life - God's love for us never changes.

No matter how much our earth changes, and how much we change, we can count on God's love to stay the same.

Blessings from Meg



Mesmerized by the fading afternoon sun peeking in and out of the leaves above my head, my peaceful time in the garden delighted me, as autumn reveals God's beauty. Though but a faint breeze, its gentle caress accompanied each falling leaf to its earth bound rest.

~ Growing in Grace



Words from Rev Geoff

Baptism – a Celebration of New Life

This Sunday we celebrate the baptism of Ryan Leon Chaffey at Hallsville Uniting Church and Lilli Mae Kam at Tamworth City Uniting Church. Baptism is one of two sacraments practised by the Uniting Church (the other being Holy Communion). In Baptism, we celebrate new life through Jesus as we are united with Christ, and the people of God. Baptism is offered to those who confess the Christian faith, and those who are presented for baptism by their parents or guardians.

One of the reasons we in the Uniting Church baptise infants is because letting kids make up their minds about religion implicitly makes up their minds for them. Jason Stubblefield a recent graduate of Duke Divinity school argues that "to allow a child to make up their own mind teaches the child that they have the sort of minds that Enlightenment rationality assumes. It teaches them that their thinking comes before God, rather than the other way around. It reverses St. Anselm's dictum "faith seeking understanding," so that understanding seeks whatever faith it likes, or no faith at all. It renders human reason an impartial arbiter, rather than the imprint of the God who ordered all creation, who is above all and in all, who fashioned the minds with which we think."

We Christians do not think that the Gospel is merely a matter of opinion. We believe it is true. What could be a kinder gift to our children than teaching them to see the world as truthfully as we do? What could be a kinder gift to our children than making them go to church, just like we make them clean their teeth and eat their vegetables?

In fairness to Christians parents, we in the Uniting Church need to take responsibility for the instruction and nourishment in the faith of those we baptizes, whether they are adults making a profession of faith or infants being presented by their families. To that end it is important that we offer children's ministries and Christian education opportunities.

Confirmation is also practiced as an opportunity for those baptized as infants or children to reaffirm their faith as adults. On Sunday 21 April I am looking forward to presiding at the Confirmation of Annette Churchill at Tamworth Southside Uniting Church.

If you would like to explore baptism of conformation for your yourself or a family member please make a time to chat with me.

Reverend Geoff



What did you do all day?

A man came home from work and found his three children outside, still in their pajamas, playing in the mud, with empty food boxes and wrappers strewn all around the front yard.

The door of his wife's car was open, as was the front door to the house and there was no sign of the dog.

Proceeding into the entry, he found an even bigger mess. A lamp had been knocked over, and the throw rug was wadded against one wall.

In the front room the TV was loudly blaring a cartoon channel, and the family room was strewn with toys and various items of clothing.



In the kitchen, dishes filled the sink, breakfast food was spilled on the counter, the fridge door was open wide, dog food was spilled on the floor, a

broken glass lay under the table, and a small pile of sand was spread by the back door.

He quickly headed up the stairs, stepping over toys and more piles of clothes, looking for his wife. He was worried she might be ill, or that something serious had happened. He was met with a small trickle of water as it made its way out the bathroom door.

As he peered inside he found wet towels, scummy soap, and more toys strewn over the floor. Miles of toilet paper lay in a heap and toothpaste had been smeared over the mirror and walls.

.....continued

As he rushed to the bedroom, he found his wife still curled up in the bed in her pajamas, reading a novel.

She looked up at him, smiled, and asked how his day went. He looked at her bewildered and asked:

"What happened here today?"

She again smiled and answered, "You know every day when you come home from work and you ask me what in the world I do all day?"

"Yes," was his incredulous reply.

She answered, "Well, today I didn't do it."

The soldier above all others prays for peace, for it is the soldier who must suffer and bear the deepest wounds and scars of war.

-Douglas MacArthur

Fabulous Finds Op Shop @ Hallsville



Open 9:30 to 1:00pm

Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays.

Cuppa & chat always available.

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."

Minister: **Rev Geoff Flynn 0421 338 202**

Pastoral Care: **Meg Mangan 0476 375 989**

Elders: Margaret Crowell Daryl Lush

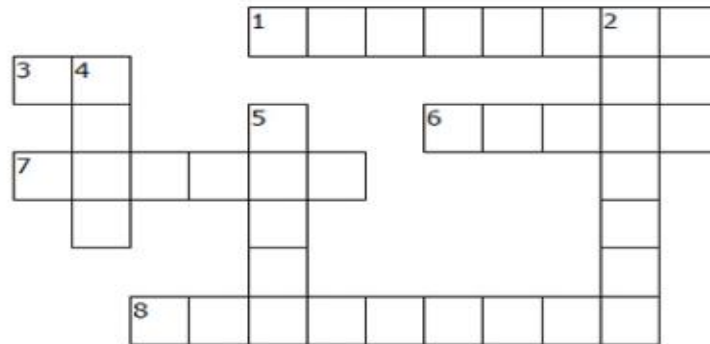


..... enjoy & share the gift of the friendship of Jesus

The Great Commission

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:19-20 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 28:18-20



ACROSS

1. Giving instructions to a group of students
3. The opposite of stop
6. The planet on which we live
7. The place where God lives
8. Followers of Jesus

DOWN

2. Groups of people living in a certain area; countries
4. To follow the commands, rules, or guidance
5. The Son of God

M X H H S W K T E A C H I N G
 O D E L Y O B E Y L L O U O J
 U A A U B A P T I Z I N G P I
 N I V T G A I T H V F R H M E
 T G E N C R W M H L K S L R L
 A T N P O I A O S E B T L C E
 I B C H A W B N R J X K L S V
 N V T O I L O B V S T L E K E
 D U Y Z M I W X Q E H L R H N
 A J B A T M K A K G P I T X X
 O E O A Z C A A Y I C R P Y F
 N S N T K R M N C S A U I E Z
 J U Q A I J W S D E E R Z D D
 H S Z N J C I F B E G D D L Z
 G I V E N D K B T H D I B R S

OBEDIENT	DISCIPLES	EARTH	AUTHORITY
JESUS	MOUNTAIN	ALWAYS	TEACHING
BAPTIZING	HEAVEN	COMMANDED	ELEVEN
NATIONS	MAKE	WORSHIPED	GIVEN

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