



Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

25 May 2025

Meg Mangan 0476 375 989

P.O. BOX 3315 WEST TAMWORTH

Acts 16:9-15 (NLT)

⁹ That night Paul had a vision: A man from Macedonia in northern Greece was standing there, pleading with him, "Come over to Macedonia and help us!"

¹⁰ So we^[a] decided to leave for Macedonia at once, having concluded that God was calling us to preach the Good News there.

Lydia of Philippi Believes in Jesus

¹¹ We boarded a boat at Troas and sailed straight across to the island of Samothrace, and the next day we landed at Neapolis.

¹² From there we reached Philippi, a major city of that district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. And we stayed there several days.

¹³ On the Sabbath we went a little way outside the city to a riverbank, where we thought people would be meeting for prayer, and we sat down to speak with some women who had gathered there.

¹⁴ One of them was Lydia from Thyatira, a merchant of expensive purple cloth, who worshiped God. As she listened to us, the Lord opened her heart, and she accepted what Paul was saying.

¹⁵ She and her household were baptized, and she asked us to be her guests. "If you agree that I am a true believer in the Lord," she said, "come and stay at my home." And she urged us until we agreed.

John 14:23-29 (NLT)

²³ Jesus replied, "All who love me will do what I say. My Father will love them, and we will come and make our home with each of them.

²⁴ Anyone who doesn't love me will not obey me. And remember, my words are not my own. What I am telling you is from the Father who sent me.

²⁵ I am telling you these things now while I am still with you.

²⁶ But when the Father sends the Advocate as my representative—that is, the Holy Spirit—he will teach you everything and will remind you of everything I have told you.

²⁷ "I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don't be troubled or afraid.

²⁸ Remember what I told you: I am going away, but I will come back to you again. If you really loved me, you would be happy that I am going to the Father, who is greater than I am.

²⁹ I have told you these things before they happen so that when they do happen, you will believe.

Other Lectionary Readings:

Revelations 21:10, 22 - 22:5

John 5:1-9

Psalms 67



COFFEE Guide

Flat White	————→	Strong white coffee!
Cappuccino	————→	Frothy coffee!
Latte	————→	Milky coffee!
Macchiato	————→	Foam topped coffee!
Mocha	————→	choccy coffee!
Tea	————→	Not coffee!
Hot chocolate	————→	Also not coffee!



~ unknown

Cwtch

/ kʊtʃ / Welsh

noun

More than a cuddle or a hug, when you give someone a cwtch, you figuratively give them a 'safe place'

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



IN OUR PRAYERS

- We pray for Evelyn and Tony, and their NZ family, as they mourn the loss of Hilary, who died last week.
- We pray for Daryl Lush as he recovers from surgery in Sydney.
- We pray for those people facing flooding on the NSW coast.
- We give thanks for the unusually long autumn we have enjoyed.
- We give thanks for everyone who uses their gifts to give glory to God.

Meg's Musings

Peter Battle turns 90 next week.

These days many people make it to 90, and well beyond that age.

What makes this different is what Peter has chosen to do with his 90 years.

As well as being a full-time English master, a husband, and a father of 3, Peter has dedicated so much of his life to God.

As a Lay Preacher within the Methodist and Uniting Churches, Peter has led thousands of worship services.

Who can imagine how many church meetings he has attended!

He has also been a welcomer, washer-upper, and a friend to thousands of people.

Well done, Peter - good and faithful servant.

Blessing from Meg



Knowledge is knowing that
a tomato is a fruit;
wisdom is knowing not to
put it in a fruit salad"

~ Miles Kington

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



Minister's Weekly Reflection

Lydia of Thyratira

Paul was on his second missionary journey when he had a vision of a man who pleaded with him, "Come over to Macedonia and help us!" The apostle responded to the vision by gathering his team and quickly setting off across the Aegean Sea to the northern region of modern-day Greece. When they arrived, Paul and his fellow missionaries headed straight for Philippi, "a city of Macedonia's first district and a Roman colony"

Paul's first ministry encounter in Philippi was not with a Macedonian man, but with a group of women.

Having spent a few days in the city (probably organising accommodation and work), Paul and his team headed out of the city on the Sabbath in search of a Jewish place of prayer by a river. They found a group of women and sat down to share the gospel with them. The naming of Lydia as one of the women who responded to Paul's message suggests she went on to be a prominent leader in the Philippian Church. Other Philippians, such as the slave girl or the jailer, are not named even though we are told some of their stories.

Lydia's hospitality and her financing of Paul's ministry required courage. Having a group of foreign men stay in your house is potentially scandalous. Hosting meetings where a new Jewish messiah is worshipped, and not an emperor or other respectable pagan gods, could ruin your reputation and your business. Receiving Paul and Silas into her home after they were released from prison and asked to leave town was brave given some in Philippi were angry with the missionaries.

Women such as Lydia were not at the margins in the early church. They were not silent in the churches or ineffective in evangelism. They cared for local congregations and were vital and strategic players at the forefront of the expanding Christian mission. A church was established in Philippi because of Lydia's open heart and her open home, and it grew because of her patronage, her initiative, her courage, her ministry.

I thank God for the privilege to minister in partnership with the women in our Uniting Church who like Lydia open their hearts and homes and give generously to ministry by the Peel Riverside.

Reverend Geoff



Peter Battle.
HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Thank-you
from your many friends
in the Peel Valley Congregation



The Mountain

If the mountain seems too big today
then climb a hill instead

if the morning brings you sadness
it's ok to stay in bed

If the day ahead weighs heavy
and your plans feel like a curse
there's no shame in rearranging
don't make yourself feel worse

If a shower stings like needles
and a bath feels like you'll drown
if you haven't washed your hair for days
don't throw away your crown

A day is not a lifetime
a rest is not defeat
don't think of it as failure
just a quiet, kind retreat

It's ok to take a moment
from an anxious, fractured mind
the world will not stop turning
while you get realigned

The mountain will still be there
when you want to try again
you can climb it in your own time
just love yourself til then

~ Laura Ding-Edwards 2019



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



Peel Valley Congregation is again
hoping to send 20 boxes of
items for children.



Fabulous Finds Op Shop @ Hallsville
Open 9:30 to 1:00pm Friday &
Saturday



Did you know?

When deer nibble on Holly leaves, the plant changes its genes to make the new leaves spiky. On taller Holly trees, the upper leaves are smooth, while the lower ones are prickly.

Scientify

www.scientify.info

Some people give the gift of peace and tranquility to every life they touch.

They are always who they really are.

They are blessedly reliable, dependably good, predictably pleasant, loved and treasured by all who know them.

Be one of those people.

Be a gift of peace and tranquility.

~Anonymous

Presbytery Project Information Session

When: 3.00 - 5.00 pm Wednesday 28 May

Where: Tamworth Southside Uniting Church

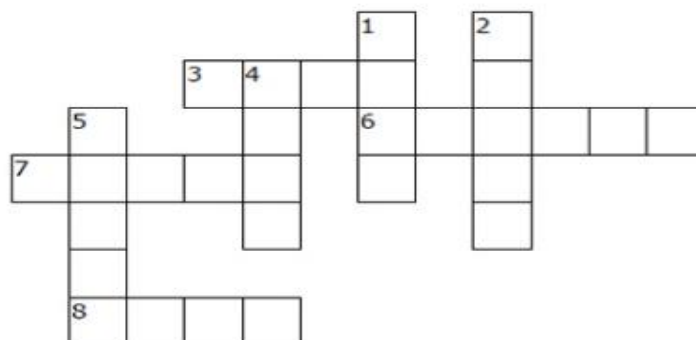
In a significant decision, Presbytery leaders reached a consensus to bring forward a transformative proposal at the Synod meeting in July 2025, aimed at dissolving our 12 existing Presbyteries, and creating 3 new, larger, better resourced and Presbyteries. This is a bold proposal to move beyond structural changes to empower congregations in mission by rethinking culture, staffing, and funding. Rev. Dr Robert McFarlane, the Presbytery Relations Minister will lead this "town hall" meeting via zoom. RSVP Rev Geoff Flynn

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

Peace of Mind and Heart

I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don't be troubled or afraid. John 14:27 (NLT)

Based on John 14:23-29



ACROSS

3. To have a deep feeling of affection toward a person
6. Have a feeling of fear
7. A time when people live and work together happily without violence
8. A place where someone lives; a residence.

DOWN

1. To receive a sound using your ears
2. Parts of a language which can be spoken or written
4. To carry out or fulfill a command, order, or instructions
5. To give instruction to others

TEACH	LOVE	WORDS	AFRAID
OBEY	HOME	HEAR	PEACE

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

WORDS	HEARTS	SPIRIT	HOME	GLAD
TEACHING	FATHER	LOVE	OBEY	HOLY
GREATER	AFRAID	WORLD	PEACE	COME

~ Sermons 4 Kids

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