



Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

January 2026 Rev Geoff Flynn Rev Sam Sadrata Meg Mangan (Pastoral Care)

John 1:1-14 (NLT)

Prologue: Christ, the Eternal Word

- ¹ In the beginning the Word already existed.
The Word was with God,
and the Word was God.
- ² He existed in the beginning with God.
- ³ God created everything through him,
and nothing was created except through him.
- ⁴ The Word gave life to everything that
was created,
and his life brought light to everyone.
- ⁵ The light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness can never extinguish it.
- ⁶ God sent a man, John the Baptist, ⁷ to tell
about the light so that everyone might
believe because of his testimony.
- ⁸ John himself was not the light; he was
simply a witness to tell about the light.
- ⁹ The one who is the true light, who gives
light to everyone, was coming into the
world.
- ¹⁰ He came into the very world he created,
but the world didn't recognize him.
- ¹¹ He came to his own people, and even
they rejected him.
- ¹² But to all who believed him and accepted
him, he gave the right to become children
of God.
- ¹³ They are reborn—not with a physical
birth resulting from human passion or plan,
but a birth that comes from God.
- ¹⁴ So the Word became human and made
his home among us. He was full of
unfailing love and faithfulness. And we
have seen his glory, the glory of the
Father's one and only Son.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 (NLT)

A Time for Everything

- ¹ For everything there is a season,
a time for every activity under heaven.
- ² A time to be born and a time to die.
A time to plant and a time to harvest.
- ³ A time to kill and a time to heal.
A time to tear down and a time to build up.
- ⁴ A time to cry and a time to laugh.
A time to grieve and a time to dance.
- ⁵ A time to scatter stones and a time to
gather stones.
A time to embrace and a time to turn
away.
- ⁶ A time to search and a time to quit
searching.
A time to keep and a time to throw away.
- ⁷ A time to tear and a time to mend.
A time to be quiet and a time to speak.
- ⁸ A time to love and a time to hate.
A time for war and a time for peace.

The time is always right to do what is right.

~ Martin Luther King Jr



The best part about life?

Every morning you have a new opportunity
to become a happier version of yourself."

~ Kelli Pease

Music, once admitted to the soul, becomes
a sort of spirit, and never dies. ~ E Bulwer-Lytton

Where words fail, music speaks.

~ Hans Christian Anderson

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



IN OUR PRAYERS

- We pray for our three members who recently spent time in hospital - Beulah Fenwick, Judy Lennon and Peter Scorgie. We hope that their health is improving.
- We pray for peace negotiations taking place at the moment.
- We pray for a healthy and happy new year for each other.
- We pray that 2026 is the year when the world turns to God - seeking guidance, seeking connection, and finding love and goodness. And we pray for the energy and the resolve to help that to happen.
- We thank God for the opportunities which come with the new year.

God of all, guide me as I journey into a new year. Celebrate with me the progress I have made in becoming a person of love. Give me strength to right any wrongs, to keep growing into the person you would have me to be. Guide me into this new year, filled with hope, optimism, compassion, and love. Amen



Meg's Musings

I hope that Christmas has been a special time for you. Perhaps a time of catching up with friends or family members you don't often see, or hear from. Perhaps a time of enjoying some of the traditions which your family maintain. For our family, the tradition of eating anything you like for Christmas breakfast is now embraced by new generations. Perhaps there is one special carol which truly speaks of Christmas for you. Giving, receiving and displaying cards really matters to some families. But underlying it all, Christmas means nothing without Christ at the centre of it all.

Blessing from Meg



Some of the best beginnings start with "Lord, I don't know how to do this, but help me try." There's a certain peace that comes when you finally admit you can't do everything on your own. You take a small step forward, unsure but willing, trusting that God fills the gaps you can't. You look back one day and realize those shaky prayers slowly turned into firm ground beneath your feet. ~ unknown

Peel Valley Congregation

Hallsville ~ Markets 4th Sunday of the month.

1266 Manilla Road, Hallsville 2340

Gowrie ~ Available for special events.

2125 Tamworth-Gowrie Road, 2340

West Tamworth ~ every Sunday 11am

79 Denison Street, West Tamworth 2340

Combined Worship

5th Sunday of the month combined services with Tamworth City and Southside.

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**

Rev Sam Sadrata 0431 216 188

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

Elder: Margaret Crowell

P.O. BOX 3315 WEST TAMWORTH



CHURCH SERVICES 11am West Tamworth
25 January ~ Rev Sam Sadrata



Peel Valley Congregation

18 January, 2026

Country Gospel Breakfast at Hallsville led by Rev Jim Newton



Fabulous Finds Op Shop @ Hallsville
9:30 to 1:00pm Thursday, Friday & Saturday *Cuppa and a chat always available.*
Reopens 29 January 2026

4th Sunday Monthly Hallsville Markets
 Big breakfast served 8:00 - 10:00 am
Next Market 25 January



Ministers' New Year Reflection

Living Differently in 2026

People make New Year's resolutions because the turning of the year feels like a natural pause point—a moment to reflect, reset, and imagine change. Psychologically, a new year creates a sense of a "fresh start," helping us separate who we want to become from past habits or disappointments.

Resolutions also give shape to hope. Many people carry quiet longings for healthier bodies, deeper relationships, more meaningful work, or greater peace. Naming a resolution turns those longings into intentions. Even if the goals are ambitious or imperfect, the act of articulating them can feel empowering, as though life is being steered rather than simply endured.

The season of Epiphany invites the Church to lift its eyes and look outward, recognising how God's light is revealed beyond familiar boundaries. Moving from the intimacy of Christmas, Epiphany widens the horizon, asking what it means for Christ to be made known not just to a few, but to the whole world.

At its centre, Epiphany is about revelation. The Magi following a star show that God's self disclosure is not limited by culture or geography. Guided by curiosity and partial understanding, their journey affirms that God meets people where they are, speaking through the symbols available to them.

Epiphany also asks how we respond when God is revealed. The Magi offer worship; Herod responds with fear. These contrasting reactions challenge us to consider whether we welcome God's light with humility or resist when it unsettles our assumptions.

Importantly, Epiphany is not only about seeing clearly, but about living differently. After encountering Christ, the Magi return home "by another way." Revelation leads to transformation. The light that is revealed reshapes direction, priorities, and practice. Perhaps our best new years resolutions will be those revealed to us by God rather than the ones we craft for ourselves. For the Church, Epiphany is a season of renewed vocation: to reflect Christ's light through hospitality, justice, and courage, bearing witness to a God whose glory is for all people and whose light continues to shine in the world.

May 2026 open before you like a wide horizon, filled with light enough to guide you and mystery enough to invite trust.

Rev Geoff



My New Year's resolution is simply remembering to write 2026 instead of 2025.

"It's the start of a new year, isn't it, Piglet?" said Pooh, all excited.

"It certainly is," said Piglet.

"What are you hoping for, this year?" asked Pooh. "Are you going to try and achieve some goals or ambitions? Make lots of money? Better yourself?"

"Well," said Piglet. "The thing is, Pooh, is that I am a very simple soul at heart. And I may not be right, when I say this...but I have always felt that the most important thing in life - for me at least - is love. To love, and to be loved. So while Achieving Goals, and Making Money, and Bettering Yourself, might all be great things to dream of...I can't help feeling that, without love, they would be very empty dreams indeed."

"So your hopes for the next year is ..."

"For love," said Piglet, simply. "For love, and for a regular walk through the Hundred Acre Wood with my very best friend, kicking up the leaves and talking as though we haven't a care in the world."



"That sounds just perfect to me," said Pooh. "Shall we go?"

And so the two friends put on their boots and their waterproofs, and walked out into the Hundred Acre Wood, kicking up leaves and talking as though they hadn't

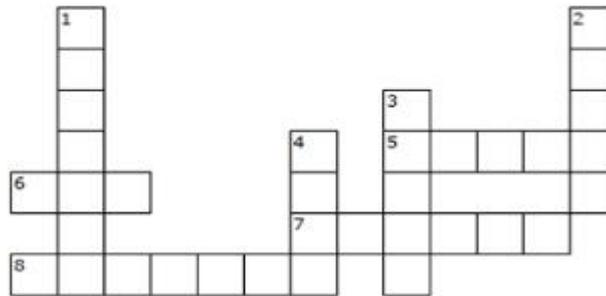
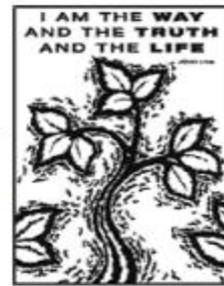
a care in the world. ~ A A Milne

Courage doesn't always roar. Sometimes courage is the little voice at the end of the day that says:

"I'll try again tomorrow". ~ anon

Finding the Way

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." John 14:6
 This puzzle is based on John 14:1-14 (NIV)



ACROSS

5. Areas in a building that have their own walls, floor, ceiling, and door
6. The route or path to follow to get to a place
7. The male parent
8. To accept something as being true

DOWN

1. To get ready for something that will happen in the future
2. A building in which people, usually one family, lives
3. The actual facts about something
4. The period between birth and death

TRUTH BELIEVE	WAY LIFE	HOUSE FATHER	ROOMS PREPARE
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T J Y C O M T W A Y Z C P V A
 A E E H I S I A U J S S R L F
 H L X B U D Y R N H Y T E Y R
 W R A R X H T Z A I I J P E T
 T U T Z P E R H F C M X A D N
 R F M E L A S R O H L W R Z P
 O V J X A R T H T M B E E B X
 U X R L C T O I O O A Q S L E
 B K L O E S A W I W W S V V V
 L C L I O F F A T H E R E O H
 E Q A D V M J O I F L I R T O
 D F D E L I S K R Z L C U N U
 S Y I K I K N O W E M R J X S
 L I N S F P I G B D T I S P E
 Y J I Q E M C E N O U G H J Z

ENOUGH	WAY	HEARTS	TROUBLED	TRUST
THOMAS	LIFE	MIRACLES	HOUSE	SEEN
SHOW	BELIEVE	KNOW	ROOMS	LIVING
FATHER	FAITH	PLACE	PREPARE	TRUTH

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