



## Peel Valley Congregation

Hallsville & West Tamworth



6 September 2026

Rev Geoff Flynn

Rev Sam Sadrata

Meg Mangan (Pastoral Care)

### Genesis 2:4b-22 (Good News)

#### The Garden of Eden

When the LORD God made the universe, <sup>5</sup> there were no plants on the earth and no seeds had sprouted, because he had not sent any rain, and there was no one to cultivate the land; <sup>6</sup> but water would come up from beneath the surface and water the ground.

<sup>7</sup> Then the LORD God took some soil from the ground and formed a man out of it; he breathed life-giving breath into his nostrils and the man began to live.

<sup>8</sup> Then the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the East, and there he put the man he had formed.

<sup>9</sup> He made all kinds of beautiful trees grow there and produce good fruit. In the middle of the garden stood the tree that gives life and the tree that gives knowledge of what is good and what is bad.

<sup>10</sup> A stream flowed in Eden and watered the garden; beyond Eden it divided into four rivers.

<sup>11</sup> The first river is the Pishon; it flows around the country of Havilah.

(<sup>12</sup> Pure gold is found there and also rare perfume and precious stones.)

<sup>13</sup> The second river is the Gihon; it flows around the country of Cush. <sup>14</sup> The third river is the Tigris, which flows east of Assyria, and the fourth river is the Euphrates.

<sup>15</sup> Then the LORD God placed the man in the Garden of Eden to cultivate it and guard it. <sup>16</sup> He told him, "You may eat the fruit of any tree in the garden, <sup>17</sup> except the tree that gives knowledge of what is good and what is bad.<sup>[e]</sup> You must not eat the fruit of that tree; if you do, you will die the same day."

<sup>18</sup> Then the LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to live alone. I will make a suitable companion to help him."

<sup>19</sup> So he took some soil from the ground and formed all the animals and all the birds. Then he brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and that is how they all got their names. <sup>20</sup> So the man named all the birds and all the animals; but not one of them was a suitable companion to help him. ....continued

<sup>21</sup> Then the LORD God made the man fall into a deep sleep, and while he was sleeping, he took out one of the man's ribs and closed up the flesh. <sup>22</sup> He formed a woman out of the rib and brought her to him.

### Psalms 139:13-16 (Good News)

<sup>13</sup> You created every part of me;  
you put me together in my mother's womb.

<sup>14</sup> I praise you because you are to be feared;  
all you do is strange and wonderful.  
I know it with all my heart.

<sup>15</sup> When my bones were being formed,  
carefully put together in my mother's womb,  
when I was growing there in secret,  
you knew that I was there—

<sup>16</sup> you saw me before I was born.  
The days allotted to me  
had all been recorded in your book,  
before any of them ever began.

### Acts 17:22-28 (Good News)

<sup>22</sup> Paul stood up in front of the city council and said, "I see that in every way you Athenians are very religious. <sup>23</sup> For as I walked through your city and looked at the places where you worship, I found an altar on which is written, 'To an Unknown God.' That which you worship, then, even though you do not know it, is what I now proclaim to you. <sup>24</sup> God, who made the world and everything in it, is Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples made by human hands. <sup>25</sup> Nor does he need anything that we can supply by working for him, since it is he himself who gives life and breath and everything else to everyone. <sup>26</sup> From one human being he created all races of people and made them live throughout the whole earth. He himself fixed beforehand the exact times and the limits of the places where they would live. <sup>27</sup> He did this so that they would look for him, and perhaps find him as they felt around for him. Yet God is actually not far from any one of us; <sup>28</sup> as someone has said,

'In him we live and move and exist.'  
It is as some of your poets have said,  
'We too are his children.'



## John 3:1-16 (Good News)

### Jesus and Nicodemus

**3** There was a Jewish leader named Nicodemus, who belonged to the party of the Pharisees.

**2** One night he went to Jesus and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher sent by God. No one could perform the miracles you are doing unless God were with him."

**3** Jesus answered, "I am telling you the truth: no one can see the Kingdom of God without being born again."

**4** "How can a grown man be born again?" Nicodemus asked. "He certainly cannot enter his mother's womb and be born a second time!"

**5** "I am telling you the truth," replied Jesus, "that no one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit."

**6** A person is born physically of human parents, but is born spiritually of the Spirit. **7** Do not be surprised because I tell you that you must all be born again.

**8** The wind blows wherever it wishes; you hear the sound it makes, but you do not know where it comes from or where it is going. It is like that with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

**9** "How can this be?" asked Nicodemus.

**10** Jesus answered, "You are a great teacher in Israel, and you don't know this? **11** I am telling you the truth: we speak of what we know and report what we have seen, yet none of you is willing to accept our message."

**12** You do not believe me when I tell you about the things of this world; how will you ever believe me, then, when I tell you about the things of heaven?

**13** And no one has ever gone up to heaven except the Son of Man, who came down from heaven."

**14** As Moses lifted up the bronze snake on a pole in the desert, in the same way the Son of Man must be lifted up, **15** so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.

**16** For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life.

## IN OUR PRAYERS

- We give thanks for the progress Lynne Bowd has made, and pray for continued healing for her.
- We pray for Jan Parker as she recovers after her hospital stay.
- We pray for the members of Beulah's family as they continue to mourn her loss.
- We give thanks that the sale of the West Tamworth Church has finalised.

## Meg's Musings

How quickly nature changes.

There are days that seem to be filled with sunshine - and then, half an hour later, the sun is obscured by clouds.

It's only a week ago that we received almost 2 inches of rain. But, as I pulled out some weeds this morning, the ground was dry and hard.

Last week there weren't many spring flowers in my garden. Now the first freesias are blooming, the may is beginning to flower, and the lavender is sending out purple fronds.

Nature changes, moment by moment, day by day, and year by year.

However, the creator of our earth, and all of the universe never changes.

God is constant - we can count on God's goodness and love forever.

*Blessings from Meg*



The truth is: the natural world is changing.  
And we are totally dependent on that world. ~ Sir David Attenborough

Aging is not for the weak.

One day you wake up and realize that your youth is gone, but along with it, so go insecurity, haste, and the need to please... You learn to walk more slowly, but with greater certainty.

You say goodbye without fear, and you cherish those who stay.

Aging means letting go, it means accepting, it means discovering that beauty was never in our skin... but in the story we carry inside us. ~ Meryl Streep

## CHURCH SERVICES 11am West Tamworth

13 September ~ Jennifer Battle

20 September ~ Rev Sam

27 September ~ Meg Mangan



## **Tamworth Regional Uniting Churches - Ministers' Reflection**

This month we begin the Season of Creation, a time in the life of the church when we are invited to pay particular attention to the world God has entrusted to us. It is an opportunity to look again at our relationship with the land, the creatures with whom we share it, and the communities in which we live.

One question I have been thinking about, in light of the recent funerals; and would like us to sit with through this season is:

### **What does it mean for God's people to become people who protect life?**

Israel is preparing to leave Egypt. God gives them instructions for the Passover and tells them that this month will become the beginning of a new calendar for them. Their lives are about to take a new direction. When we come to Matthew 18, Jesus speaks about what it means for that people of God to live together. He speaks about disagreement, accountability, forgiveness and reconciliation. The Christian community is called to be a place where relationships are cared for and restored. Both stories remind us that being God's people is more than gathering together. **It is learning a particular way of living.**

For those of us who live in rural communities, we know something about the preciousness of life. We see it in the changing seasons, in the arrival of rain after a dry period, in paddocks beginning to recover, in crops coming on, and in the birth and raising of animals. We know that life cannot be taken for granted. It depends upon things beyond our control.

A farmer can prepare the soil, plant the seed and work hard, but there remains a dependence upon rain, sunlight, healthy soil and the rhythms of creation.

Perhaps that dependence is one of the gifts rural life can teach the wider church. To protect life therefore means more than preventing harm. It means creating conditions in which life can flourish.

Jesus' teaching in Matthew 18 reminds us that protecting life also means protecting relationships. When something between two people is broken, Jesus does not tell us to walk away from one another. He gives the community a way of seeking restoration.

There is something deeply important about that.

A community that protects life is a community that pays attention to what is being damaged - whether that damage is to a relationship, a person, a community or the natural world - and asks what can be done to restore it.

The Season of Creation gives us an opportunity to consider these things together.

Perhaps it begins with gratitude: giving thanks for the land beneath our feet, the food on our tables, the animals we care for, the rain when it comes, the people who work the land, and the God who sustains us all.

And perhaps it continues with responsibility .....continued

## **What has God placed in our hands that needs protecting?**

As a church, may we become people who protect life: people who care for creation, repair relationships, strengthen community and leave something of God's goodness for those who come after us.

For where two or three are gathered in Christ's name, Christ is present among us. May Christ be present also in the way we care for one another and in the way we care for the world God has entrusted to us.

**Rev Sam**

## **Matthew 18:15-20 (Good News)**

### **When Someone Sins**

<sup>15</sup> "If your brother sins against you,<sup>1</sup> go to him and show him his fault. But do it privately, just between yourselves. If he listens to you, you have won your brother back.

<sup>16</sup> But if he will not listen to you, take one or two other persons with you, so that 'every accusation may be upheld by the testimony of two or more witnesses,' as the scripture says.

<sup>17</sup> And if he will not listen to them, then tell the whole thing to the church. Finally, if he will not listen to the church, treat him as though he were a pagan or a tax collector.

### **Prohibiting and Permitting**

<sup>18</sup> "And so I tell all of you: what you prohibit on earth will be prohibited in heaven, and what you permit on earth will be permitted in heaven.

<sup>19</sup> "And I tell you more: whenever two of you on earth agree about anything you pray for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven.

<sup>20</sup> For where two or three come together in my name, I am there with them."



## **Fabulous Finds Op Shop @ Hallsville**

**9:30 to 1:00pm Thursday, Friday & Saturday.**

Cuppa and a 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**

**Rev Sam Sadrata 0431 216 188**

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

Elder: **Margaret Crowell**

**P.O. BOX 3315 WEST TAMWORTH**

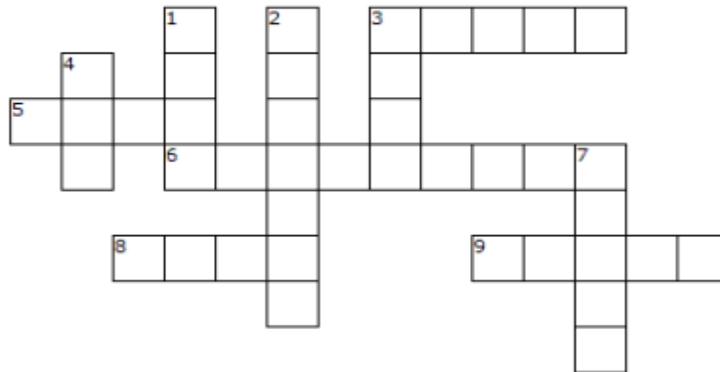


..... enjoy & share the gift of the friendship of Jesus

# Born Again!

In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again." John 3:3 (NIV)

Based on John 3:1-17 (NIV)



## ACROSS

3. A clear, colorless liquid; H<sub>2</sub>O
5. To receive sounds with your ears
6. A Pharisee who went to Jesus at night
8. The period from birth until death
9. The real facts about something; not false

## DOWN

1. To be brought into life by birth
2. A person who instructs or trains others
3. The movement of air outside
4. To observe by using your eyes
7. Something that can be heard

Sermon4kids4

|       |       |           |      |         |
|-------|-------|-----------|------|---------|
| HEAR  | TRUTH | NICODEMUS | WIND | TEACHER |
| WATER | SOUND | SEE       | LIFE | BORN    |



## My Aged Care Forum

Empowering individuals to make informed decisions about their ageing journey.

Join us to gain the knowledge and confidence to navigate aged care, exploring supports, government funding, and how to access and apply for the services you need. Two session times available.

Venue: Tamworth Southside Uniting Church, 440 Goonoo Goonoo Rd  
Date: Tuesday 29 September      Wednesday, 30 September  
Time: 17:30 – 19:30      10:30am – 12:30pm



- ☒ Expert inputs      ☒ Morning Tea / Sausage Sizzle
- ☒ Practical next step      ☒ Q & As      ☒ Activities for children

Places are limited. Please register ASAP by scanning the QR Code for your date of choice or leave a message with Karen on 0429 679 176 or E: [office@tsuc.org.au](mailto:office@tsuc.org.au)  
General enquiries: [ewall@uniting.org](mailto:ewall@uniting.org)

 Tamworth Southside  
Uniting Church

**Uniting**

TAMWORTH CHORAL SOCIETY  
presents

# As Time Goes By

September 20th, 2.30p.m  
Trinity Church. Craigends Lane

An Afternoon of  
Choral Music  
Celebrating Time  
and Memories

\$20 pp  
\$35 family  
Eftpos available and  
Afternoon tea will be  
served

Don't mix bad words with your bad mood.  
Because you'll never get the opportunity  
to replace the words you spoke ~ unknown

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