

Diary Dates

**Sun, 29 Tamworth City Worship
with Rev Chris Wright.
Morning Tea.**

11:30am Korean Reborn

Mon, 30 4-5am Wheely Bean JH M-F

9:30-3pm Kairos Sewing JH

10am-4pm Op Shop M-F

10:30am Cole Funeral

4pm WW in Dunn Hall

5:30pm Dance in Jubilee H

Tue, 1 9am-2pm Office Tue-Fri

9:30am Adult Fellowship in

St Andrew's Room

10am-1pm Pres Bkeeper

10am Tech Savvy Seniors at

the Library Tue/Wed

5-8pm WW in Dunn Hall

7pm Friends of Nioka in St

Andrew's Room

Wed, 2 9am Organ Tuning in Church

9am Op Shop Sorting

6-9:30pm New Vogue in JH

Thu, 3 8:30am Prayer Group in

Wesley Room

9am Fete Set up in JH

9:30am MSSC Meeting in St

Andrew's Room

9:30am Yoga in Dunn H

4:30pm Worship Music

8:30am WW in Dunn Hall

9am Fete Set up in Jubilee

Hall/St Andrew's Rm

8-11am WW in Vestry

8:30am-1pm FETE!!!

9am-12noon Op Shop

**Sun, 6 Tamworth City Worship &
HC with Rev Chris Wright.
Morning Tea.**

11:30am Korean Reborn

2:30pm Choral Society

Concert at Carinya PAC



Contact Details:

- **Minister:** Rev Chris Wright Ph 0427 633 657 Email chris@thewrights.com.au
- **Office:** 144 Marius St, PO Box 501, Tamworth 2340 Ph 02 6766 5311 Fx 02 6766 4390 Email tamworthcity.uca@gmail.com Hrs 9am-2pm Tue-Fri

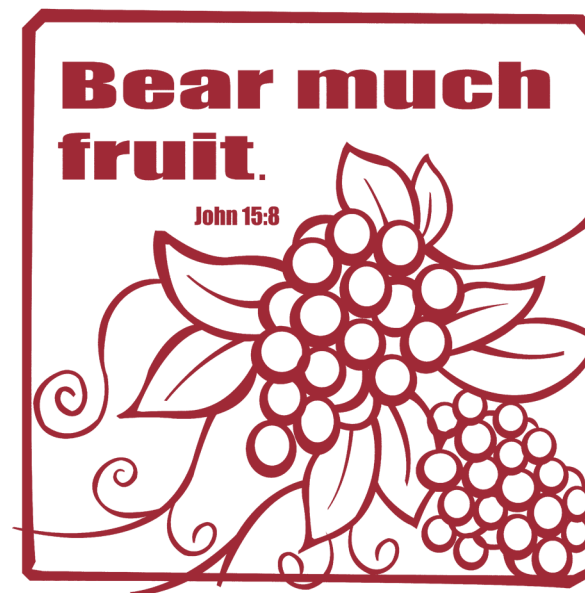
Other Useful Local

Contacts:

- **Southside Office:** Ph/ Fx 6765 3714 PO Box 5101, South Tamworth 2340 Email tsucoffice@aanet.com.au
- **Southside Lay Ministry Worker:** Suzanne Holloway 0438 608 373
- **Peel Valley:** Margaret Crowell Mb 0408 660 025
- **UNITING St Andrew's Village** 1800 864 846 Chaplain Rev Henry Swindon 0466 445 632
- **UNITING Rainbow Cottage** 6766 7655 Sharn Mason

Welcome to Tamworth City Uniting Church

We welcome all those worshipping with us today. Rev Chris Wright will be leading Worship. Please stay for a chat and morning tea afterwards.



Easter Reflection

Seasons of the Spirit—Love Abides

Focus scriptures: John 15:1-8, Acts 8:26-40, Psalm 22:25-31 & 1 John 4:7-21.

Prayer

*Give us open ears and hearts to hear your words today, Loving God.
Through the gift of your word, may we hear your call to us to inclusion.
Give us deep roots, grounded in your love as we continue to heed the call to follow you. Amen.*

Introduction

We are all part of God's family. This theme is evident in several ways in today's passages. The vine connected to the branches, the court official being accepted in Baptism, and the sustenance we draw from one another in praise and worship. This is all tied together in 1 John as we read that perfect love casts out fear and invites us to abide with Christ.

Focus scripture

John 15:1-8: John's gospel contains many passages that begin with the words "I am." These verses are metaphors to help us understand the person and work of Jesus the Christ. Several of them come in the section of John called the "farewell discourse" (John 14:1-16:3). In these speeches, Jesus teaches the disciples about his identity and ministry. Jesus says, "I am the true vine." The vine is a familiar image in the Hebrew Scriptures. In the biblical lands, vineyards were important to Israel's agricultural life. Extensive work was needed to prepare the ground for cultivating vines. Strong walls and a watchtower were built to protect vines from people and animals. Most of the grapes became wine. A productive vineyard was seen as a sign of God's favour – a vine-grower could expect a bountiful harvest when obeying God's commands. The prophets used this image, describing the people of Israel as the vine and God as the one who tends it (see Isaiah 5:1-7, for example). The fruit of this vine is justice, and ruin comes upon the vineyard where injustice flourishes. Jesus calls himself "the true vine,"

Southside Scene

Worship: 9:30am & 5pm Sundays.
HC 3rd Sunday.

Ladies Breakfast: 7:30am on 4th
Tuesday each month.

Prayer Meeting: 3:30pm Tuesdays.

Worship Planning: 5:30pm Tuesdays.

Faith Art Group: 1pm Thursdays,
alternate weeks, school terms.

Men's Choir: 5:30pm on Thursdays.

Men's Breakfast: 7:30am on 1st
Saturday each month.

www.tamworthsouthside.org.au or

Facebook: Tamworth Southside Uniting Church

Our Vision: *To be a faithful & enthusiastic part of God's church in our community, sharing the love of Jesus.*

Mission Statements: *To build up individuals and teams, empowered by the Holy Spirit, using our spiritual gifts to serve each other and our community.*



Peel Valley Congregations

Fri, 27 Apr—Hallsville No Church.

Sun, 29 Apr—Church on a Bus to Breeza.

Tue, 1 May—10am Memory Lane at West Tamworth.

Fri, 4 May—5:30pm Hallsville Friday Family Church.

Sun, 6 May—11am West Tamworth Church with lunch afterwards.

Fri, 11 May—Hallsville No Church.

Sun, 13 May—8:30am Gowrie Service and 11am West Tamworth HC Service.

Tue, 15 May—10am Memory Lane at

Wet Tamworth

GOWRIE, HALLSVILLE & WEST TAMWORTH CONGREGATIONS

Our Goal "To be transformed communities, experiencing, enjoying & sharing the gift of the friendship of Jesus."

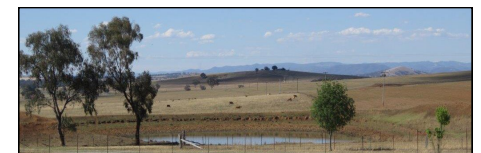
Mission "Called to be Free, Gifted to Serve"

Pastoral Care: Meg Mangan 0466 337 005

Contact: Margaret Crowell 6760 8323

Preaching: Ross Davidson 6760 8369

Elders: Margaret Crowell, Ross Davidson, Bruce Jarrett, Barbara Murray, Doss Wark

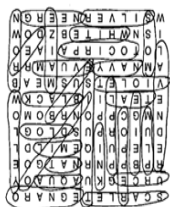


Colours of Promise

In Genesis 9:13, God tells Noah that the rainbow is a sign of promise. Hidden in this word find are all the colours of the rainbow, and many more! Circle each hidden word.

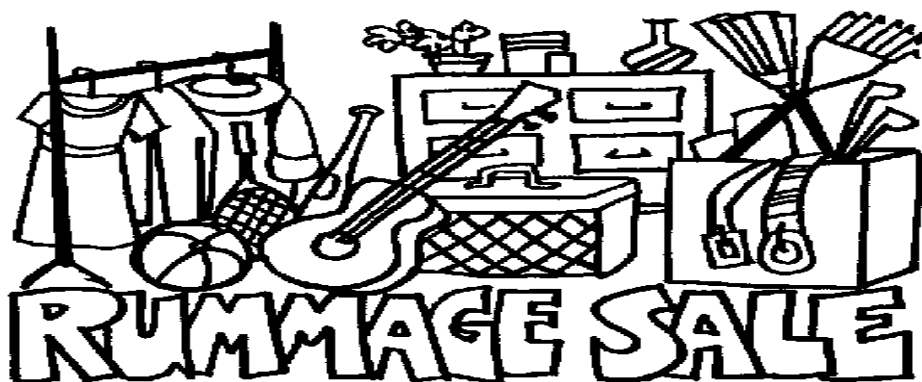
Word List

Apricot	Maize	Turquoise
Aqua	Mauve	Violet
Beige	Moss	White
Black	Navy	Yellow
Blue	Orange	
Brown	Pink	
Copper	Plum	
Ecru	Purple	
Gold	Red	
Green	Scarlet	
Indigo	Silver	
Lavender	Tan	
Lime	Teal	



Answers

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



Lectionary Readings

Sun	15	Psalm 4*	Fri	20	Acts 3:19-26
Mon	16	Ezekiel 34:1-10	Sat	21	Acts 4:1-12*
Tue	17	1 John 3:7-15	Sun	22	Psalm 23*
Wed	18	1 John 3:16-24*	* Denotes Sunday lectionary readings		
Thu	19	John 10:11-18*			

identifying his followers, then and now, as the branches. The Christian community is one body with many members, one vine with many branches that nourish its growth. The branches are only strong when they are connected with the vine stem. Jesus calls those who follow to abide – remain – in him. Without Jesus the Christ, we “can do nothing.” The vine lives out in the open air, exposed to the elements. Vines must be pruned – the dead branches cut away – to produce the best fruit. In verse 2, the Greek word translated as “prune” also means “cleanse.” Pruning does not hurt a healthy plant but stimulates new growth. So God tends the vine branches, pruning, and cleansing that we may produce the fruit of justice and love. When we go through difficult times, we may experience this image of pruning as painful. And yet we know that there are aspects of our lives that need to be cut away or redirected. Our fruitfulness is the way we are able to carry out God’s work in the world.

The author of 1 John writes to a Christian community that is divided over differences of belief. Some members have left. **1 John 4:7–21** tells how important it is to abide in God. God is love and, when we love one another, God lives in us. Love is the fruit that we, the vine, produce. We are called to love our brothers and sisters, as God has loved us. In the Christian community, all are welcomed and included. The gospel is for all people. **Acts 8:26–40** describes Philip’s meeting with the Ethiopian official. As a eunuch, this court official could not participate fully in the worshipping life of Israel. Yet he continues his religious quest and reads from the prophet Isaiah as he travels home from Jerusalem. Philip meets him where he is, in his questions, and proclaims to him the good news of Jesus the Christ. This Ethiopian court official is baptized then and there. **Psalms 22:25–31** sings of inclusive love. All peoples, all the ends of the earth, will praise God, who welcomes all.

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It can be tempting to decide who is in and who is out. We often want to decide who to prune from the branches of our communities based on age, sexuality, ability level, nationality, and other factors. Yet we continue to see God calling us to community and into God’s family. How do our lives reflect God’s abiding love? How do we show that love of God to the world?

Today's Information

Worship on Sunday, 29 April 2018—5th Sunday in Easter

Worship service with Rev Chris Wright at 9am. Morning Tea. Elder: J Bennett, Door: B Mills, S Perkins, R Barclay, AV: M Akioka, Org: R Greer.

Korean Reborn Church

11:30am Sundays for worship and then the Jubilee Kitchen for lunch.

Church Council Notes from 12 April Meeting

- Adopted a general plan for fund raising for congregational mission to minimise clashes on requests over the year.
- Thursday morning prayer group with minister working well and to continue.
- Congregational one-day retreat planned for later in the year. Approached leader available.
- Election of Elders to take place on 3rd June .
- Statement re. appointment of Sarah Wright as Children and Families Worker read out. Joint venture with Southside. Commissioning service 3 June at 2pm held at Southside.
- Decided to change time of bi-monthly Church Council Meetings from 7.30pm to 3pm on the allocated Thursdays as a trial for two meetings.
- Leave granted to Rev Chris for involvement in Women's Emmaus Walk on 15th July. Also annual leave from 20 August to 10 September.
- Fellowship Committee outlined plans for activities for year – sausage sizzles at end of school terms, a Trivial pursuit Dinner on 22nd June and a Congregational Luncheon on 29th November.
- Fete arrangements in hand.
- Noted Ethics training for lay leaders at Manilla on 27th May to be led by Rev Jim Furze.
- Began work on new Five Year Plan for Ministry and Mission 2018-2023.

Worship on Sunday, 20 May 2018—Pentecost Sunday

Worship service with Rev Chris Wright at 9am. Please wear something red. Sunday School. Morning Tea. Elder: A Ashworth, Door: F Kerr, R & P Pryor, AV: J Carthew, Org: R Cathcart.

11am West Tamworth Service—Rev Chris Wright.

Diary Dates

- 3 June—2pm Commissioning of Young Families Worker at Southside
- 12-15 July—Emmaus Walks at PLC Armidale
- 6 September—Adult Fellowship Rally at Tamworth City
- 20 October—Makes You Wonder—Sharing Our Faith Workshop

Prayers

Prayer Focus—Tamworth City

Today we focus on encouraging your individual commitment to prayer and service.

Ecumenical Prayer Calendar

Keep the people of Djibouti and Somalia in your prayers this week.

Prayer Diary—Tamworth Churches

We keep the activities of Hope & Glory Church, Carinya Christian School, Moonbi/Kootingal Anglican Churches, the Baptist Church, C3 Church, Scripture in Schools, and Oxley Vale Anglican Church in our prayers.

Presbytery Prayer Points

We continue to pray for steady rain across our Presbytery . The next meeting will be on 12 May in Inverell.

Scripture in Schools

Special thanks for those who are preparing to lead classes in our high schools this year. As usual funding is solely from donations. If you would like to contribute: A/c name TSCEAI, BSB 032 621, A/c No. 372 372. Thank you.



Induction of Rev Henry Swindon

UNITING and the New England Northwest Presbytery will be inducting Rev Henry Swindon into the Chaplain's role at the St Andrew's Village on Friday, 11 May from 2pm in Alblas. RSVP to our office by Tuesday, 8th if you would like to attend.

NENW Presbytery Meeting

The quarterly Presbytery meeting will be held in Inverell on Saturday, 12 May. Keep their deliberations in your prayers.

Worship on Sunday, 13 May 2018—7th Sunday in Easter (Ascension Sunday)

Worship service with Rev Chris Wright at 9am. Sunday School. Morning Tea. Elder: R Duns, Door: M Duns, J Carthew, R Barclay, AV: J Phillips, Org: R Richardson.

One Door Mental Health

Meeting in the St Andrew's Room on Monday, 14, 21 and 28 May 9am-12:30pm.

Association of Independent Retirees

Meeting in the St Andrew's Room on Tuesday, 15 May 9am-12noon.

Senior's Getting Together Fellowship

Meeting in the St Andrew's Village Hall on Tuesday, 15 May 2pm.

Elder Nominations Close

Tuesday, 15 May.

Craft Group

Our craft group meet on the 1st and 3rd Friday morning of the month at 10am in the St Andrew's Room. Bring along some craft, have a chat and a cuppa. Our next get-together will be on Friday, 18 May.

Friends of Nioka—Remembrance Service

Saturday, 19 May at 2pm. All are welcome to attend. Afternoon tea will follow in the St Andrew's Room.

Sympathy

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Neon Cole who passed away last Monday. Neon's funeral will be held on Monday, 30 April at 10:30am. The catering group are looking for some cakes/slices for catering following Neon's funeral. If you can help, please leave at the Jubilee Kitchen on Monday by 10am. Thank you.

We also extend our sympathy to the family and friends of Beatrice Wakely who passed away last week.

This Week's Events

Church Fete—5 May

Check our 'Donations Welcome' Fete Flyer. Talk to the stall holder to see how you can help. Maybe its supplying items, maybe its working on the day, setting up or packing up. Lots of ways you can engage in our Fete.

- The Clayton's Fete box is at the back of the church for donations.
- Flower Stall is looking for donations of flowers. Bring to the Jubilee Hall by 1pm on Friday. Lorraine also happy to collect early if needs be.

KYB Study Group

Our KYB Study Group meet at 1:30pm in the home of Paul & Lorraine Turner, 26 Upper St. Contact 6766 6891. Next 30 April. All welcome.

Opportunity Shop

Our Opportunity Shop is located at 24 Darling Street. Normal hours 10am-4pm Mondays to Fridays and 9am-12noon on Saturdays. Contact Lorraine (0401 762 463) or Judy (0418 662 081).

Adult Fellowship

Meeting on Tuesday, 1 May from 9:30am for Morning Tea in St Andrew's R.

2018 Tech Savvy Seniors

A NSW Govt. initiative followed by some light refreshments. An opportunity to participate in training on different technology. Tuesday, 1 May, 10am-

12noon Introduction to smart phones; 1-3pm Introduction to email;
Wednesday, 2 May, 10am-12noon Introduction to tablets; 1-3pm
Introduction to social media at the TRC Library. Book on 6767 5228.

Church Office

Regular house 9am-2pm Tuesdays to Fridays. All hall bookings through the office please. Thank you, *Nicolette*.

Friends of Nioka

Meeting on Tuesday, 1 May from 7pm in St Andrew's Room.

Organ Tuning

In the Church on Wednesday, 2 May from 9am.

Op Shop Working Bee

Sorting each Wednesday in the Vestry. Lots of chit-chat with your hard work and then a cuppa! All helpers welcome.

Aged Care Services

Monthly aged care HC services at McKay House & Alblas Lodge from 10:15am with Rev Chris Wright. All helpers and singers most welcome.

Prayer Group

Meeting on Thursday mornings from 8:30am in the Wesley Room.

Presbytery MSSC Meeting

Held in the St Andrew's Room on Thursday, 3 May from 9:30am.

Fete Set-Up

Jubilee Hall from Thursday, 3 May and Friday, 4 May from 9am, both days.
Then our big Fete Day on Saturday, 5 May from 8:30am. Everyone's welcome to join in the work, fellowship and fun. Join us!

Craft Group, Lunch & DVD

Note—NO CRAFT, NO LUNCH & DVD on Friday, 4 May.



Discussing Dementia

St Peter's Anglican Church are again offering the very popular Discussing Dementia with Rev Frank Van der Korput on Friday, 4 May 7-9:30pm or Saturday, 5 May 9:30am-12noon. This course follows on from the course held last year. Everyone's welcome. Register at St Peter's Office 6765 9304.

Church Fete

Saturday, 5 May 8:30am-1pm in the Jubilee Hall and Grounds. Bring your Family, Come have Fun, Bring your Friends, Support our Fete!

Next Week & Beyond

Worship on Sunday, 6 May 2018—6th Sunday in Easter

Worship service and Holy Communion with Rev Chris Wright at 9am.
Sunday School Resumes. Morning Tea. Elder: M Duns, R Duns, J Bennett, M Hobson, P Battle, Door: N & J Dezius, M Cupitt, AV: A Winter, Org: R Greer.

Choral Society Concert

The Tamworth Choral Society are presenting "From Hammerstein to Bernstein Musical Melodies." A delightful selection of musical numbers, chosen from some of the great musical partnership of our time. Afternoon tea will follow. Sunday, 6 May at 2:30pm in the Carinya PAC. Adults \$15, Families \$30. Tickets available from Choir members or at the door.

Meals on Wheels Kitchen Roster

Our next rostered day will be Tuesday, 8 May from 8am.

Compassionate Friends

Meeting on Wednesday, 9 May from 10am in the St Andrew's Room.

Senior's Communion

Our monthly Senior's Communion will be held on Friday, 11 May from 10am in the St Andrew's Village Hall. Contact Barbara McLean 6766 4039.

