

Diary Dates

Sun, 8	Tamworth City Worship with Rev Chris Wright. Sunday School. Sausage Sizzle. Morning Tea. 11:30am Korean Reborn	6-9:30pm New Vogue in JH
Mon, 9	4-5am Wheely Bean JH M-F 9:30am Kairos Sewing in JH 10am-4pm Op Shop M-F 10am One Door Carer Support in Dunn Hall 1:30pm KYB at 26 Upper St 4pm WW in Dunn Hall 5:30pm Dance in Jubilee H	Thu, 12 8:30am Prayer Group in Wesley Room 9am Office Closed 9:30am Yoga in Dunn H 4:30pm Worship Music 7:30pm Church Council meeting in St A Room
Tue, 10	8am Meals on Wheels Kitch. 9am-2pm Office Tue/Wed 10am-1pm Pres Bkeeper 4pm Young Families Worker Meeting in Wesley Room 4:30pm Property Committee in St Andrew's Room 5-8pm WW in Dunn Hall	Fri, 13 8:30am WW in Dunn Hall 9am Office Closed 10am Senior Communion at St Andrew's Village
Wed, 11	9am Op Shop Working Bee 10am Compassionate Friends in St Andrew's Room	Sat, 14 8-11am WW in Dunn Hall 9am-12noon Op Shop 5pm Private Function in JH

Sun, 15 Tamworth City Worship with Rev Chris Wright. Morning Tea.
11am West Tamworth—Rev Chris Wright
11:30am Korean Reborn



Preaching Plan

Sunday, 15 April—3rd Sunday in Easter

9am	Tamworth City with Rev Chris Wright E: M Hobson, D: J Shottek, F Kerr, H Fergus, O: R Cathcart, PP J Carthew.
9:30am	Tamworth Southside HC
11am	West Tamworth Service with Rev Chris Wright
5pm	Tamworth Southside HC



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.

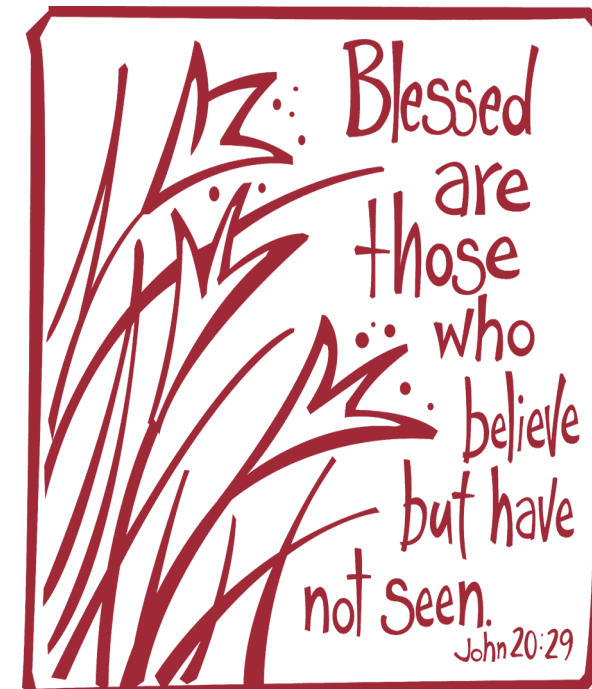
Contact Details:

- **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 tsuoffice@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



Lenten Reflection

Seasons of the Spirit—Love Is a Response to Grace

Focus scriptures

John 20:19–31, Acts 4:32–35, Psalm 133 and 1 John 1:1—2:2.

Prayer

Come to us, God. Open our locked doors and hearts. Lead us, with all our questions and wonderings, into the exciting mystery of discipleship. We long to be your Easter people, to live and proclaim new life. Amen.

Outline

The texts this week open doors to considering how love is a response to grace, and how we live out both love and grace in our lives. Whether it is through forgiveness, being in community, or being healed by Christ, it is through the grace and love of Christ that we can claim we are forgiven and made whole.

Reflection

John 20:19–31. The disciples are afraid when Jesus returns to them. They are hiding; trying to discern what steps to take next. They are worried that they may be arrested and crucified next. Into this fear, Jesus appears. He greets them with the admonition to not be afraid, and for peace to be with them.

In verse 23, Jesus says to the disciples, “If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven. If you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” One description of forgiveness is that of letting go of any rights for retribution or retaliation.

An interesting angle to consider is who retains the sins if they are not forgiven? The sinner, or the one refusing forgiveness?

The Greek word for sin is *hamartia*. This word is also an archery term for

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, 6 Apr—Hallsville NO SERVICE

Sun, 8 Apr—8:30am Gowrie Service
and 11am West Tamworth HC

Fri, 13 Apr—5:30pm Hallsville Friday
Family Service

Sun, 15 Apr—11am West Tamworth
Service with Rev Chris Wright.
Trading Table After.

Tue, 17 Apr—10am Memory Lane at
West Tamworth

Thu, 19 Apr—2:30pm Peel Valley
Study group at West Tamworth.

Fri, 20 Apr—5:30pm Hallsville Friday
Family Service.

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.



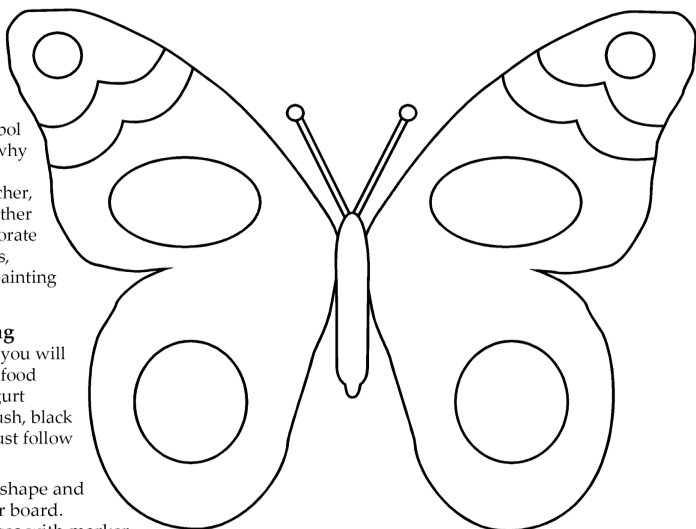
Butterfly Symbol

A butterfly is a great symbol of Easter. Can you think why this is? Talk with a friend, parent, church school teacher, or pastor about this and other Easter symbols. Then decorate this butterfly with crayons, markers, glitter, or sand painting (see below).

Butterfly Sand Painting

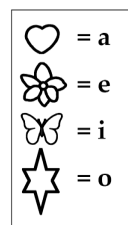
To sand paint a butterfly, you will need: poster board, sand, food coloring, small jars or yogurt containers, glue, paint brush, black felt pen or crayon. Then just follow these directions.

1. Cut out this butterfly shape and mount it on the poster board.
2. Draw over design edges with marker or crayon.
3. Color the sand: (a) put small amount of sand in container, (b) add several drops of food color and shake, (c) put sand on newspaper to dry. Do the same for each color.
4. Paint small section of design with glue. Let it set up and become tacky. Sprinkle with desired color sand. Let dry. Gently shake off extra sand. Repeat for each different color until the surface is all covered with colored sand.
5. Allow the butterfly to dry flat overnight, especially if the layer of glue was thick.



Jesus' Prayer

While he was hanging on the cross, Jesus prayed to God. Use this symbol key to fill in the missing letters in the message.



F th r f rg v th m; f r th y d
 n t kn w wh t th y r d ng.
 Luke 23:34

Answer: Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.

Lectionary Readings

Sun 8	John 20:19-31*	Fri 13	Luke 24:35-48*
Mon 9	Micah 4:1-7	Sat 14	Acts 3:12-19*
Tue 10	1 John 2:3-17	Sun 15	Psalm 4*
Wed 11	1 John 2:18-29	* Denotes Sunday lectionary readings	
Thu 12	1 John 3:1-7*		

letting the arrow fly and "missing the mark." If sin is seen as missing the mark, then perhaps it is easier to consider that once forgiven, we are invited to come back and take another shot, to try to hit the mark this time.

Grace, in this case, may look like a quiver full of arrows.

We do not know where Thomas was, but he missed this encounter and does not believe until he can see for himself. Christians today can take comfort from Thomas – it is okay for us to hesitate and wonder. We come to belief in different ways. The root of the Latin *credo* (I believe) is *cor* (heart). Belief is more than intellectual assent; a person who believes gives one's whole self to something. Thomas did just that. When Jesus appears, he offers his peace again.

"Peace be with you" is the gift given by Christ in places of anxiety and fear. Thomas' words "My Lord and my God" are a confession of faith. John says that he has written this gospel so that others may come to believe. Telling the story in many ways brings the gospel message to others.

Psalm 133 celebrates the joy when all people can live together in unity. It describes the gifts that come from people being together. Perhaps the Early Christians in **Acts 4:32–35** were remembering this Psalm as they sat together. Acts describes the life of the first Christians sharing possessions, witnessing to the resurrection of Jesus the Christ, and changing the world around them. The motif of community is strong here. Without the community, the individuals would suffer, and perhaps not survive. Just as the disciples gathered around the table, so did the first Christians.

1 John 1:1–2:2 connects all these passages together. It affirms the telling of what happened to Jesus, offering testimony that others wanted, and perhaps is the testimony given in Acts. The continual use of the word "we" (17 times in the NRSV) implies a community is behind the letter. The author describes sin, and the grace we find in Jesus.



Grace abounds in the readings for this week. Christ breaks into places where we are fearful and anxious and offers his peace. In that peace, we find forgiveness and an invitation to be in community. We see the love of Christ come to life in the ways we offer forgiveness to others.

Today's Information

Worship on Sunday, 8 April 2018—2nd Sunday in Easter

Worship service with Rev Chris Wright at 9am. NO Sunday School. Morning Tea and end of term barbecue/sausage sizzle to follow. Elder: R Hely, Door: D Miles, R Barclay, W Townsend, AV: J Phillips, Org: R Richardson.

Korean Reborn Church

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

UnitingWorld—Lent Event

Donations should not be left on the offering plate (envelopes available) or sent directly to UnitingWorld, PO Box A2266, Sydney South NSW 1235 Phone 1800 998 122 or Email info@unitingworld.org.au or visit their website at www.unitingworld.org.au.

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.

This Week's Events

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).

One Door Mental Health Support Group

Meeting in the Dunn Hall on Monday, 9 April from 10am.

KYB Study Group

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

Prayer Diary—Tamworth Churches

We keep the activities of Scripture Union, St John's Anglican Church, the Community Presbyterian Church, Life Church, the Hospital Chaplain, St Paul's Anglican Church and the Harvest Church in our prayers.

Presbytery Prayer Points

We continue to pray for steady rain across out Presbytery . The next meeting will be on 12 May in Inverell. We are planning an "Ethics Training Day" for lay leaders in June and a "Makes You Wonder Workshop" on 20 October. And an Adult Fellowship Rally at Tamworth City on 6 September.

Scripture in Schools

Special thanks for those who are preparing the 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.

Prayer Chain

If you have a concern that you would particularly like prayer support for, please contact Judith Archbold 6766 6716 or Ted Woodhart 6766 1804.

Maintenance Items

Wheelchair/Walker

There is a wheelchair and a walker available in the Vestry to assist in transporting those who require one to and from the church carpark. Please return to the Vestry.

Food Hamper Sunday

Food Hamper Sunday is the 1st Sunday of the month. Bring along something to the office anytime. A shopping list might look like this: 2x1lt UHT milk, 500g sugar, 25 tea bag box, 50g coffee, 100gm tuna/sardines, 2xcuppa coup, 2xrice/pasta pack, 250g biscuits, tin baked beans/spaghetti (ring pull), tin steak & veg (or similar), 2minute noodles, small tinned fruit, small cereal. Thank you everyone.

Venture Christian Bookshop—Quirindi

108 George Street, Quirindi 6746 1065. Serving Christ in the community since 1985. Cards for every occasion, bibles, music CD's, DVD's, adult and children's books, giftware also available. They are happy to order in special requirements. Email: vcbquirindi@bigpond.com

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.

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.

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: TBA, Door: TBA, AV: A Winter, Org: R Greer.

Diary Dates

- Emmaus Walks 12-15 July at PLC Armidale
- Adult Fellowship Rally 6 September—Tamworth City
- Makes You Wonder—Sharing Our Faith Workshop 20 October

Assembly Worship Preparation—Funerals

Have your thought about what your family need to know about your funeral? Assembly have issued a document "Preparing for Your Funeral". It's a guideline to get you started. If you'd like a copy, see Nicolette in the office.

Prayers

Prayer Focus—Tamworth City

Today we focus on the activities of the Worship, Evangelism, Property and Finance and Admin committees. Please uphold these in your private prayers during the week.

Ecumenical Prayer Calendar

Keep the people of East Timor, Indonesia and the Philippines in your prayers this week.

Meals on Wheels Kitchen Roster

Our next rostered kitchen day will be Tuesday, 10 April from 8am.

Church Office

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

City Property Committee

Meeting in the St Andrew's Room on Tuesday, 10 April at 4:30pm.

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.

Compassionate Friends

Meeting in the St Andrew's Room on Wednesday, 11 April from 10am.

Prayer Group

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

Church Office Closed

Nicolette will be away on 12/13 April and the office will be closed. Op Shop alternate key arrangements.

Bi-Monthly Church Council Meeting

Meeting in the St Andrew's Room on Thursday, 12 April from 7:30pm.

Senior Communion

Our monthly Senior Communion will be held on Friday, 13 April at the St Andrew's Village Community Hall. Mr Peter Battle will be leading the service. Contact Barbara McLean 6766 4039.

Worship on Sunday, 15 April 2018—3rd Sunday in Easter

Worship service with Rev Chris Wright at 9am. Mission Envelopes. Morning Tea. Elder: M Hobson, Door: J Shottek, F Kerr, H Fergus, AV: J Carthew, Org: R Cathcart.

11am West Tamworth—Rev Chris.

Next Week & Beyond

Association of Independent Retirees

Meeting in the St Andrew's Room on Tuesday, 17 April at 9am.

Senior's Getting Together Fellowship

Meeting in the St Andrew's Village Community Hall on Tuesday, 17 April at 2pm.

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 Friday, 20 April.

Worship on Sunday, 22 April 2018—4th Sunday in Easter

Worship service with Rev Chris Wright at 9am. Morning Tea. Elder: P Battle, Door: M Honeyman, S Hardin, AV: J McClelland, Org: R Richardson.

Fete Committee Meeting

Tuesday 24 April from 4pm in the St Andrew's Room.

ANZAC Day

Wednesday, 25 April. Marching from Bourke Street to the Town Hall for a service of remembrance.

Rural Home Nursing

Meeting in the St Andrew's Room on Thursday 26th and Friday, 27th April for training workshops.

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.

Adult Fellowship

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





Tamworth City Uniting
CHURCH FETE

Saturday, 5 May 2018
8:30am-1pm

Jubilee Hall & Church Grounds,
144 Marius Street, Tamworth

Stalls include Barbecue, Bric-a-brac, Cakes, Collectables & Antiques, Cookies, Confectionary, Craft, Drinks, Flowers, Gardening, Jams/Condiments, Kids Toy Stall, Morning Tea, Children's Activities, Produce, Sweets and Lots, Lots

More...

Bargains Galore... Fun for Everyone!!!

Bring your Family, Come have Fun,
Bring your Friends, Support our Fete!

"Alive in Christ, Serving God, Empowered by the Spirit" 7