

# Diary Dates

<b>Sun, 16</b>	<b>9am Tamworth City Worship Service with Rev Chris Wright. Advent 3. Morning Tea. 11am West Tamworth 11:30am Korean Reborn</b>	7pm Advent Study in WslyR End School Term 4
<b>Mon, 17</b>	<b>9:30am Kairos Sewing JH 10am-4pm Op Shop M-F 10am UNITING Support StAR 5:30pm Dance Grp in JH</b>	Thu, 20 8:30am Early Risers Prayer 4:30pm Worship Music
<b>Tue, 18</b>	<b>8am Meals on Wheels Kitchen Roster 9am-2pm Church Office T-F 9am-3pm Christmas Appeal in St Andrew's Room Tue-Fri 9:30am Line Dancing in Jubilee Hall Christmas Social 10am-1pm Pres Bkeeper</b>	Fri, 21 Christmas Gift/Hamp Collection Day
<b>Wed, 19</b>	<b>9am Op Shop Sorting 2pm Advent Study in WslyR 6-9:30pm New Vogue in JH 6pm Meditation Service in Chapel</b>	Sat, 22
		<b>Sun, 23 9am Tamworth City Worship Service with Rev Chris Wright. Advent 4. Morning Tea. 11:30am Korean Reborn</b>
		Mon, 24 5pm Carol Crawl at UNITING St Andrew's Village 7:30pm Christmas Eve Worship with Rev Chris Wright
		Tue, 25 CHRISTMAS DAY 8am Christmas Day Worship

# Preaching Plan

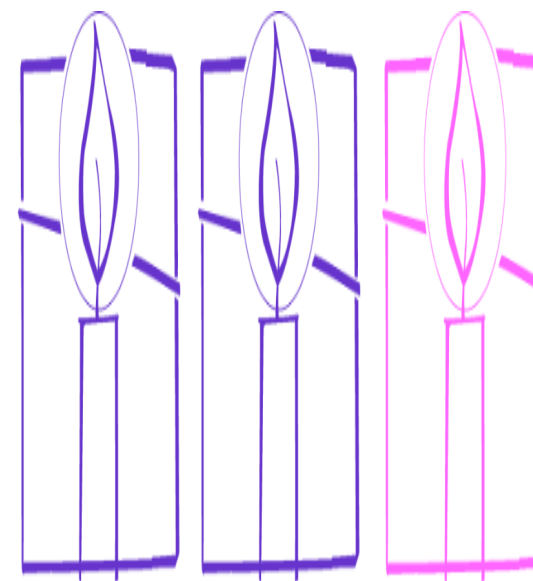
## Sunday, 23 December 2018—Advent 4

9am	Tamworth City with Rev Chris Wright, E: M Weick, D: G Chaffey, H McKenzie, S Hardin; O: R Greer, PP: J McClelland
9am	Hallsville with Meg Mangan (Baptisms)
9:30am	Tamworth Southside Service
11am	West Tamworth Service with Meg Mangan
5pm	Tamworth Southside Service



# Welcome to Tamworth City Uniting Church

We welcome all those worshipping with us today. Rev Chris Wright will be leading our service. Please stay for a chat and morning tea afterwards in the St Andrew's Room.



### Contact Details:

- **Minister:** Rev Chris Wright Ph 0427 633 657 Email [chris@thewrights.com.au](mailto:chris@thewrights.com.au) RDO Tuesday
- **Office:** 144 Marius St, PO Box 501, Tamworth 2340 Ph 02 6766 5311 Fx 02 6766 4390 Email [tamworthcity.uca@gmail.com](mailto: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@gmail.com](mailto:tsuoffice@gmail.com)
- **Southside Lay Ministry Worker:** Suzanne Holloway 0438 608 373 [tsucminister@gmail.com](mailto:tsucminister@gmail.com)
- **Young Family Worker:** Sarah Wright 0423 617 813 Email: [sarah.familyworker.uca@gmail.com](mailto:sarah.familyworker.uca@gmail.com)
- **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 "Alive in Christ, Serving God, Empowered by the Spirit" 1

# Advent Study Four

## The Advent of Christ: - Love & Truth

### Philippians 2:5-11

<sup>5</sup>Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, <sup>7</sup>but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. <sup>8</sup>Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. <sup>9</sup>For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, <sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup>and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

- 1) In Philippians 2:6-7, it says that Christ existed in the form of God, but emptied himself by taking the form of a bondservant and being made in the likeness of men. How did Christ show us His love by being made in the likeness of men? What other sacrifices did Christ make on our behalf?
- 2) Read John 3:16, 6:38-40, and Romans 5:8. Why did Jesus become a man?

Now read Acts 16:30-31 and John 1:12. How does one receive the benefits available through Jesus' incarnation?

# Southside Scene

**Worship:** 9:30am & 5pm Sundays. HC 3rd Sunday. 9:30am only in Jan '19.

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

**Tuesday Lunch:** 12-1pm Tuesdays.

**Prayer Team:** 3:30pm Tuesdays.

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

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

**Moore Creek Pot Luck Dinner & Discussion:** 6:30-9pm 1st Wed.

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

[www.tamworthsouthside.org.au](http://www.tamworthsouthside.org.au) or

**Facebook:** Tamworth Southside UC

**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

**Sun, 16 Dec**—11am West Tamworth resumes. Service with Rev Chris Wright.

**Sun, 23 Dec**—9am Baptism Service at Hallsville and 11am Service at West Tamworth with Meg Mangan

**Tue, 25 Dec**—9am Christmas Worship at Hallsville with Rev Henry Swinton

**Sun, 20 Jan**—Peel Valley Country Gospel Breakfast at Hallsville.

**Sun, 27 Jan**—West Tamworth Service resumes.

**Sun, 10 Feb**—Gowrie 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"*

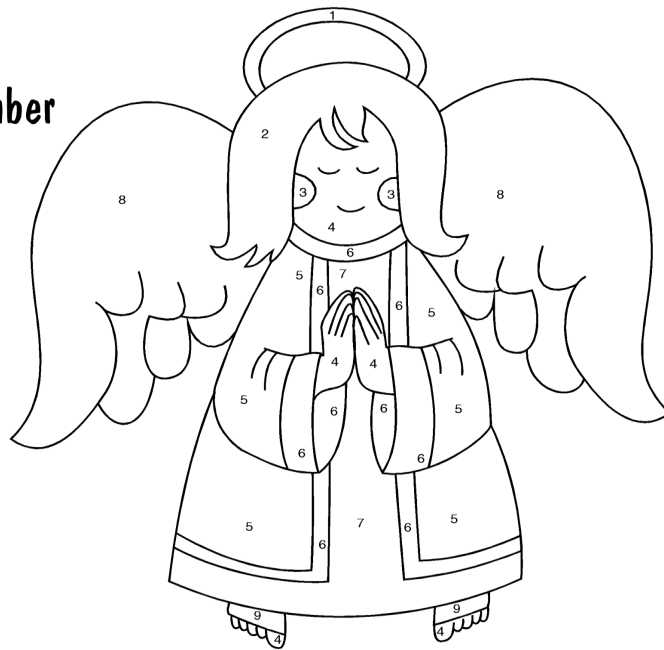
Pastor Care: Meg Mangan 0466 337 005

Contact: Margaret Crowell 0408 660 025



# Christmas Color-by-number

- 1 = Gold
- 2 = Black
- 3 = Light Red
- 4 = Skin color
- 5 = Green
- 6 = Dark Blue
- 7 = Light Blue
- 8 = Grey
- 9 = Brown



## Peace Word Jumble

Peace	I	I	have	leave	said	with	this	you	to	my	you	peace	so	I	that	give	in	to	me	you	you	I	
may	do	have	not	peace	give	In	to	the	you	world	as	you	the	face	world	persecution	gives	But					
Do	take	not	courage	let	I	your	have	hearts	conquered	be	the	troubled	world										

Starting with the first word, write it and every other word in the blanks below. Read the verse.

Now start with the second word and write every other word in the blanks below. Read this verse.

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John 14:27  
Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled. John 14:27

John 16:33  
I have said this to you, so that in me you may have peace. In the world you face persecution. But take courage; I have conquered the world! John 16:33

## Lectionary Readings

Sun 16	Isaiah 12:1-6*	Fri 21	Luke 1:39-45
Mon 17	Revelation 20:11-21:5	Sat 22	Luke 1:46-55*
Tue 18	Jeremiah 23:5-8	Sun 23	Psalm 80:1-7
Wed 19	Hebrews 10:5-10*	* Denotes Sunday lectionary readings	
Thu 20	Micah 5:2-5a*		

- 3) Read Hebrews 2:14-18 and 7:23-28. Why was it necessary for Christ to be both God and man in order for Him to accomplish His purposes?

### Revelation 19:11-16

<sup>11</sup>And I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse, and He who sat on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and wages war. <sup>12</sup>His eyes are a flame of fire, and on His head are many diadems; and He has a name written on Him which no one knows except Himself. <sup>13</sup>He is clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. <sup>14</sup>And the armies which are in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, were following Him on white horses. <sup>15</sup>From His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may strike down the nations, and He will rule them with a rod of iron; and He treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty. <sup>16</sup>And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, "King of Kings, and Lord of Lords."

**Revelation 21:1-5** <sup>1</sup>Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer any sea. <sup>2</sup>And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup>And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He will dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be among them, <sup>4</sup>and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away." <sup>5</sup>And He who sits on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." And He said, "Write, for these words are faithful and true."

**Revelation 22:16-17** <sup>16</sup>"I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David,



the bright morning star.”<sup>17</sup>The Spirit and the bride say, “Come.” And let the one who hears say, “Come.” And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who wishes, take the water of life without cost.

**Revelation 22:20**<sup>20</sup>He who testifies to these things says, “Yes, I am coming quickly.” Amen. Come Lord Jesus.

- 4) What truths do we learn about Christ through looking at the various titles given to Him throughout these passages in Revelation?
- 5) At Jesus’ first advent He came as the Redeemer. When He returns, it will be as King. From these passages, what will be some of the characteristics of His reign? How will mankind benefit from His reign?
- 6) How are Christ’s roles of Redeemer and King tied together?
- 7) Knowing what we do now about Christ’s life, death, and resurrection, what significance does this bring to His birth? How would your life be different if He had never been born?
- 8) This Christmas as we celebrate Christ’s first advent, we can be filled with hope because we know that He will be coming again.



#### **Housekeeping Item**

*Please report all incidents/accidents to the office, even if there is no further action. We need to keep a record for our insurance. Thank you.*

#### **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.*

#### **Screening Mammogram**

*Breast Screen NSW Hunter New England offers all women aged 50-90yrs a free Screening Mammogram for the early detection of breast cancer. Call 132050.*

#### **Free Prostate Cancer Support**

*Counselling and information provided at Tamworth Hospital. Helping with Risk factors, testing diagnosis, treatment and recovery. Phone 1300 881 826.*

#### **Morning Tea Support**

*We enjoy a lovely morning tea every Sunday, thank you to those who help out each week on the roster (or co-opted). Would you like to join our team? Have a chat with Di Cole (6766 4552) or Joan Crosling (6761 8737). Housekeeping: a quick reminder to make a swap if you are not able to do your rostered day (let Di or Joan know too).*

#### **Kairos Outside Sewing Group**

*Kairos Outside Sewing Group will be meeting in the Jubilee Hall on Monday mornings from 9:30am-3pm each week during school terms.*

#### **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. Email: vcbquirindi@bigpond.com*

#### **Home Communion**

*Do you know someone who might like to have an Elder bring Holy Communion to them in their home? Please let Judith Archbold know (6766 6716).*

## Prayer Diary—Tamworth Churches

We keep the activities of the St Peter's Anglican Church, St Stephen's Presbyterian Church, Northwest Church, Seventh Day Adventist Church, Church on the Way, the Salvation Army and the Roman Catholic Churches in our prayers.

## Presbytery Prayer Points

We give thanks for rain across our Presbytery and continue to pray for more. Encouragement for those congregations reaching out to their communities during this Christmas Season. Our preaching workshop in February 2019 (mentioned elsewhere in the notice sheet).

## Scripture in Schools

Special thanks for those who have led classes in our high schools this year—Andrew, Ross, Belinda, Alison and Dave. 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. In recess now until 2019. Donations still gratefully received.

## 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 or Rev Chris Wright 0427 633 657.

# Maintenance Items

## Library

We have a library of books/DVDs in the Vestry. Do you have any you no longer require of a religious nature to donate to our Library? Maybe you'd like to borrow a book. Talk to Peter Battle 6766 7455.

## Transport to Church

Can you help with transport to church? Maybe you've got a spare seat and can pick someone up from nearby on your way. Contact the office on 6766 5311.

## Key Audit

We are doing an audit of keys to the buildings here at Tamworth City. Please check with the office about your need for keys to buildings. Take the opportunity to return a key you don't need any longer.

Read 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11. What perspective should we take as we wait for Christ's second advent?

- 9) Thinking back on the study and the truths you have learned, what are areas in your life that you would like to see change this new year? Journal in a short paragraph what those changes are. Then think of some practical steps you can make to achieve them.



# Today's Information

## Worship on Sunday, 16 December

Advent 3 Worship service with Rev Chris Wright at 9am. Occasional Choir. Christmas Appeal Food Hamper. Morning Tea.

11am West Tamworth—Rev Chris Wright.

## Korean Reborn Church

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

## Church Council Meeting Notes

Our Church Council AGM was held on Thursday night. Positions filled: Chairperson Barry Gillett, Deputy Chair Lloyd Johnston, Secretary Edna Sheppard, Treasurer Paul Turner, Evangelism Edna Sheppard, Worship & Christian Education Barry Gillett, Fellowship Rob Duns, Special Mission Activities Judy Phillips, Elders & Pastoral Partners Judith Archbold, Finance & Administration Paul Turner, Property Judy Carthew. Reps to Rainbow Cottage Management Committee Sandra Perkins, Edna Sheppard, Annabel Ashworth, Rev Chris Wright, Support people for Children & Families Worker Nicolette Willis, Barry Gillett, St Andrew's Partnership contact Bill Standen, Co-opted member to Church Council Nicolette Willis. Thank you everyone.

The general meeting followed:

- Adoption of the Plan for Ministry & Mission 2018-2023.
- Motion to hold a Church Council meeting on a new date when other events intervene.
- Youth Vision allocation of funds approved (wonderful service last week).
- Approval on new Rainbow Cottage Chairperson, Renae Dunst.
- Project to support a School Chaplain at Tamworth Public School approved \$2,000 per year for three years.
- Rev Chris Wright's Vitality of Call endorsed.
- Donations to Carols in the Park \$250, LifeQuip \$250 approved.
- Encouragement to attend annual Presbytery Preaching workshop led by Rev Bill Loader 1/2 February 2019.

## Diary Dates to Note

- Offices closes between Christmas & New Year reopening 2 January
- January worship 9am followed by light morning tea
- 7-12 January SU Chaffey Camp
- Office Closed 8-21 January
- Country Music SU tent 22 January

## SUFM—SUITE

Scripture Union Family Missions are running their SUITE program on Saturday, 12 January. Conversations about Jesus—people love stories and we have a unique great story to share: Jesus' story colliding with our story and making a new life changing story. Sessions will be held at Tamworth West Public School Hall. Contact Dave Tankard 0401 571 978.

## The World of Jesus & Us—preaching workshop

The NENW Presbytery are pleased to invite you to their annual Preaching Workshop on 1/2 February 2019 at Tamworth Southside. This year we have Rev Bill Loader leading us. The theme is The World of Jesus & Us—Poles apart, but connected at the core. All sessions are open to everyone. Registration forms are available on the back table or see Nicolette in the office if you'd like to register to attend any of the sessions. Bill has spent 40yrs serving in the Perth Theological Hall at Murdoch University. He has much to share.

# Prayers

## Prayer Focus—Tamworth City

Today we focus on Children's Ministry, Christian Education, Scripture in Schools, Sunday School, Young Families Worker, Mission Outreach and Rainbow Cottage. Special mention in your prayers for our Christmas Appeal and Drought Relief activities. Please uphold these in your private prayers during the week.

## Ecumenical Prayer Calendar

Keep the people of the Benin, Cote d'Ivoire and Togo in your prayers this week.

## School Term 4

Ends on Wednesday, 19 December.

## Stepping Stones

In recess now until February 2019.

# Next Week & Beyond

## Worship on Sunday, 23 December

Advent 4 Worship service with Rev Chris Wright at 9am. Elder: A Ashworth, Door: G Chaffey, H McKenzie, S Hardin, AV: J McClelland, Org: R Geer. Christmas Cake for Morning Tea.

## Christmas Eve Carol Crawl

Everyone is welcome to join us to carol in the UNITING St Andrew's Village complex on Monday, 24 December from 5pm. Santa might even join us too. We'll get started at McKay House then across the road to Alblas Lodge and back to the Village Community Hall for some carols and light refreshments.

## Christmas Worship Schedule

Christmas Eve: 5pm Carol Crawl

7:30pm Christmas Eve worship with Rev Chris Wright

Christmas Day: 8am Christmas Day worship with Rev Chris Wright

## Worship on Sunday, 30 December

Worship service with Rev Chris Wright at 9am. Elder: W Standen, Door: R & P Pryor, Org: R Geer. Morning Tea.

## Worship on Sunday, 6 January 2019

Worship service and Holy Communion with Rev Chris Wright at 9am. Epiphany Sunday. Elder: R & M Duns, M Cupitt, E Fairall, Door: S Perkins, J Carthew, Org: R Geer. Light Morning Tea.



- Approval to negotiate new fence arrangements for Stepping Stones in new location of Dunn Hall in 2019.
- Pastoral letters from Assembly and Synod re ruling that there can not be a new Synod; same gender marriage; new UME Transformation Strategy and Safe Church changes.
- Thanks acknowledged to Berowra and Manningham UC for drought assistance.
- Report from St Andrew's Village is that new plans have been drawn up for changes to both sites to incorporate new buildings for McKay & Albas and single story villas for independent living.
- Evangelism report that visits have gone well and we look forward to our busy week ahead with Share Christmas.
- Fellowship Committee report Christmas lunch well attended and sausage sizzle great time of fellowship together.
- Presbytery news—Rev Paul Cosier will commence with Narrabri/Moree Congregations 1 February 2019.
- Letter of thanks to Bryan Palin for assistance with finances.

## Christmas Visits

A big thank you to those who volunteered to deliver a gift to those unable to get out to come to church with us. About 50 people visited this year. Special thanks to Elaine for preparing the washers and soaps. They were very well received, the visit was much appreciated too.



**Third Sunday of Advent**

**Love in action for Syrian refugees**

Through the Christmas Bowl, we heed the urgent call to bring transformative love to the people of Syria by providing emergency food, healthcare and training for families most in need. **Please give to the Christmas Bowl today.**

**CALL: 1800 025 101**  
**VISIT: [actforpeace.org.au/christmasbowl](http://actforpeace.org.au/christmasbowl)**

The Christmas appeal of Act for Peace, the international aid agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia. ABN 86 619 970 188

## With Love to the World

A new order will be going in in early January. Please let the office know if you would like to continue, pick up or cancel your subscription.

## Farmer Care Packages

Trafalgar Travel visited during the week bringing a sausage sizzle and distribution of gifts, Chris was very happy to share in this event. We continue to work with 'Doing it for our Farmers' and Rural Aid to bring support and assistance to farmers in need. Special Christmas hampers will be delivered to share our prayers and care.

## 2018 Christmas Appeal

The big week has arrived! Over 100 families on our list again this year. Come along on Tuesday morning to sort food hampers. Come along on Wednesday morning to sort gifts. Maybe you could make a run to the shops to add a little extra to the hampers or gifts as required/ wrap an extra box where needed. There's something for everyone to do. You might know someone who's doing it tough this Christmas. You can nominate someone for a hamper too. Collection day is Friday, 21 Dec.



## **Christmas Blessings from the Uniting Churches in Tamworth**

*Merry Christmas from the Uniting Churches in  
Tamworth. We extend a warm welcome to you to  
worship with us:*

### Tamworth City (Cnr Marius & Bourke Sts)

Christmas Eve 7:30pm  
Christmas Day 8am

### Tamworth Southside (Op Golden Guitar)

Christmas Eve 11:30pm  
Christmas Day 8am

### Peel Valley

Christmas Day 9am Hallsville (Manilla Rd)



# This Week's Events

## UNITING—Support Group

UNITING support group meeting in the St Andrew's Room on Mondays from 10am-2pm from Home & Community Care.

## 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). We will be closing on Friday, 21 December and only opening limited hours until Wednesday, 2 January 2019.

## Meals on Wheels Kitchen Roster

Our next rostered day will be Tuesday, 18 December from 8am.

## Church Office

Regular hours 9am-2pm Tuesdays to Fridays. All hall bookings through the office please. The Office will close from Friday, 21 December and reopen on Wednesday, 2 January. I will be taking leave from 5-21 January. Thank you, Nicolette.

## 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. A very industrious morning.

## Advent Study Groups

Rev Chris will be leading the last Advent Study Groups for this year on Wednesday, 19 December at 2pm and again at 7:30pm in the Wesley Room (Christ' office). Studies are printed in the notice sheet for you to join in.

## Meditation Service

John Marsh will be leading a meditation service on Wednesday evenings from 6pm in the Chapel.

## Early Risers Prayer Group

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

