Diary Dates

Sun, 2 9am Tamworth City
Worship Service & HC with
Rev Chris Wright. Sunday
School. Morning Tea.
11:30am Korean Reborn
12noon PV Lunch-Hallsville
5pm AIDS Remembrance
Service at Southside
7:30pm Coffee Cake &
Carols at St John's

Mon, 3 9:30am Kairos Sewing JH
10am-4pm Op Shop M-F
10am UNITING Support StAR
10am One Door Mental
Health Support in Dunn Hall
4pm WW in Dunn Hall
5:30pm Dance Grp in JH

Tue, 4 9am-2pm Church Office T-F 10am-1pm Pres Bkeeper 10am Rainbow Cottage Rehearsals Jubilee Hall T-F 4:30pm Property C'tee StAR 5-8pm WW in Dunn Hall 7pm Friends of Nioka StAR Wed, 5 8am Flourish in St AR
9am Op Shop Sorting
2pm Advent Study in WslyR
6-9:30pm New Vogue in JH
6pm Meditation Service
7pm Advent Study in WslyR

Thu, 6 8:30am Early Risers Prayer 9:30am Yoga in Dunn Hall 10am Stepping Stones St AR 4:30pm Worship Music

Fri, 7 8:30am WW in Dunn Hall 10am Craft Group in St AR 12noon Lunch & DVD St AR

Sat, 8 8-11am WW in Dunn Hall 9am-12noon Op Shop 3pm Wedding 6pm Carols in the Park

Sun, 9 9am Tamworth City
Worship Service with Rev
Chris Wright. Sunday School
& YVision presentations.
SSizzle Morning Tea.
11:30am Korean Reborn

Preaching Plan

Sunday, 9 December 2018—Advent 2

9am Tamworth City Kids & Youth Vision with Rev Chris Wright, E: R

Hely, D: E Fairall, M & D Miles; O: R Richardson, PP: J

Phillips

9:30am Tamworth Southside Service
11am West Tamworth Service & AGM
5pm Tamworth Southside Service



Contact Details:

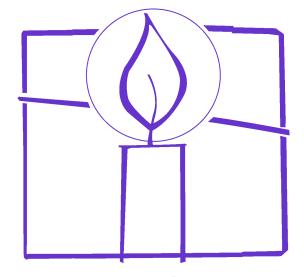
- Minister: Rev Chris Wright Ph 0427 633 657 Email chris@thewrights. com.au RDO Tuesday
- Office: 144 Marius St, PO Box 501, Tamworth 2340 Ph 02 6766 5311 Fx 02 6766 4390 Email tamworthcity.uca@ gmail.com Hrs 9am-2pm Tue-Fri

Other Useful Local Contacts:

- Southside Office: Ph/Fx 6765 3714 PO Box 5101, South Tamworth 2340 Email tsucoffice @gmail.com
- Southside Lay Ministry Worker: Suzanne Holloway 0438 608 373 tsucminister@gmail.com
- Young Family Worker: Sarah Wright 0423 617 813 Email: 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

Welcome to Tamworth City Uniting Church

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



Advent Study Two

The Advent of Christ: - Joy

JOY TO THE WORLD!

- Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

Joy is the keynote of the entire Advent season, especially for those who realises its spiritual

significance. This text is generally considered to be one of the most joyous Christmas hymns in existence, and while there is no mention of shepherds, angelic choruses, or wise men, "Joy to the World" truly emphasizes the reverent but ecstatic joy that Christ's birth brought to mankind. For centuries hearts had yearned for God to reveal Himself personally. At last it happened as "the Word became flesh and dwelt among us." The very God of the universe invaded this world and provided a means whereby sinful man might live eternally. The entire Advent season should be filled with rejoicing as we contemplate anew God's greatness.

1)Do you feel joyous this Christmas season? Why or why not?

Luke 2:1-39 Now in those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus, that a census be taken of all the inhabited earth. ²This was the first census taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³And everyone was on his way to register for the census, each to his own city. ⁴Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, ⁵in order to register along with Mary, who was engaged to him, and was with child. ⁶While they were there, the days were completed for her to give birth. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. 8In the same region there were some shepherds staying out in the fields and keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹And an angel of the Lord suddenly stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them; and they were terribly frightened. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people; ¹¹for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Saviour, who is

Southside Scene

Worship: 9:30am & 5pm Sundays. HC Men's Breakfast: 7:30am on 1st 3rd Sunday.

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.

Saturday each month.

World AIDS Day Remembrance

Service: 2 December 5pm.

www.tamworthsouthside.org.au or

Facebook: Tamworth Southside Uniting

Church



Peel Valley Congregations

Sun, 2 Dec—11am Peel Valley Combined Worship at West Tamworth with Meg Mangan & Christmas Lunch at Hallsville.

Tue, 4 Dec—10am Memory Lane at West Tamworth Church. Last for 2018

Sun, 9 Dec—11am West Tamworth Service and AGM

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

Tue, 25 Dec—9am Christmas Worship at Hallsville with Rev Henry Swinton Peel Valley Country Gospel Breakfast on 20 January 2019.

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 and Doss Wark

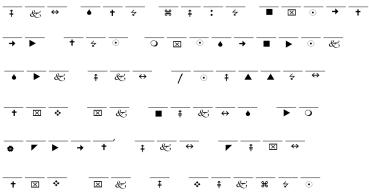


A Child Is Born

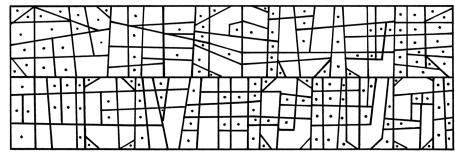


Luke 2:7 is part of the Christmas story. Use this code to discover these verses.

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Savior We also know Jesus is God's Son and our Savior. Jesus is called our Savior because he saved us from being separated from God by our sins. He was even willing to die on the cross for us. Why did he do that? Color in the shapes with a dot in them to find out.

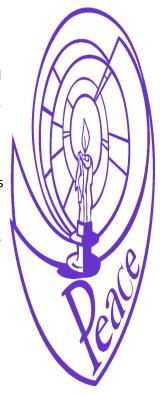


Lectionary Readings

| Sun | 2 | Psalm 25:11-22 | Fri | 7 | Philippians 1:3-11* | | |
|-----|---|-------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------|--|--|
| Mon | 3 | Isaiah 29:17-24 | Sat | 8 | Luke 3:1-6* | | |
| Tue | 4 | Zechariah 8:14-23 | Sun | 9 | Luke 1:68-79* | | |
| Wed | 5 | Malachi 3:1-4* | * Denotes Sunday lectionary readings | | | | |
| Thu | 6 | Malachi 3:5-12 | | | | | |

Christ the Lord. 12"This will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, ¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased." ¹⁵When the angels had gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds began saying to one another, "Let us go straight to Bethlehem then, and see this thing that has happened which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶So they came in a hurry and found their way to Mary and Joseph, and the baby as He lay in the manger. ¹⁷When they had seen this, they made known the statement which had been told them about this Child. ¹⁸And all who heard it wondered at the things which were told them by the shepherds.

¹⁹But Mary treasured all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds went back, glorifying and praising God for all that they had heard and seen, just as had been told them. ²¹And when eight days had passed, before His



circumcision, His name was then called Jesus, the name given by the angel before He was conceived in the womb. ²²And when the days for their purification according to the law of Moses were completed, they brought Him up to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord ²³ (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male that opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord"), ²⁴ and to offer a sacrifice according to what was said in the Law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons." ²⁵And there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; and this man was righteous and devout, looking for the consolation of Israel; and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. ²⁷And he came in the Spirit into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to carry out for Him the custom of the Law, ²⁸then he took Him into his arms, and blessed God, and said, ²⁹"Now Lord, You are releasing Your bond-servant to depart in peace, According to Your word; ³⁰For my eyes have seen Your salvation, ³¹Which You have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³²A light of revelation to the Gentiles, And the glory of Your people Israel." ³³And His father and mother were amazed at the things which were being said about Him. ³⁴And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary His mother, "Behold, this Child is appointed for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and for a sign to be opposed— ³⁵and a sword will pierce even your own soul—to the end that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed." ³⁶And there was a prophetess, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years and had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷and then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple, serving night and day with fastings and prayers. ³⁸At that very moment she came up and began giving thanks to God, and continued to speak of Him to all those who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. ³⁹When they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own city of Nazareth.

- 2) A sheep pasture seems like the last place one would expect an angelic announcement of the birth of the Redeemer and King. What do you think God's purpose was in announcing the birth of Christ to shepherds rather than the political or religious leaders of the day (1 Cor. 1:26-31)?
- 3) The angel announced, "Behold I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people." Why would the shepherds have felt such great joy at these words? How can we see that Jesus fulfilled this announcement?
- 4) What does the shepherds' initial reaction to the angel of the Lord tell you about God's glory (Luke 2:9)? Read the following verses to learn more about the glory of the Lord and what the shepherds might have witnessed that night: Exodus 33:18-23, 34:29-30; Revelation 21:23.
- 5) At the time of Jesus' birth all of Israel was looking for a mighty warrior to come deliver them from Rome and establish the nation. The baby of a peasant family was the furthest thing from their mind. What are some evident traits in Simeon and



our customers are anxious to buy tomorrow at the Synod Stamp Committee sales. Keep them coming in. Leave them at the church office for trimming/sorting.

Reverse Parking

We've had a couple of near-misses recently. Would everyone using the car park please reverse park into parking spaces. This will mean that when it gets full it will be easier to get out and pedestrians will be safer. Thanks.

<u>Library</u>

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.

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.



Prayer Diary—Tamworth Churches

We keep the activities of the Baptism Church, C3 Church, School Scripture, Oxley Vale Anglican Church, the Lutheran Church, Cornerstone Church and Scripture Union activities 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.

Scripture in Schools

Special thanks for those who are preparing to lead 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.

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

Sunday Trading Table

Our bring-and-buy table is selling anything from handiwork to cooking, produce to jams. Stop and buy something this week and donate something another week. After church with the morning tea in the St Andrew's Room. Donating \$1,000 recently.

Line Dancing

The Locomotive Line Dancers will be hiring the Jubilee Hall from 9:30am-12:30pm on Tuesdays for Line Dancing and Occasional Social Dances on a Sunday afternoon.

Hospital Visit

Are you scheduled to go into hospital? If so, you need to let us know if you want visitors (your Pastoral Partner, an Elder, or the Office). The current system at the Hospitals does not allow us access to this information easily.

Stamp Collecting News

Demand for \$1 stamps far exceeds supply at present. Funds raised support projects across the Uniting Church in NSW. Keep in mind that the stamps you receive today,

Anna's lives that may have allowed them to see God's true Redeemer and King when others could not?

6) Isaiah 55:8-9 tells us about the transcendence of God and His ways. After looking at the expectations that the Israelites had of the coming Messiah at that time and the unexpected way God chose to bring the Messiah into the world, think about the unexpected ways God has worked in your life. What have you learned about the sovereignty of God and His good and perfect will through looking at the ways He has worked in your life in the past?



7) Mary and Joseph had to endure less than ideal circumstances at the time of Jesus' birth, as the whole event probably took place in a cave or even outdoors, yet they were able to make the best of it. Are there areas in your life that are keeping you from experiencing the joy of the Lord? What are some ways you can learn to be content in whatever circumstances the Lord has you (Phil. 4:11-13)?

8) It is so easy to gloss over the account of the birth of Christ because it is something that we have heard many times throughout our lives. Read Luke 2:17-18, 20, 33 and notice the reactions of those who witnessed the birth of the Messiah. Now spend some time in prayer asking the Lord to renew the joy of your salvation and open your eyes anew to the greatness of His plan of redemption through the birth of Christ. Respond by writing down some ways that you can make Christ the centre of your Christmas celebration. Choose one to focus on this week.









Today's Information

Worship on Sunday, 2 December

Advent 1 Worship service and holy communion with Rev Chris Wright at 9am. Christmas Bowl envelopes available today. Christmas Appeal Food Hamper. Sunday School. Morning Tea.

Korean Reborn Church

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

World AIDS Day Remembrance Service

Tamworth Southside invites you to our annual World AIDS Day Remembrance service at 5pm on Sunday, 2 December. We mourn, we respect, we pray, we act, we remember.

Coffee Cake & Carols

Tamworth Choral Society invite you to come to their Coffee, Cake & Carols evening on Sunday, 2 December at 7:30pm in the St John's Anglican Church. \$15/head, \$30/family. Supper in the hall afterwards.

Congregational Christmas Lunch

Thank you everyone, we had a great time together.

NBN Change-over

All seems to be going smoothly.

Advent Retreat

We had a lovely day at Burrabaroo yesterday with over 20 people attending.

Plumbing/Path

We have been advised that the paving will take place on Friday, 14 December. Please use the Jubilee Hall side entrance to St Andrew's Room (or come through the office) or back doors in the meantime. Thank you.

Farmer Care Packages

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.

Worship on Sunday, 23 December

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

Diary Dates

- Christmas Services below
- Offices closes between Christmas & New Year

Prayers

Prayer Focus—Tamworth City

Today we focus on the Uniting Church in Australia, ordained ministry, Councils of the Church, those who deliver and receive home communion. Please uphold these in your private prayers during the week.

Ecumenical Prayer Calendar

Keep the people of the Liberia and Sierra Leone in your prayers this week.





Occasional Choir

Practise on Thursday, 13 December from 4:30pm in the church. We will be singing "the Calypso Carol" on Sunday, 16 December. All singers welcome.

Church Council Meeting

We will hold our last Church Council meeting for the year on Thursday, 13 December from 7pm in the St Andrew's Room including our AGM.

Paving—St Andrew's Room

Re-paving the entrance to St Andrew's Room will take place on Friday, 14 December from 7am.

Senior's Communion

Friday, 14 December will be our last Senior's Communion for 2018. Please join us in the St Andrew's Village Community Hall from 10am. Rev Henry Swindon will be leading us. Contact Barb McLean if you need a lift 6766 4039.

Carols on the Grass at Southside

Everyone is invited to join in the Carols on the Grass at Southside Uniting Church on Friday, 14 December from 6pm. Free sausage sizzle, candles and supper. The story of Jesus birth, Christmas band, Carol singing and the Southside Men's Choir. A great night for the family. BYO Chair/Blanket.

Worship on Sunday, 16 December

Advent 3 Worship service with Rev Chris Wright at 9am. Elder: J Dezius, Door: N Dezius, W Townsend, B Mills, AV: J Carthew, Org: R Cathcart. Occasional Choir. Christmas Appeal Food Hamper. Morning Tea.

11am West Tamworth—Rev Chris Wright.

Meals on Wheels Kitchen Roster

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

Christmas Appeal

Help out by coming on Tuesday 18th to make up hampers, Wednesday 19th to help sort presents or Friday 21st to help in collection.



2018 Christmas Appeal

How can I help? Make a donation of cash, food, presents, sticky tape, or wrapping paper. Offer to wrap some boxes. Let Edna and Fran know that you can help with the wrapping, packing and stacking in the week prior to Christmas. 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.

Edna will be looking for volunteers to deliver a small gift and card to those of our congregation who are unable to get out very much anymore.



This Week's Events

One Door Mental Health—Carer Support

Meeting in the Dunn Hall on Monday, 3 December from 10am.

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.

Church Office

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

Rainbow Cottage Rehearsals

10am-12noon Tuesday, 4 Dec to 11 Dec in preparation for their concert night on Tuesday, 11 December.

Property Committee Meeting

Meeting on Tuesday, 4 December from 4:30pm in the St Andrew's Room.

Friends of Nioka

Meeting in the St Andrew's Room on Tuesday, 4 December from 7pm.

Flourish Australia

Training Workshop in St Andrew's Room 8am-3pm.

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 Advent Study Groups again this year for the four weeks leading up to Christmas. Studies will be printed in the notice sheet from next week for you to join in. Groups will be held at 2pm and 7pm on Wednesdays 5, 12, 19 Dec in the Wesley Room (Chris' office). Everyone is welcome to join in.

Meditation Service

John Marsh will be leading a meditation service on Wednesday evenings from 6pm in the Church Chapel area. You're most welcome.

Early Risers Prayer Group

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

Stepping Stones

Weekly young families group meeting in the St Andrew's Room with our Young Families Worker, Sarah. 9:30am for morning tea on Thursdays. Judy Rae is helping out this week. Everyone's welcome to call in on Thursday, 13th December for our Christmas Farewell.



"Alive in Christ, Serving God, Empowered by the Spirit" 8

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, 7 December.

Lunch & DVD

Our last Lunch & DVD for the year will be on Friday, 7 December from 12noon in the St Andrew's Room. Gold coin donation for lunch and share a meal and DVD together. Contact Jim & Lorraine Furze 67661 7371.

Wedding

Saturday, 8 December in the church.

Carols in the Park

The combined churches Carols in the Park this year will feature Colin Buchanan on Saturday, 8 December from 6:30pm in Bicentennial Park. Come along and enjoy an evening with your family.

Next Week & Beyond

Worship on Sunday, 9 December

Advent 2 Worship service, Children's presentation and Youth Vision support with Rev Chris Wright at 9am. Elder: R Hely, Door: C E Fairall, M & D Miles, AV: J Phillips, Org: R Richardson. Christmas Appeal Food Hamper. Sunday School. Sausage Sizzle and Morning Tea.

Carols in the Corridors

Meet at the Chapel at 5pm and share some carols in the corridors of Tamworth Base Hospital.

Compassionate Friends

Meeting in the St Andrew's Room on Wednesday, 12 December from 10am.

Compassionate Friends Remembrance Service

We are hosting the annual Compassionate Friends Remembrance Service on Wednesday, 12 December from 6pm in the Church followed by a light supper in the St Andrew's Room.