

# Diary Dates

- Sun, 24 Advent Week 4 9am**  
**Worship Service with Rev Chris Wright. Morning Tea.**  
11:30am Korean Reborn Church service & lunch
- Sun, 24 Christmas Eve**  
5pm Carol Crawl at St Uniting Andrew's Village (McKay House, Alblas Lodge, Community Hall)  
6:30pm Gowrie Carols'n'Supper  
7:30pm Christmas Eve Worship at Tamworth City  
11:30pm Christmas Eve Worship at Southside
- Mon, 25 Christmas Day**  
8am Worship at Tamworth City  
8am Worship at Southside  
9am Worship at Hallsville
- Fri, 29 8:30am WW in Dunn Hall
- Sat, 30 8am WW in Dunn Hall
- Sun, 31 9am Worship at Tamworth City with Rev Chris Wright**  
11:30am Korean Reborn
- Mon, 1 New Year's Day**  
9am-11:30am Summerfest at West T'worth School M-F
- Tue, 2 10am-4pm Op Shop Tue-Fri  
5pm Weight W in DHall
- Wed, 3 9am Op Shop Working Bee
- Thu, 4 4:30pm Church Music Team
- Fri, 5 8:30am Weight W. DH
- Sat, 6 8am Weight Watchers DH  
9am-12noon Op Shop
- Sun, 7 Tamworth City Worship & HC with Rev Chris Wright. Light Morning Tea.**  
11:30am Korean Reborn
- Mon, 8 9am SU Chaffey Camp week
- Sat,13 2pm SUITE Workshop
- Sun, 14 Tamworth City Worship with Mr Peter Battle. Light Morning tea.**  
11:30am Korean Reborn
- Mon, 15 4-5am Wheely Been JKit.M-F  
5:30pm Dance in J Hall
- Tue, 16 8am Meals on Wheels  
9am-2pm Office Open Tu-Fr  
10am Pres. Bookkeeper
- Fri, 19 10am Craft Group in St Andrew's Room  
Country Music begins
- Sat, 20 Dance Group in J Hall
- Sun, 21 Tamworth City Worship with Rev Chris Wright. Light Morning Tea.**  
11:30am Korean Reborn
- Tue, 23 1-5:30pm SU Tent in Kable Avenue
- Wed, 24 3-9pm Karin Page Concert in Jubilee Hall
- Fri, 26 Australia Day
- Sun, 28 Tamworth City Worship with Rev Chris Wright. Morning Tea.**



### Contact Details:

- **Minister:** Rev Chris Wright Ph 0427 633 657 Email [chris@thewrights.com.au](mailto: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](mailto:tamworthcity.uca@gmail.com) Hrs 9am-2pm Tue-Fri

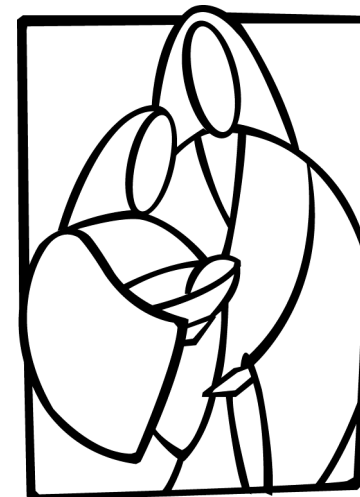
### Other Useful Local

#### Contacts:

- **Southside Office:** Ph/ Fx 6765 3714 PO Box 5101, South Tamworth 2340 Email [tsucoffice@aanet.com.au](mailto: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 Pastoral Care Practitioner Galina Newcombe 0417 830 662
- **UNITING Rainbow Cottage** 6766 7655 Sharn Mason



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



# Christmas & New Year

## A message from the Minister...

January 2018

Ebenezer Scrooge, in Charles Dickens' classic the Christmas Carol", cops a fair bit of stick being labelled a miser, a villain and generally disliked by all and sundry. But the "Christmas Carol" is quite a positive story because it doesn't end with Scrooge dying being a miserable old miser. The point of the story is that, following a traumatic night of ghost visitations, Scrooge actually wakes up to himself and changes. He understands that he can choose to act in a different way towards others, that he can be compassionate, generous and happy, that his miserable past does not need to determine his future. In the words of George Elliot; "It is never too late to be what you might have been".

I recently heard a comment that "Christmas time is about love, joy, peace and generosity but why just at Christmas, it's supposed to be like that all year round"!

How true is that and what a challenge. Perhaps I can't change the world but I can allow God to change me and if I'm loving, joyful, peaceful and generous throughout the other 51 weeks of the year then it must have some effect on those around me.

What a challenge to start the New Year with, to start changing from within and affecting the patch where I live right throughout the year. I'll leave that thought with you, and may you have a happy and healthy 2018.

God bless,

Rev Chris Wright



CHRISTMAS IS THE CELEBRATION OF THE BIRTH OF JESUS, THE SAVIOUR OF MANKIND

"Alive in Christ, Serving God, Empowered by the Spirit" 2

## 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.

**Christmas Eve Worship:** 11:30pm

**Christmas Day Worship:** 8am

[www.tamworthsouthside.org.au](http://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.*



## Peel Valley Congregations

**Sun, 24 Dec**—11am West Tamworth  
Christmas Eve Service and 6:30pm  
Christmas Eve Service & Supper at  
Gowrie with Meg Mangan.

**Mon, 25 Dec**—9am Hallsville  
Christmas Day Worship.

**Note:** Peel Valley Congregations in  
recess from 31 December until 21  
January for 7am Hallsville Gospel  
Breakfast. All welcome.

### 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, Marie Meyer, Barbara  
Murray & Doss Wark.



"Alive in Christ, Serving God, Empowered by the Spirit" 11

## lectionary Readings

|               |                     |               |                        |
|---------------|---------------------|---------------|------------------------|
| Sun 24        | Psalm 89:9-29       | Mon 8         | Psalm 63:1-8           |
| Mon 25        | John 1:1-14         | Tue 9         | Hosea 1:2, 2:7-13      |
| Tue 26        | Isaiah 52:7-8       | Wed 10        | Hosea 2:14-23          |
| Wed 27        | Hebrews 1:1-12      | Thu 11        | 1 Samuel 3:1-10        |
| Thu 28        | Isaiah 61:10-62:3*  | Fri 12        | John 1:43-51*          |
| Fri 29        | Galatians 4:4-7*    | Sat 13        | 1 Corinthians 6:12-20* |
| Sat 30        | Luke 2:22-40*       | <b>Sun 14</b> | <b>Psalm 139:1-18</b>  |
| <b>Sun 31</b> | <b>Psalm 148*</b>   | Mon 15        | Jonah 1:1-17           |
| Mon 1         | Genesis 1:1-5*      | Tue 16        | Jonah 2:1-10           |
| Tue 2         | Psalm 29*           | Wed 17        | Jonah 3:1-10           |
| Wed 3         | Isaiah 60:1-6       | Thu 18        | Mark 1:14-20*          |
| Thu 4         | Ephesians 3:1-12    | Fri 19        | 1 Corinthians 7:17-24  |
| Fri 5         | Acts 19:107*        | Sat 20        | 1 Corinthians 7:25-31* |
| Sat 6         | Matthew 2:1-12      | <b>Sun 21</b> | <b>Psalm 62:5-12*</b>  |
| <b>Sun 7</b>  | <b>Mark 1:4-11*</b> |               |                        |

\* Denotes Sunday lectionary readings

## Preaching Plan

### Sunday, 31 December 2017

9am Tamworth City—Rev Chris Wright E: J Archbold, D: N & J Dezius, O: R Greer.

9:30am Tamworth Southside—

### Sunday, 7 January 2018

9am Tamworth City—Rev Chris Wright HC E: M Weick, P Battle, R Hely, M Hobson, D: M Honeyman, E Gevert, O: R Greer.

9:30am Tamworth Southside—

### Sunday, 14 January 2018

9am Tamworth City—Mr Peter Battle, E: M Duns, D: R Duns, H McKenzie, O: R Richardson.

9:30am Tamworth Southside—

### Sunday, 21 January 2018

7am Hallsville Country Breakfast (hosted by Peel Valley Congregations)

9am Tamworth City—Rev Chris Wright E: R Hely, D: H Fergus, D Miles, O: R Cathcart.

9:30am Tamworth Southside—



## Today's Information

### Worship on Sunday, 24 December 2017—Advent 4 (& Christmas Eve)

9am Worship Service with Rev Chris Wright. No morning tea today.

5pm Carol Crawl at the St Andrew's Village commencing at McKay House, then on to Alblas Lodge and finally in the Village Community Hall. All are welcome to join in.

7:30pm Christmas Eve Worship with Rev Chris Wright. Elder: P Battle, Door: F Kerr, M Cupitt, AV: J Phillips, Organ: Ron Greer.

### Korean Reborn Church

11:30am Sundays for worship and then the Jubilee Kitchen for lunch. Joining us for Christmas Day worship.

## This Week's Events

### Christmas Day Worship, Monday, 25 December

8am Christmas Worship Service with Rev Chris Wright. Elder: M Hobson, Door: J Crosling, R Barclay, M Partridge, AV: J Carthew, Organ: Ron & Rod.

### UnitingCare Target Christmas Appeal

All done... What a great and mighty effort! Everyone's support for our annual Christmas Appeal has been wonderful with help available wherever it was needed. A very big thank you to all.

### With Love to the World

I am updating my order for With Love to the World. Would you like to continue to receiving your copy? Or would you like to take up a new subscription? Cost is \$20/year payable in Jan/Feb. Contact the office.

### Water! Water! NO Water!

All water will need to be accessed from the St Andrew's Room for use in the Vestry.



# 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:*  
Peel Valley

Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> 6pm Carol Service & Supper (Hallsville — Manilla Road)

Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> 11am Peel Valley Congregational Service at Hallsville (Manilla Road)

Christmas Eve 11am West Tamworth  
 6:30pm Gowrie Service & Supper

Christmas Day 9am Hallsville (Manilla Rd) (Cnr Marius & Bourke Sts)

## Tamworth City

Christmas Eve 9am and 7:30pm  
 Christmas Day 8am

## Tamworth Southside

Christmas Eve 9:30am and 11:30pm  
 Christmas Day 8am (440 Goonoo Goonoo Rd, Op. Big Golden Guitar)

### Christmas Day

## Growing enough to eat



Your gift can provide farmers in Zimbabwe with seeds and training so they can grow enough food for their families. Please give hope this Christmas. Give to the Christmas Bowl appeal.

Thank you for your support!

Richard Wainwright / Act for Peace

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

The Christmas appeal of Act for Peace, the international aid agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia. ABN 64 493 941795

## Presbytery Prayer Points

Pray for congregations connecting with local communities and sharing God's love and abundant grace through this Christmas/New Year Season.

## 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.

## 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](mailto:vcbquirindi@bigpond.com)

## 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. In recess during the holidays.

## 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.

## 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).

# Prayers

## Prayer Focus—Tamworth City

24/12: Today we focus on Pastoral Partners; Elders; St Andrew's Village; Fellowship Committee; Hospital Visitation and Opportunity Shop. Please uphold these in your private prayers during this week.

31/12: Today we focus on encouraging your individual commitment to prayer and service.

7/1: Today we focus on the Uniting Church in Australia; ordained ministry, councils of the Church, those who deliver and receive home communion today. Please uphold these in your private prayers during the week.

14/1: Today we focus on the activities of the Worship, Evangelism, Property and Finance & Admin committees. Please uphold these in your private prayers during the week.

21/1: Today we focus on Children's Ministry, Christian Education, Scripture in Schools, Sunday School, Families and Youth, Mission Outreach and Rainbow Cottage. Please uphold these in your private prayers during the week.

## Ecumenical Prayer Calendar

24/12: Keep the people of Ghana and Nigeria in your prayers this week.

31/12: Keep the people of Egypt, Israel and the Occupied Territories, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria in your prayers this week.

7/1: Keep the people of Arabian Peninsula: Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, United Arab Emirates, Oman, Yemen; Iran and Iraq in your prayers this week.

14/1: Keep the people of Cypress, Greece and Turkey in your prayers this week.

21/1: Keep the people of North Africa: Algeria, Libya, Morocco, Western Sahara and Tunisia in your prayers this week.

## Prayer Diary—Tamworth Churches

We keep all the Churches of Tamworth in our prayers.

## Christmas Bowl

Envelopes have been distributed. Prayerfully consider your donation and leave your envelope on the offering plate on any Sunday until mid-January. There will also be a retiring offering on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day for the Christmas Bowl.

## Church Office

CLOSED. Re-opening Tuesday, 16 January. Alternate arrangements for the Opportunity shop keys. Thank you all for your love and support throughout the year. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year everyone. *Nicolette*

# Next Week & Beyond

## Worship on Sunday, 31 December 2017

Worship service with Rev Chris Wright. NO Morning Tea. Elder: J Achbold, Door : N & J Dezius, Organ: R Richardson.

## New Year's Day—1 January 2018.

## Summerfest

January 1-5 at Tamworth West Public School 9am-11:30am. A holiday program for kids and teens, 'Getaway Café' for adults. \$4 per child per day. Hosted by Trinity Church Tamworth. More info from Ross 0409 935 405.

## Opportunity Shop

Re-opening Tuesday, 2 January. Our Opportunity Shop is located at 24 Darling Street. Changed keys arrangements until the office re-opens on 16 January. Normal hours 10am-4pm Mondays to Fridays and 9am-12noon on Saturdays. Contact Lorraine (0401 762 463) or Judy (0418 662 081).



# Happy New Year

### **Op Shop Working Bee**

Recommencing Wednesday, 3 January. Sorting each Wednesday in the Vestry. Lots of chit-chat with your hard work and then a cuppa! Morning tea in the Office. All helpers welcome.

### **Worship on Sunday, 7 January 2018**

Worship service and holy communion with Rev Chris Wright. Light Morning Tea to follow. Elder: M Weick, P Battle, R Hely, M Hobson, Door: M Honeyman, E Gevert, Organ: R Greer.

### **SU Chaffey Camp**

Lives are changed at Chaffey Camp January 8-13 for girls and boys in Yrs7-12. Cost is \$200. Music, skiing, tubing, canoeing, sailing, wake boarding and Jesus. Hundreds of strong Christians who have gone out from Tamworth got their start at SU Chaffey Camp. Register at [www.sunsw.org.au/chaffeydam](http://www.sunsw.org.au/chaffeydam).

### **SUITE**

Scripture Union Inter-Church Training Event) has grown to become the annual all-in SU family and training gathering. 2-4:30pm at St Paul's Hall (opp. KFC). Giving thanks for 2017. Praying into 2018. Training in how to talk to people about Jesus and making plans to do so. Open to all. No cost.

### **Worship on Sunday, 14 January 2018**

Worship service with MR Peter Battle. Light Morning Tea to follow. Elder: M Duns, Door: R Duns, H McKenzie, Organ: R Richardson.

### **Meals on Wheels**

Our next rostered kitchen day will be Tuesday, 16 January from 8am.

### **Church Office Re-opens**

Tuesday, 16 January 9am-2pm Tuesdays to Fridays.

### **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, 19 January.

### **Country Music Festival**

Official commencement concert on Friday, 19 January in Bicentennial Park.

### **Country Gospel Breakfast @ Hallsville**

Peel Valley Congregations will host a Gospel Breakfast at Hallsville on Sunday, 21 January from 7am. All welcome.

### **New Vogue Dance**

Country Dance in Jubilee Hall on Saturday, 20 January from 6pm.

### **Worship on Sunday, 21 January 2018**

Worship service with Rev Chris Wright. Light Morning Tea to follow. Elder: R Hely, Door: H Fergus, D Miles, Organ: R Cathcart.

### **SU Country Music Tent**

We have again been asked to man (woman) the SU Tent on Tuesday afternoon, 23 January 1-5:30pm. Mariette is looking for people to volunteer for 1hr shifts. Talk to Mariette early in January (6766 9909). Biscuits/slice makers are also welcome to do some baking for the tent.

### **Karin Page Concert**

Country Music in Jubilee Hall on Wednesday, 24 January from 3pm.

### **Australia Day**

Celebrations on Friday, 26 January.

### **Worship on Sunday, 28 January 2018**

Worship service with Rev Chris Wright. Morning Tea to follow. Elder: R Duns, Door: J Crosling, M Duns, AV: J McClelland, Organ: R Richardson.

### **KYB Study Groups**

Both Groups in recess until 29 January. There will be only one group in the new year at 1:30pm at the home of Paul & Lorraine Turner, 26 Upper St.

### **Diary Dates**

- 2018—2/3 February annual NENW Presbytery Preaching with Paul: the Corinthian Correspondence. Flyers now available. Register at the office.