

# Diary Dates

<b>Sun, 29</b> Christmas Wk 1 <b>9am Tamworth City Worship with Elders. Light Morning Tea.</b> 11:30am Korean Reborn Church & Lunch	<b>Sun, 12</b> 9am Tamworth City <b>Worship with Rev Betty Stroud. Light Morning Tea.</b> 11am Korean Reborn Church
Tue, 31 9am-12noon Church Office	Mon, 13 10am-4pm Op Shop 6pm New Vogue Dance JH
Wed, 1 New Year's Day	Tue, 14 8am Meals on Wheels Kitchen Roster
Thu, 2 6:30am Minister's Get- together in St AR 9am-12noon Church Office 10am-4pm Op Shop Th/Fri 10am Pres Bookkeeper 4:30pm Church Music	Wed, 15 9am Op Shop Working Bee
Fri, 3 Church office closed till 21st 10am Craft Group St AR	Thu, 16 6:30 am Minister's in St AR 4:30pm Church Music
Sat, 4 9am-12noon Op Shop	Fri, 17 10am Craft Group in St AR
<b>Sun, 5 9am Tamworth City Worship &amp; HC with Barry Gillett. Light Morning Tea.</b>	Sat, 18 9am-12noon Op Shop
Mon, 6 10am-4pm Op Shop M-F	<b>Sun, 19 9am Tamworth City Worship with Rev Betty Stroud. Light Morning Tea.</b> 11am Korean Reborn Church
Tue, 7 9:30am LLine Dancing in JH 10am Pres Bookkeeper	Mon, 20 10am-4pm Op Shop
Wed, 8 9am Op Shop Working Bee Rev Betty Stroud commences today 6pm New Vogue Dance JH	Tue, 21 8:30am Flourish in St AR 9am-2pm Church Office T-F 10am Pres Bookkeeping
Thu, 9 6:30am Minister's in StAR 4:30pm Church Music	Wed, 22 9am Op Shop Working Bee
Sat, 11 9am-12noon Op Shop 1:30pm SU SUITE	Thu, 23 6:30 am Minister's in St AR 4:30pm Church Music
	Sat, 25 9am-12noon Op Shop
	<b>Sun, 26 Australia Day 9am Tamworth City Worship with Rev Betty Stroud. Light Morning Tea.</b>



## Contact Details:

- **IIM Minister:** Rev Betty Stroud
- **Office:** 144 Marius St, PO Box 501, Tamworth 2340 Ph 02 6766 5311, Email tamworthcity.uca@gmail.com, Hrs 9am-2pm Tue-Fri

## Other Useful Local

### Contacts:

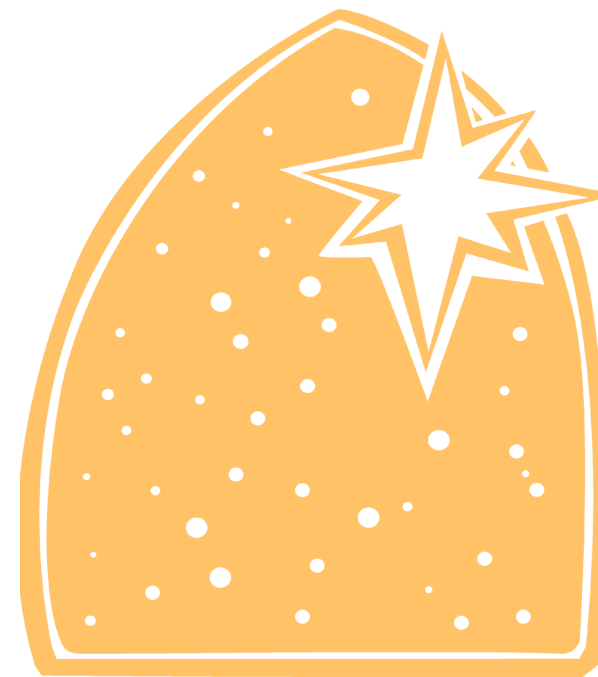
- **Southside Office:** Ph/Fx 6765 3714 PO Box 5101, South Tamworth 2340, Email tsucoffice@gmail.com, Website www.tsuc.org.au
- **Southside Lay Ministry Worker:** Suzanne Holloway 0438 608 373 tsucminister@gmail.com
- **Young Family Worker:** Sarah Wright 0423 617 813 Email: sarah.familyworker.uca@gmail.com
- **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 Sharn Mason

29 December 2019  
To

26 January 2020

# Welcome to Tamworth City Uniting Church

We welcome all those worshipping with us at Tamworth City. Please stay for a chat and morning tea after worship in the St Andrew's Room.



SEASON OF EPIPHANY

# Seasons of the Spirit

## About the Season after Epiphany 2020...

The pages of Advent open with Isaiah's visions of peace and harmony, and a reversal of power.

The calming blue and purple of the season prompt us to slow down, pause, and get ready for Emmanuel, God with us. As we wait and get ready, we sing with Mary a song of joy and justice.

Finally, Christmas comes; the white/gold colour of the Christmas season warms our hearts and we join creation in a hymn of praise. The Season of Christmas concludes with the magi entering the story and beckoning us to embrace the hope in the gift of a child.

Epiphany carries the sense of renewal, appearing every year as the calendar year turns, but it also brings a sense of coming home, of returning to basics as we move ever onward on our spiritual journeys. In this Season After the Epiphany, we still look to the heavens for guidance, following Christ who is our Morning Star.

We begin this season with the knowledge that we are **loved**, fully and completely by God. We hope this knowledge helps us recognize we are **called, follow**, and are **blessed** to do the work of God. That work is to both **shine** God's radiance into the world but also to **grow** in our personal and communal expressions of faith because the Season of Lent draws near. We close with the reminder that we are **sent** by God.

In this and so many ways, our lives are not our own. In life and in death, we belong to God – a stark and yet vital truth as we move into death and life at Calvary and beyond.



Epiphany by Suzanne L. Vinson.

Watercolour, pencil, metallic pigments.

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

# Southside Scene

**Worship:** 9:30am Sundays. HC 3rd Sunday. In recess 5pm Dec/Jan.

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

**Stepping Stones:** 10am-12noon in Acacia Room on Tues, school terms.

**Prayer Team:** 3pm Tuesdays.

**Motor Bike Ride:** 9am 2nd & 4th Wednesdays.

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

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

**Men's Bowls:** 9:45am 2nd & 4th

Friday North Tamworth Bowling Club

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

**Website:** [www.tsuc.org.au](http://www.tsuc.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 & our community.*



# Peel Valley Congregations



## 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"*

*Website: [ucapeelvalley.org.au](http://ucapeelvalley.org.au)*

*Email: [ucapeelvalley@gmail.com](mailto:ucapeelvalley@gmail.com)*

**Pastor Care:** Meg Mangan 0466 337 005

Contact: Margaret Crowell 0408 660 025

Preaching: Ross Davidson 6760 8369

Elders: Margaret Crowell, Ross Davidson, and Bruce Jarrett.

**Sun, 5 Jan**—11am West Tamworth with Meg Crowell. Lunch after.

**Sun, 12 Jan**—11am West Tamworth with Meg Mangan HC.

**Sun, 19 Jan**—7am Country Music Big Breakfast with Walk-up artists

**Sun, 26 Jan**—8:30am Hallsville Markets; 11am West Tamworth with John Nash.

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

# Preaching Plan

## Sunday, 5 January—Epiphany

- 9am Tamworth City Service & HC with Barry Gillett—Elder: E Fairall, M Cupitt, R & M Duns; Door: R & P Pryor; PP J Phillips; Organ: R Greer  
 9:30am Tamworth Southside with Suzanne Holloway  
 11am West Tamworth with Margaret Crowell

## Sunday, 12 January—Baptism of Jesus

- 9am Tamworth City Service with Rev Betty Stroud—Elder J Dezius; Door N Dezius, B Johnston; PP J Phillips; Organ R Richardson  
 9:30am Tamworth Southside  
 11am West Tamworth with Meg Mangan HC

## Sunday, 19 January—Epiphany Wk 3

- 7am Hallsville Country Gospel Breakfast—Jim Newton  
 9am Tamworth City Service with Rev Betty Stroud—Elder: P Turner; Door: M & D Miles; Organ: R Cathcart.  
 9:30 Tamworth Southside HC

## Sunday, 26 January—Epiphany Wk 4 Australia Day

- 8:30am Hallsville Markets  
 9am Tamworth City Service with Rev Betty Stroud—Elder: E Sheppard; Door C Sheppard, G Chaffey; PP J McClelland; Organ R Greer.  
 9:30am Tamworth Southside with Suzanne Holloway (her last service)

# Lectionary Readings

<b>Sun 29</b>	<b>Matthew 2:13-23*</b>	Mon 13	Isaiah 49:1-7*
Mon 30	Jeremiah 31:7-14*	Tue 14	Isaiah 49:8-13
Tue 31	Numbers 6:22-27	Wed 15	1 Corinthians 1:1-9*
Wed 1	Luke 2:15-21	Thu 16	Romans 1:8-17
Thu 2	Philippians 2:5-11	Fri 17	John 1:29-42*
Fri 3	Ephesians 1:3-14*	Sat 18	Psalms 40:1-11*
Sat 4	John 1:10-18*	<b>Sun 19</b>	<b>Psalms 40:11-17</b>
<b>Sun 5</b>	<b>Psalms 147:12-20*</b>	Mon 20	Isaiah 9:1-4*
Mon 6	Matthew 2:1-12	Tue 21	Isaiah 9:5-7
Tue 7	Isaiah 60:1-6	Wed 22	Habakkuk 2:15-20
Wed 8	Ephesians 3:1-12	Thu 23	Mark 16:15-18
Thu 9	Isaiah 42:1-9*	Fri 24	1 Corinthians 1:10-18*
Fri 10	Psalms 29*	Sat 25	Matthew 4:12-23*
Sat 11	Acts 10:34-43*	<b>Sun 26</b>	<b>Psalms 27:1-14*</b>
<b>Sun 12</b>	<b>Matthew 3:13-17*</b>	* Denotes Sunday lectionary readings	

## Worship At a Glance

**Dec 29, 2019 Christmas 1** “Choose Praise” Psalm 148 After the demands leading up to Christmas day, this week offers an opportunity to join with creation in joyous praise and rest in the amazement that God is with us.

**Jan 5, 2020 Christmas 2/Epiphany** “Choose Hope”. Matthew 2:1-12 At the close of the Christmas season, Epiphany beckons each of us to embrace the hope in the gift of the Christ.

**Jan 12, 2020 Baptism of Jesus** “Loved” Matthew 3:13-17 On Baptism of Christ Sunday, we watch as Jesus emerges from the waters of baptism and we hear the words, “This is my child, whom I love and who brings me great joy.”

**Jan 19, 2020 2nd Sunday after the Epiphany** “Called” Isaiah 49:1-7 In the Season After the Epiphany, we explore God’s call to us. Isaiah is called by God to proclaim the restoration of Israel, Paul encourages those “called to be saints,” Jesus calls disciples, and we are invited to consider the ways that God’s call comes to us.

**Jan 26, 2020 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany** “Follow” Matthew 4:12-23 We travel with Jesus as he begins to preach and gather disciples, and experience anew the sacred call to participate in God’s mission of love.

## About the art

*My grandmother Etoile was my grandfather’s “star” and his first and last day of life was on January 6. Each were lights for me, guides along the journey that pointed toward living a good, Christian life. They grounded me to the earth as we tended gardens, cut flowers, and often took them to the altar at church each week.*

*Each of us has a cloud of witnesses we look to, that both point us forward and draw us home. I’m most at home when I am outdoors, and especially when I gaze up at the night sky, seeing the stars that surround us day and night. Seeing the vastness of the universe above, I feel connected to the Creator and Maker of all. When creating this artwork, I was thinking about the way that light connects us all and, in the process, made a “starburst” from the light pouring into creation. The hues are more muted with tones of the sky and metallic paints. The movement of the leaves and vines provides a movement for emotion. The peacock feather found its way into the piece, with presence and boldness. The star guides our attention into the centre and also away from itself, following the “bursts” that surround it. We, too, have our attention centred on Christ and focused in many directions beyond ourselves. Our faith calls us to care for ourselves, to seek direction, focus, and forgiveness, and to return to the world with a call to serve, to share, and to be the light.*

# Today's Information

## Worship on Sunday, 29 December

9am Worship Service with the Elder's leading. Light Morning Tea.

## Korean Reborn Church

11:30am Sundays for worship. Jubilee Kitchen & Dunn Hall for lunch.

## Christmas Bowl Appeal

Envelopes can be put on the offering plate any Sunday up to New Year. Please give generously.

## Doing It For Our Farmers

We continue to support our local farmers with drought relief packages, vouchers and prayers. There is always someone in need. The farmers pantry will re-open at the end of January.

# This Week's Events

## Opportunity Shop

Closed on Saturday, 21 December. Limited opening hours during Christmas and New Year. Reopening in 2020 on 2 January. Thank you everyone for your support of our Op Shop. This is a vital link to our local community and support to Youth Vision and the Church.

## New Year Office Hours

9am-2pm Tuesday, 31st and Thursday, 2nd.

## New Year's Day

Public Holiday, Wednesday, 1 January. Happy New Year everyone!

## Minister's Fraternal Get-together

Thursday, 2 January 6:30am-7:30am in the St Andrew's Room.

## Op Shop

Re-opening on Thursday, 2 January from 10am-4pm. Note change in float arrangements until 21 January.

## Presbytery Prayer Points

We continue to pray for life-sustaining rain to fall across our Presbytery. We also keep in our prayers firefighters working in fire-affected areas. Our annual Preaching Workshop 7/8 February 2020.

## Scripture in Schools

Special thanks for those who led classes in our high schools this year—Belinda and Darrel. Participation rates over the past couple of years has fallen from 90% to 50%, due enlarge to the now opt in arrangements and societies move away from it's Christian heritage. We are funded from donations. If you would like to contribute: A/c name TSCEAI, BSB 032 621, A/c No. 372 372. Thank you.

## School Chaplains

For 2020 we have lost Tamworth South Public School, Peel High School and Gunnedah High School, but we still have Parry, Walhallow, Walget, Oxley Vale, Quirindi, Mullaley, Tamworth Public, Curlewis, Nyngan, Narrabri, Attunga, Duri and have gained Moonbi, Kootingal, Tambar Springs, Werris Creek, Carinya and Liberty. Keep these chaplains in your prayers.

## 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

## 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.*

## Bread Tags for Wheelchairs in South Africa

*Please save your bread tags—they can be recycled to fund wheelchairs in South Africa. Now collecting in Australia too! Leave in the office.*

## New Hymns

*We've been enjoying some new hymns over recent months. If you would like to follow along, there are hymns books available. Please ask a door steward.*

# Prayers

## **Prayer Focus—Tamworth City**

29/12: Today we focus on encouraging your individual commitment to prayer and service.

5/1: 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.

12/1: 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.

19/1: Today we focus on Children's Ministry—Christian Education, Scripture in Schools, Sunday School, Young Families Worker, Mission Outreach, Doing it for our Farmers, and Rainbow Cottage. Please uphold these in your private prayers during the week.

26/1: Today we focus on Pastoral Partners, Elders, St Andrew's Village, Fellowship Committee activities, Hospital Visitation and Opportunity Shop. Please uphold these in your private prayers during the week.

## **Ecumenical Prayer Calendar**

29/12: Keep the people of Ghana and Nigeria in your prayers this week.

5/1: Keep the people of Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Israel and the occupied Palestinian Territories in your prayers this week.

12/1: Keep the people of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, United Arab Emirate, Oman, Yemen, Iran and Iraq in your prayers this week.

19/1: Keep the people of Cyprus, Greece and Turkey in your prayers this week.

26/1: Keep the people of Algeria, Libya, Morocco, Western Sahara and Tunisia in your prayers this week.

## **Prayer Diary—Tamworth Churches**

We keep the outreach and activities of all the churches in Tamworth in our prayers during January.

## **Office Closed**

Office Closed from 3 January, reopening Tuesday, 21st January.

## **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, 3 January.

# Next Week & Beyond

## **Worship on Sunday, 5 January 2020**

9am Worship Service with Mr Barry Gillett including Holy Communion. Elder: E Fairall, M Cupitt, R & M Duns; D: R & P Pryor; PP: M Miles; O: R Greer. Food Hamper Sunday. Light Morning Tea.

## **Op Shop**

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

## **Locomotive Line Dancing**

Recommencing on Tuesday, 7 January 9:30am-12:30pm in the Jubilee Hall.

## **Op Shop Working Bee**

Recommencing on Wednesday, 8 January 9am. Lots of chit-chat with your hard work, then a cuppa!. All helpers welcome. A very industrious morning.

## **Rev Betty Stroud**

Commencing her Intentional Interim Ministry on Wednesday, 8 January 2020. We extend a warm welcome.

## **New Vogue Dance Group**

Recommencing in Jubilee Hall 6-9:30pm Wednesdays from 8 January.

## **Minister's Fraternal Get-together**

Thursday, 9 January 6:30am-7:30am in the St Andrew's Room.



## **SU SUITE**

An opportunity to brush up on how we share the Gospel boldly, with conviction, respect and love. Saturday, 11 January 1:30-4:30pm at the Norwest Church in Anne Street, Tamworth. Learn how to be natural, authentic and bold in your Gospel Conversations. Everyone intending on working in the SU Tent during country music is encouraged to participate. RSVP to Dave Tankard on 0401 571 978.

## **Worship on Sunday, 12 January 2020**

9am Worship Service with Rev Betty Stroud. Elder: Jeanette Dezius; D: Norm Dezius B Johnston; PP: J Phillips; O: R Richardson. Light morning tea.

## **Meals on Wheels Kitchen Roster**

Tuesday, 14 January 8am is our next rostered day.

## **Minister's Fraternal Get-together**

Thursday, 16 January 6:30am-7:30am in the St Andrew's Room.

## **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, 17 January.

## **Worship on Sunday, 19 January 2020**

9am Worship Service with Rev Betty Stroud. Elder: P Turner; D: M & D Miles; PP: J Carthew; O: R Cathcart. Light morning tea.

## **Flourish Australia**

Meeting in the St Andrew's Room on Tuesday, 21 January from 8:30am.

## **Church Office Reopens for 2020**

Tuesday, 21 January 9am-2pm.

## **Minister's Fraternal Get-together**

Thursday, 23 January 6:30am-7:30am in the St Andrew's Room.

## **SU Country Music Mission**

Our Church Team's shift is on Friday, 24th January 9:30am-2pm. Everyone helping out is encourage to attend the SU SUITE Gospel Sharing event on

Saturday, 11 January. Talk to Mariette Duns (0427 770 266) to register to help. You will need willing hands and hearts, welcoming smiles, serving drinks and eats, providing a peaceful place to refresh and find God's love, and some baked goods (biscuits, slices, gluten free, savour). Thank you.

## **Australia Day**

Sunday, 26 January, public holiday on Monday, 27 January.

## **Worship on Sunday, 26 January 2020**

9am Worship Service with Rev Betty Stroud. Elder: E Sheppard; D: C Sheppard, G Chaffey; PP: J McClelland; O: R Greer. Light morning tea.

## **Minister's Fraternal Get-together**

Thursday, 30 January 6:30am-7:30am in the St Andrew's Room.

## **Worship on Sunday, 2 February 2020**

9am Worship Service with Mr Peter Battle. (Note HC on 9 February.) Elder: L Johnston; D: M Honeyman, J Crosling, E Gevert; PP: M Miles; O: R Greer. Morning tea.

## **Scripture Teaching**

Are you interested in becoming a scripture teacher at Tamworth Public School? You will need to be willing to do some training, get a WWC and be approved by your minister. Material is supplied and you could start out being a shadow to an experienced teacher. Please pray for scripture teachers in Public Schools. Contact Jenny Taggart, SRE Coordinator, if you are interested on 0409 100 193.

## **Date to Note**

- Most things will get up and running in February 2020.
- 7/8 February NENW Presbytery Preaching Workshop.

## **Uniting Pianoforte Confidence Scholarships**

Uniting have provided Tamworth Southside with a grant to support up to three scholarships for keyboard at Tamworth Regional Conservatorium. Applications close on Friday, 18 January. . Contact Bill Warburton on 0408 465 355 for more details, forms available in the office.

