

Diary Dates

**Sun, 16 9am Tamworth City
Worship with Rev Betty
Stroud. Mission Envelopes.
Sunday School. Morning
Tea.**
10am Mental Resilience at St
Stephen's
11am Korean Reborn Church

**Mon, 17 9:30am KAIROS sewing JH
10am-4pm Op Shop M-F
10am-2pm Uniting StAR**

**Tue, 18 9am-2pm Church Office T-F
9am AIR—StAR
9:30am Line dancing JH
10am Pres Bookkeeping
2pm Senior's Getting
Together Fellowship in
Village Hall**

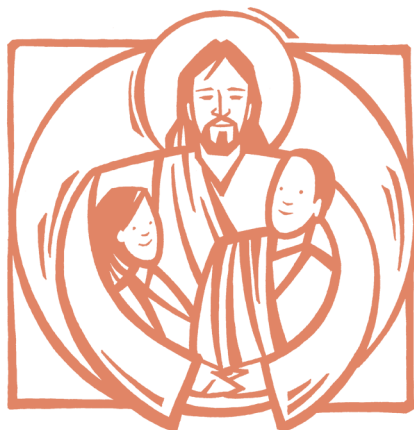
**Wed, 19 Rev Betty Orange—25th
9am Op Shop Working Bee
6pm Meditation in Chapel
6pm New Vogue Dance JH**

**Thu, 20 10am Stepping Stones DH
9:30am Yoga at StAR
4:30pm Church Music**

Fri, 21 10am Craft Group StAR

Sat, 22 9am-12noon Op Shop

**Sun, 23 9am Tamworth City
Worship with Mr Barry
Gillett. Transfiguration
Sunday. Sunday School.
Morning Tea.**
11am Korean Reborn Church



Preaching Plan

Sunday, 23 February—Transfiguration

8:30am Gowrie Service with The Gideons
9am Tamworth City Service with Mr Barry Gillett—Elder: R Hely; Door:
B Johnston, M & D Miles; PP: J McClelland; Organ: R
Greer.
9:30am Tamworth Southside service
11am West Tamworth service with The Gideons
5pm Tamworth Southside Service



16 February 2020
Epiphany Wk6

Welcome to Tamworth City Uniting Church

We welcome all those worshipping
with us at Tamworth City today. Rev
Betty Stroud will be leading our
service. Please stay for a chat and
morning tea after worship in the St
Andrew's Room.

Contact Details:

- **IIM Minister:** Rev Betty Stroud 0419 687 181
dottydog@bigpond.com
- **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 tsuoffice@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



Seasons of the Spirit

Grow...

Readings

Deuteronomy 30:15–20; Psalm 119:1–8; 1 Corinthians 3:1–9; Matthew 5:21–37.

Prayer

God, help us to grow with open eyes and open hearts. Help us to open our hearts to what breaks our hearts, so that we may live with compassion and peace. Open our eyes to the abundance found in Creation, in what blooms and grows even against the odds. Amen.

Reflection

We each wake up at the start of our day and end our days with routines that enable us to move into spaces of alertness and then end with rest. Between those beginnings and endings, we're given the opportunity to make clear choices from how we use our words, what food we will put into our bodies, and to whom we devote our time and attention. We always have the choice about how we move into our day.

Biblical Background

Deuteronomy 30:15–20 As the people stand on the border and look toward a land of promise, God sets before them a choice. Faithfulness to God and God's ways will bring them closer to the heart of God and the opportunity to flourish as the people of God. This new land, however, holds its promise of plenty only as far as the people keep the covenant relationship with God. Sirach 15:15–20 echoes the themes of faithfulness and our freedom of choice.

Psalm 119:1–8 proclaims "happy are those" who wholeheartedly live in the way of God. The pursuit of faithfully following God with one's whole heart speaks to God's faithfulness and presence to God's people. God welcomes us to continue directing our hearts to God, and to do so together.

Southside Scene

Worship: 9:30am & 5pm Sundays. HC Friday North Tamworth Bowling Club 3rd Sunday.

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 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

Email: ucapeelvalley@gmail.com

Pastrl 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, 16 Feb—8:30am Gowrie Service and 11am West Tamworth Service with Rev Chris Wright. Trading Table.

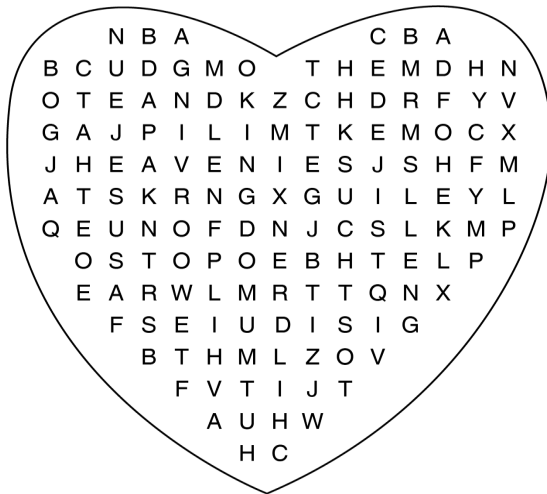
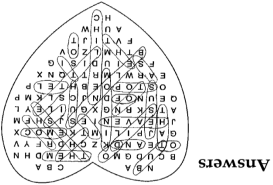
Tue, 18 Feb—10am Memory Lane at West Tamworth

Sun, 23 Feb—8:30am Hallsville Markets; 8:30am Gowrie Service and 11am West Tamworth Service with The Gideons.

Word Find

Find the words from Matthew 19:14.

But Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs."



That's What Jesus Said

Jesus was asked which commandment in the law was the greatest. His answer is found in Matthew 22:37. Follow the symbols key down and across to find the letters to fill in the blanks.

Answers: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.

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Lectionary Readings

Sun 16	Psalm 119:9-20	Fri 21	2 Corinthians 3:12-4:6
Mon 17	Exodus 24:12-18*	Sat 22	Habakkuk 3:3-19
Tue 18	Psalm 99	Sun 23	Psalm 2*
Wed 19	Matthew 17:1-9*	* Denotes Sunday lectionary readings	
Thu 20	2 Peter 1:16-21*		

Working together is a message presented by Paul to the church at Corinth in 1 Corinthians 3:1–9. Regardless of who plants and waters the seeds, God gives the growth. The planter and the water-bearer matter. They are a part of God’s fertile plan, and we all work together.

Matthew 5:21–37 Jesus speaks directly to the crowd about topics that might have the attention of the best gossips in town. Words and actions matter, whatever they are. Jesus reaches right to the heart of daily living and goes deeper with the commandments from Deuteronomy. From anger (vv. 21–26) to adultery (vv. 27–30) to divorce (vv. 31–32) to using one’s voice (vv. 33–37), Jesus challenges each of us about how we are to behave as a people of God. There is no small standard here. The bar is set high.

Jesus offers a measure of equality in the way he approaches these teachings, placing all on the same field. We are each seeds planted and given the Law as fertilizer, teaching us as we grow into our full natures. Those who judge and those who are being judged are equally invited to the table. All are of equal value and measure, all with the opportunity to live with integrity and wholeness. “Let your word be ‘Yes, Yes’ or ‘No, No’” speaks just as clearly to each of us today. Our words and actions matter, whatever they are, and they especially matter to God.

We are bombarded with choices and might struggle to make the best choice. We can experience decision-making fatigue. However fatigued we might be, we long for blessing and to know we are on the right path.

Thoughts

As worshipping communities, we have our own routines of awakening and resting. We have a language that we share when encountering one another, those we welcome, and those we serve. Always, always our words and actions matter. How do we find a way to move forward when we make mistakes? When we are serving God with our whole hearts, directed toward God’s commandments, and following Christ’s teachings, we are on the faithful path. When we live and serve God with all our heart, God blesses the growth.



Today's Information

Worship on Sunday, 16 February 2020

9am Worship Service with Rev Betty Stroud. Mission Envelopes. Sunday School. Morning tea.

Korean Reborn Church

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

Church Council Meeting

Notes:

- Safe Church—Norm Dezius is our Safe Church Officer, Church Council approved a Safe Church Policy and notices will be going up around the premises over the coming weeks.
- No fete this year, Church Council looking at other avenues for raising funds at smaller events throughout the year.
- Some work is to be done on the shade cloth at the rear of Dunn Hall.
- Also a weeding party to remove burs of various types is proposed. Any day (except Thursday). BYO spade and bucket. Contact Paul Turner 6766 6891.
- Final Gift from Lyall Green \$172,000 has been invested.
- Property committee putting up sensor lights around the property.
- Christmas Bowl \$1,250. Thank you everyone.

Rev Betty Stroud

Generally Betty will be in the office on Tuesdays and Wednesdays when she is in Tamworth. Contact Betty on her mobile 0419 687 181 or email dottydoq@bigpond.com to arrange a time to meet.

Stories That Give Life

A time to share the things that we have experienced in the life of this congregation that have brought life and hope to our community of faith.

Following worship on 1st March, we will gather in the Jubilee Hall for morning tea and a time of sharing our stories. Everyone is encouraged to attend as we begin the process of discerning the way ahead for our congregation. Please take time over the next few weeks to think about what you might share.

Prayers

Ecumenical Prayer Calendar

Keep the people of Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands in your prayers this week.

Presbytery Prayer Points

We give thanks for rain that has fallen.

Our Presbytery Meeting on 29 February in Uralla.

Scripture in Schools

Special thanks for those who led classes in our high schools this year—Belinda and Darrel. 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 Parry, Walhallow, Walget, Oxley Vale, Quirindi, Mullaley, Tamworth Public (we financially support), 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

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).

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.

Minister's Fraternal—Prayers for Tamworth

Meeting in the St Andrew's Room on Wednesday, 4 March from 7pm. All are welcome to join in.

ACW World Day of Prayer

The Australian Church Women invite you to join them for their World Day of Prayer on Friday, 6 March from 10am at the Baptist Church, Hillvue Road. The theme is set by the women of Zimbabwe this year "Rise! Take your mat and walk." Morning tea to follow service.

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, 6 March.

Monthly Lunch & Chatter

Friday, 6 March we're going to have lunch at Tamwell, Barton Lane from 12noon. Everyone's welcome to join us. Let Lorraine know 6766 6891.

Doing it for our Farmers

Distribution Day, Saturday, 7 March from Jubilee Hall.

Worship on Sunday, 8 March—Lent Wk2

9am Worship Service with Rev Betty Stroud. Elder: R Duns; D: M Duns, J Carthew, S Perkins; PP: J Phillips; O: R Richardson. Sunday School.

Dates to Note

- 10th: 8am Meals on Wheels Kitchen
- 11th: 10am Compassionate Friends
- 12th: 9:30am Nursing Home Service; 6pm Emmaus Board
- 13th: 10am Senior Communion
- 14th: 7pm Emmaus Trivia in Armidale

Prayer Focus—Tamworth City

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.

A question to get you started: 'What do your friends and neighbours think are the strengths of Tamworth City Uniting Church?' You may have had people make a comment to you about this congregation OR you might need to ask them!

We will finish by 12.15pm at the latest (earlier if you come well prepared!).

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. Focussing on getting children back to school in February.

This Week's Events

Kairos Outside Sewing Group

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

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 Phillips (0418 662 081).

UNITING—Home & Community Support

Gathering in the St Andrew's Room on Mondays from 10am-2pm.

Church Office

Office hours 9am-2pm Tuesdays to Fridays. Don't forget to book meetings and check availability of halls. Thank you. Nicolette.

Association of Independent Retirees

Meeting in the St Andrew's Room on Tuesday, 18 February from 9am.

Locomotive Line Dancing

Tuesdays from 9:30am-12:30pm in the Jubilee Hall.

Senior's Getting Together Fellowship

Our first get together for 2020 will be on Tuesday, 18 February from 2pm in the Community Hall at Uniting St Andrew's Village. Contact Marie McClelland 6765 7220.

Rev Betty in Orange

19-25 February.

Op Shop Working Bee

Wednesdays from 9am. Lots of chit-chat with your hard work, then a cuppa!. All helpers welcome. A very industrious morning.

New Vogue Dance Group

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

Meditation Service

Weekly meditation service lead by Rev John Marsh on Wednesdays evenings from 6pm in the Chapel area. During School Terms.

Stepping Stones Play Group

Join us at Tamworth City from 10am-12noon on Thursdays in the Dunn Hall. Or at Tamworth Southside Tuesdays 10am-12noon. Come along and support Jillian on Thursday mornings, help make a cuppa, chat to the mums.

Yoga Group

Thursdays in St Andrew's Room 9:30-11am from 6 February.

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, 21 February.

Next Week & Beyond

Worship on Sunday, 23 February 2020 - Transfiguration Sunday

9am Worship Service with Mr Barry Gillett. Elder: R Hely; D: B Johnston, M & D Miles; PP: J McClelland; O: R Greer. Sunday School. Morning tea.

Shrove Tuesday—Pancake Day

The Adult Fellowship will host a pancake morning tea on Tuesday, 25 February from 10am in the St Andrew's Room. Everyone's welcome to join in this feast before we start Lent.

Ash Wednesday

The start of the forty days of Lent begins on Wednesday, 26 March. We will have a time of worship to commence the season at 8am in the Church.

Young Families Support Group

Meeting on Wednesday, 26 February from 4pm in Wesley Room.

Rainbow Cottage Management Committee

Meeting on Wednesday, 26 February from 5pm at Rainbow Cottage.

NENW Presbytery Meetings

PRC on Friday, 28 February, full Presbytery meeting in Uralla on Saturday, 29 February from 9am.

Emmaus Trivia Night

Night of fun and frivolity on Saturday, 29 February from 7pm in Armidale. Contact Bec Wright 0479 016 967.

Worship on Sunday, 1 March—Lent Wk1

9am Worship Service and Sacrament of Holy Communion with Rev Betty Stroud. Elder: N Dezius, J Dezius, A Ashworth, P Turner, P Battle; D: W Townsend, Kathy, R Barclay; PP: M Miles; O: R Greer. Food Hamper Sunday. Sunday School.

Stories that Give Life and Morning Tea in Jubilee Hall after worship.

Adult Fellowship

Meeting in the St Andrew's Room on Tuesday, 3 March from 9:30am for morning tea then our meeting.

Lenten Studies

We will have our Lenten Studies, commencing Tuesday, 3 March from 7pm in Wesley Room (Rev Betty's Office) for 5 weeks. We will be using the Lent Event Bible Studies "Jesus the Other—Embracing Difference". Which looks at how Christians and Muslims in Ambon, Philippines, work together to build lives of dignity. An alternate session is offered on Thursday afternoons at 2pm.

Friends of Nioka

Meeting in the St Andrew's Room on Tuesday, 3 March from 7pm.