

# Diary Dates

- Sun, 26 Australia Day**  
 9am Tamworth City  
**Worship with Rev Betty Stroud. Light Morning Tea.**  
 11am Korean Reborn Church
- Mon, 27 Australia Day Public Holiday**  
 Rev Betty Orange 27th-3rd
- Tue, 28 9am-2pm Church Office T-F**  
 9:30am Linedancing JH  
 10am-4pm Op Shop T-F  
 10am Pres Bookkeeping
- Wed, 29 9am Op Shop Working Bee**  
 6pm Meditation in Chapel
- Thu, 30 6:30 am Minister's in St AR**  
 10am Stepping Stones DH  
 4:30pm Church Music
- Fri, 31**
- Sat, 1 9am-12noon Op Shop**  
 6:30pm Suzanne's Farewell  
 at Tamworth Hotel

- Sun, 2 9am Tamworth City**  
**Worship with Mr Peter Battle. Sunday School Food Hamper. Morning Tea.**  
 11am Korean Reborn Church



Welcome

# Preaching Plan

- Sunday, 2 February—Epiphany Wk 4**
- 9am Tamworth City Service with Mr Peter Battle—Elder: L Johnston; Door: M Honeyman, J Crosling, E Gevert; PP M Miles; Organ R Greer.
- 9:30am Tamworth Southside
- 11am West Tamworth with Evelyn Keane



### 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

26 January 2020

Epiphany Wk3

Australia Day

# 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.



# Seasons of the Spirit

## Follow...

### Readings

Isaiah 9:1–4; Psalm 27:1, 4–9; 1 Corinthians 1:10–18 & Matthew 4:12–23.

### Prayer

Inviting God, you promised those in shadows to see a great light when we follow you. We try to live in your house, to do as you ask, to drop our nets and come to you, but it can be hard. Strengthen us as we live into our call. Amen.

### Reflection

Following Christ's call can be hard. We are asked to take risks, trust, and step into the unknown. Sometimes, we have to leave behind the familiar. Sometimes, our actions may make us look foolish. Following God may require us to admit and face our fears. Yet, we remember that we are God's children, and we are never alone.

### Biblical Background

Isaiah 9:1–4 is another example of how Matthew uses the Hebrew Scriptures to reinforce that Jesus is the Messiah. Isaiah 9 is one of the Christmas readings; the words may have been heard in worship. Consider using the metaphor of the light as the light of the Epiphany star we follow to Christ. It is worth asking what the "darkness" was when Isaiah was writing, and how the light may have changed that. In a world of racial diversity, the word "shadows" could be used instead of "darkness" to reduce the impact of "darkness" being interpreted negatively. (See "The Beauty of Darkness" on p. 67.)

Perhaps the shadows of Isaiah are shadows of fear? It is clear that the writer of Psalm 27:1, 4–9 is afraid of something happening in his or her life. Seeking to live in God's presence requires courage and change. Yet, the psalmist trusts in God's provision of shelter and protection (v. 5). This psalm

# 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.

**Suzanne's Farewell:** 6 for 6:30pm on 1st February at Tamworth Hotel. Book with Libby 0428 609 326 .

**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.*



# 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)*

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

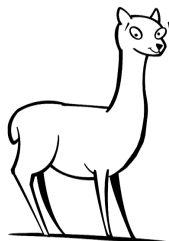
**Sun, 2 Feb**—11am West Tamworth with Evelyn Keen. Lunch after.

**Tue, 4 Feb**—10am Memory Lane at West Tamworth.

**Fri, 7 Feb**—6:30pm Hallsville Friday Family Church with Meg Mangan.

# Animal Facts

On the sixth day God created the animals of the earth of every kind (Gen 1:24-26).



Draw a line to match the fact to the animal.

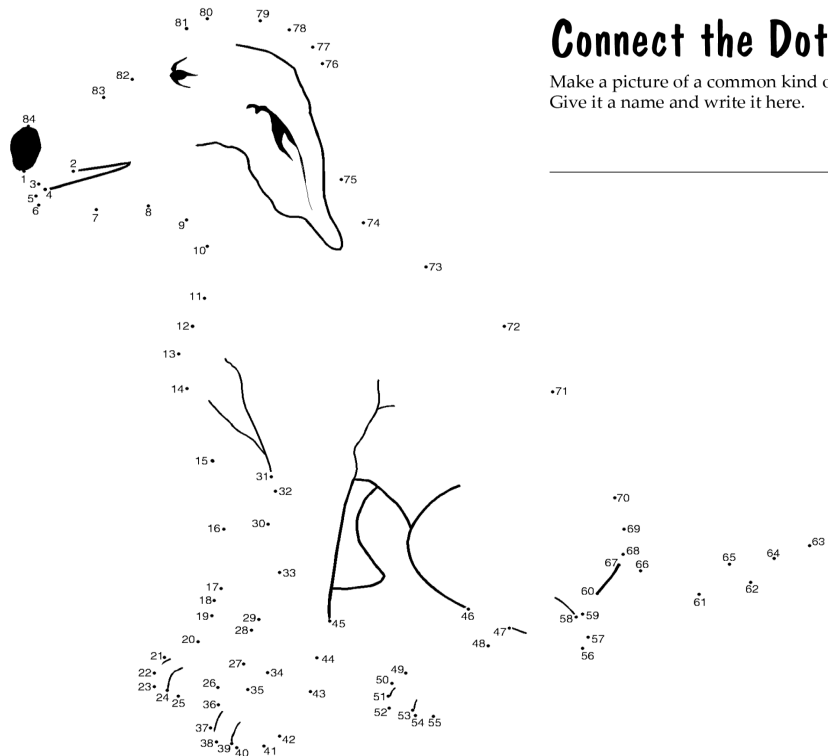
1. I'm green and live in and out of water.
2. I catch lots of insects with a trap I make.
3. I can fly up, down, sideways, forward, backward and hover.
4. I'm the largest creature on earth.
5. I can hang by my tail and I play dead.
6. I live near the North Pole and my babies are born in a snow drift.
7. I can stand on my front legs and spray a terrible scent.
8. I have a bill, four webbed feet, and live mostly under water.
9. I can fly, but I have skin, not feathers.

- a. bat
- b. skunk
- c. platypus
- d. spider
- e. frog
- f. blue whale
- g. polar bear
- h. opossum
- i. humming bird

Answers: 1.e 2.c 3.a 4.g 5.h 6.f 7.b 8.d 9.i

# Connect the Dots

Make a picture of a common kind of pet. Give it a name and write it here.



# Lectionary Readings

Sun 26	Psalm 27:1-14*	Fri 31	Corinthians 1:18-31*
Mon 27	Micah 6:1-8*	Sat 1	Matthew 5:1-12*
Tue 28	Micah 7:1-13	Sun 2	Psalm 15*
Wed 29	Micah 7:14-20	* Denotes Sunday lectionary readings	
Thu 30	Romans 2:1-16		

could be used as one of comfort for a congregation in a time of transition. We are not alone in times of fear; as people of faith, we often hold faith and fear together in tension.

In 1 Corinthians 1:10-18 it is clear that the leaders have been fighting about who is doing what and who is the best. Paul urges the church to be in agreement with no divisions among them, which sounds unattainable to our ears. But Paul offers an explanation of this oneness, pointing to baptism and Christ's crucifixion as the means for the church's unity. Baptism and Christ's crucifixion and resurrection are Christ's free gifts of love, and by faith the people are made one by the power of love. It is also worth noting that Chloe is mentioned as a leader in this congregation and that she has people working with and for her.

Matthew 4:12-23 ties together the theme of following Christ when it may appear to be scary or foolish. Jesus has gone to Galilee to gather disciples and reaches out to Simon (Peter) and his brother Andrew. His call to follow sounds absurd – leave behind your social and economic security and follow a stranger. Andrew and Simon have no idea what they are following Jesus for, or to until he tells them "I will make you fish for people," which did not offer much clarity. Questions raised by this text are numerous. Why these two people? Why this community? Why fishers and not someone else? This move by Andrew and Simon must have seemed impulsive at best and foolish at worst. What was it like for Zebedee? To watch his children, James and John, make what may appear to be a foolish and impulsive decision to follow a stranger and leave behind their responsibilities for providing for family and community? What is a parent's response to such choices?

# Thoughts

Following God requires us to look at our lives differently than the rest of the world may want to see them. We are asked to give up what may be dear and act in ways that may be foolish to others. Following a call may also be hard for those who watch it happen, especially parents watching children stepping out into the world to follow God in their own lives.



# Today's Information

## 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.

## Korean Reborn Church

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

## Rev Betty Stroud

We are enjoying getting to know Rev Betty as we move forward together. Betty will be in Orange this coming week from 27 Jan-3 Feb. 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](mailto:dottydoq@bigpond.com) to arrange a time to meet.

## With Love to the World

Out Today for those who ordered their new subscription. See the office if you'd like to get one too. \$20/year for daily devotions.

## 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.

## 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.

## Rosters

New rosters are getting going for 2020. We have a spot on the cleaning roster to be filled. Talk to Nicolette in the office if you can help.

## Prayer Diary—Tamworth Churches

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



### Emmaus Board Meeting

Meeting in the St Andrew's Room on Thursday, 13 February from 6pm.

### Senior Communion

Rev Henry Swindon will lead the monthly Senior Communion at the Uniting St Andrew's Village Community Hall on Friday, 14 February from 10am. Please contact Barb McLean 6766 4039.

### Emmaus Trivia Night

Night of fun and frivolity on Saturday, 15 February from 6pm in the Jubilee Hall. Contact Bec Wright 0479 016 967.

### Mental Resilience in Tough Times

St Stephen's Presbyterian church invite you to hear Colleen Hirst on Saturday, 15 February 7-9pm (supper to follow) as she presents "Practical ways to stay mentally strong". \$10/p. Register with Mark on 0431 664 307 or Dale 0414 818 201. Also on Sunday, 16 February 10am for Café Church with a presentation by Colleen on "Dealing with Depression & Anxiety—a Biblical Approach". No charge.

### Worship on Sunday, 16 February 2020

9am Worship Service with Rev Betty Stroud. Elder: W Standen; D: F Kerr, J Phillips, M Partridge; PP: J Carthew; O: R Cathcart. S/School. Morning tea.

### Dates to Note

- 18th 9am AIR, 2pm Senior's Getting Together.
- 19th– 15th Rev Betty in Orange

## Prayers

### Prayer Focus—Tamworth City

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

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

## This Week's Events

### Church Office

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

### 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). Closed Monday 27th.

### 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.

### Meditation Service

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

### Minister's Fraternal Get-together

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

### 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. Starting off for 2020 on Thursday 30 January and meet our new leader, Jillian Cumberland.

### Farewell for Suzanne Holloway

Suzanne has been the Lay Leader at Tamworth Southside for a while now. She is leaving to take up some further study in ministry. Southside are planning a farewell dinner on Saturday, 1 February 6 for 6:30pm at the Tamworth Hotel. If you'd like to join in please contact Libby Darling on 0428 609 326 or 6761 7441 by Tuesday, 29th.

### 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. Sunday School. Food Hamper Sunday. Morning tea.



# Next Week & Beyond

## 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.

## Locomotive Line Dancing

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

## Adult Fellowship

Our first gathering for 2020 will be on Tuesday, 4 February from 9:30am for morning tea followed by our meeting. Rev Betty will bring our devotions this week. Bring and Share lunch after the meeting.

## One Door Mental Health—Carer Support

Meeting in the Dunn Hall on Tuesday, 4 February from 10am-12noon.

## Tamworth Collaborative Leadership Group Gathering

Tuesday, 4 February 12:30-2:30pm with Corrina Alchin. Venue TBA.

## City Property Committee

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

## Friends of Nioka

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

## Worship Committee Meeting

Meeting on Wednesday, 5 February from 4pm in the St Andrew's Room.

## New Vogue Dance Group

Recommencing in Jubilee Hall 6-9:30pm Wednesdays from 5 February.

## Yoga Group

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

## NENW Preaching Workshop

Dr Jeff Aernie will lead our annual Preaching Workshop on Friday and Saturday, 7 and 8 February at Tamworth Southside UC. The theme this year

is "Christian Discipleship and the Sermon on the Mount". Everyone is welcome to join in the sessions: All sessions \$30, Friday night & Saturday \$25 or Friday day only \$10. Register in the church office this week.

## 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 February.

## Australian Church Women

AGM on Friday, 7 February from 10am at the Baptist Church.

## Monthly Lunch after Craft

Bring and Share lunch after craft on Friday 7 February from 12noon in the St Andrew's Room.

## Bec's Emmaus Reunion Group

Meeting in the St Andrew's Room on Friday, 7 February from 6pm.

## Kairos Gathering

Uralla Uniting Church from 12noon on Saturday, 8 February.

## Worship on Sunday, 9 February 2020

9am Worship Service and Holy Communion, Covenant Service with Rev Betty Stroud. Elder: M Duns, W Standen, M Hobson, J Carthew; D: R Duns W Purss, S Hardin; PP: J Phillips; O: R Richardson. Sunday School. Morning tea.

## Meals on Wheels Kitchen Roster

Next rostered day will be Tuesday, 11 February from 8am.

## Church Council Meeting

Our first Church Council meeting for 2020 will be on Tuesday, 11 February from 7pm in the St Andrew's Room.

## Compassionate Friends

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

## Nursing Home Service

Rev Chris Wright will lead the Nursing Home Service at Cottage Homes on Thursday, 13 February from 9:30am.