

Diary Dates

Sun, 2	9am Tamworth City Holy Communion Worship Service with Rev Chris Wright. Food Hamper Sunday. NO S/School. Australia's Biggest Morning Tea.	Wed, 5	7am Private Function 9am Op Shop Sorting 10am Bereavement Support Group in St Andrew's Room 4pm Worship C'tee St AR 6-9:30pm New Vogue JH 6-7pm Meditation in Church
	11:30am Korean Reborn Church & Lunch 3pm Bec's Emmaus Gp St AR 5pm Northwest Church Opening and barbecue	Thu, 6	8:30am Early Risers Prayer 9:30am Stepping Stones DH 4:30pm Church Music 5:30pm Aikido Karate in JH
Mon, 3	9:30am Kairos Sewing JH 10am-4pm Op Shop M-F 10am-2pm UNITING StAR	Fri, 7	8:30am Social Craft Grp DH 10am Craft Group in StAR 12noon Lunch & DVD St AR
Tue, 4	Church Office CLOSED 9:30am Adult Fellowship meeting, games & lunch in St Andrew's Room 9:30am LLine Dancers JH 10am-1pm Pres Bkeep 4:30pm Property C'tee St AR 7pm Friends of Nioka St AR	Sat, 8	9am-12noon Op Shop 2pm Private Function
		Sun, 9	9am Tamworth City Pentecost Sunday Worship Service with Rev Chris Wright. NO S/School. Morning Tea. 11:30am Korean Reborn Church & Lunch

Preaching Plan

Sunday, 9 June—Pentecost Sunday

8:30am	Gowrie Service—Meg Mangan
9am	Tamworth City—Rev Chris Wright, E:M Cupitt, D:E Fairall, B Mills, M Partridge, PP: J McClelland, O: R Richardson.
9:30	Tamworth Southside Service
11am	West Tamworth Service and Holy Communion—Meg Mangan
5:30pm	Tamworth Southside Service



Sunday, 2 June 2019

Welcome to Tamworth City Uniting Church

We welcome all those worshipping with us today. Rev Chris Wright and will be leading our service including the sacrament of Holy Communion. Please stay for a chat and morning tea.

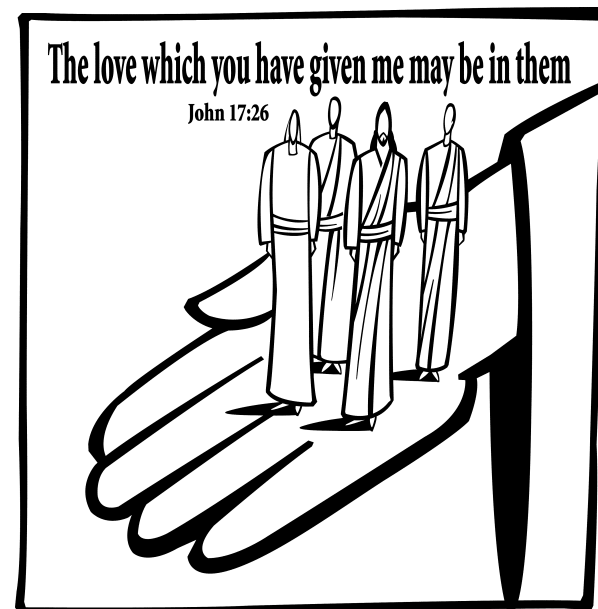
Contact Details:

- **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, 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



Seasons of the Spirit

Easter 7—Haunting Claims of Freedom

Readings

Acts 16:16–34; Psalm 97; Revelation 22:12–14, 16–17, 20–21; and John 17:20–26.

Prayer

Free us, O God, from chains that stifle the free flow of your spirit. Lead us to rejoice in your presence, wherever your path may lead. Amen.

Reflection

Here is a story of freedom. While we may be tempted to focus solely on the freedom brought to Paul and Silas from prison, there are other freedoms: freedom from slavery for the girl; freedom into new life for the jailer and family, freedom that challenges slavery and all systems of exploitation. We may grow discouraged, but there is no constraining the spirit of the risen Christ and the liberation Christ brings.

Biblical Background

Acts 16:16–34 Worship and prayer punctuate this story of liberation and freedom. It begins with Paul and Silas once again on their way to a place of worship and prayer. Worship is also in the middle of the story as Paul and Silas, undaunted by prison shackles, are found praying and singing hymns to God. The story concludes in worship with the baptism of the jailer and his family, now set free from the fear imposed on their lives by empire's domination, exploitation, and brutality. The one who sets in motion the liberating spirit of Christ is a slave girl who Paul and Silas encounter on the way to this place of prayer.

As is so often the case, those who suffer most from domination and exploitation are the ones who recognize the liberating potential and power of the spirit, even before those who come in the name of Christ. In this case, it is the slave girl who continues calling out to Paul and Silas, seeing in them something familiar (they too are bound) and unfamiliar (they live with a freedom denied to her). It is a mark of the unfinished salvation at work in Paul and Silas that they only respond to the slave girl's plight out of annoyance rather than responding to her enslavement.

The exploitation of the slave girl is not the only way in which the domination of empire is manifest in this story. Her enslavement is both

Southside Scene

Worship: 9:30am & 5pm Sundays.
Dinner Church 2nd Sunday. HC 3rd Sunday. Family Service 4th Sunday.

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

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

Tuesday Lunch: 12-1pm Tuesdays during school terms.

Prayer Team: 9:30am Thursdays.

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

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

Peel Valley Congregations

Sun, 2 June—11am West Tamworth Service with Patrick Johnston. Lunch to follow.

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

Fri, 7 June—5:30pm Hallsville Friday Family Church with Meg Mangan.

Sun, 9 Jun—8:30am Gowrie Service and 11am West Tamworth HC Service with Meg Mangan.

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



Bible Study: 2-3:30pm Thursdays.

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

Discussing Dementia: Saturday, 17 June 9:30am-12noon at Southside with Rev Frank van der Korput.

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,*

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"

Pastor Care: Meg Mangan 0466 337 005
Contact: Margaret Crowell 0408 660 025

Preaching: Ross Davidson 6760 8369

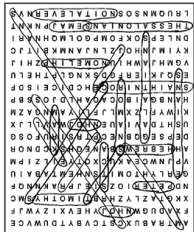
Elders:
Margaret Crowell, Ross Davidson, and Bruce Jarrett.



Books, Books, Books!

Find the books of the New Testament in this word find puzzle. (For books with more than one part, such as 1 and 2 Timothy, you will find Timothy listed only once.)

Matthew	1 Timothy
Mark	2 Timothy
Luke	Titus
John	Philemon
Acts	Hebrews
Romans	James
1 Corinthians	1 Peter
2 Corinthians	2 Peter
Galatians	1 John
Ephesians	2 John
Philippians	3 John
Colossians	Jude
1 Thessalonians	Revelation
2 Thessalonians	



Answers for word find.

A M T R A B U X C S T C V B Y T D U W V C E
 F X A D U G W N H O J Y H E V X I Z Y W J F
 X K G T A Z L Y Z H R B T I M O T H Y S M C
 N D P E T E R I O Z S I E J P R A K N N Q F
 G E R L Y H T O M I T S N H E M T A B A I U
 V P J N W C E A K U C X O T Y E I L Z I P M
 A H H E B R E W S B A N E Q H S K C D N O R
 D E P S E G Q B N E C P T R S I R U F O S G
 U S H T D A V I A U E N H O J W A V L L J X
 K I W Y F L Z X M L J F L I Y A M N G A Z M
 H A N B G A I B O C A O A H L D J O S S B P
 S N A I H T N I R O C E H C D I C E I S D F
 E S Q J K I E R F G D S K N G L P T H E L U
 V G M H J A W H I U N O M E L I H P Z H I J
 K Y I M J N H O J Z L N J A N M K B I T J C
 D N L E P S O K F O M P G O L M Q H N A R I
 T H E S S A L O N I A N S E M A J P N K N T
 L R U Q M N S O S N O I T A L E V E R N V S

physical and spiritual. The healing Paul offers to her spirit (even if out of annoyance) poses a material threat to the slave girl's owners who profit from her oppression. Her owners then exploit their marketplace connection with the judicial system and bring charges against Paul and Silas, which leads to their imprisonment. The judicial system uses its legal power and authority to brutalize Paul and Silas. The brutality inherent in systems of domination evidenced further when the jailer, discovering Paul, Silas, and the other prisoners missing, immediately concludes that the only option before him is to take his own life.

After Paul, Silas, and the other prisoners are set free the jailer asks what is needed to become a part of such a life-giving and liberating movement. The story concludes in worship with the liberating waters of baptism extended to the jailer and his family. However, never far from our minds and the one who continues to haunt this story is the unnamed slave girl who recognizes that she too is included in salvation's freedom and continues to call out to all who claim the name of Christ.

The power of God expressed in Psalm 97 points toward the same kind of freedoms, proclaiming that righteousness and justice are the foundations of God's reign. God's power is revealed in a passion for fairness, not in arrogant rule.

The power of Revelation 22:12–14, 16–17, 20–21 is not in the drama but in the invitation given to follow in this way of new life and freedom with the One who is the beginning and the end. We are offered the daring invitation to participate in the Spirit's new realm by drinking the water of life, offered as a gift. Despite the violence of the times of Revelation, come now and take that drink and show this new era in its dawning. This is reiterated in John 17:20–26. Jesus' prayer for the community defines this new freedom as a life in relationship with God.

Thoughts

Acts 16:16–34 is more than a story of a divine jail break, and more than a story of the main characters. It is a story about a liberating love experienced by unnamed, peripheral characters. It is a gospel not for the few but for the many, a story not just for the well-known but for the unknown also. The freedom God offers is radical. It changes our way of living, and our way of viewing God, who leads in a way so different from the world that we cannot help but sit up and take notice. Abuses of human worth still occur, still arise unscheduled. The Spirit beckons our ministry in all situations. What testimony can you bring of the Spirit's activity in freeing you or your community from captivity or bondage?

Books of the Bible Cards

Look inside your Bible for a list of the books in the Bible. Use note cards to make a total of 66 cards. Write the name of one book of the Bible on each card. Then mix them up and use them to play games.

- Draw a card and put it in a New Testament or an Old Testament pile. Check the table of contents in a Bible to see how many you have right. (If you are playing with more than one person, take turns drawing a card from the centre and have each player make a pile of Old and New Testament cards.) Put any wrong guesses back in the pile in the centre and keep playing until all the cards have been used.
- Draw five cards and put them in order from Old Testament books to New. Draw five more and keep filling in the spaces until you have drawn all the cards and put them all in order.
- Separate the cards into Old and New Testaments piles. Then see if you can put the books in order.
- Use your imagination and make up other games on your own!

Lectionary Readings

Sun	2	Psalm 97*	Fri	7	Romans 8:18-27
Mon	3	Genesis 11:1-9	Sat	8	John 14:8-17*
Tue	4	Acts 2:1-21*	Sun	9	Psalm 104:24-35
Wed	5	Romans 8:9-13	* Denotes Sunday lectionary readings		
Thu	6	Romans 8:14-17*			

Today's Information

Worship on Sunday, 2 June

9am Worship service and Holy Communion with Rev Chris Wright. Food Hamper Sunday. Note: NO Sunday School. **Australia's Biggest Morning Tea in the St Andrew's Room.**

Korean Reborn Church

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

Bec's Emmaus Reunion Group

Meeting in the St Andrew's Room from 3pm on Sunday, 2 June.

Northwest Church

Celebrating the grand opening of their new auditorium on Sunday, 2 June from 5pm, cnr Anne & Kathleen Sts. A celebration service and barbecue.

Oberammergau 2020

In 2000 a number of our congregation were privileged to attend Oberammergau Passion Play in Germany. Now is the time to be booking if you would like to go in 2020.

Further details on the sheet at the back of the church. *Ron Greer.*

Doing It For Our Farmers

We continue to support our local farmers with drought relief packages, vouchers and prayers.

This Week's Events

Kairos Outside Sewing Group

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

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). Alternate float arrangements.

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 Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa and Swaziland in your prayers this week.

Prayer Diary—Tamworth Churches

We keep the activities of the Baptist Church, C3 Church, School Scripture, Oxley Vale Anglican Church, the Lutheran Church, Cornerstone Church and Scripture Union Activities in our prayers.

Presbytery Prayer Points

Keep in your prayers the upcoming Synod meeting in Sydney 4-7 July and we continue to pray for life-sustaining rain to fall across our Presbytery.

Scripture in Schools

Special thanks for those who lead classes in our high schools this year—Andrew, Ross, Belinda and Darrel. 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. In recess now until 2019. Donations all gratefully received.

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 or Rev Chris Wright 0427 633 657.

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),

Worship on Sunday, 16 June

9am Worship service with Rev Chris Wright. Trinity Sunday. Mission Envelopes. Elder: B McLean, D: S Perkins, S Hardin, R Barclay, PP J Carthew, O: R Cathcart. Sunday School. Morning Tea.

11am West Tamworth—Rev Chris Wright.

Catherine Hamlyn Winter Movie Afternoon

Sunday, 16 June from 2:30pm at the Forum 6 Cinema, \$16.50 a head including afternoon tea. This month the picture is “The Least of These.”

Seniors Getting Together Fellowship

Winter Pie Day on Tuesday, 18 June from 12noon in the Uniting St Andrew’s Village Community Hall. Contact Marie McClelland 6765 7220.

Pastoral Partners Gathering

Our next get together will be on Wednesday, 19 June from 3pm 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, 21 June.

Trivial Pursuit Soup & Damper Night

A fun night of frivolity! Come along and share in our soup and damper night with some Norm Dezius Trivia on Friday, 21 June from 6pm. Lots of fun for everyone.

Worship on Sunday, 23 June

9am Worship service and Baptism with Rev Chris Wright. UCA Anniversary. Elder: M Duns, D: H McKenzie, M Honeyman, R Duns, PP J McClelland, O: R Greer. Sunday School. Morning Tea.

Diary Dates to Note

- 26th 5pm Rainbow Cottage Management Committee
- 22nd UCA 42nd Anniversary



UNITING Support Group

UNITING Support Group meeting in the St Andrew’s Room on Mondays from 10am-2pm from Home & Community Care.

Church Office

CLOSED 4-7 June. Regular office hours 9am-2pm Tuesday-Friday. *Nicolette.*

Adult Fellowship

Our monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday, 4 June. Usual 9:30am for morning tea followed by our meeting. We’re going to enjoy some board games after the meeting. Bring your favourite board game and join us for some fun. There will be a light lunch afterwards at a cost of \$5/head.

Locomotive Line Dancing

Hiring the Jubilee Hall from 9:30am-12:30pm on Tuesdays for Line Dancing.

Property Committee

Our bi-monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday, 4 June from 4:30pm in the St Andrew’s Room.

Friends of Nioka

Meeting in the St Andrew’s Room on Tuesday, 4 June from 7pm.

Private Function

Meeting in the Jubilee Hall on Wednesday, 5 June from 7am.

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.

Bereavement Support Group

Meeting in the St Andrew’s Room on Wednesday, 5 June from 10am.

Worship Committee

Meeting in the St Andrew’s Room on Wednesday, 5 June from 4pm.

Meditation Service

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

New Vogue Dance Group

Meeting in the Jubilee Hall 6-9:30pm Wednesdays.

Early Risers Prayer Group

Weekly prayer group meeting in the Wesley Room (Rev Chris' office) each Thursday morning from 8:30am. Recommencing 2 May.

Stepping Stones Play Group

Stepping Stones have a busy term with Sleep Effect on 4th & 6th June; and Fun Fitness for Littlies on 2nd & 4th July. Join us at Tamworth City from 10am-12noon on Thursdays in the Dunn Hall. Or at Tamworth Southside Tuesdays 10am-12noon.

Aikido Karate

Meeting in our Jubilee Hall on Thursday evenings from 5-9pm.

Social Craft Group

Meeting in the Dunn Hall on Fridays from 8:30-11am.

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 June.

Lunch & DVD

Our monthly Lunch & DVD group will get together again on Friday, 7 June from 12noon in the St Andrew's Room. Gold coin donation for lunch and then watch a DVD together.

Private Function

Using the Jubilee Hall & Kitchen on Saturday, 8 June from 2pm.

Next Week & Beyond

Worship on Sunday, 9 June

9am Worship service with Rev Chris Wright. Pentecost Sunday (you might like to wear something red). Elder: M Cupitt, D: E Fairall, B Mills. M Partridge, PP J Phillips, O: R Richardson. NO Sunday School. Morning Tea.

Queen's Birthday

Public Holiday, Monday, 10 June.

Compassionate Friends

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

Nursing Home Service

Rev Chris Wright will lead the nursing home service at Collage Homes on Thursday, 13 June from 9:30am. All singers and helpers welcome.

Church Council Meeting

Our bi-monthly Church Council meeting will be held on Thursday, 13 June from 7pm in the St Andrew's Room.

Senior Communion

Held in the Uniting St Andrew's Village Community Hall on Friday, 14 June from 10am with Rev Mark Armstrong. Contact Barb McLean 6766 4039.

Memorial Service

A Memorial Service will be held for Mrs Phyllis Jeffrey on Friday, 14 June from 1:30pm with afternoon tea to follow.

High School Scripture Prayer Breakfast

You are invited to share in the High School Scripture Prayer Breakfast on Saturday, 15 June from 7:30-9am at St Peter's Anglican Church. \$10 adult, \$30 family. Enquiries for catering to Penny Clunas on 0405 440 580.

Emmaus Training Day

Saturday, 15 June from 8am in Jubilee Kitchen, Church & St Andrew's Rm.

Discussing Dementia

"Spirit talks to Spirit" presented by Rev Frank van der Korput. What is dementia? How common is it? Is there a cure? Is it a normal part of ageing? How does one best relate to someone with dementia? Where is God in dementia? What does the Bible say? Held at Tamworth Southside UC on Saturday, 15 June from 9:30am to 12noon. Frank has worked in aged care for 10yrs serving residents who live in independent living, hostel, nursing home & dementia-specific facilities. \$10/head including morning tea. RSVP by Monday, 10 June to Jennifer 6761 7366 or Southside Office 6765 3714.