



7 June 2020

Trinity Sunday

Tamworth City Uniting Church

Rev Betty Stroud has prepared this week's worship resources.

Zoom morning tea is at 10am, look out for your email link.

Nicolette is in the office as usual, although closed to the public.

Stay up to date with safe health practices. Take care.

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 Website www.ucatamworthcity.wordpress.com

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 Preachers:** David Bissett 0400 186 723; Rob Wood 0447 425 411; John Nash 0428 333 358
- **Young Family Worker:** Jillian Cumberland 0402 341 684 Email: jillian.steppingstones.uca@hotmail.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



Our webpage has worship resources, order of service and the notice sheet each week. There is also a recorded message from Betty on the Worship Resources page at <https://ucatamworthcity.wordpress.com/>

At this time it is important to maintain contact with each other.

A telephone call is a great way to do this. Make a cuppa and give someone a call.

To continue to support our ministry financially by setting up a direct deposit into our accounts using phone or internet banking:

Account Name:	Tamworth City Uniting Church
BSB:	634 634
Account Number:	100026126
Reference:	Offering

If you don't have facilities to phone or internet bank we encourage you to put aside your weekly offering in an envelope to give to the church at a convenience time. Leave in the box on the verandah at the office or during office hours. Thank you.

This Week's Notes

Good News Items

- We've been enjoying some lovely morning teas on Zoom at 10am each week. Lots of different people come and go over the morning, it's lovely to see all the smiling faces. We tried break-out rooms last week! Fun!
- **We will have a virtual 'morning tea' at 10am on Sunday morning.**
- Note that there will be a Church Council meeting via Zoom on Tuesday, 9 June at 7pm. If you need assistance getting onto Zoom, please contact the office.
- Quick update that Julie Bennett is in Hospital and would appreciate your prayers..
- Our deepest sympathy is extended to Margaret Cupitt and Elain Fairall following the death of their sister in Dubbo last week. Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time.
- Rev Betty will be taking two week's leave at the end of June (18 June—1 July). Peter Battle and Barry Gillett will be preparing worship resources on those who Sundays. Hoping they'll do a video as well for the website!
- Op Shop News—sorry we are not ready to open yet. Your health and well-being is our first priority when considering when to come back from lockdown. However, in preparation, would you like to ring Judy (0418 662 081) or the office (6766 5311) to indicate if you would like to come back to volunteer at the shop when we are ready. Please note that those over 70yrs will need to have a doctor's certificate before commencing.
- Health and well-being must be our first priority when considering when to come back from lockdown at church. We ask your patience and support and eagerly look forward to the day we can gather together once again.

Sharing

Annabel has sent in some funny Church Bulletin Typo's! (I'm sure they never happen...)

- The ladies of the Church have cast off clothing of every kind. They may be seen in the basement on Friday afternoon.
- This evening at 7 PM there will be a hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.
- Ladies Bible Study will be held Thursday morning at 10 AM. All ladies are invited to lunch in the Fellowship Hall after the B. S. is done.
- The pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the Congregation would lend him their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday.
- Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 PM. Please use the back door.
- The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the Church basement Friday at 7 PM. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.

Upcoming Events in June

Sunday, 7 June (Trinity Sunday): Message from Rev Betty Stroud online; 10am Zoom Morning Tea.

Monday, 8 June: Queen's Birthday Public Holiday

Tuesday, 9 June: 7pm Zoom Church Council Meeting. Look out for an email including discussion papers and agendas.

Sunday, 14 June: Message from Rev Betty Stroud online; 10am Zoom Morning Tea

Thursday, 18 June: Rev Betty on leave until 1 July

Sunday, 21 June: Message from Mr Peter Battle online; 10am Zoom Morning Tea

Monday, 22 June: UCA Anniversary

Tuesday, 23 June: Saltbush Staff Meeting in St Andrew's Room



Can you tell me a story? Start with "I remember when ..."



A Theme to get you started:

1. Technology: How technology changed our world in the past 60 years.
2. Teachers: The influence teachers have had on your life. Most people have strong memories of one or more teachers.
3. The 1960s: What were they doing? Which songs were they singing? Which TV shows did they watch?
4. Nutrition: What was the food like in the past? Did people go on diets?
5. High-School Days: Were there bullies? How about drugs, gangs, nerds, peer pressure, rock & roll, cars?
6. Bedtime stories: What were their favourite stories? Were there any stories they were afraid of? Who told you stories when you were children?
7. Road Trip Memories: First time in a big city or first time on a farm. Did anyone say: "Are we there yet?"
8. Children's pastimes: What sort of games did they play? Great TV shows? Comic strips magazines? Movie matinees?
9. Medication: The most popular cough syrup, how often did people go to hospital, were babies born at home? Did home-made remedies work or were they just 'old wives tales'?
10. Vintage Hollywood Movies: Romantic movies, best thrillers, favourite stars.
11. Saturday Matinee Serials: Remember Zorro? The Adventures of Captain Marvel? Flash Gordon? Sherlock Holmes? How about the episodes which ended in scary cliffhangers?

Prayers

Prayer Focus—Tamworth City

Today we focus on the Uniting Church in Australia, Ordained Ministry, and Councils of the Church. Please uphold these in your private prayers during the week.

Ecumenical Prayer Calendar

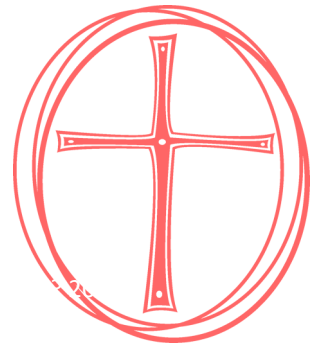
Keep the people of Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa and Swaziland in your prayers this week.

NENW Presbytery

Keep in your prayers work being carried out to have worship connections with congregations during the COVID-19 virus restrictions. There are lots of exciting things happening out there!

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.



Lectionary Readings

Sun 7 Trinity Sunday Matthew 28:16-20*
Mon 8 Genesis 18:1-15*
Tue 9 Genesis 20
Wed 10 Romans 5:1-8*
Thu 11 Romans 5:9-17

Fri 12 Matthew 9:35-10:8

Sat 13 Matthew 10:9-23

Sun 14 Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19*

* Denotes Sunday lectionary readings

Wild Goose Publications

The Trinity as a Circle

It can be quite puzzling for many Christians when we say that there is only one God and then start talking of three – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We say this is a mystery: three persons, but one God. Three sides, like the three leaves of the clover leaf; three ‘states’, like water, mist and ice, but one element. But even when we look at it like this it can still be quite confusing. But, if we are not to lose the great gift of thinking of God in this way then we need to understand as much as we can.

Many understandings have been promulgated:

to think of the Trinity as an isosceles triangle with the Father on top, and Jesus and the Holy Spirit referred to by name but definitely not coequal. This is a hierarchical model and not a good way to understand the Trinity.

Then there is to look upon the Trinity as an equilateral triangle – with the Father, Son and Spirit at each point, and then only talk to one point – or one person in the Trinity. Typically, but not universally, ‘traditional’ Christians address God as Father, evangelicals talk to Jesus, and charismatics speak to the Holy Spirit. By doing this we miss out on the liberation of the Trinity, and so fail to live out the difference it makes to our relationship with God and each other.

BUT ... if we see the Trinity as a circle – no beginning or ending, no top or bottom, God and existing and eternal relationship – Jesus saying, ‘I am in the Father and the Father is in me’ makes sense. This is the relationship we are invited to join, so that we pray IN God and not TO God. Here we see God committed to the dance of an equal and unending relationship, willing to suffer rather than force us into relationship. We see the Father and the Holy Spirit in agony with Jesus on the cross, so close is the relationship – in Greek icons you always see some representation of each person of the Trinity on the cross.

We are invited to be in this relationship, part of the dance, knowing the vulnerability and the joy of love. Instead of constantly searching for the way to God, whenever we pray we dwell IN God, in the Loving God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – our Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer.

Adapted from an article by Chris Pohill. *Fire and Bread*, ed. Ruth Burgess, Wild Goose Publications.

