

Diary Dates

**Sun, 19 Sunday 9am Tamworth City
Worship Service & Guest
Speaker with Rev Chris
Wright. Sunday School.
Morning Tea.**

11am West Tamworth
11:30am Korean Reborn
Church

Mon, 20 9:30am Kairos Sewing JH
10am-4pm Op Shop M-F
10am-2pm UNITING StAR
5:30-8pm New Vogue JH

Tue, 21 9am-2pm Church Office T-F
9am AIR in St Andrew's Rm
9:30am LLine Dancers JH
10am-1pm Pres Bkeep
2pm Senior's Getting
Together Fellowship

Wed, 22 9am Op Shop Sorting
4pm Fete Follow-up Meeting
in St Andrew's Room
6-9:30pm New Vogue JH
6-7pm Meditation in Church

Preaching Plan

Sunday, 26 May—Easter 6

8:30am Gowrie Service & Hallsville Markets
9:30 Tamworth Southside Service

10:30am Tamworth City Combined Service with Korean Reborn Church
with Rev Chris Wright & Pastor Daniel, E: R Duns, D: M Duns, R &
P Pryor, PP: J McClelland, O: R Greer.

11am West Tamworth Service
5:30pm Tamworth Southside Service



Thu, 23 8:30am Early Risers Prayer
9:30am Stepping Stones DH
4:30pm Church Music
5:30pm Aikido Karate in JH
Fri, 24 8:30am Social Craft Grp DH
Sat, 25 9am-12noon Op Shop
9am Retreat at Kelvin

**Sun, 26 Sunday 10:30am
Tamworth City
Worship Service
combined with the
Korean Reborn
Church, Rev Chris
Wright and Pastor
Daniel. Shared Lunch
in Dunn Hall**



Sunday, 19 May 2019

Welcome to Tamworth City Uniting Church

We welcome all those worshipping with us today. Rev Chris Wright will be leading our service and we'll hear from Belinda Gonsalves about her work in the local schools. Please stay for a chat and morning tea afterwards.

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 5—A Spirit of Solidarity

Readings

Acts 11:1–18; Psalm 148; Revelation 21:1–6; and John 13:31–35.

Prayer

God who loves Creation in all its rainbow diversity, speak to us who narrow, define, pigeon-hole, and exclude those who are not like us. May we view the world as you see it in all its strange beauty and wonderful diversity. Amen.

Reflection

Being led by the inclusive spirit of the risen Christ can put us at odds with human impulses for separation and institutional impulses for maintaining control. The texts this week give witness to the spirit of Christ at work and the solidarity we are given with one another and all creation.

Biblical Background

Acts 11:1–18 Among the most potent tools used by Rome and empires in general for maintaining power and control is to create and maintain a system that keeps people divided. Acts 11:1–18 presents a direct challenge to this imperial system with the radical claim of a resurrection spirit that unites.

Although Peter, along with the early Christian community, initially believe separation and division are essential for faithfulness, they soon discover the spirit of the risen Christ breaks down those divisions and separation.

The Jewish community had long lived with a survival tension between welcoming the outsider and maintaining a religious and cultural identity of separation. This tension between welcome and separation, division and unity run throughout the Hebrew Scriptures. The separation helped hold the Jewish people together as a community, but it also made them susceptible to the division that kept empire ideology alive and powerful.

The early Christian community had accepted this disunity and separation. They believed community survival meant purity and separation from those identified as “the other.” Even before Peter arrives back in Judea, Christian leaders had heard Peter was threatening their survival by creating bonds with those known as Gentiles.

Getting right to the point, they ask Peter, “Why did you go to

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.

Reel Valley Congregations

Fri, 17 May—6pm Hallsville Friday Family Church with Ross Davidson and Margaret Crowell.

Sun, 19 May—11am West Tamworth Service with Rev Chris Wright.

Tue, 21 May—10am Memory Lane at West Tamworth. BIGGEST MORNING TEA. Bring your friends and neighbours along for an absolutely scrumptious morning tea.

Sun, 26 May—8:30am Hallsville Markets; 8:30am Gowrie Service with Meg Mangan; 11am West Tamworth



Bible Study: 2-3:30pm Thursdays.

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.*

Service with Meg Mangan.

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

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”

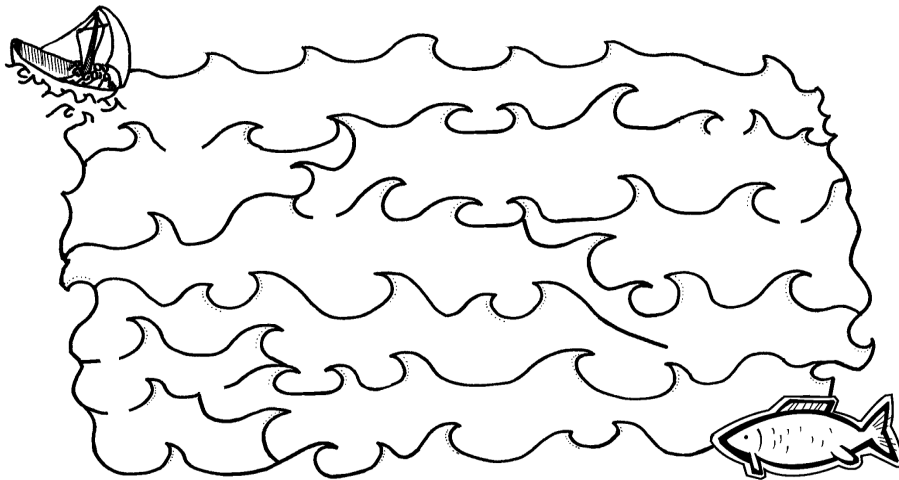
Pastrl Care: Meg Mangan 0466 337 005

Contact:
Margaret
Crowell 0408
660 025



Find the fish

Some of Jesus' disciples were fishers. Follow the maze to help them find the fish.

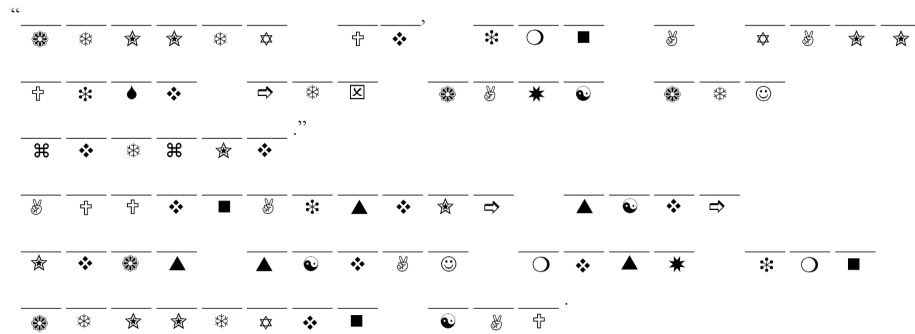


Crack the Code

Use this code to learn what Jesus said to the fishers.

a = ☼	f = ☼	k = ●	n = ○	r = ☺	u = ☒
d = ■	h = ☺	l = ☆	o = ☼	s = ★	w = ☆
e = ☼	i = ☺	m = ⊕	p = ☼	t = ▲	y = ⇨

Answer: "Follow me, and I will make you fish for people." Immediately they left their nets and followed him.



Lectionary Readings

Sun	19	Psalm 148*	Thu	23	Revelation 22:1-7
Mon	20	John 5:1-9	Fri	24	Acts 15:1-18
Tue	21	John 14:23-29*	Sat	25	Acts 16:9-15*
Wed	22	Revelation 21:9-11, 22-27	Sun	26	Psalm 67*

* Denotes Sunday lectionary readings

uncircumcised men and women and eat with them?"

The Spirit – which enlivened the words of the prophets – revealed Jesus as one with the Jubilee mission of God's justice at Nazareth, gave new life and energy to the church at Pentecost, and is unbound by imperial constraints, comes to Peter in a dream. It is a dream that leaves no doubt that God's saving work looks nothing like the divisive empire favouring peace promised by Rome. Rather, it is a gift from God, drawing us ever deeper into unity with the God of all of creation. "The spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us."

According to Acts, the Spirit is at work in our world, blessing all who will receive with the life-giving spirit of resurrection's solidarity. For the disciples gathered in Judea, it was a convincing argument, "For when they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God saying, 'Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.'"

The poet of Psalm 148 sings that the whole world should praise God; no matter what creature, no matter what station a human found in life. Age, gender, power are pushed aside when we stand before God and acknowledge God's goodness. All people and all creation find a common unity in one voice.

Revelation 21:1–6 reveals the new heaven and the new earth, and the possibility that things as we know them may change, fade, and pass away. This newness is nothing to be feared but instead embraced as a gift from the One who dwells with us and all creation. There is no escaping the fundamental unity found in the one who is the Alpha and the Omega of all that exists.

In leaving his earthly life, Jesus, in John 13:31–35, calls on his followers to love one another. It is a universal message, one that is inclusive and life-changing. Love one another without restriction and condition for this is the way in which people will know the disciples of Jesus, and the solidarity we are called to proclaim.

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God seeks individuals and communities willing to risk new ways of seeing and receiving. How can we open ourselves to welcome the still emerging and unfolding story of God's gracious actions in our time? In what new ways might Jesus' command to love take shape for you and your faith community?



Today's Information

Worship on Sunday, 19 May

Worship service with Rev Chris Wright at 9am. Guest—Belinda Gonsalves. Sunday School. Morning Tea.

11am West Tamworth—Rev Chris Wright.

Korean Reborn Church

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

Sympathy

We express our deepest sympathy and prayers to the family and friends of Phyl Jeffrey who passed away last week. A thanksgiving service will be held in early June here at Tamworth City.

Also we express our deepest sympathy and prayers to the family and friends of Irene Sinfield who passed away this week. A thanksgiving service will be held here on Monday at 10.30am.

For Sale

Two second hand electric lift chair (full laid back, feet up). One floral, one blue fabric. Available from Country Auctions, Nemingha 6760 9900.

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).

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 still 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

Stamp Collecting News

Demand for \$1 stamps far exceeds supply at present. Funds raised support projects across the Uniting Church in NSW. Keep in mind that the stamps you receive today, our customers are anxious to buy tomorrow at the Synod Stamp Committee sales. Keep them coming in. Leave them at the church office for trimming/sorting.

Reverse Parking

We've had a couple of near-misses recently. Would everyone using the car park please reverse park into parking spaces. This will mean that when it gets full it will be easier to get out and pedestrians will be safer. Thanks.

Library

We have a library of books/DVDs in the Vestry. Do you have any you no longer require of a religious nature to donate to our Library? Maybe you'd like to borrow a book. Talk to Peter Battle 6766 7455.

Transport to Church

Can you help with transport to church? Maybe you've got a spare seat and can pick someone up from nearby on your way. Contact the office on 6766 5311.

Key Audit

Please check your need for keys to the various buildings here at Tamworth City. Take the opportunity to return a key you no longer need.

Housekeeping Item

Please report all incidents/accidents to the office, even if there is no further action. We need to keep a record for our insurance. Thank you.

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.

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 Moills. M Partridge, PP J Phillips, O: R Richardson. NO Sunday School. Morning Tea.

Diary Dates to Note

- 10th Queen's Birthday Holiday
- 13th 9:30am Nursing Home Service; 7pm Church Council
- 14th 10am Senior Communion

Prayers

Prayer Focus—Tamworth City

Today we focus on Children's Ministry, Christian Education, Scripture in Schools, Sunday School, Young Families Worker, Stepping Stones Playgroup, Mission Outreach and Rainbow Cottage. Please uphold these in your private prayers during the week.

Ecumenical Prayer Calendar

Keep the people of the Malawi and Zambia in your prayers this week.

Prayer Diary—Tamworth Churches

We keep the activities of the Northwest Church, Seventh Day Adventist Church, Church on the Way, Salvation Army, Roman Catholic Churches, the Father's House and Trinity Church in our prayers.

Presbytery Prayer Points

Keep in your prayers the upcoming Synod meeting in Sydney 4-7 July.

UNITING Support Group

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

New Vogue Dance Group

Meeting in the Jubilee Hall 5:30– 8pm Mondays & 6-9:30pm Wednesdays.

Church Office

Regular office hours 9am-2pm Tuesday-Friday. All hall bookings to be made via the office please. *Nicolette*.

Assn. Independent Retirees

Meeting in the St Andrew's Room on Tuesday, 21 May from 9am.

Locomotive Line Dancing

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

Peel Valley Biggest Morning Tea

Tue, 21 May—10am Memory Lane at West Tamworth Uniting Church. BIGGEST MORNING TEA. Bring your friends and neighbours along for an absolutely scrumptious morning tea.

Senior's Getting Together Fellowship

Meeting in the Village Community Hall on Tuesday, 21 May from 2pm. Contact Marie McClelland 6765 7220.

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.

Fete Follow-up Meeting

Wednesday, 22 May from 4pm in the St Andrew's Room.

Meditation Service

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



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. In recess during April.

Social Craft Group

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

Thirst Retreat

The key to Christian living is a thirst and hunger for God. Does your soul truly thirst for God? This retreat will offer a variety of spiritual formation exercises specifically chosen to help us focus on our thirst for God. RSVP to 6743 2556 or email rkpenrose@gmail.com.

Next Week & Beyond

Worship on Sunday, 26 May

NOTE: 10:30am Combined Worship service with Rev Chris Wright and the Korean Reborn Church. Elder: R Duns, D: M Duns, R & P Pryor, PP J McClelland, O: R Greer. Combined Lunch to follow in Dunn Hall.

Young Families Worker Support Group

Meeting on Wednesday, 29th at 4:15pm in the Wesley Room.



Worship on Sunday, 2 June

9am Worship service and Holy Communion with Rev Chris Wright. Elder: R Hely, R Duns, M Duns, P Turner, P Battle, D: J Crosling, F Kerr, G Chaffey, PP M Miles, O: R Greer. Sunday School. **Australia's Biggest Morning Tea.**

Bec's Emmaus Reunion Group

Meeting in the St Andrew's Room from 3pm on Sunday, 1 June.

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.

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.

Bereavement Support 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.

Worship Committee

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

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.