

# DIARY DATES

**Sun, 21 9am Worship Service with Mr Peter Battle. Sunday School. Morning Tea.**

11am Korean Re-born church.

12noon Legacy Soup &

Damper Lunch in Jubilee Hall

Mon, 22 4-5am Wheelie Bean in

Jubilee Kitchen Mon-Fri

9:30am-3pm Kairos Outside

Sewing in Jubilee Hall

10-4pm Op Shop Mon-Fri

10am KYB in St A's Room

1:30pm KYB at 26 Upper St

4-7pm WW in Dunn Hall

5:30pm Dance Group in JH

Tue, 23 Church Office Closed

10am Pres Bookkeeper

10am Bereavement Support

Group in St Andrew's Room

5-8pm WW in Dunn Hall

Wed, 24 9am Op Shop Sorting in

Vestry

6-11pm New Vogue Dance JH

Thu, 25 10am Yoga Group in DH

4:30pm Church Music Team

Fri, 26 8:30am WW in Dunn Hall

Sat, 27 8am-10:30am WW in Vestry

9am-12noon Op Shop

9am Up Front at Church at

Southside

2pm Friends of Nioka

Remembrance Service

**Sun, 28 9am Worship Service with Mr David Bissett. Sunday School. Australia's Biggest**

**Morning Tea.**

11am Korean Re-born church.

2:30pm Tamworth Choral

Society Concert at Carinya

PAC

Mon, 29 4-5am Wheelie Bean in

Jubilee Kitchen Mon-Fri

9:30am-3pm Kairos Outside

Sewing in Jubilee Hall

10-4pm Op Shop Mon-Fri

10am KYB in St A's Room

1:30pm KYB at 26 Upper St

4-7pm WW in Dunn Hall

5:30pm Dance Group in JH

Tue, 30 9m-2pm Church Office Open

Tue-Fri

9am One Door Mental Health

in St Andrew's Room

10am Pres Bookkeeper

5-8pm WW in Dunn Hall

Wed, 31 9am Op Shop Sorting

6-11pm New Vogue Dance JH

Thu, 1 10am Yoga Group in DH

4:30pm Church Music Team

Fri, 2 8:30am WW in Dunn Hall

10am Craft Group

12noon Lunch & DVD

Sat, 3 8am-10:30am WW in Vestry

9am-12noon Op Shop

**Sun, 4 9am Pentecost Worship Service & HC with Rev Chris Wright. Sunday School.**

**Morning Tea.**

11am Korean Re-born church.



## WELCOME TO TAMWORTH CITY UNITING CHURCH

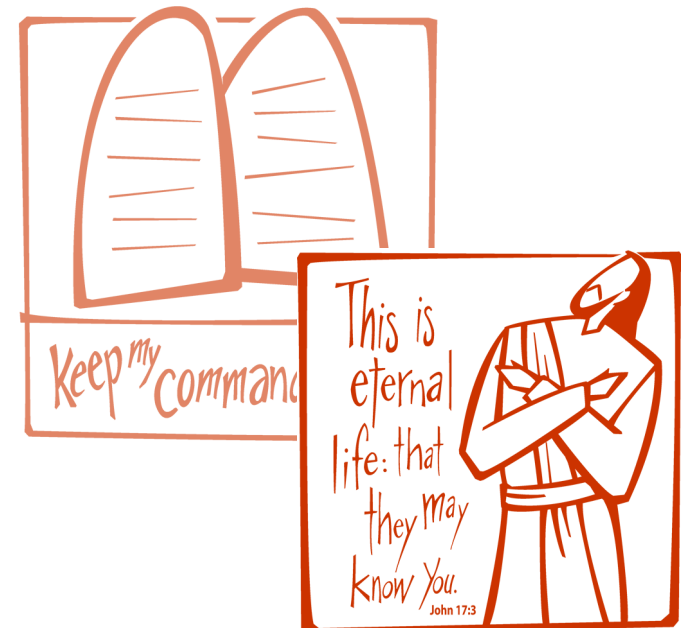
We welcome all those worshipping with us today. Mr Peter Battle will be leading worship this morning. Mr David Bissett will be leading worship on 28th. Please stay for morning tea after worship.

### CONTACT DETAILS:

- **Office:** 144 Marius St, PO Box 501, Tamworth 2340 Ph 02 6766 5311 Fx 02 6766 4390 Email [tcuc@aanet.com.au](mailto:tcuc@aanet.com.au) u Hrs 9am-2pm Tue-Fri

### OTHER USEFUL LOCAL CONTACTS:

- **Southside:** Rev Simon Hansford Mb 0428 416 893 Email [tsucminister@aanet.com.au](mailto:tsucminister@aanet.com.au) Office Ph/Fx 6765 3714 PO Box 5101, South Tamworth 2340 Email [tsucoffice@aanet.com.au](mailto:tsucoffice@aanet.com.au)
- **Peel Valley:** Contact Margaret Crowell Mb 0408 660 025
- **UNITING St Andrew's Village Chaplain** Rev Chris Wright Mb 0427 633 657
- **UNITING Rainbow Cottage** 6766 7655



## FROM REV SIMON HANSFORD

### ON THE DEFENCE...

*Always be ready to make your defence to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. [1 Peter 3.15-16]*

The Easter hope is not only one which announces the wonder of Jesus' death and resurrection, it is a hope which proclaims an entirely new creation. Death is no longer the last word; we have value measured in God's act to save all of us.

This is the hope which empowered the community to which Peter writes; as slaves and persecuted people, justice was often far from them. Who will harm them, asks Peter rhetorically, if they do what is good? He knows the answer, as we do. Unjust masters. A crippled system of governance.

Only a hope which transcends their lives sustained their lives, as it does at this moment for persecuted people in China, the Middle East and South America, as it has for Jesus' disciples throughout history.

How do we bear witness to this hope, in our own community, *with gentleness and reverence*? It's easy to have scripted answers, or formulae. However, to give an account of why we hope, of what sustains us, is neither learnt by rote nor borrowed entirely from another.

We build relationships which create time to talk and listen, to care and to give a full account of why Jesus' death and rising give us hope for this life and for the one which awaits us. We are gentle because we care for those with whom we speak; their worth is declared in the same breath as ours.

Our story is bound entirely - and wonderfully - in the action of God in Jesus; Jesus' resurrection declares that injustice, vengeance, illness and death are not the final words, whatever our life is like now.

Our hope is life, and healing and justice, because of Jesus Christ.

And how shall we tell that story, but with the hope and joy with which it is given to us?

+++++

## SOUTHSIDE SCENE

**Worship:** 9:30am & 5pm Sundays. HC 4th Sunday.

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

**Prayer Meeting:** 3:30pm Tuesdays.

**Worship Planning:** 5:30pm Tuesdays.

**Sheila's Home Group @ Lynn's:** 2pm Wednesdays.

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

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

**Musicians & Media Set-Up:** 5:30pm Fridays.

**Last Friday Family BBQ:** 6:30pm last Friday each Month.

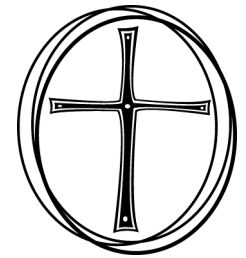
**Men's Breakfast:** 7:30am 1st Saturday each Month.

[www.tamworthsouthside.org.au](http://www.tamworthsouthside.org.au) or

Facebook: Tamworth Southside Uniting Church

*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 & teams, empowered by the Holy Spirit, using our spiritual gifts to serve each other & our community."*



## PEEL VALLEY CONGREGATIONS

**Fri, 19 May**—5:30pm Hallsville Friday Family Service with Rev Simon Hansford.

**Sun, 21 May**—8:30am Gowrie Service with Patrick Johnston, 11am West Tamworth Service with Peter Battle. Trading Table.

**Fri, 26 May**—5:30pm Hallsville Friday Family Church with David Bissett.

**Sun, 28 May**—8am Hallsville Markets, 8:30am Gowrie with Meg Mangan, 11am West Tamworth Service with David Bissett.

**Fri, 2 Jun**—5:30pm Hallsville Friday Family Church with Patrick Johnston.

**Sun, 4 Jun**—8:30am Gowrie & 11am West Tamworth Services with Rob Wood. Lunch after West Tamworth.

**Tue, 6 Jun**—10am Morning Tea @ West.

**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"*

[www.ucapeelvalley.org.au](http://www.ucapeelvalley.org.au)

Pastoral Care: Meg Mangan 0466 337 005

Contact: Margaret Crowell 6760 8323

Preaching: Ross Davidson 6760 8369

Elders: Margaret Crowell, Ross Davidson, Bruce Jarrett, Barbara Murray & Doss Wark.

# PREACHING PLAN

## 28 May 2017— Easter Wk7 Ascension

8:30am Gowrie—Meg Mangan

9am Tamworth City—David Bissett (Eld: M Duns, Dr: R Duns, H McKenzie, B Mills;

AV: J McClelland, Org: R Richardson)

9:30am Southside—Rev Simon Hansford HC

11am West Tamworth—David Bissett

5:30pm Southside—Rev Simon Hansford HC

## 4 June 2017— Pentecost

8:30am Gowrie—Rob Wood

9am Tamworth City—Rev Chris Wright HC (Eld: A Ashworth, E Sheppard, J Carthew, J Archbold, P Battle, Dr: D Miles, F Kerr, S Perkins; AV: A Winter, Org: R Greer)

9:30am Southside—Rev Simon Hansford

11am West Tamworth—R Wood Lunch at West after worship

5:30pm Southside—Rev Simon Hansford



# LECTIONARY READINGS

Sun 21 Psalm 66:8-20\*

Mon 22 Acts 1:1-14

Tue 23 1 Peter 4:1-11

Wed 24 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11\*

Thu 25 Luke 24:44-53

Fri 26 Ephesians 1:15-23

Sat 27 John 17:1-11\*

Sun 28 Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35\*

Mon 29 Numbers 11:24-30

Tue 30 Acts 2:1-21\*

Wed 31 1 Corinthians 12:1-13

Thu 1 1 Corinthians 12:14-26

Fri 2 1 Corinthians 12:27-31

Sat 3 John 20:19-23\*

Sun 4 Psalm 104:24-34, 35b\*

\* Denotes Sunday lectionary readings)

## ON THE TRAIN...

I had a rare, delightful experience this week, on a Sydney train. Usually people sit with their heads down, on their phones, or reading, not making eye contact.

I was in the “dog box” during peak hour and a young mum arrived with her pram, carefully shoehorning her way in. In a blustered moment, a wonderfully assertive lady had made a path for the pram, levered a young man out of his seat for the young mum and was standing, while rocking the pram gently, making conversation.

The dog box slowly lifted their various heads. We discovered that the young mum is French, her seat neighbours from variously Indian, Vietnamese and Anglo backgrounds.

The baby had been rocked to sleep.

Our MC was Anglo and a foster mother of eighteen different children over the years; on the other side of the carriage was a Chinese woman, watching cautiously at the beginning, a Pakistani lady, and a man who revealed that he was Persian, telling us he had been in the country less than twelve months. He chuckled at the liveliness of our conversation.

There was a man singing - sort of - further down the train. No one minded.

We talked about babies, travel (“people overseas like us Aussies”, said the Indian grandma, in her splendidly accented pronunciation) and, briefly, about our background.

Then the train stopped at the necessary station, and most of my new friends alighted.

Another mum with a pram arrived. Another baby, at whom I smiled, held her hand momentarily, and then it was my station.

I smiled again at the baby and towards her doting, Asian mum (who smiled back) and left.

A wonderful day in Australia.

\*\*\*\*\*



## All of this is us



**40 days of prayer from the Assembly to mark our 40th Anniversary.**

**WEEK TWO**

Sunday, 21 May 2017 - WCC Global Day of Prayer to End Famine / Prayer for the work of Uniting World,

the Presbyterian Church of South Sudan, and UCA South Sudanese faith communities.

The World Council of Churches (WCC) and the All Africa Conference of Churches have asked member churches to observe a Global Day of Prayer to End Famine.

This prayer is offered by Rob Floyd, National Director of UnitingWorld.

Loving God, Jesus taught us to pray, "Give us today our daily bread" we acknowledge that all good gifts come from your generous hands.

We thank you for the blessings of food, water, shelter, family and well-being. As we enjoy healthy food, we know that this abundance is not shared equally among us. While some are satisfied, others are starving. We think of people who struggle to feed their families every day. As we say "Give us today our daily bread" we pray also for the millions who go hungry every day.

Lord Jesus, On this day that our sisters and brothers in Christ around the world are joined in prayer to end famine, we remember how you fed the hungry. Inspire us to follow your example, showing compassion in action and sharing what we have with people who have less. Give us the courage and determination to speak out about the systems in our world that perpetuate injustice and inequality, poverty and hunger.

We pray for the work of UnitingWorld and the overseas church partners of the Uniting Church in Australia. Many of our partner churches are located in places where their communities are subject to great hardship and shortages of the basics of life. Particularly today we join with our African brothers and sisters, once more facing famine on their continent.

We pray for the people of South Sudan and our partner the Presbyterian Church of South Sudan. Bless them as they care for their people and as they work to feed the growing number in their communities facing starvation.

We pray too for the South Sudanese communities in Australia, whose hearts ache for their relatives and friends in their homeland as they endure the miseries of famine and conflict.

Loving God, You care for all people. Help us to remember your command to love one another. Help us to see you in each of our brothers and sisters— especially those who are in need. You are the Bread of Life. Strengthen us as we work for justice in the world. **Amen**



# PRAYERS

## Prayer Focus—Tamworth City

21/5: Today we focus on Children's Ministry; Christian Education, Scripture in Schools, Sunday School, Families and Youth, Mission Outreach and Rainbow Cottage. Please uphold these in your private prayers during the week.

28/5: Today we focus on Pastoral Partners, Elders, St Andrew's Village, Fellowship Committee, Hospital Visitation and Opportunity Shop. Please uphold these in your private prayers during the week.

## Prayer Diary—Tamworth Churches

21/5: This week we pray for the leaders and activities of the Church on the Way, Salvation Army, Roman Catholic Churches, The Father's House, Trinity Church, Tamworth City UC and Tamworth Southside UC.

28/5: This week we pray for the leaders and activities of the Peel Valley UC, Hope of Glory Church, Carinya Christian School, Moonbi/Kootingal Anglican Church, the Baptist Church and the C3 Church..

## Presbytery Prayer Points

Keep in your prayers our New England North West Presbytery as we seek God's wisdom and guidance for leadership and support for our congregations.

## Ecumenical Prayer Calendar

21/5: Keep the people of Kenya and Tanzania in your prayers this week.

28/5: Keep the people of Malawi and Zambia in your prayers this week.

## Scripture in Schools

Keep in your prayers the Tamworth Secondary Christian Education Teachers from around our High Schools (Andrew Wilcher & Ross Fotheringham—Farrer volunteers, Belinda Gonsalves—Oxley 3 days, Alison Holder—Peel/Manilla 2 days, and Dave Tankard—Tamworth 2 days). Pray for peaceful & learning-centred classrooms as we work together this term.

## 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 7777.

### **Friends of Nioka**

Meeting in the St Andrew's Room from 7pm on Tuesday, 6 June.

### **City Property Committee**

Meeting in the St Andrew's Room from 4:30pm on Wednesday, 7 June.

### **Senior's Communion**

Our monthly Senior's Communion will be held on Friday, 9 June from 10am in the St Andrew's Village Community Hall with Rev Simon Hansford.

### **Private Function**

Jubilee Hall on Saturday, 10 June from 9am-2:30pm.

### **Cake Stall at Bunnings**

Don't forget our next Cake Stall will be on Saturday, 10 June at Bunnings. Please talk to Annette Winter if you can help.

### **Worship on Sunday, 11 June 2017—Trinity Sunday**

9am Worship service with Rev Tony Winter. NO Sunday School. Morning tea to follow.

### **Queen's Birthday Holiday**

Public Holiday on Monday, 12 June.

### **Diary Dates**

UCA 40th Anniversary Celebrations:

- Thursday, 22nd June 7pm Celebration of worship in the Town Hall
- Friday, 23 June 6pm Up Close & Personal Carter & Carter Concert at Tamworth Southside Uniting Church. Tickets now available from the Church Office.
- Saturday, 24 June 2pm Family Concert with Carter & Carter at Tamworth Southside Uniting Church. Tickets now available from the Church Office.
- Sunday, 25 June 9am Sunday Worship with Carter & Carter here

Bus Tour—you are invited to join the Lower Murray River Tour 2-10 September organised by the UCA Murray Darling Basin Group. Brochures available in the rear desk.

## **TODAY'S INFORMATION**

### **Worship on Sunday, 21 May 2017—Easter Week 6**

9am Worship service with Peter Battle. Sunday School. Morning tea.

### **Korean Reborn Church**

11:30am Sundays for worship and then the St Andrew's Room for lunch.

### **Private Function**

Tamworth Legacy will hold their annual Soup & Damper Lunch in Jubilee Hall on Sunday, 21 May. The Korean Church will join us in the St Andrew's Room for lunch on that day.

### **FETE! FETE! FETE!**

The most takings were in the fellowship stakes! Net total \$6,6434. Breakdown: Flowers \$274, Bric-a-brac \$711, Gardening \$655, Barbecue \$263, Cakes \$1,009, Sweets/Jams/Pickles \$1,265, Craft \$564, Devonshire Tea \$327, Dessert \$395, Face Painting/Toys \$97, Guessing Competition \$84, Produce \$382, Antiques/Collectables \$1,200. *Approx figures only.*

### **Get Your Tickets Now!**

Don't miss out! Buy your tickets for the Carter & Carter Up Close & Personal Concert \$40 or the Carter & Carter Family Concert \$20 from the Church Office now! Part of our 40th Anniversary of UCA.

### **Thank You**

Barb McLean would like to extend a special thank you to everyone for their prayers and support during her time away.

### **Frontier News**

May Issue OUT NOW—Labour of Love, Live on the South West Queensland plains.

## **THIS WEEK'S EVENTS**

### **KYB Study Groups**

Two groups meeting on Mondays, one at 10am in the St Andrew's Room (contact Betty Keys 6766 6624), one at 1:30pm at 26 Upper Street (contact Lorraine Turner 6766 6891).

### **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 Furze (0401 762 463) or Judy Phillips (0418 662 081).

### **Church Office**

I'm sorry the office will be closed this week 23-26 May. Back to regular hours from 30th 9am-2pm Tuesdays to Fridays. All property bookings through the office. *Nicolette*

### **Bereavement Support Group**

Meeting in the St Andrew's Room on Tuesday, 23 May from 10am.

### **Op Shop Working Bee**

Held each Wednesday in the Vestry/Shed. All helpers welcome. Lots of chit-chat with your hard work and then a cuppa! Come and join us.

### **National Sorry Day**

Friday, 26 May 2017.

### **Up Front at Church Workshop**

Rev Simon Hansford is running an Up Front at Church workshop to learn about reading and presenting in worship on Saturday, 27 May from 9am-12noon. Learn some practical skills on being up front in worship essentially bible reading, leading prayers and standing in front of people. \$10/head.

Register with the office.

### **Friends of Nioka Remembrance Service**

Rev Tony Winter will lead the annual Friends of Nioka Remembrance Service on Saturday, 27 May from 2pm in the Church followed by afternoon tea in the St Andrew's Room.

## **NEXT WEEK & BEYOND**

### **Worship on Sunday, 28 May 2017—Ascension Sunday**

9am Worship service with Mr David Bissett. Start of Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Sunday School. Australia's Biggest Morning tea to follow.



### **Australia's Biggest Morning Tea**

Make a generous donation at morning tea after worship on Sunday, 28 May. All funds will be going to the Australia's Biggest Morning Tea fundraiser.

### **Tamworth Choral Society Concert**

4 Seasons & A Boat! Delightful music of the seasons and songs of the sea with afternoon tea on Sunday, 28 May from 2:30pm in the Carinya PAC. Tickets from members or at the door: \$15/head or \$30/family.

### **Church Office**

Regular hours 9am-2pm Tuesdays to Fridays. All property bookings through the office. *Nicolette*

### **One Door Mental Health Launch**

Mental Health Carer Services are launching their new One Door service on Tuesday, 30 May from 9am in the St Andrew's Room.

### **Craft Group**

Craft Group is held on the first and third Friday each month. Bring along your craft and we'll share in some chit chat, morning tea and get a bit of craft done too. Contact Lorraine Turner 6766 6891. Next on 2 June.

### **Lunch & DVD**

Our monthly Lunch & DVD is back on Friday, 2nd in the St Andrew's Room from 12noon. \$5/head for lunch. All welcome.

### **Worship on Sunday, 4 June 2017—Pentecost Sunday**

9am Worship service and Holy Communion with Rev Chris Wright. Please wear something red! Sunday School. Morning tea to follow.

### **One Door Mental Health**

Carer Assist Workshop in St Andrew's Room on 5, 19 & 26 June 9am-12noon. KYB have kindly offered to meet in Vestry for these Mondays.

### **Meals on Wheels Kitchen Roster**

Our next rostered day is Tuesday, 6 June from 8am.

### **City Adult Fellowship**

Our next monthly get-together will be on Tuesday, 6 June. Join us for a cuppa at 9:30am followed by our meeting in St Andrew's Room. All welcome.