

Diary Dates

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

**Mon, 27 9:30am Kairos Sewing JH
10am-4pm Op Shop M-F
10am-2pm UNITING StAR
5:30-8pm New Vogue JH**

**Tue, 28 9am-2pm Church Office T-F
9:30am LLine Dancers JH
10am-1pm Pres Bkeep**

**Wed, 29 9am Op Shop Sorting
4:15pm Young Families Support Group
6-9:30pm New Vogue JH
6-7pm Meditation in Church**

**Thu, 30 8:30am Early Risers Prayer
9:30am Stepping Stones DH
4:30pm Church Music
5:30pm Aikido Karate in JH**

Fri, 31 8:30am Social Craft Grp DH

**Sat, 1 9am Maggs Funeral
9am-12noon Op Shop**
**Sun, 2 9am Tamworth City Holy Communion Worship Service with Rev Chris Wright. Food Hamper Sunday. NO S/School. Australia's Biggest Morning Tea.
11:30am Korean Reborn Church & Lunch
3pm Bec's Emmaus Gpr in St Andrew's Room
5pm Northwest Church Opening and barbecue**



Preaching Plan

Sunday, 2 June—Easter 7

9am Tamworth City—Rev Chris Wright, HC, E:R Hely, R & M Duns, P Turner, P Battle, D:J Crosling, E Fairall, G Chaffey, PP: J Carthew, O: R Greer.
9:30 Tamworth Southside Service
11am West Tamworth Service and Lunch
5:30pm Tamworth Southside Service



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

Welcome to Tamworth City Uniting Church

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We welcome all those worshipping with us today. Rev Chris Wright and Pastor Daniel Choi will be leading our combined service . Please stay for a chat and shared lunch afterwards.



Seasons of the Spirit

Easter 6—The Power of Listening

Readings

Acts 16:9–15; Psalm 67; Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5 and John 14:23–29 or John 5:1–9.

Prayer

Gracious God, Welcoming Christ, Empowering Spirit: stir the waters by which we gather. In the ways you receive us, teach us how to receive others. In the grace with which you create a home for us, may we be bold to practice hospitality. Amen.

Reflection

Lydia is a listener who welcomes the gospel's message and the transforming power of the Spirit that brings Paul to her. Lydia's baptism christens mutuality of ministry. Waters of life wash through all the readings today; inviting love, making persons whole, and imparting holy presence and peace.

Biblical Background

Acts 16:9–15 reminds us that the Spirit of God is never limited by traditional sources of power in order to bring about change and transformation. Prior to his conversion, Paul operated out of the imperial model of power, using violence when deemed necessary to maintain control and reinforce the authority of religious and political leaders. As a result of his Damascus road experience, Paul discovered a power that systems of domination were simply unable to comprehend. Rather than change through coercion, the power made evident through the Spirit of God brought change through the simple act of listening.

Listening to the Spirit, Paul let go of his original plans and headed to Philippi in Macedonia. Philippi is named after the father of Alexander the Great, who brought Greek culture and language to the region through the power of military might. Macedonia is also the first known place to which this counter gospel of good news takes root in Europe, confronting the power of the sword with the Spirit's power of listening. Arriving in Philippi, Paul encounters a group of women at a riverside place of prayer that is just outside the city gate. In this place of deep listening, Paul ignores patriarchal norms by engaging in conversation with the women. Among the women is

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.



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,*

Peel Valley Congregations

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

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

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

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

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

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.



What's the Word?

In the spaces provided, fill in the first letter of each picture clue.

Psalm 74:17*

A= Apple **B=** Banana **C=** Carrot **D=** Daisy **E=** Egg **F=** Flower **G=** Grape **H=** Hat **I=** Ice cream **J=** Jelly **K=** Kite **L=** Lemon **M=** Monkey
N= Nail **O=** Orange **P=** Pumpkin **Q=** Queen **R=** Rabbit **S=** Sailboat **T=** Tea **U=** Umbrella **V=** Vase **W=** Wine **X=** X-ray **Y=** Yo-yo **Z=** Zebra

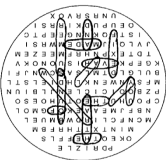
*In the northern hemisphere winter has ended and it is spring.
 In the southern hemisphere it is fall and winter will be coming soon.

Answer: You have fixed all the bounds of the earth.
 -writer- you made summer and winter.

Word Find

In this word find, circle the words from the sentence above (from Psalm 74:17).

Answer:



Lectionary Readings

Sun	26	Psalm 67*	Fri	31	Acts 16:16-34*
Mon	27	Revelation 22:12-21	Sat	1	John 17:20-26*
Tue	28	Psalm 47	Sun	2	Psalm 97*
Wed	29	Luke 24:44-53	* Denotes Sunday lectionary readings		
Thu	30	Acts 1:1-11			

Lydia, a worshipper of God or God worshipper, a title given to Gentiles who were attracted to Jewish worship and scripture.

Lydia is an independent woman – “a dealer in purple fabric,” an extravagant material affordable to only the wealthiest. She is the head of her own household. While engaged in worship, prayer, and conversation with Paul, “God opens her heart to listen eagerly to what was said.” It would be a mistake to characterize the power of listening to the Spirit as a passive enterprise. On the contrary, we are told that after Lydia and her household are baptized, Lydia again takes charge, prevailing upon Paul and Silas to stay at her home. The transformative power of the Spirit has now established a foothold in this Roman colony, developing a congregation that will remain a source of joy and support for Paul throughout his ministry.

The call to praise in Psalm 67 makes clear the universality of God’s graciousness that extends far beyond Israel and summons all nations and peoples of the world. Creation itself is both a part of God’s blessings “yielding its increase” and also joins in the song of praise “to the ends of the earth.” Singing God’s praise is born out of experiencing the saving power found in God’s way of justice and compassion.

Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5, reminds us how vision is central to the transforming power of God’s spirit. The Spirit invites us into a vision of the heavenly Jerusalem, a place for all people and all nations, whose lamp is not the violence of empire, but the sacrificial compassion of the Lamb.

John 14:23–29 narrates Jesus’ promise of the Spirit to dwell with the disciples. On the eve of his death, the words blend comfort and the gift of peace along with the urging of faith expressed in love. John 5:1–9 relates the Sabbath healing of an invalid beside the pool of Bethzatha (Bethesda) in Jerusalem. New life finally comes to one who had been unable to find healing here before.

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“Eager listening” may not be the order of the day in conversations between partisan factions, whether in the body politic or even in the Body of Christ. But God is about transforming “nothing new under the sun” by those willing to welcome fresh possibilities, new directions, and unexpected ones. Paul follows the lead of nothing more and nothing less than a vision. Lydia opens her heart and then her home. This week’s reading from the book of Acts invites us to reflect on our own experiences of hearing and responding to the good news of this season.



Today's Information

Worship on Sunday, 26 May

10:30am Combined Worship Service with Rev Chris Wright and the Korean Reborn Church. Combined Lunch to follow in Dunn Hall.

Sympathy

We express our deepest sympathies to Kath Vines, family and friends following the death of Dr Peter Vines this week. We keep you in our prayers. The funeral will be held this week.

Also we extend our sympathies to the family of Les Maggs who passed away.

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.

Background: In 1633, the residents of Oberammergau, Bavaria, Germany, vowed that if God spared them from the bubonic plague ravaging the region, they would produce a play thereafter for all time every 10 years depicting the life and death of Jesus. The death rate among adults had risen from one person per 1000 per year in October 1632 to twenty in the month of March 1633. After their vow, the adult death rate slowly subsided to one in the month of July 1633. The villagers believed they had been spared and thus kept their part of the vow when the play was first performed in 1634.

The play is now performed repeatedly over the course of five months during every year ending in zero. 102 performances took place from 15 May until 3 October 2010 and is next scheduled for 2020. The production involves over 2,000 performers, musicians and stage technicians, all residents of the village. The play comprises spoken dramatic text, musical and choral accompaniment and *tableaux vivants*, which are scenes from the Old Testament depicted for the audience by motionless actors accompanied by verbal description. These scenes are the basis for the typology, the interrelationship between the Old and New Testaments, of the play.

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



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 been an aged care chaplain for 10yrs serving residents who live in independent living, hostel, nursing home and dementia-specific accommodation. In his ministry, he aims to help people "to live well and die well". \$10/head including morning tea. RSVP by Monday, 10 June to Jennifer 6761 7366 or Southside Office 6765 3714.

Worship on Sunday, 16 June

9am Worship service with Rev Chris Wright. Trinity Sunday. 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.

Diary Dates to Note

- 16th 2:30pm Catherine Hamlyn Movie & afternoon tea
- 18th 2pm Senior's Getting Together Fellowship
- 19th 3pm Pastoral Partners
- 22nd UCA 42nd Anniversary

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 the Botswana and Zimbabwe in your prayers this week.

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 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

Will be held in the Uniting St Andrew's Village Community Hall on Friday, 14 June from 10am. Contact Barb McLean for transport 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.

Cats for Company

Are you interested in having a cat (or two) aged 2yrs (grey) or 3yrs (ginger) needing rehousing. Both cats are house trained, de-sexed, vaccinated and microchipped. Please talk to Judy Carthew 0407 467 678.

Doing It For Our Farmers

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

Fete Raffle Winners

1st Prize (girls training bicycle) Alison Hickson; 1st Prize (boys training bicycle) Bec Wright; 2nd Prize (\$50 Squareman Inn Voucher) Sandra Schneider; 3rd Prize (Succulent Planter by 'a Dash of Green') Cecilia; 4th Prize (hand made blanket) Gwen Chaffey. Congratulations.

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).

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. Please note that the office will be closed 4-7 June. *Nicolette*.

Locomotive Line Dancing

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

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.

Young Families Worker Support Group

Meeting in the Wesley Room on Wednesday, 29 May from 4:15pm.

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.

Young Families Worker Support Group

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

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.

Next Week & Beyond

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. 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.

Church Office Closed

2-4 June, Nicolette will be on leave.

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

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.

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.