

Diary Dates

Sun, 12 9am Worship Service with Rev Chris Wright. Sunday School. Congregational Meeting. Morning Tea. 11:30am Korean Reborn Church service & lunch

**Mon, 13 4-5am Wheely Bean—JH Kitchen M-F
8am Police Training Days Mon-Fri 8am-4pm in St AR
9:30am-3pm Kairos Outside Sewing Group in Jubilee HI
10am-4pm Op Shop Mon-Fri
10am KYB in St Andrew's Rm
12noon Op Shop Lunch at Squareman Inn
1:30pm KYB at 26 Upper St
4pm Weight W in DH
5:30pm New V. Dance in JH**

**Tue, 14 9-2 Church Office Open T-F
10am Pres. Bookkeeper
4:30pm Elder's Fellowship in St Andrew's Room
5pm Weight Watchers DH**

Wed, 15 9am Op Shop Working Bee

**Thu, 16 6pm New Vogue Dance JH
4pm Church Music Team
Fri, 17 8:30am Weight W. DH
10am Craft Group in the St Andrew's Room**

**7pm Men's Dinner at Gregory's on G'Goonoo
Sat, 18 8am Weight Watchers DH
9am-12noon Op Shop
9:30am Kairos Outside Gathering in St Andrew's Room
4pm-Midnight Private Function in Jubilee Hall**

**Sun, 19 9am Worship Service with Rev Chris Wright. Mission Envelopes. Sunday School. Morning Tea.
11am West Tamworth—Rev Chris Wright
11:30am Korean Reborn Church service & lunch
3pm Combined Churches Choir practice at St John's**

Preaching Plan

Sunday, 19 November 2017

**8:30am Gowrie—Meg Mangan
9am Tamworth City—Rev Chris Wright E: A Ashworth, D: R M Partridge, H McKenzie, S Hardin, AV: J Carthew, O: R Cathcart.
9:30am Tamworth Southside—Mr Rob Wood HC
11am West Tamworth—Rev Chris Wright
5pm Tamworth Southside—Mr Rob Wood HC**

"Alive in Christ, Serving God, Empowered by the Spirit" 12



Contact Details:

- **Minister:** Rev Chris Wright Ph 0427 633 657 Email chris@thewrights.com.au
- **Office:** 144 Marius St, PO Box 501, Tamworth 2340 Ph 02 6766 5311 Fx 02 6766 4390 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@aanet.com.au
- **Southside Lay Ministry Worker:** Suzanne Holloway 0438 608 373
- **Peel Valley:** Margaret Crowell Mb 0408 660 025
- **UNITING St Andrew's Village** 1800 864 846 Pastoral Care Practitioner Galina Newcombe 0417 830 662
- **UNITING Rainbow Cottage** 6766 7655 Sharn Mason

Welcome to Tamworth City Uniting Church

We welcome all those worshipping with us today. Rev Chris Wright will be leading Worship. Our annual congregational meeting will follow worship. Please stay for a chat and morning tea afterwards.



"Alive in Christ, Serving God, Empowered by the Spirit" 1

Sacredise

Thought for the Week:

Hope has tremendous power to sustain and strengthen us, especially in the most difficult of times. But when our hope is not realised, or when we discover that we have placed our hope in the wrong things, it can be devastating. This is why the Bible calls hope one of the big three characteristics of those who follow Jesus, but it also teaches that we must be careful where we place our hope.

If our hope is in other human beings, or in social and political structures, or in our bank accounts, we will usually be disappointed. These things are not necessarily bad, but they are incapable of sustaining true hope because they do not last and they are fickle. What we need is an object of hope that can remain firm and that can strengthen us even if we know that we may not see our hope fulfilled. When our hope is in something so compelling, so true and good and beautiful, so obviously worthy, our lives find a source of meaning and strength that can carry us for a lifetime. This is because we know that every small step toward that hope is significant, even the full realisation of our hope may only be seen in future generations. This is what God's Reign is like. It offers a vision of a world that is healed and just, and while we may not experience such a world in our lifetimes, it is worth giving our lives to help humanity make a few small steps toward it.

This week we explore the power of hope, and the vision of God which is the only thing that is truly worthy of our hope.

Reading: Matthew 25:1-13

Reflection:

The parable of the ten bridesmaids (or virgins, as some translations put it) follows on from Jesus' teaching in Chapter 24 about a coming time of strife. His call is for his followers to be ready for his coming in the midst of their suffering. But, the essence of readiness is being prepared to wait for as long as it takes. Five of the bridesmaids did not bring sufficient oil to keep their lamps burning until the groom arrived, and so missed the groom's arrival as they went off to buy more oil. The other five did bring extra oil, and so when the groom arrived they were able to enter the wedding feast.

Southside Scene

Worship: 9:30am & 5pm Sundays.
HC 3rd Sunday.

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

Prayer Meeting: 3:30pm Tuesdays.

Worship Planning: 5:30pm Tuesdays.

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

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

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

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



Peel Valley Congregations

Fri, 10 Nov—No Hallsville Service.

Sun, 12 Nov—11am Combined Peel
Valley Service at Gowrie with Evelyn
Keane. Congregational AGM and
lunch to follow.

Thu, 16 Nov—2:30-4pm Peel Valley
Bible Study at West Tamworth.

Fri, 17 Nov—6pm Hallsville Friday
Family Church with Meg Mangan.

Sun, 19 Nov—8:30am Gowrie Service
with Meg Mangan and 11am West
Tamworth Service with Rev Chris
Wright. Trading Table.

Tue, 21 Nov—10am Memory Lane

Morning Tea at West Tamworth
Church. Join us for a cuppa, meet
new friends, singalong, activities, &
more. 1st & 3rd Tuesdays monthly.

GOWRIE, HALLSVILLE & WEST TAMWORTH CONGREGATIONS

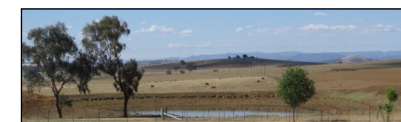
*Our Goal "To be transformed communities,
experiencing, enjoying & sharing the gift of
the friendship of Jesus."*

Mission "Called to be Free, Gifted to Serve"

Pastoral Care: Meg Mangan 0466 337 005

Contact: Margaret Crowell 6760 8323

Preaching: Ross Davidson 6760 8369



Prayer Diary—Tamworth Churches

This week we pray for the leaders and activities of the Hospital Chaplain, St Paul's Anglican Church, Harvest Church, Liberty Church, Calrossy School, St Peter's Anglican Church and the St Stephen's Presbyterian Church .

Presbytery Prayer Points

Pray for the various outreach programs in this Advent Season. Connecting with our local communities and sharing God's love and abundant grace.

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).

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.

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.

Maintenance Items

Hospital Visit

Are you scheduled to go into hospital? If so, you need to let us know if you want visitors (your Pastoral Partner, an Elder, or the Office). The current system at the Hospitals does not allow us access to this information easily.

Lectionary Readings

Sun	5	Matthew 23:1-12*	Fri	10	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18*
Mon	6	Hebrews 11:29-40			
Tue	7	Hebrews 12:1-6, 12-15	Sat	11	Matthew 25:1-13*
Wed	8	Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25*	Sun	12	Psalm 78:1-8*
Thu	9	2 Thessalonians 3			* Denotes Sunday lectionary readings

In the terms of Jesus' parable, the five prepared bridesmaids illustrate those who have what it takes to remain strong and faithful no matter what. And what they have that sustains them is hope.

In Christian terms our hope is always based in God's dream. The Bible teaches that God is working in the world to bring about justice and love, and to bring the entire cosmos into unity and wholeness in Christ. This is a profound and exciting vision, and it is the only source of hope that is strong enough to sustain us in the face of this world's struggles. But, if we allow the



brokenness of this world to loom larger in our hearts than God's Reign, our hope will fade, and we will be unable to remain faithful to Jesus' way of living. That's why we need the extra oil of nurturing our hope in God's Reign.

How can you nurture your hope today?

Practice for Today:

While we trust that life does not end with death, our Christian hope is far bigger than merely a personal escape to some otherworldly heaven. Our hope is in a universe that is healed and united in the grace and love of God, and that has become so transformed as to be eternal. The name we give this is "the kingdom of God", and it is the central message of the Bible. Today, spend time reflecting on the Scriptures and their vision of God's Reign.

Breath-Prayer for Today:

As I read the Bible, O God, open my heart to your vision of a healed and united universe.

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Association of Independent Retirees

Meeting in the St Andrew's Room on 21 November from 9am.

Senior's Getting Together Fellowship

Christmas Lunch on Tuesday, 21 November 12noon for 12:30pm start at Hallsville Uniting Church, with the Red Cross catering. A lovely afternoon.

Congregational Christmas Lunch

Make sure you book in for our annual Congregational Christmas Lunch on Saturday, 25 at Carmen's. Let Rob & Mariette know you will be there.

Worship on Sunday, 26 November 2017—Christ the King

Worship service with Rev Chris Wright. Sunday School. Morning Tea in the St Andrew's Room.

Bereavement Support Group

Meeting in the St Andrew's Room on Tuesday, 28 November from 10am.

Craft Group

The 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 1 December.

Lunch & DVD

It's come around quickly, our last Lunch & DVD for 2017. Join us on Friday, 1 December from 12noon for lunch & DVD in the St Andrew's Room. Gold coin donation for lunch. Contact Jim & Lorraine Furze 6761 7371.

Private Function

Using our Jubilee Hall on Saturday, 2 December from 2-10pm.

Bendemeer UCA 150th Anniversary Celebrations

Join the Bendemeer Community in celebrating 150years of the Uniting Church in Bendemeer on Saturday, 2 December from 6pm. Everyone's most welcome to join in.

Today's Information

Worship on Sunday, 12 November 2017

Worship service with Rev Chris Wright. Sunday School. Congregational AGM after worship. Morning Tea in the St Andrew's Room.

Congregational AGM

The meeting will be directly at the end of worship today. Church Council nominees: Fran Kerr, Heather McKenzie, Dorothy Miles, Sandra Perkins, Judy Phillips, Les Rae, Paul Turner, Annette Winter and Tony Winter.

Korean Reborn Church

11:30am Sundays for worship and then the Jubilee Kitchen for lunch.

Sympathy

We extend our to the family and friends of Ruth Munro and Nancey Porter who passed away over the past week. Our prayers are with you.

Water! Water! NO Water!

We have capped the old rusted water line to the Church for the time being. All water will need to be accessed from the St Andrew's Room.

Mission Envelopes

Mission Envelopes focus for October and November 2017. Supporting another Joy Balazo project at the Peace Village in the Philippines. Looking to raise over \$1,000 to buy 100 Poultry Layers. Please give generously. Envelopes can be left on the plate each Sunday.

This Week's Events

Police Staff Training

Workshops will be held in the St Andrew's Room all week. Monday to Friday 13-17 November from 8am-4pm. There will be no access to the St Andrew's Room on these days.

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).

KYB Study Groups

Groups meet at 10am in the St Andrew's Room (Betty keys 6766 6624), or at 1:30pm at 26 Upper Street (Lorraine Turner 6766 6891).

Op Shop Christmas Lunch

Don't forget to book in at the office for our Op Shop Christmas Lunch on Monday, 13 November from 12noon at the Squareman Inn. Cost will be \$15.

Church Office

Regular hours 9am-2pm Tuesdays to Fridays. *Nicolette*

Elders Fellowship

Our next get together will be on Tuesday, 14 November from 4:30pm in the St Andrew's Room.

Op Shop Working Bee

Sorting each Wednesday in the Vestry. Lots of chit-chat with your hard work and then a cuppa! Morning tea in the Office. All helpers welcome.

Craft Group

The 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 17 November.

New Men's Group

A combined churches Men's Ministry Dinner at Gregory's on Goonoo Goonoo, 17 November from 7pm. Cost \$25/head. Guest speaker Mike Spencer, "One People, One Destiny". Contact Tony Richardson 0401 418 864

Kairos Outside

Keep in your prayers those leading and attending on 18/19 November.

Private Function

Jubilee Hall from 4pm on Saturday, 18 November.

Next Week & Beyond

Worship on Sunday, 19 November 2017

Worship service with Rev Chris Wright. Sunday School. Mission Envelope Sunday. Morning Tea in the St Andrew's Room. 11 West Tamworth for Rev Chris Wright.

Combined Churches Choir

In preparation for the Carols in the Park there will be a Combined Churches Choir practice on Sundays 19 & 26 November and 3 & 10 December 3-4pm at St John's. All welcome.

One Door Mental Health—Workshop

Meeting in the St Andrew's Room on Monday, 20 November 9am-12noon.

Christmas Appeal Launch

Monday, 20 November at 10am in our local Target Store. Join the fun... Come and sing, share a friendly hello to those passing by...

UnitingCare Target Christmas Appeal

We have been working hard since 1999 to make Christmas a little easier for those who are struggling in our community. You can get involved by coming to the launch on 20 November at Target or donating wrapping items of sticky take and paper or donate a gift or buy a bauble at Target or make a financial donation to the appeal or help out on Sunday, 17 with food hampers, Monday, 18 with gift sorting and wrapping. Distribution will be on Wednesday, 20 December. Thank you for your valuable support during this busy time.

Meals on Wheels Kitchen Roster

Our next rostered day will be Tuesday, 21 November from 8am.