

# Diary Dates

**Sun, 17 9am Worship Service with Rev Chris Wright. Sunday School. Retiring Offering to Frontier Services. Sausage Sizzle & Morning Tea.**

11am West Tamworth  
11:30am Korean Reborn Church service & lunch

**Mon, 18 4-5am Wheely Bean— Jubilee Kitchen Mon-Fri 9:30am-3pm Kairos Outside Sewing Group in Jubilee H 10am-4pm Opportunity Shop Mondays-Fridays 10am KYB in StARoom 1:30pm KYB at 26 Upper St 4pm Weight Watchers DH 5:30pm New V. Dance JH**

**Tue, 19 9am-2pm Church Office Tuesday-Friday 9am Assn Independent Retirees in St Andrew's Rm 10am Pres. Bookkeeper**

2pm Senior's Getting Together at Village Hall  
5pm Weight Watchers DH  
**Wed, 20 9am Op Shop Working Bee 6pm New Vogue Dance JH**

**Thu, 21 9:30am Yoga in Dunn Hall 4pm Church Music Team**

**Fri, 22 8:30am Weight W. DH Last day term 3**

**Sat, 23 8am Weight Watchers DH 9am-12noon Op Shop 9am AngliCare Skills for the Road Ahead**

**Sun, 24 9am Worship Service with Rev Chris Wright. Baptism. Morning Tea.**

11:30am Korean Reborn Church service & lunch  
2:30pm Choral Society  
"Songs to Die For" at Carinya

# Preaching Plan

**Sunday, 24 September 2017**

8am Hallsville Markets  
8:30am Gowrie—Evelyn Keane  
9am Tamworth City—Rev Chris Wright—Baptism (M Hobson)—E:B McLean—D: R & P Pryor, J Crosling—AV: J McClelland, O: R Greer.  
9:30am Tamworth Southside—S Holloway  
11am West Tamworth—E Keane  
5pm Tamworth Southside—S Holloway



Give with your whole heart.



**Sunday, 17 September 2017**

# Welcome to Tamworth City Uniting Church

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

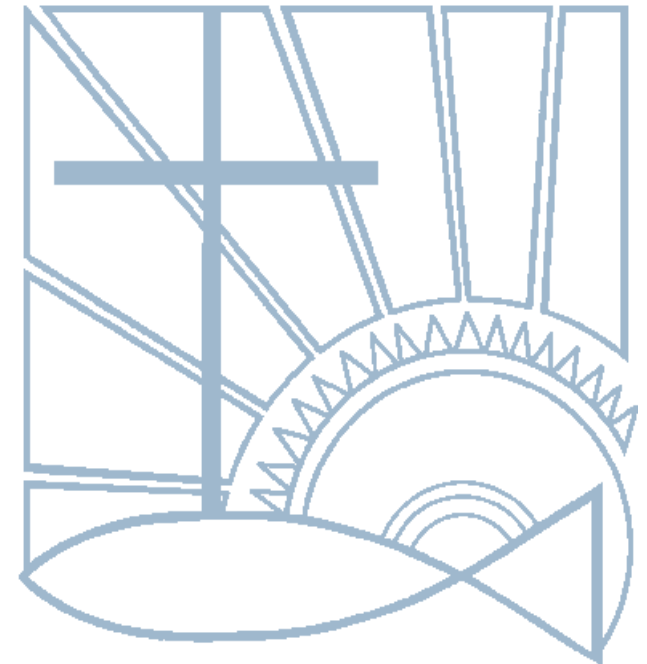
## Contact Details:

- **Minister:** Rev Chris Wright Ph 0427 633 657 Email [chris@thewrights.com.au](mailto: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](mailto: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 [tsuoffice@aanet.com.au](mailto:tsuoffice@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



# Sacredise Daily Worship

## Thought for the Week

God's gift of forgiveness is priceless and life-giving. But, somehow living up to what we say is a lot harder. While we may acknowledge that God forgives us, we often struggle to forgive ourselves. And, while we may acknowledge that God forgives those who have hurt us, we often find it very difficult to extend forgiveness to others. We define justice largely in terms of retribution, and so we feel that forgiveness lets the perpetrator off the hook. We have also learned that our pain can give us a sense of power, and so we become reluctant to release our hurts and move on. Yet, while we nurse our wounds, the ones against whom we hold our grudges often continue with their lives, unaware of our anger and unaffected by our unforgiveness. In the end, the only ones we hurt are ourselves.

But, the call to forgive goes even deeper. The word for forgiveness is related, in the Gospels, to the idea of indebtedness. There is a direct correlation between owing a financial debt and needing forgiveness. Yet, the idea of indebtedness goes deeper still. As followers of Christ we are called to live with a continual sense of indebtedness toward others. We are always to feel that we owe our friends, our neighbours, and even our enemies, the debt of love. And it is this awareness of the love we owe to all people that should direct us to forgive whatever debts they may owe us, or whatever hurts they may have inflicted on us. The challenge is to believe that it is the restorative justice of love that truly leads to life.

This week we meditate on God's forgiveness and the call for us to be people of forgiveness.

### Reading Matthew 18:21-35 (NRSV) Forgiveness

<sup>21</sup> Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" <sup>22</sup> Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times."

### The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant

<sup>23</sup> "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. <sup>24</sup> When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; <sup>25</sup> and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup> So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' <sup>27</sup> And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup> But

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



# Peel Valley Congregations

**Fri, 15 Sept**—5:30pm Hallsville Friday 11am West Tamworth Service with  
Family Church with Margaret Crowell Evelyn Keane.

**Sun, 17 Sept**—8:30am Gowrie HC  
Service with Margaret Crowell and  
11am West Tamworth Service with  
Rev Chris Wright. Trading Table.

**Tue, 19 Sept**—10am Memory Lane  
Morning Tea at West Tamworth  
Church. Join us for a cuppa, meet  
new friends, singalong, activities, &  
more. 1st & 3rd Tuesdays monthly.

**Fri, 22 Sept**—5:30pm Hallsville Friday  
Family Church with Evelyn Keane.

**Sun, 24 Sept**—8am Hallsville  
Markets. 8:30am Gowrie Service and

## 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

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



### Venture Christian Bookshop– Quirindi

108 George Street, Quirindi 6746 1065. Serving Christ in the community since 1985. Cards for every occasion, bibles, music CD's, DVD's, adult and children's books, giftware also available. They are happy to order in special requirements. Email: vcbquirindi@bigpond.com

### Sunday Trading Table

Our bring-and-buy table is selling anything from handiwork to cooking, produce to jams. Stop and buy something this week and donate something another week. After church with the morning tea in the St Andrew's Room.

### Food Hamper Sunday

Food Hamper Sunday is the 1st Sunday of the month. Bring along something to the office anytime. A shopping list might look like this: 2x1lt UHT milk, 500g sugar, 25 tea bag box, 50g coffee, 100gm tuna/sardines, 2xcuppa coup, 2xrice/pasta pack, 250g biscuits, tin baked beans/spaghetti (ring pull), tin steak & veg (or similar), 2minute noodles, small tinned fruit, small cereal. Thank you everyone.

### Home Communion

Do you know someone who might like to have an Elder bring Holy Communion to them in their home? Please let Judith Archbold know (6766 6716).

### Key Audit

We are doing an audit of keys to the buildings here at Tamworth City. Please check with the office about your need for keys to buildings. Take the opportunity to return a key you don't need any longer.

### 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.



## Lectionary Readings

Sun	17	Psalm 114*	Fri	22	Matthew 19:13-30
Mon	18	Exodus 16:1-36	Sat	23	Matthew 20:1-16*
Tue	19	Philippians 1:1-11	Sun	24	Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45*
Wed	20	Philippians 1:21-30*			* Denotes Sunday lectionary readings)
Thu	21	Matthew 19:1-12			

that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.'<sup>29</sup> Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.'<sup>30</sup> But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt.<sup>31</sup> When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place.<sup>32</sup> Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me.<sup>33</sup> Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?'<sup>34</sup> And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt.<sup>35</sup> So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

**Reflection** When Peter asked Jesus if he should forgive another person seven times, he was going well beyond the requirements of the law. But, Jesus moved forgiveness beyond any attempt to measure and keep score. He called his disciples to forgive seventyseven times (or seventy times seven) – which is not about a specific number, but is a call to never give up on forgiving. The parable in today's reading really drives the point home. The servant who is forgiven by the king should have been eager to extend grace to the neighbour who owed him so much less. But, his only concern was for himself. His inability to forgive those around him meant that even though he may have been released from his debt, he remained imprisoned by his need to keep score.

This parable makes a connection between forgiveness and financial debt. In our materialist, consumerist world, we often imprison ourselves in financial disputes, and in our addiction to more. But, the parable also applies to debts that are not financial. When anyone hurts us we view this as a debt of justice, and we want retribution in order to feel honoured, respected, and powerful again. However, in the process of fighting for justice, we often lose our souls and destroy more than the ones who hurt us ever did. The gift of forgiveness is that it frees us from destructive patterns and releases us to live without constant reference to what has hurt us – it lets us, more than others, off the hook.

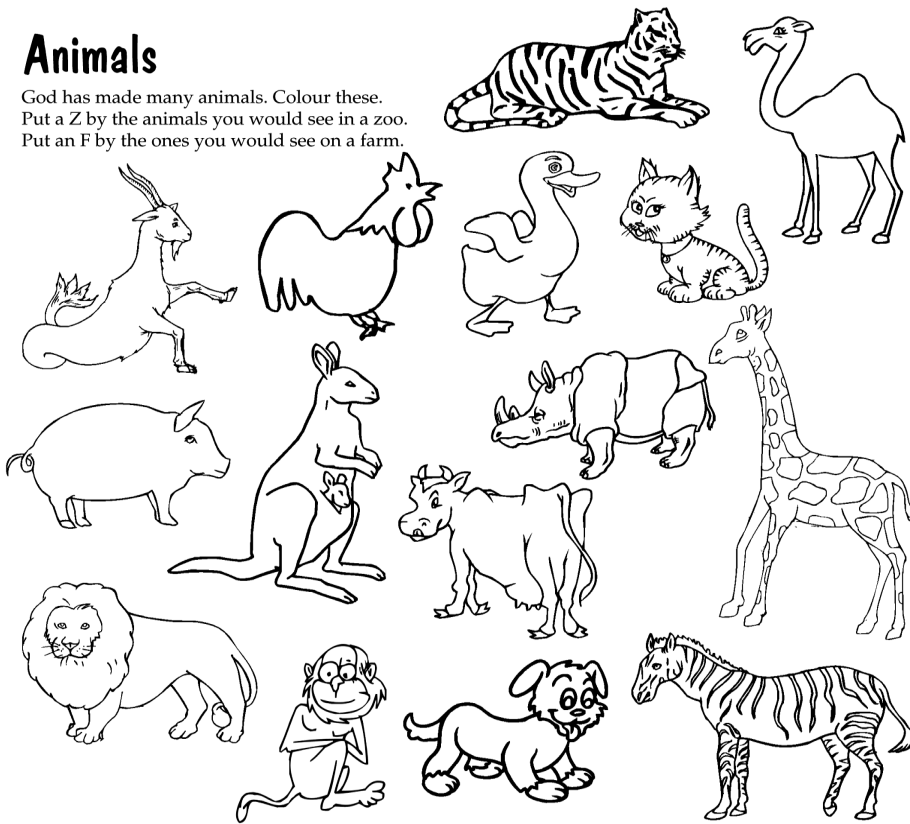
Where do you need to choose forgiveness today?

**Practice for Today** Whenever we bring our confessions to God in worship, we hear the words of absolution in response. This is to remind us that God always chooses forgiveness and restoration over retribution. Then, as we allow this to teach and change us, we learn to make forgiveness our habitual choice. Today, practice choosing forgiveness and let it set you free.

**Breath-Prayer for Today** As you forgive me, even though I don't deserve it, O God, so I choose to forgive those who have hurt me.

# Animals

God has made many animals. Colour these.  
Put a Z by the animals you would see in a zoo.  
Put an F by the ones you would see on a farm.



# Word Puzzle

Cross out every other letter to discover a message from Proverbs. You must decide which letter to start with and where the words begin and end.

**AABSCODFETFAGNHSIWJEKRLTMUNRO  
NOSPAQWRASYTWURVAWTXHYBZUQT  
SARHZACRBSBHCWDOVRADESFTWISR  
YSAUDPGATNHGUENR.**

**EPGRIOKVLEFRJBHS  
15:1**

Answer: A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.  
Proverbs 15:1

## Presbytery Prayer Points

Keep in your prayers the upcoming Synod meeting to be held at Knox Grammar in Sydney. We have over 12 people attending from our Presbytery. We pray for preparations and travel.

## 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

## 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.

## 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.

## 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.

## Wheelchair/Walker

There is a wheelchair and a walker available in the Vestry to assist in transporting those who require one to and from the church carpark. Please return to the Vestry.

## Screening Mammogram

Breast Screen NSW Hunter New England offers all women aged 50-90yrs a free Screening Mammogram for the early detection of breast cancer. Call 132050.



### **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 6 October.

### **Lunch & DVD**

Monthly Lunch & DVD will be held on Friday, 6 October from 12noon in the St Andrew's Room. Gold coin donation for lunch then watch a DVD together.

### **Kairos Outside**

Training weekend in Jubilee Hall Saturday and Sunday, 7 & 8 October.

### **Worship on Sunday, 8 October 2017**

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

### **Looking Ahead Dates to keep in mind**

- 14th Oct Fiesta la Peel—multicultural festival in Peel Street
- 15th Oct The Brilliance of Brass at Capitol Theatre

## **Prayers**

### **Prayer Focus—Tamworth City**

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

### **Ecumenical Prayer Calendar**

Keep the people of the Bulgaria, Hungary and Romania in your prayers this week.

### **Prayer Diary—Tamworth Churches**

This week we pray for the leaders and activities of the St Peter's Anglican Church, St Stephen's Presbyterian Church, the Northwest Church, the Seventh Day Adventist Church, the Church on The Way, the Salvation Army and the various Roman Catholic Churches in Tamworth.

## **Today's Information**

### **Worship on Sunday, 17 September 2017**

Worship service with Rev Chris Wright. Sunday School. Retiring Offering for Frontier Services. End of term Sausage Sizzle & Morning Tea in the St Andrew's Room. 11am West Tamworth—Rev Chris Wright.

### **Frontier Services**

Each September, all across Australia people come together to hold Great Outback BBQ's, have a great time and fundraise to support the work of Frontier Services to provide community recovery and support in remote areas of Australia. TODAY, 17 September, we will hold our Sausage Sizzle in aid for Frontier Services. There will also be a retiring offering. Please give generously.

### **Korean Reborn Church**

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

### **Sympathy**

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Shirley Weatherall, who passed away last week. Also to Julie Bennett, following the death of her father last week. We keep you all in our prayers.

### **Water! Water! NO Water!**

Recently there has been a sharp increase in water use! The plumber has been to investigate and found that an old pipe has rusted through. We have capped the line to the Church for the time being. All water needs will need to be accessed from the St Andrew's Room when using the church/vestry.

## **This Week's Events**

### **KYB Study Groups**

Two groups on Mondays, one at 10am in the St Andrew's Room (Betty keys 6766 6624), one at 1:30pm at 26 Upper Street (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**

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

### **Assn Independent Retirees**

Meeting in the St Andrew's Room on Tuesday, 19 September from 9am.

### **Senior's Getting Together Fellowship**

Monthly meeting on Tuesday, 19 September at the St Andrew's Village Community Hall from 2pm. Contact Marie McClelland 6765 7220.

### **Op Shop Working Bee**

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

### **School Term 3 Ends**

Friday, 22 September.

### **AngliCare Skills for the Road Ahead**

AngliCare are again offering their Skills for the Road Ahead—A pre-marriage course to give couples skills for relating within marriage—at 34 Denne Street on Saturday, 23 September. Contact AngliCare on 6701 8200.

## **Next Week & Beyond**

### **Worship on Sunday, 24 September 2017**

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

### **Tamworth Choral Society Concert**

The Tamworth Choral Society presents 'Songs to Die For'. An entertaining afternoon for all, combining a mix of the divine, the heavenly, and dare we say, quirky songs! Afternoon tea to follow on Sunday, 24 September from 2:30pm in the Carinya Performing Arts Centre. Adults \$15/Family \$30. Tickets available from choir members or at the door.

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

Our next rostered day will be Tuesday, 26 September from 8am.

### **SYNOD Meeting**

Rev Chris will be attending this year's SYNOD Meeting including the Installation of Rev Simon Hansford as Moderator from Friday, 29 September until Tuesday, 3 October. Keep the meeting in your prayers as they make deliberations, also those attending and for their safe travel.

### **Worship on Sunday, 1 October 2017**

Worship service and Holy Communion with Rev Bill Fischer. Food Hamper Sunday. Morning Tea in the St Andrew's Room.

### **Labour Day Public Holiday**

Monday, 2 October.

### **Church Office Closed**

The Church Office will be closed from Tuesday, 3 October to Friday, 6 October. Nicolette will be on leave. Changed Op Shop Key arrangements.

### **Adult Fellowship**

Monthly get-together will be on Tuesday, 3 October from 9:30am in the St Andrew's Room. Morning tea and then meeting to follow. All welcome.

### **Friends of Nioka**

Meeting in the St Andrew's Room on Tuesday, 3 October from 7pm.

### **City Property Committee**

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