

# Diary Dates

- 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
- Mon, 25 4-5am Wheely Bean— Jubilee Kitchen Mon-Fri  
 9:30am-3pm Kairos Outside Sewing Group in Jubilee H  
 10am-4pm Opportunity Shop Mondays-Fridays  
 4pm Weight Watchers DH  
 5:30pm New V. Dance JH
- Tue, 26 8am Meals on Wheels Kitchen Roster  
 9am-2pm Church Office Tuesday-Friday  
 10am Pres. Bookkeeper  
 5pm Weight Watchers DH
- Wed, 27 9am Op Shop Working Bee  
 12-5pm Power Out
- 6pm New Vogue Dance JH
- Thu, 28 9:30am Yoga in Dunn Hall  
 4pm Church Music Team
- Fri, 29 8:30am Weight W. DH  
 SYNOD commences
- Sat, 30 8am Weight Watchers DH  
 9am-12noon Op Shop  
 SYNOD meeting

- Sun, 1** 2am **Daylight Savings Commences**  
 9am **Worship Service with Rev Bill Fischer. Holy Communion. Food Hamper Sunday. Morning Tea.**  
 11:30am Korean Reborn Church service & lunch  
 SYNOD meeting
- Mon, 2 Labour Day Public Holiday



# Preaching Plan

## Sunday, 1 October 2017

- 8:30am Gowrie—Meg Mangan HC
- 9am Tamworth City—Rev Bill Fischer HC E:J Carthew, M Weick, D: H McKenzie, F Kerr, AV: A Winter, O: R Greer.
- 9:30am Tamworth Southside—J Marsh
- 11am West Tamworth—Meg Mangan HC Lunch after
- 5pm Tamworth Southside—J Marsh



### 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 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

# Welcome to Tamworth City Uniting Church

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



# Sacredise Daily Worship

## Thought for the Week

One of the ways that grace can be understood is as God's undeserved generosity. The key in all our dealings with God is that word "undeserved". It is easy to slip into thinking that health, wealth and happiness are a deserved reward from God given because we are particularly spiritual or "good". It is just as easy to fall into judgement of those who are sickly, poor or suffering because we believe that their struggles are God's judgement on some sin in their life. Although this view is sometimes expressed in the Old Testament, it is never seen in Jesus' teaching. Both "blessing" and "curses" are simple realities of living in this world. Sometimes we bring them on ourselves, and sometimes they just happen to us, but they are not the results of a fickle God handing out rewards and punishments. But, one thing is clear from the Scriptures: when we are "blessed", it is never for ourselves alone, but in order for us to be a blessing to others. And when others seem to be "more blessed" than we are, we are not to judge them or question God's justice. We are to give thanks for what we have received, while rejoicing in the good fortune of those around us. This week we seek to release our feelings of deservedness and undeservedness and learn to celebrate and share in whatever way we can - especially with those who are suffering.

### Reading Matthew 20:1-16

*The Laborers in the Vineyard* 20 "For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. <sup>2</sup> After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. <sup>3</sup> When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; <sup>4</sup> and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. <sup>5</sup> When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. <sup>6</sup> And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' <sup>7</sup> They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' <sup>8</sup> When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' <sup>9</sup> When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. <sup>10</sup> Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. <sup>11</sup> And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, <sup>12</sup> saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and

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

**Sun, 24 Sept**—8am Hallsville  
Markets. 8:30am Gowrie Service and  
11am West Tamworth Service with  
Evelyn Keane.

**Fri, 29 Sept**—5:30pm Hallsville Friday  
Family Church with Meg Mangan

**Sun, 1 Oct**—8:30am Gowrie HC  
Service & 11am West Tamworth HC  
Service with Meg Mangan. Lunch to  
follow.

**Tue, 3 Oct**—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

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



## 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

## 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.*

## 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.*



# Lectionary Readings

Sun	24	Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45*	Fri	29	Matthew 21:12-22
Mon	25	Exodus 17:1-7*	Sat	30	Matthew 21:23-32*
Tue	26	Exodus 18:13-27	Sun	1	Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16*
Wed	27	Philippians 2:1-13*	* Denotes Sunday lectionary readings)		
Thu	28	Philippians 2:14-30			

*you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' <sup>13</sup> But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage?' <sup>14</sup> Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. <sup>15</sup> Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' <sup>16</sup> So the last will be first, and the first will be last."*

## Reflection

Today's parable is one of the toughest for us to receive. That's because we are rooted in a culture of meritocracy in which we believe that everyone should get what they deserve. Most of us would be extremely angry at an employer who paid the same wage to those who worked for one hour as those who worked for an entire day. Like the workers in Jesus' parable we would protest, and possibly even reject or do violence to those who had received an "undue reward". The problem is that we bring this same thinking into our faith. We believe that if we're good, if we do our best to follow Jesus and be faithful to what God has called us to do, then God should bless us and make sure no tragedy strikes us. Then, when we do experience hardship, we get angry with God. Or when we see others who, in our opinion are undeserving, receiving some great blessing, we also get angry with God. This reveals that this parable is about us, and it challenges our need to balance the scales. With God our meritocracy is meaningless, because everything is grace. God's love cannot be reduced or expanded according to what we do. God's love is always infinite, and it is given freely to those who follow Jesus and to those who don't - to those whom we consider worthy and to those whom we don't. If this offends us, or makes us question whether it's worth following Jesus, we have not yet understood God's grace and love. Where, in your heart, are you offended by God's grace? How can you release your need to "balance the scales" today?

## Practice for Today

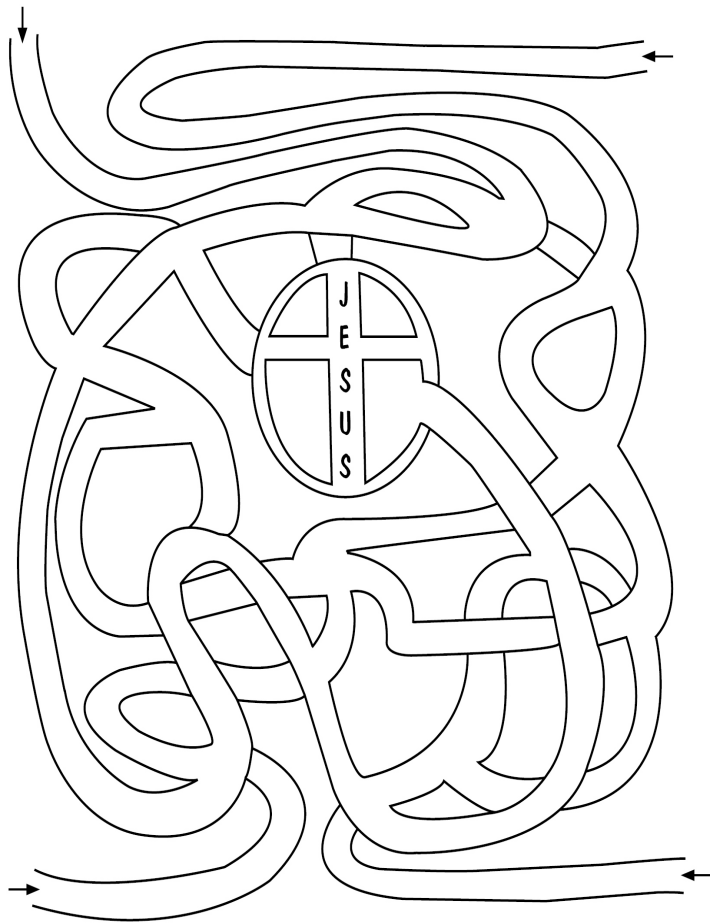
One of the ways we can release our need always to compare "blessings" is to practice thanksgiving. When we take the time to really count our blessings, we don't have time to count the blessings of others and balance the scales. Today allow the discipline of thanksgiving to release you from the prison of meritocracy.

## Breath-Prayer for Today

Thank you, O God, that though I can never deserve your grace, you give it to me freely.

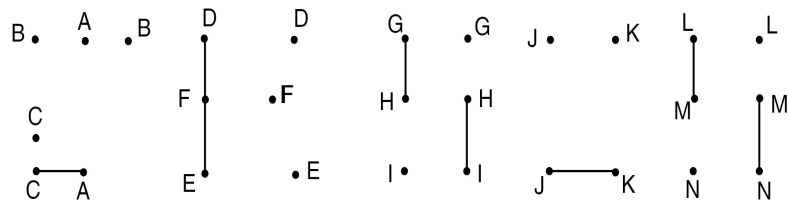
# Jesus Is the Way

Jesus said, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life" (John 14:6). Find the path that leads to Jesus.



## Hidden Word

Draw a line between the letters that are the same to reveal a hidden word.



## Worship on Sunday, 15 October 2017

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

## Moree Uniting Church Sesquicentenary

Celebrating 150 years at Moree Uniting Church on Sunday, 15 Oct, 10am.

## The Brilliance of Brass

Annual celebration of Brass at the Capitol Theatre on Sunday, 15 October from 2pm. Featuring the Gunnedah Shire Band, supported by the Tamworth RSL Brass Band. Tickets \$33. Book at the Capitol on 6766 2028. The Gunnedah Shire Bank is one of the most awarded contemporary brass bands in Australia.

## Looking Ahead Dates to keep in mind

- 24th Oct Pastoral Partners
- 28th Oct Annual Scripture Teacher's Dinner Fundraiser

# Prayers

## Prayer Focus—Tamworth City

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.

## Ecumenical Prayer Calendar

Keep the people of the Belarus, Moldova, Russia and Ukraine in your prayers this week.

## Prayer Diary—Tamworth Churches

This week we pray for the leaders and activities of the Father's House Church, Trinity Church, Tamworth City, Tamworth Southside and Peel Valley Uniting Churches, the Hope & Glory Church, and the Carinya Christian School.



### **One Door Mental Health**

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

### **School Term 4**

Commencing Monday, 9 October 2017.

### **KYB Study Groups**

Recommending on Monday, 9 October. 10am in the Dunn Hall (Betty keys 6766 6624), one at 1:30pm at 26 Upper Street (Lorraine Turner 6766 6891).

### **Church Council Meeting**

Our bi-monthly Church Council meeting will be on Tuesday, 10 October from 7:30pm in the St Andrew's Room.

### **Compassionate Friends**

Meeting in the St Andrew's Room from 10am on Wednesday, 11 October.

### **Presbytery Meeting with UNITING**

Meeting in the St Andrew's Room from 1pm on Wednesday, 11 October.

### **Senior Communion**

Our monthly Senior Communion will be held on Friday, 13 October from 10am in the Community Hall at the UNITING St Andrew's Village . Contact Barbara McLean for transport 6766 4039.

### **International Film Festival—Dance Competition**

Held in the Jubilee Hall on Friday, 13 October from 5pm. All welcome.

### **St John's Fete**

Saturday, 14 October from 9am in Carthage Street.

### **Fiesta La Peel**

Taste the flavours of the world and be entertained on Saturday, 14 October from 4-8pm in Peel Street. A multicultural street festival with over 20 countries represented. Enjoy food, craft, entertainment and more. Entry is free. Try a taste plate and then buy your meal. Come and join in.

## **Today's Information**

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

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

### **Korean Reborn Church**

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

### **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.

### **Frontier Services**

Thank you everyone, we raised over \$385 with our retiring offering and sausage sizzle last weekend.

### **Thank You**

The morning tea ladies have donated \$100 to the Food Hamper Cupboard to help purchase items needed for distribution. Thank you.

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

We have capped the old rusted water 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. Sorry for any inconvenience.

## **This Week's Events**

### **KYB Study Groups**

Both Groups in Recess during the School Holidays, recommending on Monday, 9 October. (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).

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

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

### **Church Office**

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

### **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.

### **Power Outage**

Wednesday, 27 September 12noon-5pm.

### **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.

## **Next Week & Beyond**

### **Daylight Savings Commences**

2am on Sunday, 1 October.

### **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.

### **Aged Care Services**

Monthly Aged Care HC Service at McKay House and Alblas Lodge will be on Wednesday, 4 October from 10:15am. Rev Chris Wright will be taking the services this month and would welcome all singers and helpers.

### **City Property Committee**

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

### **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. Morning Tea in the St Andrew's Room.

