



February 4 WEEK LENTEN STUDY



Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

2 June 2024

Meg Mangan 0476 375 989

P.O. BOX 3315 WEST TAMWORTH

Psalm 139:1-6,13-18 (NLT)

- ¹ O LORD, you have examined my heart and know everything about me.
- ² You know when I sit down or stand up. You know my thoughts even when I'm far away.
- ³ You see me when I travel and when I rest at home. You know everything I do.
- ⁴ You know what I am going to say even before I say it, LORD.
- ⁵ You go before me and follow me. You place your hand of blessing on my head.
- ⁶ Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too great for me to understand!
- ¹³ You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother's womb.
- ¹⁴ Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvellous—how well I know it.
- ¹⁵ You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion, as I was woven together in the dark of the womb.
- ¹⁶ You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed.
- ¹⁷ How precious are your thoughts about me, O God. They cannot be numbered!
- ¹⁸ I can't even count them; they outnumber the grains of sand! And when I wake up, you are still with me!

Other Lectionary Readings:

1 Samuel 3:1-10, (11-20) 2 Corinthians 4:5-12



Mark 2:23-3:6 (NLT)

A Discussion about the Sabbath

²³ One Sabbath day as Jesus was walking through some grainfields, his disciples began breaking off heads of grain to eat. ²⁴ But the Pharisees said to Jesus, "Look, why are they breaking the law by harvesting grain on the Sabbath?"

²⁵ Jesus said to them, "Haven't you ever read in the Scriptures what David did when he and his companions were hungry? ²⁶ He went into the house of God (during the days when Abiathar was high priest) and broke the law by eating the sacred loaves of bread that only the priests are allowed to eat. He also gave some to his companions."

²⁷ Then Jesus said to them, "The Sabbath was made to meet the needs of people, and not people to meet the requirements of the Sabbath. ²⁸ So the Son of Man is Lord, even over the Sabbath!"

Jesus Heals on the Sabbath

³ Jesus went into the synagogue again and noticed a man with a deformed hand. ² Since it was the Sabbath, Jesus' enemies watched him closely. If he healed the man's hand, they planned to accuse him of working on the Sabbath.

³ Jesus said to the man with the deformed hand, "Come and stand in front of everyone." ⁴ Then he turned to his critics and asked, "Does the law permit good deeds on the Sabbath, or is it a day for doing evil? Is this a day to save life or to destroy it?" But they wouldn't answer him. ⁵ He looked around at them angrily and was deeply saddened by their hard hearts. Then he said to the man, "Hold out your hand." So the man held out his hand, and it was restored!

⁶ At once the Pharisees went away and met with the supporters of Herod to plot how to kill Jesus.



IN OUR PRAYERS

- We pray for Evelyn and Tony as they holiday in Canada.
- We continue to uphold the Blanch family as they mourn the loss of Heather.
- Our prayers continue for Bob Riek, and for all who care for him.
- We pray for everyone living in and around the world "flashpoints" - The Middle East, and Ukraine.
- We thank God for autumn perfection.
- We pray for the people of New Guinea affected by the landslides.

Meg's Musings

Who could not believe that there is a God, considering the weather we have had lately???

The nights have been cool enough to enjoy snuggling up under the blankets, or doona.

The days have been warm and sunny.

As well as having a wonderful display of autumn leaves to admire, we're also surrounded by green lawns and lots of flowers.

Birds and bees have been darting about, making the most of the current "Indian Summer".

We are so very fortunate to enjoy this wonder!

Blessings from Meg



Singing Group

West Tamworth 2nd & 4th Monday 10am
 Beginning with morning tea
 Commencing on 24th June
 (10th June is the long weekend)



Fabulous Finds Op Shop @ Hallsville

Open 9:30 to 1:00pm
 Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays.
 Cuppa & chat always available.



PEEL VALLEY CONGREGATION

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

Mission: "Called to be Free, Gifted to Serve."

Minister: Rev Geoff Flynn 0421 338 202

Pastoral Care: Meg Mangan 0476 375 989

Elders: Margaret Crowell Daryl Lush



Words from Rev Geoff - Reconciliation Sunday

Reconciliation is embedded in the DNA of the UCA whether we like it or not. Paragraph 3 of the Basis of Union states "God in Christ has given to all people in the Church the Holy Spirit as a pledge and foretaste of that coming reconciliation and renewal which is the end in view for the whole creation. The Church's call is to serve that end: to be a fellowship of reconciliation."

Therefore, The Uniting Church Assembly is encouraging its members and congregations to mark and take part in National Reconciliation Week which begins on 27 May, the anniversary of the 1967 referendum and concludes on 3 June, the day in 1992 that Eddie (Koiki) Mabo won and the lie of terra nullius was laid bare in the Australian High Court.

It is a painful fact that everyone alive today has benefited from the lands and seas we call Australia, and our sadly racist, colonial past. However, merely by acknowledging this, we are beginning to put things right. And we can celebrate those two big victories.

National Reconciliation Week started as the Week of Prayer for Reconciliation in 1993 (the International Year of the World's Indigenous Peoples) and was supported by Australia's major faith communities. In 1996, the Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation launched Australia's first National Reconciliation Week.

The theme this year is "Now more than ever"; and the Assembly invites us to think and pray about concrete actions we can take, and to mark the week in worship with resources prepared by the Synods of Victoria/Tasmania and South Australia. Now more than ever: National Reconciliation Week 2024 – Uniting Church Australia

I encourage you to make the effort to learn more about our shared history as first and second peoples, so we as the Churches in Tamworth are better informed about the trauma and grief that endures as a result of deeply unjust, colonial policies. To that end, I am participating in "Acknowledge This!!" a workshop lead by Nathan Tyson Head of First Peoples Strategy & Engagement Uniting Mission & Education

In conclusion I invite you to offer this prayer (written by Rev Claire Dawe in 2022)

God of grace,

Help us to be listeners and explorers, always aware of the impact of our words and actions on others and on creation.

Help us to commit ourselves to reconciliation with First Nations Peoples

and commit to being open to learning more in a respectful way. Amen.

Reverend Geoff



Weird and Wonderful Laws

Sometimes the people who make our laws get a little carried away, even back in the day when Jesus lived.

Did you know?

- In NSW, you can be fined up to \$2,200 if you splash mud on bus passengers when you're driving your car.
- In NT, you can be fined \$200 if you are a musician or busker who 'play musical instruments so as to annoy'.
- In Victoria it is illegal to do business with pirates. If you do, you could go to prison for up to 10 years!
- In TAS, taking or possessing a meteorite is worth a fine of nearly \$1600.
- In WA it is illegal for people to have more than 50 kgs of potatoes in one place.
- In SA you could be fined up to \$250 if you ring someone's doorbell without good reason!
- In QLD, taxis must carry a bale of hay in the boot.
- It is illegal for people to walk on the right hand side of a sidewalk in busy Australian streets.
- You will be in trouble if your vacuum cleaner emits 'unreasonable noise' from a residential property between 10pm and 7am Monday to Friday and 10pm and 9am on weekends and public holidays
- Regulation 213 of the Road Rules 2014 outlines that it is an offence for a driver to move 3 meters away from their vehicle without doing the following:
Switching off the engine, Removing the key from the vehicle's ignition, Securing the vehicle's windows, Locking the vehicle's doors. (Exceptions delivery vehicle or collection of rubbish).
- By law, turn on your headlights when it's raining in Sweden. How am I supposed to know it's raining in Sweden? ~ internet search

"One of the advantages of being disorganised is that one is always having surprising discoveries."

A.A. Milne



Retreat Day

Friday, 14 June 10am-4pm

BYO Lunch/snack, No cost

Tea and coffee provided

Burrabaroo Girl Guide Camp, Porcupine Road, Kootingal

Led by Rev Patty Lawrence

RSVP to Church Office by 12 June

6766 5311

Circle Conveners, Elders and Leaders encouraged to attend.

CHURCH SERVICES

2 June 11:00 am **West Tamworth** ~

~ Meg Mangan, *Lunch to follow*

9 June 11:00am **West Tamorth**

~ Rev Geoff Flynn

16 June 8:30am **Gowrie**

~ Meg Mangan



16 June 11:00am **West Tamworth**

~ Rev Tony Schumach

23 June 11:00am **West Tamworth**

~ Meg Mangan, *Parish meeting to follow*

30 June 11:00am **Hallsville**

Combined Service

~ Rev Geoff Flynn, *Lunch to follow*

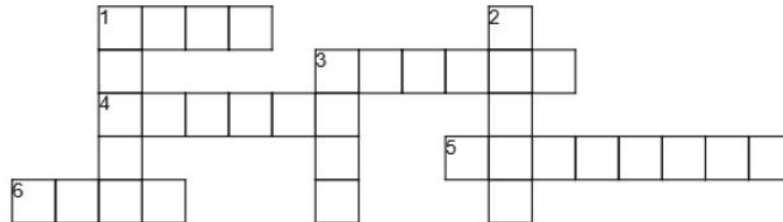
..... enjoy & share the gift of the friendship of Jesus

Jesus and the Sabbath

Then Jesus asked them, "Which is lawful on the Sabbath: to do good or to do evil, to save life or to kill?" But they remained silent. Mark 3:4 (NIV)



The puzzle is based on Mark 2:23-3:6



ACROSS

1. The opposite of bad or evil.
3. Feel the need to eat
4. To charge with a fault; to blame; to censure.
5. A day of rest and worship
6. The part of the body at the end of the arm

DOWN

1. The fruit of certain grasses which furnish the food of man, as corn, wheat, rye, oats, etc.
2. An article of food made from flour or meal by moistening, kneading, and baking.
3. To cure, to make well

Z J C B P D A E X S N I B K V
 J U R J U R E S T O R E D Z J
 E L Y F Z O X M F V B T Q L W
 S A A X O D G V G Q Y R T O E
 U W H C N D N H G S K R E N S
 S F R A C K A D D L M S R A V
 J U H D C U C M D P O V O Z D
 K L S W F U S T E H Y R W A Q
 S P R I E S T E V A F N D K C
 D A S F M N Y C I R R T Y H D
 Y F B B F R A B L I D K D I N
 L H U B G W L G Q S H F V I H
 M C M N A H Y O B E Z A A J H
 R H U M H T Q O U E D R P G O
 S H T V Z M H D U S G J Y U I

DAVID	ACCUSE	GRAIN	GOOD	LAWFUL
RESTORED	SABBATH	JESUS	PRIEST	HUNGRY
BREAD	PHARISEES	LORD	EVIL	HAND

..... enjoy & share the gift of the friendship of Jesus