



Peel Valley Congregation

Gowrie, Hallsville & West Tamworth

28 July 2024

Meg Mangan 0476 375 989

P.O. BOX 3315 WEST TAMWORTH

John 3:1-17 (NLT)

3 There was a man named Nicodemus, a Jewish religious leader who was a Pharisee.

2 After dark one evening, he came to speak with Jesus. "Rabbi," he said, "we all know that God has sent you to teach us. Your miraculous signs are evidence that God is with you."

3 Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, unless you are born again, you cannot see the Kingdom of God."

4 "What do you mean?" exclaimed Nicodemus. "How can an old man go back into his mother's womb and be born again?"

5 Jesus replied, "I assure you, no one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit.

6 Humans can reproduce only human life, but the Holy Spirit gives birth to spiritual life.

7 So don't be surprised when I say, 'You must be born again.'

8 The wind blows wherever it wants. Just as you can hear the wind but can't tell where it comes from or where it is going, so you can't explain how people are born of the Spirit."

9 "How are these things possible?" Nicodemus asked.

10 Jesus replied, "You are a respected Jewish teacher, and yet you don't understand these things?"

11 I assure you, we tell you what we know and have seen, and yet you won't believe our testimony.

.....continued

John 12-17 (NLT)

12 But if you don't believe me when I tell you about earthly things, how can you possibly believe if I tell you about heavenly things?

13 No one has ever gone to heaven and returned. But the Son of Man has come down from heaven.

14 And as Moses lifted up the bronze snake on a pole in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, **15** so that everyone who believes in him will have eternal life.

16 "For this is how God loved the world: He gave^[a] his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.

17 God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through him.

CHURCH SERVICES

4 August 11am **West** ~ Meg Mangan

11 August 11am **West** ~

18 August 8.30am **Gowrie** ~ Meg Mangan

18 August 11am **West** ~ Meg Mangan

25 August NO SERVICE

31 August **2pm** **City Church** ~

Induction of Rev Sam Sadrata

1 September TBA **Southside** ~

Combined Service



Peace begins with a smile. ~ Mother Teresa

Singing Group - West Tamworth

2nd & 4th Monday 10am

Followed by a cuppa and a chat.....



Fabulous Finds Op Shop @ Hallsville

Open 9:30 to 1:00pm

Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays.

Cuppa & chat always available.



Lectionary Readings:

2 Samuel 11:1-15 Psalms 14

Ephesians 3:14-21 John 6:1-21



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



IN OUR PRAYERS

- We pray for Beulah's continuing recovery. She has moved to the Rehab unit at Tamworth Base, and is making good progress.
- We continue to pray for Glenda Whitten.
- Our prayers continue for Pat and Lindsay Donaldson.
- Our prayers for the people of Ukraine, and the Middle East, continue.
- We give thanks for sunshine.

Meg's Musings

Next week our eldest grandson, Aidan, turns 18. The years have flown!

What do I wish for him as he approaches the end of his schooling, and the beginning of his adult life?

Aidan has already travelled so much - far more than I will ever undertake. I wish for him to know that he has a safe place to return to whenever the world gets too big, or the winds buffet him too strongly. And I wish for him to know that, wherever he travels, God is there with him.

I wish for Aidan to have an understanding of who he is - in amidst all of the competing pressures and values which he will encounter.

To wish for unending happiness is unrealistic, so instead I wish for inner strength for Aidan to cope with the difficulties which will inevitably arise.

I wish for peace to cover this world during Aidan's life - not just for Aidan, but for all of those young people around the world turning 18 this year. I wish for none of them to be involved in war and conflict.

Blessings from Meg



Happy Birthday *Beulah*
turned 101 on Friday 26 July



Words from Rev Geoff

All things are Possible

This week, we leave our Year B progress through the Gospel of Mark and read from the Gospel of John for a five-week reflection on the bread of life. Shifting Gospels requires us to shift from one literary world to another, from one narrative with its assumptions, purposes, and strategies to another with a different set of assumptions, purposes, and strategies.

Similarly, as we prepare to welcome the Reverend Samuela (Sam) and Mary Sadrata as the newest members of our ministry team, we will need to rethink our assumptions, roles and strategies for mission in our Congregation. Sam bringing youth and vibrancy and a connection point with new areas within our community. As a church this is a time of change and a God given opportunity to grow our Congregations younger, to be missionally focused beyond the congregations, relationship building and steering a course towards the future.

Reading John 6:1-21 in isolation, we miss the grand themes of the Gospel of John, and we might wonder why he puts this story (which is told in all four Gospels, but not always exactly the same way) where it is. We might also be left wondering why these two stories, the feeding of the multitude and Jesus walking on water, are connected in today's reading. What do they have to do with each other? Yes, there is compassion and communion in these stories, but there is so much more. While Jesus' heart is touched by the hunger of the crowd, John is teaching us about the power of God in Jesus, about who Jesus is. And so we have the disciples overwhelmed by the crowd and calculating the cost of feeding so many people. "Impossible!" they say, but we know that all things are possible with God, so in John's account of the feeding of people is just as much, if not more, about the power of God in Jesus as it is about Jesus' compassion for the hungry crowd. God's power

is "far more than all we can ask or imagine"; as we read in Ephesians 3:20b.

Rev Geoff



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 Darvl Lush



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

An old woman walked up and tied her old mule to the hitching post.

As she stood there, brushing some of the dust from her face and clothes, a young gunslinger stepped out of the saloon with a gun in one hand and a bottle of whiskey in the other. The young gunslinger looked at the old woman and laughed, "hey old woman, have you ever danced?"

The old woman looked up at the gunslinger and said, "no,... I never did dance... Never really wanted to."

A crowd had gathered as the gunslinger grinned and said "well, you old bag, you're gonna dance now," and started shooting at the old woman's feet.

The old woman prospector -- not wanting to get her toe blown off --started hopping around. Everybody was laughing. When his last bullet had been fired, the young gunslinger, still laughing, holstered his gun and turned around to go back into the saloon.

The old woman turned to her pack mule, pulled out a double-barreled shotgun, and cocked both hammers.

The loud clicks carried clearly through the desert air, and the crowd stopped laughing immediately.



.....continued

The young gunslinger heard the sounds, too, and he turned around very slowly. The silence was almost deafening. The crowd watched as the young gunman stared at the old woman and the large gaping holes of those twin barrels.

The barrels of the shotgun never wavered in the old woman's hands, as she quietly said, "son, have you ever kissed a mule's butt."

The gunslinger swallowed hard and said, "no m'am... But i've always wanted to.

There are five lessons here for all of us:

1 Never be arrogant.

2 Don't waste ammunition.

3 Whiskey makes you think you're smarter than you are.

4 Always make sure you know who has the power.

5 Don't mess with old people; they didn't get old by being stupid. ~ unknown

"Life may not be the party we hoped for... but while we're here we may as well dance." ~ Jeanne C. Stein

The ability to speak several languages is an asset, but the ability to keep your mouth shut in any language is priceless.

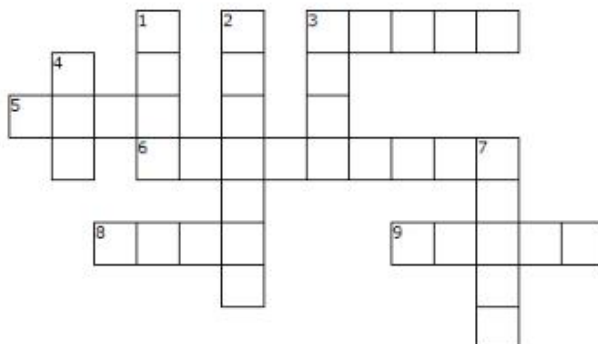
"The quieter you become, the more you are able to hear." ~ Rumi

Born Again!

In reply Jesus declared, "I tell you the truth, no one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born again." John 3:3 (NIV)

Based on John 3:1-17 (NIV)

*New Life in
Christ*



ACROSS

- 3. A clear, colorless liquid; H₂O
- 5. To receive sounds with your ears
- 6. A Pharisee who went to Jesus at night
- 8. The period from birth until death
- 9. The real facts about something; not false

DOWN

- 1. To be brought into life by birth
- 2. A person who instructs or trains others
- 3. The movement of air outside
- 4. To observe by using your eyes
- 7. Something that can be heard

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

BIRTH	TRUTH	SPIRIT	NIGHT	JEWISH
PHARISEE	AGAIN	ETERNAL	MAN	RABBI
BORN	WORLD	KINGDOM	NICODEMUS	FLESH
JESUS	LOVED	TEACHER	LIFE	WATER

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