



the Light of Christ for all the world

July 2021



Worship Information

9.30 am Sunday Morning

Please join us afterwards for **morning tea** & a chat downstairs in the hall.

You are also welcome to receive **prayer ministry** following worship at the front of the church.

Online Giving

We are thankful that people at TUC are generous givers in more ways than one: giving their time, sharing their gifts and donating financially.

We take up an offering during each worship service on Sundays. These funds are used for the continuation of ministries at TUC.

These days, many of us don't carry cash, so you may like to set up an ongoing, direct-transfer offering through your bank using these details:

National Australia Bank
(NAB)

Uniting Church Toowong
General Parish Fund

BSB: 084424

A/c No: 508563314

Get in Touch

Matt Smith | Lead Minister

0409 917 729 matt@toowongunitingchurch.org.au
Please note Matt's day off is Wednesday

Clare Hankamer | Families Pastor

0432 861 841 c_hankamer@hotmail.com

Garry Jennings | Office Manager

3870 9684 info@toowongunitingchurch.org.au

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Will Stewart | Church Council Chair

walswdes@gmail.com

Sue O'Brien | Congregational Secretary

sobrien868@gmail.com

Dianne Hubbard | Care & Connect - Pastoral Care

dianne.j.hubbard@gmail.com

Toowong Uniting Church

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Email: info@toowongunitingchurch.org.au

Hours: 9.00 am - 2.00 pm Mon, Wed and Fri

www.toowongunitingchurch.org

www.facebook.com/toowonguniting

www.youtube.com/c/ToowongUnitingChurch

Welcome!

Whenever we use the term 'mission' it can carry a multiplicity of meanings – positive and negative. 'Mission' may generate some excitement for you at the thought of participating with the Holy Spirit, getting involved in what God is already doing, possibly going somewhere and being used for God's purpose. Alternatively, this word could also bring to mind unease at the idea of being called on to give up your precious time and resources, be drawn out of your comfort zone and to face challenges that most people would reasonably decline. You may have both reactions at the same time! And what does that word 'mission' even mean for us in our context and time?

It's true that following Jesus will call us from out and beyond the spaces and groups where we feel safe and comfortable. It's understandable this could generate some insecurity within us. On any mission, some sacrifice and uncertainty is likely. But what are the pay offs when God is the One doing the calling?

Many people of course know about the chaplain who was appointed to the First Fleet in 1788, Richard Johnson. Johnson famously gave the first sermon in Australia, (mandatory attendance for all convicts and soldiers) on Psalm 116 "what shall I render unto the Lord for all His benefits unto me?" Some of those convicts may well have wondered when these benefits would start to appear!

Accompanying Johnson was his new bride of only eight months, Mary Johnson, who was the only officer's wife on board the fleet of 11 ships. A letter Mary wrote back to England describes the struggles of living in the settlement, but also mentions her strong sense that this was the place that the Lord had called her to, so the hardships and absence of luxuries became bearable. In May 1789, a young Aboriginal girl named Boorong was brought to the Johnson's home after surviving smallpox. Mary took on the role of foster mother, tutoring Boorong in English, and learning from Boorong about local Eora culture. Boorong stayed with the Johnson's of her own free will for 18 months, before returning to her people. Mary and Boorong are believed to have engaged in the earliest recorded female cross-cultural relationship in Australian history. In 1790, Mary gave birth to a daughter, and named her Milbah, an Eora nation name. Milbah is the first recorded case of a European giving their child a First Nation name.

Mary's life showed a willingness to engage with different people, and that required from her a commitment to travel beyond what was familiar, to embrace uncertainties, and to fully enter life where she was - on its own terms. Mary was 'on mission' as she left the safe and predictable for an extraordinary life in a different time and place. One thing is for sure, Mary Johnson's journey transformed her into a different woman to whom she would have been, had she just remained in England.

For us, we are called to follow Jesus where ever he would lead us. His call asks for our willingness to engage with those unfamiliar and to embrace the uncertainties that difference creates. The word mission (in Latin 'missio') is translated from the Greek word 'apostle' which means a 'sent one' with a special purpose. TUC's mission is to share the Light of Christ with all the world. Good news people - the world has turned up in Toowong! We're excited to see what God wants to do and we'll be transformed by the journey with Jesus.

Every day with Jesus.

Matt Smith



Matt Smith Lead Minister

Matt and Narelle are excited to be growing into the TUC community. Matt is constantly thankful for the dedicated staff team he is part of.

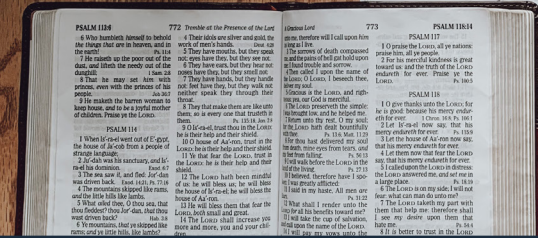
For prayer and counselling, please contact Matt on 0409 917 729.

Please note that Matt's day off is Wednesday.

Bible Readings

Here are our Bible readings for the next few weeks. You might like to read along at home!

- 11 July:** 1 Peter 2:1-10 (Community)
- 18 July:** Psalm 95:1-7 (Worship)
- 25 July:** Matthew 10:1-16 (Mission)
- 1 August:** John 6:22-40 (To do the Father's will)



The Light of Christ for all the World

'The Light of Christ' is one of those phrases that pops up regularly and it's no surprise that it forms our TUC mission statement.

In part, the phrase has its origins in the words of Jesus recorded in John 8: "I am the light of the World. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but have the light of life". This was the second of Jesus' "I am" statements recorded in John's gospel, and as so often was the case, seemed to upset a group of pharisees and cause an argument.

We can also find echoes in Jesus' Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5) as Jesus offers the observation "You are the light of the world" and the explanation that follows about "letting your light shine before others, that they might see (your) good deeds and glorify your Father in Heaven".

Those are just a couple of the many examples from scripture. Do a little searching and see what you find.

I think we do intuitively know what this phrase the "Light of Christ for all the World" means. It's deeply embedded in our lives and understanding as followers of Christ. Its meaning is pretty plain to us.

Christ is the light. We point to, or reveal, or show that light. That's our task. That, in a sense, is the very definition of mission. Our purpose as Christians is to both live in the light of Christ, and to point to it for others.

Living in the light of Christ opens us up, each of us, to clarity, to possibility, to hope. The light illuminates dark and hidden places so that we can be renewed or restored. It helps us move beyond darkness, and lostness and despair. Light is love. That's a gift we think is important to share with others.

It also turns out that pointing to the Light of Christ is not only about words, but actions too. What we do, the way we live as followers of Christ reveals the light.

Australian missiologist Michael Frost writes about mission as being the "demonstration and declaration of the reign of God through Christ". Our own Uniting Church Basis of Union notes that the purpose of our church is to be an "instrument through which Christ may work and bear witness to himself".

Declare and demonstrate, work and bear witness.

These are the twin tasks our church is called to, the twin aspects of life that we are committing to in this mission statement. In our own lives, and by invitation in the lives of our neighbours.

We 'know' what it means to be, or to reveal the light of Christ. The challenge is to actually live it out for real. Let's go on the journey together.



Scott Guyatt

Camp Connect: 13 - 15 August

Book your tickets now!



Tickets

Complete Tickets

These include cabin accommodation for both nights plus all meals.

Child (0 - 3):	Free
Child (4-12):	\$100
Adult/Youth (13 and up):	\$150

Day Tickets:

Come for a day, or book day tickets to arrange your own accommodation off-site. Meals incl.

Day Rate (Saturday):	\$50
Day Rate (Sunday):	\$40

Book online: www.toowongunitingchurch.org



Clare Hankamer Families Pastor

Clare oversees KATS, Junior Youth, Senior Youth and runs the Thursday Playgroup. Clare has a PhD in Horticulture with significant experience in both church and community youth work in the UK and Australia.

Contact:
0432 861 841

Children's & Youth Ministry

KATS (Toddlers - Year 5)

KATS stands for Kids at Toowong on Sunday and is our Sunday morning children's program run during the school term. The children leave after the children's talk to gather in their **Tiger, Leopard and Lion age groups**. An enthusiastic group of volunteers lead these groups, teaching the children about God in a fun and friendly environment.

Junior Youth (years 6 - 8)

Junior Youth also gather on Sunday mornings after the children's talk for a time of bible study and fun activities. The Scripture Union Light curriculum is used for KATS and Junior Youth. Each session encourages the children to get to know God better through praying together, looking at the bible together and themed games and craft.

Senior Youth (years 9 - 12)

Senior Youth join in with the whole Sunday worship and are encouraged to take on leadership roles in the church. Senior Youth also meet together every second Friday night during the school term for Youth Group.

Children's & Youth Events

A number of events are run during the year, such as the Junior Youth Sleepover, the Moonwalk and the Light Party. Keep checking the newsletter and enews for updates about these events.

Safe Ministry with Children

TUC has adopted the Uniting Church in Australia Queensland Synod's Safe Ministry with Children policy and believes that every person is precious to God and in following Jesus' example, we are committed to providing a safe church for all, particularly those who are vulnerable.

All volunteers working with children at TUC have up-to-date Blue Cards and have completed the Safe Ministry with Children training.



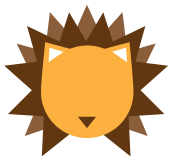
Tigers

Toddlers - Preschool



Leopards

Preschool - Year 2



Lions

Year 3 - Year 5

KATS & Junior Youth Dates

Due to Covid restrictions, we will run KATS and Junior Youth on alternate Sundays in the hall during the school terms. The children will take part in the first part of the service upstairs, which will include a Kids' Talk, before heading downstairs to the hall for KATS or Junior Youth.

KATS term 3: 18 Jul, 1 Aug,
15 Aug, 29 Aug, 12 Sept

Junior Youth term 3: 25 Jul,
8 Aug, 22 Aug, 5 Sept



Support our Local Chappy: Mandy Chiang

Apple Juice & Jam for Breakfast Club!

Mandy Chiang is our local Scripture Union Chaplain at the Queensland Academy for Science Mathematics and Technology in Toowong.

Every week, Mandy runs Breakfast Club for the students before school so they can have a meal and spend some time with one another.

If you'd like to help support Mandy, please bring along some bottles of long life juice and jars of jam to the collection point in the foyer. We have it on good authority that the students prefer apple juice to orange!

Check In Qld App



In addition to pre-booking, we are now required to check in upon arrival on Sundays with the "Check In Qld App":

Please continue to book in to attend Sunday worship by 4.00 pm each Saturday. Click the link in the weekly email, or head to the website to book: www.toowongunitingchurch.org

We will send out the seating chart on Saturday evening as usual.

Please check in with the Check In Qld App when you arrive on Sunday morning, before moving to your allocated seat/s.

You can download the Check In Qld App from the App Store or Google Play. Register your details in the App. You may already have this on your phone, because the App is already being used at many establishments.

Thank you for your patience and understanding!

A graphic for Connect Brunch featuring a light blue network pattern of dots and lines on a white background.

Connect Brunch

Welcome to TUC!
Sunday 18 July | Location TBA

Are you new to TUC? We'd love to catch up with you at the Connect Brunch after the service on Sunday 18 July. This will be a great opportunity to share some food and get to know each other a little better. We will let you know the location shortly.

Please be in touch with Dianne for more information, and to RSVP:
dianne.j.hubbard@gmail.com

Restart Dates for TUC Activities

Many of our regular activities are on a break over the school holidays. Please see below for when they will resume in term 3:

English Conversation:

Mon 12 July, 10 am

Tuesday Pastorate:

Tues 13 July, 7 pm

Playgroups:

Thurs & Fri 15 & 16 July, 9.30 am

Senior Youth:

Fri 16 July, 6.30 pm



Toowong Community Morning Tea

**Wednesday 21 July
9.45 am in the hall**

Our Toowong Community Morning Tea occurs on the third Wednesday of every month. Everyone is warmly invited to join us on 21 July for a delicious morning tea and great company! If you are able to, we ask for a small \$5 donation to support local community charities.

Please be in touch with Wendy for more information:

0422 373 326
awgelden@bigpond.net.au





An eight week journey through the Lord's Prayer

Starting 23 August in small groups
www.prayercourse.org

We are really excited to be starting The Prayer Course at TUC! This eight week course is run by the 24-7 Prayer group, and you can find all the resources you will need to run the course in your small group on the website above.

That's right, instead of just running this course from one location at TUC, we are asking you to start up small groups in your homes and lead the course yourselves. We think this will be a great opportunity to all be working through this course together as we grow deeper in our praying relationship with God and strengthen relationships with one another.

Here's what to do:

1. Let us know if you would like to lead a small group.

You can invite whoever you like to your group, and keep it as big or small as you like. Why not even invite friends and family from outside TUC to come along? You can choose when you meet with your group over the 8 weeks e.g. maybe every Sunday afternoon, or maybe on a weeknight, whatever suits you and your group best. You could choose to meet always in your home, or in a different home each time. You could also run each week's session on Zoom. Each session goes for an hour, and the website has all the videos, discussion questions and ideas for how to run each session - just follow along.

2. Let us know if you would like to be placed with a group.

We will get in touch with the group leaders and help connect you with a group.

There will be a signup sheet in the foyer, and you can also email us to volunteer to lead a group/be placed with a group: lauren@toowongunitingchurch.org.au

Sunday Roster: July/August

	11 July	18 July	25 July	01 August
	9.30 am	9.30 am	9.30 am	9.30 am
Speaker	Matt	Matt	Matt	Matt
Elder	Jo R	Ben R	Dianne H	Bev H
Reader	Ross H	Sarah S	Emilia B	Jane T
Pastoral Prayer	Sarah S	Laurel A	Wendy B	-
Door	Ray & Gem M	Will S, Kelvin W	Jane T, Nikki B	Karen N, Ray M
Bathroom Cleaner	Clare H	Bev H	Will S	Ben R
Coffee Machine	-	-	-	-
M'Tea	Sandra H, Brendan T	Grace T, Lijean B	Carly K, TBC	Wendy G, Karen B
Prayer Ministry	Will S	Dianne H	Neil D	Will S
Offering Counters	Rob L Emilia B	Karen N, Rob L	Kelvin W, Rob J	Emilia B, Sandra H
Tech Team	data: Asher sound: Kelvin camera: Samuel	data: Bill sound: Jack camera: Luke	data: Kahlia sound: Adrian camera: Eli	data: Lauren sound: Kelvin camera: Samuel
Music Team	Hamish, Luke, Brad, Karen	Hamish, Eli, Adrian, Kahlia, Steph	Renata, Geoff, Thadeus, Yohannes, Karen	Dave, Asher, Steph

July 2021

- 12 Mon:** **First day of Term 3**
10 am English Conversation resumes
- 13 Tues:** 7 pm Tuesday Pastorate
- 15 Thurs:** 9.30 am Playgroup resumes
- 16 Fri:** 9.30 am Playgroup resumes
6.30 pm Senior Youth Group resumes
- 18 Sun:** BBC Boarders at TUC
Connect Brunch - Welcome to TUC
- 21 Wed:** 9.45 am Toowong Community Morning Tea
7.30 pm Church Council
- 27 Tues:** 7 pm Tuesday Pastorate
- 30 Fri:** 6.30 pm Senior Youth Group

August 2021

- 10 Tues:** 7 pm Tuesday Pastorate
- 13 Fri:** **6 pm Camp Connect**
- 14 Sat:** **Camp Connect**
- 15 Sun:** **Camp Connect - return home at 2pm**
- 18 Wed:** 9.45 am Toowong Community Morning Tea
7.30 pm Church Council
- 23 Mon:** Prayer Course begins
- 24 Tues:** 7 pm Tuesday Pastorate
- 27 Fri:** 6.30 pm Senior Youth Group

Weekly Events

Prayer Meeting

8.30 - 9.30 am Tuesdays on Zoom
contact Matt:

matt@toowongunitingchurch.org.au

English Conversation

10 - 11.30 am Mondays
during the school term, in the hall
contact Jane: jftrewern@gmail.com

Playgroup

9.30 - 11.00 am Thursdays
9.30 - 11.00 am Fridays
during the school term, in the hall
contact Clare: c_hankamer@hotmail.com



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UNITING CHURCH