

The Kingdom



November 2023



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 is not available on Tuesdays.

Clare Hankamer | Families Pastor

0432 861 841 | c_hankamer@hotmail.com

Jason Brown | Next Gen Pastor

0412 255 269 | jason@toowongunitingchurch.org.au

Boram Lee | Office Manager

3870 9684 | info@toowongunitingchurch.org.au

Madeline Kim | Ministries & Communications Coordinator

madeline@toowongunitingchurch.org.au

Dianne Hubbard | Care & Connect - Pastoral Care

dianne.j.hubbard@gmail.com

Will Stewart | Church Council Chair

walswdes@gmail.com

Kate Green | Congregational Chair

kategreenqld@gmail.com

Sue O'Brien | Congregational Secretary

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Toowong Uniting Church

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Hours: 9.00am - 3.00pm Tue, Wed and Thu

www.toowongunitingchurch.org

@ToowongUnitingChurch

Minister's letter November

The past month has brought considerable despair and heart ache for anyone aware of the unfolding conflict in Israel & Palestine. Our news feeds convince us that a pathway to peace is such a long way off, the problems so complex, the feud runs so deep, that no solution is likely. My prayers are reduced to - "God, only you can bring peace to this land."

The Abraham Accords, co-signed in 2020 by Israel and a group of Arab nations committing to enter peaceful relations together has shown that the intention to live peacefully is shared. Recently Israel and Saudi Arabia were very close to co-signing also, but the Hamas attacks have put this in jeopardy. One may well wonder about the timing of these attacks, but the Abraham accord confirms their shared heritage and lineage from a person who asked God for peace 3500 years ago, as he journeyed past the city of Salem (Genesis 14:18).

Psalm 122 contains the heart-felt call to pray for the peace of Jerusalem.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you."

Peace be within your walls, Prosperity within your palaces."

For the sake of my relatives and companions, I will now say, "Peace be within you."

Because of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.

(Psalm 122:6-9)

The last lines of this psalm offers a powerful motivator to pray for enduring peace for everyone - in this case Palestinian & Israeli. They are, like us, the beloved of God. When we pray to seek another's good, we are asking for the blessing of God on them. We begin to create 'abodes of peace' where ever we are, as we pray for a blessing over our neighbourhoods and city. Our prayers tilt earth towards heaven, as we seek God's best for another.

This is how the Kingdom is.

Shalom, Matt

P.S. My family and I are taking our holidays over December as I am on long service leave. Rev David McGregor will be in placement for much of my absence. David is a great pastor and I'm confident you'll enjoy his preaching and experience.



Matt Smith Lead Minister

Matt and Narelle joined TUC Community 5 years ago. Matt works alongside a dedicated team of staff and volunteers to create and grow a community whose centre is Christ.

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

Please note that Matt is not available on Tuesdays.

Bible Readings

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

- 5 Nov:** The Kingdom revealed in the Covenant
Isaiah 9: 1-7, Matthew 4: 12-17
- 12 Nov:** The Kingdom revealed in Jesus Christ
Matthew 13: 44-53
- 19 Nov:** The Kingdom Present and Future
1 Peter 2: 4-10
- 26 Nov:** Experience Alpha Sunday



Compassion - empathy in action

In the October newsletter, compassion was described as a response to empathy for a need and taking practical measures through Jesus' urging to "love your neighbour as oneself".

- This type of action is not generated out of a sense of obligation or duty - it emanates out of God's love for us.
- One of the aspects of practical pastoral care at TUC is providing meals. In recent years we have not done as much of this as we would like - sure, we have conducted Meal Trains for new mums; however, providing a meal to someone who is just home from hospital or having a tough time has been limited.
- We are preparing to remedy this by purchasing a fridge/freezer which will be situated in the Church House kitchen. Care & Connect will be asking the TUC congregation to provide suitable meals to be kept in the freezer and will distribute containers and labels for use. Look out for the start date in the e-news in a few weeks.

Two quotes to ponder

"You should so transform your heart in God's holy love that you love each and every brother or sister entrusted to you in all [their] needs. This care should be quite concrete. Community leaders should arrange for basic comforts of others..... then God's sweetness shall flow wonderfully into you." Mechthild, The Flowing Light of the Godhead; 6.30; trans. Tobin, 223, 224.

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."
John 15:5 (NIV)

Question to ponder

How does Jesus' commandment "love your neighbour as yourself" relate to compassion?

Dianne Hubbard
Care & Connect Coordinator



THE OFFERINGS: OCTOBER 2023

PROJECTED BUDGET
\$18,500

GENERAL OFFERINGS
\$15,443.60

PLANT
\$9,040

We'd love you to come to our

Connect Brunch

Sunday 5 November, 11 am
After the service in the Church House

The Connect Brunch is our way of saying "welcome to TUC".
If you are new to TUC and have not been to a Connect Brunch
before please come, share some food together and get to
know each other a little more.

For catering purposes, please let Dianne know if you can
attend, and if you have any special dietary requirements:

dianne.j.hubbard@gmail.com | 0410 680 023



'How to Forgive' drawn by Geoff Rankin

TOOWONG UNITING CHURCH ~ 22 OCT 2023

"forgive as the LORD has forgiven you" Col 3:13

~ HOW ~ to FORGIVE

~ A GUIDE BY ROB LORD ~

- Get real about the injury
- Count the cost of holding onto the grievance (turn the other cheek)
- Ask God for help with "feelings" (get rid of all bitterness & malice)
- Forgive Out Loud! (If your brother sins against you, rebuke them, and if they repent, forgive them.)
- ~~Just~~ Check that you forgive them as God forgives them
- Practice

Geoff Rankin



GRAND★ FRIENDS

starting in 2024

Open Day

9.30AM, Wednesday 15 November

If you're interested in coming or finding out more about the program, please let Clare know.

 ×  **uniting early learning**
JAHJUMBEEN & TOOWONG

Toowong Uniting Church



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

NEW CONGREGATIONAL CHAIR & SECRETARY
PRESENT BUDGET

● Sunday, November 12

After the service
in the Church Hall

Everyone is invited to attend the meeting



This Christmas
**Give a little,
gift a lot.**

Kindly return the filled Red
Bags to the church foyer by
Sunday, November 19th

Bags can be picked up from the back of church.



Suggested Shopping list

- long-life milk
- tinned meat
- tea and coffee
- chocolates, biscuits
- savouries and nuts
- tinned fruit
- soft drinks and cordial
- non-perishable tinned food items
- toiletries (male and female)
- new toys for children (0-17years)
- Christmas cake

ALPHA EXPERIENCE AT TOOWONG UC

ALPHA SUNDAY SUN 26 NOVEMBER

This Sunday, our worship will include an experience of what Alpha is all about. This will be a good opportunity for the congregation as a whole to get familiar with Alpha, especially for those who haven't had the opportunity to join our Thursday night introductions. The Sunday worship will still maintain its usual format.

WEEKLY ALPHA EXPERIENCE EVERY THU EVENING

If you're curious about Alpha, or if you're interested in helping out with the 2024 Alpha course, we'd be absolutely thrilled to have you join us. As we progress, we'll find roles that feel comfortable for everyone.

If you're unable to attend on Thursdays but still want to be a part, please speak to Matt or Clare.



Alpha



Clare Hankamer Families Pastor

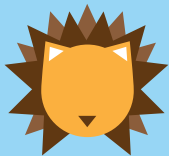
Clare oversees KATS and Youth and runs the Thursday Playgroup. Clare has a PhD in Horticulture with significant experience in both church and community youth work in the UK and Australia.

Contact Clare for details
0432 861 841
c_hankamer@hotmail.com



Leopards

Preschool- Grade2



Lions

Grade3- Grade5

Youth Group

Junior Youth

Grades 6 - 8

Senior Youth

Grades 9 - 12

What happens at Children's Ministry?

- Children are encouraged to get to know God and to talk to Him
- Children grow in confidence to read and learn about God's word for themselves
- To help them do this, high-quality, approved, curriculum-based material has been chosen
- Teachers are passionate about sharing God's love with young people in a caring and supportive environment
- Children learn in a creative, thoughtful and play-based session

How can you as a parent or carer, help your child enjoy this time?

- **Come as often as you can** so that your child has continuity, knows what to expect and most important of all can make great friends!
- **Ask them about** what they learn and what they have experienced
- **Lean on God to help you:**
 - **Talk to God together** - A suggestion would be to pray with your child at bedtime after their bedtime story.
 - **Celebrate** - Enjoy time together and thank God for it.
 - **Read the Bible together** - read a Children's Bible story each night as part of the night time routine or together as a family.
 - **Grow with your children** - all these things are easier when your child is small but I urge you to continue these things throughout their lives; see them as not just a child's routine but as **your** routine. Your children will learn from you, as they mature into teenage and then adulthood, that friendship with God is a lifelong adventure.

Next Generation Ministry

JUNIOR YOUTH



EVERY SECOND SUNDAY
DURING THE SERVICE



8 OCT

22 OCT

5 NOV

19 NOV

3 DEC



SENIOR YOUTH

EVERY SECOND FRIDAY
6.30PM - 9PM, CHURCH HALL



6 OCT

20 OCT

3 NOV

17 NOV

1 DEC

TUC SAFE SPACE

- ALL ARE WELCOME -

SEMESTER 2 DATES

CONTACT AMELIA FOR MORE INFO

02/09	CRAFTERNOON
16/09	THE RUTHLESS LIMITATION OF HURRY PART 2
30/09	MOVIE NIGHT
14/10	THE RUTHLESS LIMITATION OF HURRY PART 3
28/10	FIGHT HUSTLE END HURRY
11/11	END OF SEMESTER/YEAR PARTY

Prayer Ministry at Toowong Uniting Church

WEDNESDAY MORNING PRAYER MEETING

OUR TUESDAY ONLINE ZOOM PRAYER MEETING IS MOVED TO WEDNESDAY MORNING AT 8:30.

Call to pray for our church and our community. Please let us know how we can pray for you. It's our privilege to pray for each other and as a church, we go to prayer as a matter of first resort.

Please contact Matt for prayer support.



Can we pray with you?

Prayer Ministry After the Service

Please come forward at the end of the service on Sundays to receive prayer for particular needs or issues.



Men's Straddie Weekend

Fri.27.10 - Sun.29.10.2023



TOOWONG UNITING CHURCH PRESENTS

RED Worship CARPET

5TH NOVEMBER 2023

19TH NOVEMBER 2023

* FORTNIGHTLY SUNDAYS @ 5PM *

THIS IS A EVENING WORSHIP SERIES SHOWCASING MOVIES THAT HIGHLIGHT THE CHRISTIAN MESSAGE





HOPE UNVEILED

SUMMER SCHOOL 2024

Register Now



cms.org.au/qnnsw/summerschool

CHURCH PEWS #2 for SALE

Solid 60 year old Silky Oak pews



4 x 2.2m (\$250 each)
18 x 4.5m (\$500 each)

Removal not included.

Contact Boram info@toowongunitingchurch.org.au



Toowong's Got Talent

Express in your way

Submit your creative reflections to madeline@toowongunitingchurch.org.au
photo/video/poem/painting/etc all welcome

Sunday Roster: November 2023

	5 Nov	12 Nov	19 Nov	26 Nov
	9.30 am	9.30 am	9.30 am	9.30 am
Speaker	Matt	Matt	Matt	Matt
Kids Talk	Communion Ben R, Kate G	tbc	Wendy B	No Kids Talk
Reader	Kabir S	Luke T	Eve N	Chloe M
Pastoral Prayer	Ross H	Laurel A	Georgina W	Luke T
Prayer Ministry	Laurel A	Will S	Wendy B	Barbara F
Elder	Ben R	Will S	Wendy B	Jo R
Door	Georgina W Nadia A	Jane T Luke T	Nikki B Warwick B	Kelvin W Karen N
M'Tea	Karen B Asher W Eve N	Jane D David D	Sarah S Brendan T	Jane T -
Coffee Machine	-	Hanum L Brodie S	-	Hanum L -
Offering Counters	Nadia A Georgina W	Jane T Rob J	Rob L Kelvin W	Jane T Rob J
Trestles and Chairs	Kelvin W Gavan C	Scott G Gary O	Owen K Geoff R	Chris K Luke T
Tech Team	data: Bill sound: Asher camera: Eli	data: Madeline sound: Jack camera: Luke	data: Kahlia sound: Kelvin camera: -	data: - sound: Asher camera: Sam
Music Team	Jason, Richard, Brad, Adrian G	Asher, Boram	Liz, Luke, Eli, Adrian G	Josh, Boram

November 2023

- 3 Fri** Senior Youth
- 4 Sat** Volunteer Safety Training
@Bremer Brisbane Presbytery office in
Goodna
- 5 Sun** Junior Youth
Connect Brunch
Red Carpet Worship
- 12 Sun** Congregational Meeting
- 15 Wed** Church Council
- 17 Fri** Senior Youth
- 20 Sun** Last day to drop off Red Bag
Appeal
- 26 Sun** Alpha Sunday

December 2023

- 3 Sun** KATS Party
- 8 Fri** Last Playgroup of Term 4
- 10 Sun** Communion Sunday
- 13 Wed** Church Council
- 24 Sun** Christmas Eve evening service
- 25 Mon** Christmas morning service

Weekly Events

Prayer Meeting

8.30 - 9.30 am Wednesdays on Zoom
contact Matt:
matt@toowongunitingchurch.org.au

English Conversation

9.45 - 11.45 am Mondays
during the school term, in the hall
contact Maria:
info@toowongunitingchurch.org.au

Bible Study - Women's Group

7 - 8.30 pm Tuesdays
During the school term
At Kate's house
contact Boram:
info@toowongunitingchurch.org.au

Playgroup

9.30 - 11.00 am Thursdays & Fridays
during the school term, in the hall
contact:
Thu - Clare: c_hankamer@hotmail.com
Fri - Pam: p_bennett@live.com.au

