

HARVEST IS PLENTIFUL



TOOWONG
UNITING CHURCH

FEBRUARY 2024



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

willstewart65795@gmail.com

Luke Reynoldson | Congregational Chair

lbreyne@hotmail.com

Paul Briggs | Congregational Secretary

hardroadrestrung@hotmail.com

Toowong Uniting Church

82 Sherwood Road, Toowong, QLD, 4066
Office: 11 Grove Street, Toowong, QLD, 4066

Phone: 3870 9684

Email: info@toowongunitingchurch.org.au

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

www.toowongunitingchurch.org

@ToowongUnitingChurch

Minister's welcome letter February

Phew! It's been a hot summer!

With the prospect of continuing 30 degree days, I think of my friend John who is a harvest picker for crops around the Lockyer Valley, known as 'Australia's Salad Bowl'. He recently shared that he starts at 4:30 AM to beat the heat, how his hands often cramp from picking, but most significantly, it's his sense of separation from his family in Fiji that aches the most. John has been working in Australia for over two years seeking a better future for them. Sometimes when I see John, he brings a box of fruit or vegies that was freshly picked, and I'm reminded that we all have food on our table because of the stoic work of people like John, and that the literal 'fruit of his labour' requires some personal sacrifice from him.

Our theme at TUC for February is 'The Harvest is Plentiful', as Jesus reminded his followers, the harvest season is upon us, because the hearts of so many are prepared today to receive Jesus. This may sound counter intuitive to many Christians, who assume our culture has already heard some versions of the Gospel and have decided they found it wanting. In response to this, we know the Holy Spirit is the supreme Evangelist and has been at work in people's lives and circumstances, so our response is to be prepared for harvest, to be invested. It's our collective discernment that Toowong is the field that was prepared by Holy Spirit for this time.

As we plan for the year ahead, with all the potential goals and opportunities that it brings, we are mindful that rising to an opportunity always requires some kind of sacrifice from us to achieve the goal. Could you prayerfully engage with Alpha in Toowong, and to consider stepping outside of your comfort zone? This opportunity to share Alpha will require a significant investment of time and energy, like any harvest season. A big ask? Absolutely, although a worthy goal to work towards, and we are invited by the Lord of the Harvest to do this together.

Only in and through the life of Christ, could we ever make or consider such a request.

Matt



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.

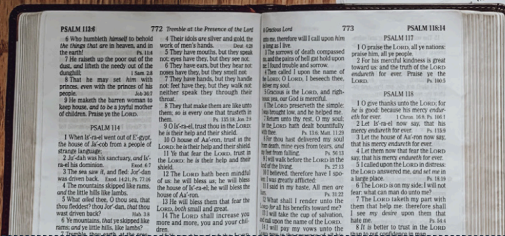
For prayer and counselling, please contact Matt on 0409 917 729.

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!

- 4 Feb:** Matthew 9: 9-13, 35-38
- 11 Feb:** 2 Corinthians 5: 14-21
- 18 Feb:** Acts 16: 6-10, 17: 1-9
- 25 Feb:** Isaiah 43: 9-14a



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING BUDGET EDITION

Sunday, February 18
After the service, in the Church Hall



COMMISSIONING OF VOLUNTEERS

SUNDAY 11 FEBRUARY, DURING THE SERVICE

As the new year unfolds, we are commissioning our volunteers into 2024 on Sunday, February 11 during the service. This special liturgy is committed to our child-related volunteers, in accordance with our child safety guidelines. However, we warmly welcome all volunteers to attend as we come together to celebrate and embrace the talents and gifts we've received as servants of God. Your presence is vital as we equip ourselves for this new year, refreshing the meaning of volunteering.



THE OFFERINGS: JANUARY 2024

PROJECTED BUDGET
\$18,500

GENERAL OFFERINGS
\$12,583.13

PLANT
\$8,800

LOVE TOOWONG
\$1,000

CHRISTMAS BOWL
\$597

TUC Ministries in Feb

KATS

For Kindy - Grade 5
Every Sunday in the church hall

Playgroup

Every Thursday & Friday
9.30am - 11am

Junior Youth (Grades 6-8)

Every Sunday in the house

Senior Youth (Grades 9-12)

Fortnightly Fridays
9th & 23rd in February
6.30pm - 9.30pm

English Conversation

Every Monday, 9.30am - 11.45am

Women's Bible Study

Every Tuesday, 7pm - 8.30pm

ALPHA : CAN YOU HELP?

We are seeking volunteers to join the Alpha team in creating an inviting space that nurtures those souls seeking a connection with God. If you are interested in helping, please sign up on the sheet in the foyer or online via the QR code. **Sign up closes on 18 February.**



PRAYER

- Pray remotely during Alpha Sessions.
- Pray for the progress of Alpha.
- Engage in prayer events leading up to Alpha.



HOSPITALITY

- Food preparation and cooking for each session.
- Purchase groceries.
- Table waiting.
- Wash up.



SET-UP

- Plan and arrange hall aesthetics, mood, and lighting.
- Arrange tables, seats, stationery, and table decor before each session.
- Vacuum hall and clean bathrooms as necessary.



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
Prep - Grade 2



Lions
Grades 3 - 5

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.

Sunday Roster: February 2024

	4 Feb	11 Feb	18 Feb	25 Feb	3 Mar
	9.30 am	9.30 am	9.30 am	9.30 am	9.30 am
Speaker	Matt	Matt	Matt	Matt	Matt
Comm' Helpers	Will S Kate G				Di H, Narelle W, Sarah S
Reader	Karen B	Nadia A	Jane T	Kabir S	Chloe M
Pastoral Prayer	-	Wendy B	Ross H	Rob H	Cassie L
Prayer Ministry	Barbara F	Will S	Laurel A	Barbara F	Wendy B
Elder	Di H	Will S	Jo R	Di H	Will S
Door	Jane T Kabir S	Nikki B Kelvin W	Carly K Sue O	Wendy B -	Sue O Jane T
M'Tea	Narelle W Gail T	David D Jane D	Jane T Eve N	Brendan T Nadia A	Karen B Asher W
Coffee Machine	-	-	Carly K Hanum L	-	-
Offering Counters	Jane T Rob J	Kelvin W Nadia A	Rob L Rob J	Kelvin W -	Rob J -
Trestles & Chairs	Rob H Gavan C	-	Owen K Gary O	Kelvin W Geoff R	Gavan C Rob H
Tech Team	d: Bill s: Jack c: Luke	d: Madeline s: Asher c: Sam	d: Kahlia s: Eli c: Eli	d: Sam s: Luke c: Luke	d: Bill s: - c: -
Music Team	Renata, Geoff, Josh, Adrian G	Jason, Boram	Liz, Asher, Gail	Richrad, Eli, Adrian G	Renata, Geoff, Josh

Lion's Pancake Party

FOR GRADES 3 - 5

SATURDAY 10 FEBRUARY

- 5 PM - 8 PM
- AT THE CHURCH HOUSE
- DINNER, INCLUDING PANCAKES
- GAMES AND A MOVIE



PLEASE CONTACT CLARE FOR ANY QUESTIONS | 0432 861 841

February 2024

- 1 Thu** Playgroup resumes for Term 1
- 2 Fri** Playgroup resumes for Term 1
- 4 Sun** KATS, Junior Youth resumes (weekly)
Communion Sunday
- 7 Wed** Church Council
- 10 Sat** Lions Pancake Party
- 11 Sun** Commissioning Service for all volunteers
- 17 Sat** Lent begins
Volunteer Training in Goodna
- 18 Sun** Congregational Meeting
- 21 Feb** Church Council

March 2024

- 1 Fri** Encounter @Ipswich UC
- 16 Sat** Election Day Sausage Sizzle
- 20 Wed** Church Council
- 24 Sun** Palm Sunday (KATS Easter Celebration)
- 28 Thu** Term 1 ends
- 29 Fri** Good Friday
- 31 Sun** Easter Sunday

Weekly Events

Prayer Meeting

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

English Conversation

9.30 - 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

