



TOOWONG
UNITING CHURCH



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FEBRUARY 2022

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

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

sobrien868@gmail.com

Toowong Uniting Church

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Phone: 3870 9684

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!

Our preaching theme for the month of February is Hope.

Hope, like mince and toilet paper lately, seems in short supply. There's plenty of reasons for feeling that life is tearing at the seams in different ways, including our national discussions around culture, justice, climate, global health and prospects for our near future. Young people are giving voice to their sense of anxious foreboding, and we see this expressed in media and art and through their protests.

Certainly, there are reasons for concerns, and how we respond to any crisis requires leaders with the audacity to imagine a better future.

You would recall the brave young woman Malala Yousafzai who at age 15 was shot by a Taliban terrorist as she travelled home on her school bus. In the year prior to this attack, Malala was speaking out against the Taliban's restrictions on female education and violations of women's rights. Despite warnings of retribution from the Taliban, she and her father continued to raise public awareness within Pakistan. After being shot in her head, Malala survived and was airlifted to England for treatment to her terrible injuries. After she recovered, she completed her studies and in 2020, Malala graduated from Oxford University with her degree in Politics & Philosophy. She now dedicates her time to be a spokesperson for all girls and young women who are being denied an education and basic rights.

On Yousafzai's 16th birthday, she spoke at the UN to call for worldwide access to education. The UN dubbed the event "Malala Day". It was her first public speech since the attack. Malala said "The terrorists thought they would change my aims and stop my ambitions, but nothing changed in my life except this: **weakness, fear and hopelessness died. Strength, power and courage was born** ... I am not against anyone, neither am I here to speak in terms of personal revenge against the Taliban or any other terrorist group. I'm here to speak up for the right of education for every child. I want education for the sons and daughters of the Taliban and all terrorists and extremists."

I am drawn to her statement that after this vicious and traumatic attack on her life, Malala found that her personal hope grew, her strength and courage increased, and she was able to let go of revenge and continue her pursuit of equality for all. She is a truly remarkable person because she understands and harnesses her symbolic power, with so many other young women now looking to her as a role model. Her hope is not naïve or untested, she carries a scar for life from those that would silence her. Yet her hope is rising for this generation. She carries that hope within her.

We follow a Saviour who carried scars from those who wanted to silence him. We have the ultimate beacon of hope in Jesus who overturned the defeat of death and declared with God's love, faith, hope and love conquers all. In the end, the greatest of these is love.

Keep drinking from His well,

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.

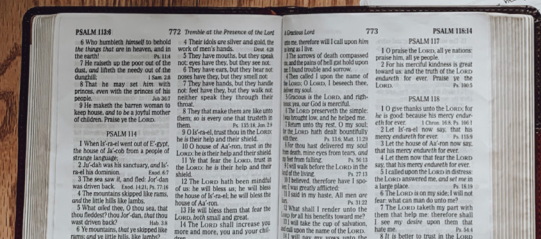
For prayer and counselling, please contact Matt on 0409 917 729.

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!

- 6 February: Know the Hope** - Ephesians 1: 8
- 13 February: A Living Hope** - 1 Peter 1: 1 - 21
- 20 February: Hope in Grace** - 2 Thessalonians 2: 13 - 17
- 27 February: Anchored in Hope** - Hebrews 6: 13 - 20



New Bible Study Series 2022 @ TUC

What's it all about?

Our aims in this series are to study **Bible themes** together in a small group. We will use the on-line resources provided by **The Bible Project**: <https://bibleproject.com/about/>.

As the Bible Project website states:

*BibleProject is a nonprofit ed-tech organisation and animation studio that produces 100% free [Bible videos](#), [podcasts](#), [blogs](#), [classes](#), and [educational Bible resources](#) to help make the biblical story accessible to everyone, everywhere. From page one to the final word, **we believe the Bible is a unified story that leads to Jesus**. This diverse collection of ancient books overflows with wisdom for our modern world.*

In just seven years the Bible Project videos have had over 100 million views in over 200 countries, and they have over two million subscribers worldwide. Many churches in Australia and overseas run Bible Studies using these resources.

These Bible studies will be at more depth than pastorate but **will be highly participative and open to all comers** – whether you have been studying the Bible for many decades or for just a few weeks.

How will the group operate?

It will help if you have **a computer or smart phone** so you can view the video and perhaps listen to the relevant podcasts for the study theme before you come to the group. The new **smart phone app** is also a great aide. However, it will be quite OK to come unprepared and learn from the discussions in the group each week – but **do bring a Bible with you. A notebook to record what you are learning** would also be a great idea.

Dates and times

The first study will be on Monday evening February 14, 7-9 pm, in the church hall so we can socially distance. The series will initially be for 4 weeks, with the following themes:

- February 16 The Holy Spirit
- February 23 God
- March 2 Heaven and Earth
- March 9 Tree of Life

The study each week will essentially be an introduction to the theme. It is also possible to **do more studies at greater depth for each theme**, which the group might decide to do after the first 4 studies.

Registering your interest

Please contact Ross if you are interested in coming along or have some questions. He can be **emailed** on Ross.homel@icloud.com **texted** on 0407 754 064 or he will be at church on February 6 and 13.

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!

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 1:

English Conversation:

Mon 14 Feb, 10 am

Tuesday Pastorate:

To be announced

Playgroups:

Thurs & Fri 10 & 11 Feb, 9.30 am

Senior Youth:

Fri 11 Feb, 7 pm



Hi, I'm Madeline Kim

I'm the new **Ministries & Communications Co-ordinator** for Toowong Uniting Church and I am thrilled to join TUC to be a part of the church and the congregation. I'm really looking forward to meeting and getting to know everyone.

A bit about myself, I come from a Town Planning background which helped me to learn a range of skills and knowledge, but especially, throughout my study years, I was able to discover my interest in the artistic aspects of the world. I'm truly grateful to be able to use my interest in art & design to visually express and share the love of God to the community through various communication methods.



Madeline (Cherin) Kim
Ministries & Communications
Co-ordinator

Contact:
madeline@toowongunitingchurch.org.au



Boram Kim
Office Manager

Contact:
3870 9684
info@toowongunitingchurch.org.au

Hi, I'm Boram Lee

The opportunity came unexpectedly but I am excited to be working for Toowong Uniting Church as a temporary office manager.

I was originally trained in church music but was given an opportunity to work as an administrator at the IDI (International Development Institute) Uganda as part of a NGO called Korea Food for the Hungry International. That was 8 years ago by the way but I hope those experiences and memories will come alive and help me in serving TUC and I hope to take the opportunity to learn more about TUC and the congregation.

Children's & Youth Ministry

For Parents

You are amazing! I hope you know that Our Father God is with you; loving you and guiding you at this important time of life.

Please know that the whole Church family are supporting you in prayer.

As a parent, I go back to this verse in Isaiah again and again for encouragement:

He tends his flock like a shepherd:

He gathers the lambs in his arms
and carries them close to his heart;

he gently leads those that have young.

Isaiah 40:11

KATS (Toddlers - Grade 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 **Leopard and Lion age groups**. An enthusiastic group of volunteers lead these groups, teaching the children about God in a fun and friendly environment. The Scripture Union Light curriculum is used for KATS.

KATS will meet every Sunday in 2022.

Youth (Grades 6 - 12)

This year we are launching a new look youth group which will combine Junior and Senior Youth Groups and will meet every second Friday night in the Hall. We pray that it will be a great evening to hang out with friends and to spend some time asking the big questions of life and to pray and worship together.

We really love seeing our young people take part in worship on Sundays. We seek to support and encourage them to discover their leadership gifts and to be looking at ways to serve God in the Church and Community.

Children's & Youth Events

A number of events are run during the year, such as the Youth camp, 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.



Clare Hankamer
Families Pastor

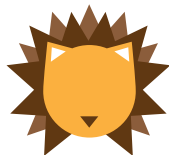
Clare oversees KATS and Youth and runs the Thursday Playgroup. Clare has a PhD in Horticulture with significant experience in both church and community youth work in the UK and Australia.

Contact Clare for details
0432 861 841



Leopards

Preschool - Grade 2



Lions

Grade 3 - Grade 5



Youth Group
Grades 6 - Grade 12

KATS

Start Up Party

for 2022

Sunday 13 February
during the service

EVERYONE IS INVITED!

Youth Group

Grades 6 - 12

EVERY SECOND FRIDAY 7-9PM

STARTING FROM:

FRIDAY 11 FEB

25 FEB | 11 MAR | 25 MAR

Contact Clare for details 0432 861 841

Survey Invitation for Church Review 2022

Bremer Brisbane Presbytery is conducting a Church Review of TUC.

Please engage in the review process with **honest feedbacks** and **comments** on the health, life and vitality at our church.

You can participate at forms.gle/M4EEirPcRkeeHQ7T7

Rev. Glen Schweitzer will oversee the process. Please contact our church council for more details or speak to Will Stewart walswdes@gmail.com



Sunday Roster: February 2022

| | 13 Feb | 20 Feb | 27 Feb | 6 March |
|-------------------|--|--|--|--|
| | 9.30 am | 9.30 am | 9.30 am | 9.30 am |
| Speaker | Matt | Matt | Matt | Matt |
| Elder | Ben R | Will S | Josephine R | David V |
| Reader | Nadia A | Carly K | Rob H | Wendy B |
| Pastoral Prayer | Ross H | Laurel A | Will S | - |
| Kids' Talk | Wendy B | Josephine R | - | - |
| Door | Nikki B Josephine R | Josephine R Jane T | Gary O Kelvin W | Sue O Gary O |
| Bathroom Cleaner | - | Dianne H | Ben R | Clare H |
| Coffee Machine | - | - | - | - |
| M'Tea | Dianne H Lijean B | Wendy G Mex B | Grace T Carly K | Carly K Karen N |
| Prayer Ministry | Will S | Karen N | Wendy B | Neil D |
| Offering Counters | Karen N Jane T | Rob L Grace T | Jane T Karen N | Rob J Emilia B |
| Tech Team | data: Garry sound: Gabe camera: Luke | data: Kelvin sound: Asher camera: Samuel | data: Kahlia sound: Gabe camera: Eli | data: Kahlia sound: Adrian camera: Eli |
| Music Team | Renata, Geoff, Thadeus, Issy, Yohannes | Mitch, Luke, Brad, Kahlia | Asher, Adrian | Jisu, Brad, YeEun |

**We want to hear
from you, too!**

**Share your thoughts &
expressions on the
February's theme
'HOPE'**

Where do you find hope?

What places & situations
give you reason for hope?

Feel free to send in any
pictures, visuals or stories
that brought you hope

to Madeline at
[madeline@toowong
unitingchurch.org.au](mailto:madeline@toowong
unitingchurch.org.au)



February 2022

- 7 Mon:** First day of Term 1
- 10 Thu:** 9.30 am Playgroup resumes
- 11 Fri:** 9.30 am Playgroup
7 pm Youth Group resumes
- 13 Sun:** KATS Startup Party
- 21 Mon:** Queensland Naturalists Club

March 2022

- 27 Sun:** AGM (Annual General Meeting)

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: jfrewern@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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