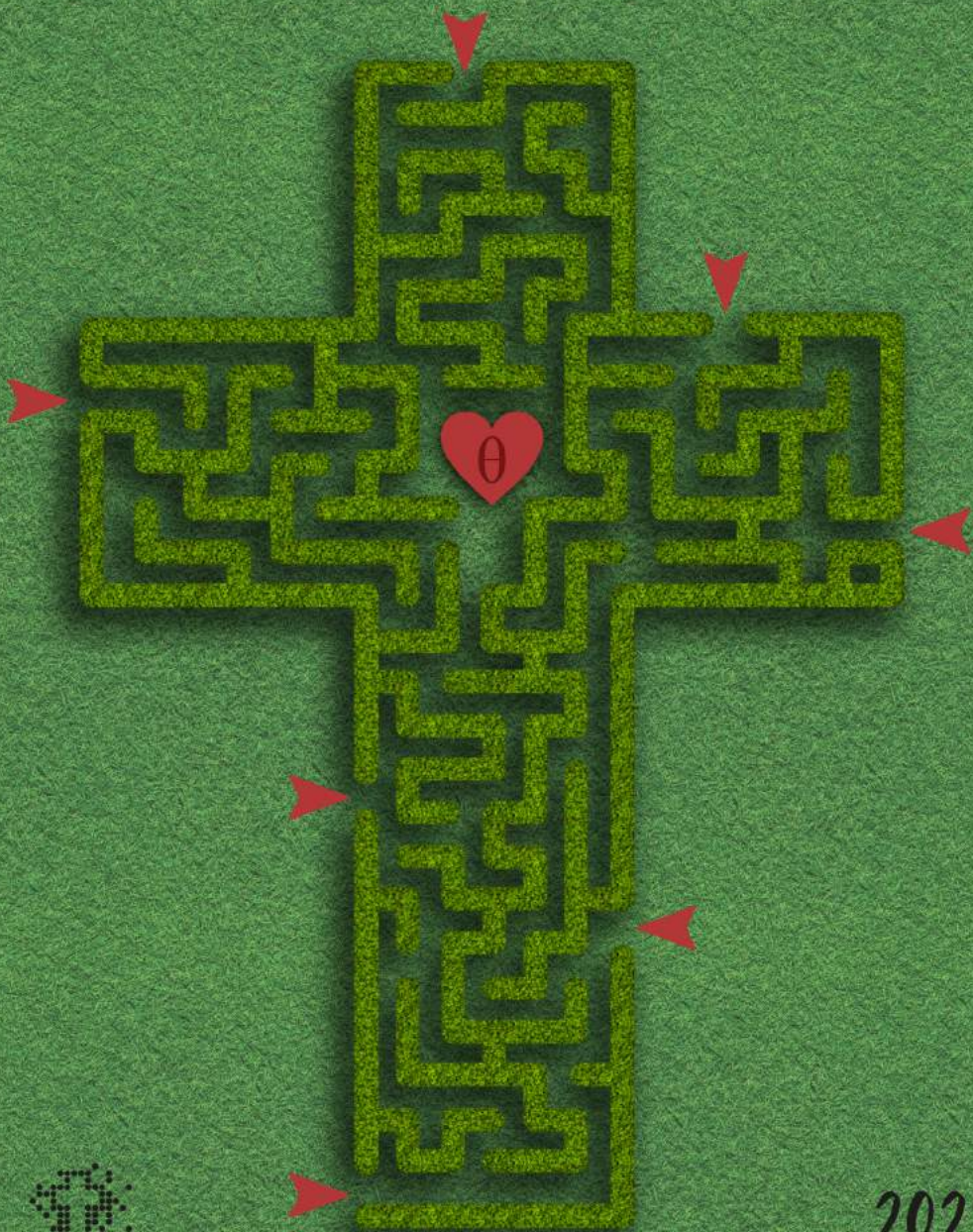


THE CHALLENGE



TOOWONG
UNITING CHURCH

2022
MARCH

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

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

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

Minister's Letter

"Smooth seas never made a skilled sailor."

Welcome! Our theme for March is "Challenge", which is the next step of lived-out hope, to keep persisting under difficult or even adverse conditions. Recent flooding of Brisbane has affected many of you, with major impacts to your homes and lives, or your neighbours. You are in the midst of managing significant upheaval, or assisting others who have been inundated, and our hearts and prayers are with you. Challenging times are asking questions of us, how do we respond?

Here's an example of an ad placed in a London newspaper by Ernest Shackleton in the early 1900s:

"Men wanted for hazardous journey. Low wages, bitter cold, long hours of complete darkness. Safe return doubtful. Honour and recognition in event of success."

Shackleton received hundreds of applications! People were eager to face a challenge that would threaten their lives, when they believed the goal was worth pursuing (to reach the South Pole).

Considering your own experience, it's likely proved there's no avoiding a range of challenges if we follow Jesus in our lives. True Christianity is no easy sell. We do not call people only to a crown but first to a cross. Anyone who promises smooth seas and plain sailing hasn't read the Gospels. We are inseparably bound to Jesus, we are part of the Body of Christ, so we share in his sufferings. Yet our participation in trials and difficulties – as Paul found – also allows us to share in the abundant encouragement and comfort that our Saviour provides. "For just as the sufferings of Christ flow over into our lives, so also, through Christ, our comfort flows" (2 Corinthians 1: 5)

As we go through this next phase of challenge in our city, reach out to assist and encourage those around you in need, with the very real encouragement of the Holy Spirit within you – providing you with the comfort, hope and endurance to face whatever may be before you. Please do reach out to your church for any assistance you require, we are eager to help.

Keep drinking from His well (Isaiah 12:3)

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 March:** Lent - Amos 5: 18 - 24
- 13 March:** Wedding Feast - Luke 14: 7 - 24
Luke 18: 9 - 14
- 20 March:** Pray Continuously - Luke 11: 5 - 8
- 27 March:** James - Genesis 50: 22 - 26




Mandy Chiang,
Local Chappy at QASMT
wen-yueh.chiang@
suchaplacency.org.au

Message from Local Chappy, Mandy

I'm a **chaplain in QASMT** two days a week working to provide **social, emotional and spiritual support** to students, parents and staff. One highlight in my chaplaincy role is to provide **free breakfast** every Thursday through-out the term before students start their day. We also have a dozen Year 11 students volunteering and serving with us. I am also involved in the school-wide events and a visible presence on the school ground. I also run and organise chappy games and lunchtime activities during the breaks. Recently, I have been supporting the debating club, and it has been a great opportunity for me to get to know the students!

Chaplaincy has been **very rewarding**, though it can get busy sometimes. Something special about the QASMT chaplaincy is that we have committed Local Chaplaincy Committee members from different churches, organising fundraising for us. I cannot do my job without their prayers and support from the body of Christ! Students in our school are also very well-behaved and work hard for their studies. I am very grateful that I can work in such an amazing school and be the hands and feet of Jesus in a local high school.



THE GIVINGS - FEBRUARY

Projected Budget	\$ 18,500
Received	\$ 16,000



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!

Dates for TUC Activities

Many of our regular activities are continuing to roll in March. If circumstances should change, we will keep you posted.

English Conversation:

Every Monday 10 am

Tuesday Bible Study:

Every Tuesday 7 pm

Playgroups:

Every Thurs & Fri 9.30 am

Youth Group:

Every second Fri 7pm (4th, 11th, 25th)



Safe Space

Young Adults

WHEN

Starting on Sat 5 March
Every second Saturday

WHERE

Church House

TIME

5.30 PM

#food #worship #BibleStudy
#prayer #community #joinus #TUC



TOOWONG
UNITING CHURCH

AGM

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Everyone is invited to attend the AGM on Sunday 27 March. It will be a time for everyone to gather and vote to approve the budget and Annual Report for 2022, and to select the Elders. However, only formal members of congregation are eligible to vote. For more about formal membership, please reach us.

Sunday 27 March

10.45 am in the hall

followed by BBQ Lunch



TOOWONG
UNITING CHURCH

YOUR FEEDBACK **at a glance**

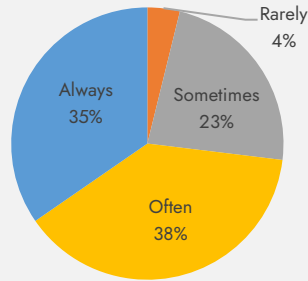
Thank you for your involvement in the church review.

Your responses and feedbacks are all precious and helpful towards vitalising the congregation and the community and further developing the ministries at TUC and beyond.

Here are some results for your reference.

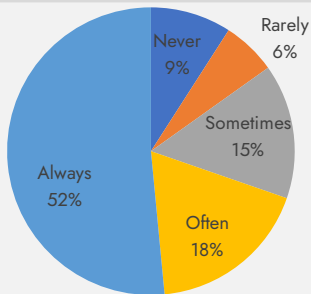
What's Important to you?

- 1st Fellowship
- 2nd Sermon
- 3rd Music
- 4th Prayer
- 5th Communion



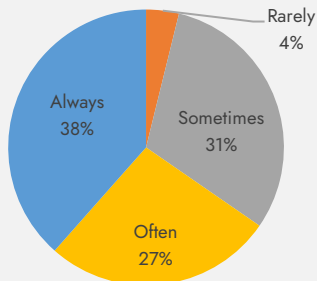
75% 'Often' feel their gifts and talents are used in this congregation

I feel my gifts and talents are used in this congregation



52% 'Always' feel safe to pray and share issues in a small group

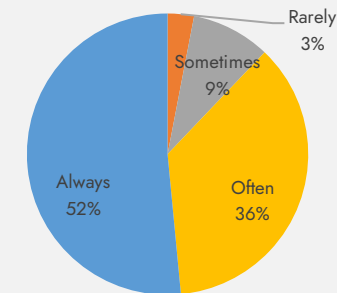
I feel safe to pray and share issues in a small group



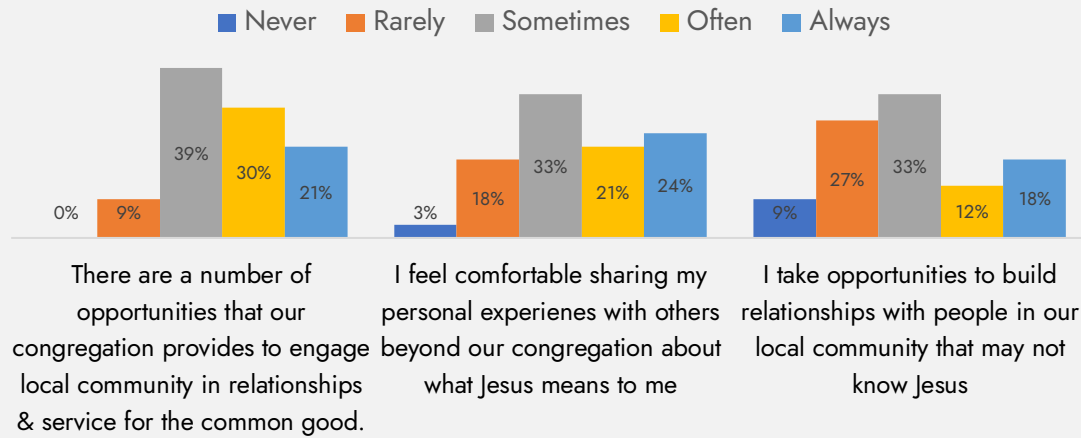
65% believe that our congregation has a strong sense of mission and purpose

Our Congregation has a strong sense of mission and purpose

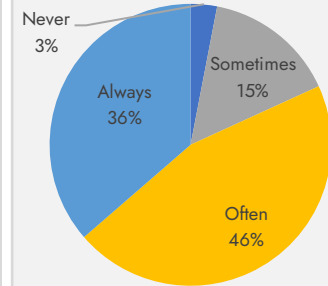
52% 'Always' experience the presence of God's love through others in our church



I experience the presence of God's love through others in our church

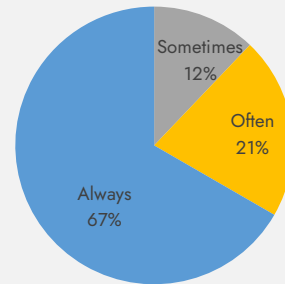


More than half responded that TUC provides opportunities to engage the local community



82% believe individual & small group prayers are an important part of TUC

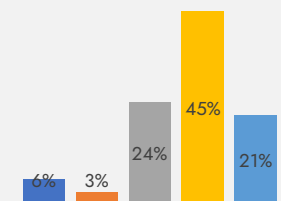
Individual & small group prayer are an important part of our church



I feel cared for in this congregation

Everyone feels they are cared for in this congregation

90% are keen to welcome those who are considered on the fringes of society



I am keen to welcome those who are considered on the fringes of society

78% find sharing personal experiences with others comfortable

For more details about feedback analysis, contact us:

info@toowong
unitingchurch.org.au

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

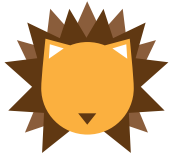
Clare oversees KATS and Youth and runs the Thursday Playgroup. Clare has a PhD in Horticulture with significant experience in both church and community youth work in the UK and Australia.

Contact Clare for details
0432 861 841



Leopards

Preschool - Grade 2



Lions

Grade 3 - Grade 5



Youth Group

Grades 6 - Grade 12

Resources for Families

I imagine your children, like mine, have lots of questions.

As this new year unfolds, we are facing many new challenges that our children have very important questions about. We may feel stuck as to how to answer. We may be struggling with some big questions ourselves. It's important to admit we don't always have answers.

I hope you can take time to explore these questions with your child and allow them to return to them again and again. This helps them to feel at ease asking questions and encourages curiosity about who God is.

The Book of Job explores some of the big questions and God's response.

I've put together some free resources that you may like to use:

Lent Resources



UnitingWorld
: Lent Event



Tearfund -
Lent devotional

Ideas for Family time



Here2Stay -
Chat Matters

Free Bible apps

For Children



Superbook Bible App - is a spinoff from the video series which depicts 2 children who time travel with the help of a robot into actual Bible events and how they apply these experiences to their lives. It is aimed at Primary-aged children.



Bible for Kids App - fun way to help your lower Primary-aged child learn Bible stories

For you and your teenagers



Bible in One Year Devotional App - youth and adult versions available. Really good Bible teaching from Nicky Gumbel



You Version Bible App - offers a range of Bible devotions for adults and teens

Encounter

BREMER BRISBANE PRESBYTERY
COMBINED YOUTH GROUP NIGHT
7-9PM, \$5

2022 Dates and Locations

11 March
Chapel Hill Uniting

3 June
Forest Lake Uniting

26 August
Ipswich Uniting, Glebe Rd

18 November
Darra Uniting

For more information contact Jo Reynoldson jojo_scarlett89@hotmail.com

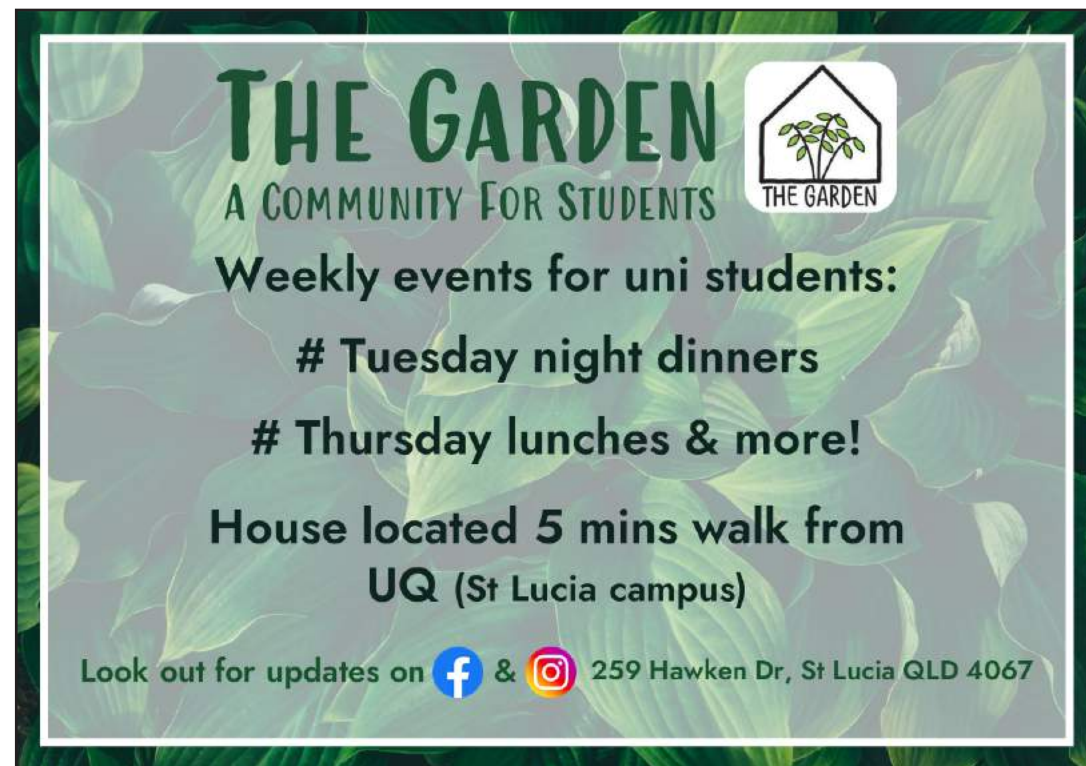



faith fun friends
4 Days
Easter
MADNESS

8-11
APRIL



Follow us





THE GARDEN 
A COMMUNITY FOR STUDENTS

Weekly events for uni students:

- # Tuesday night dinners
- # Thursday lunches & more!

House located 5 mins walk from
UQ (St Lucia campus)

Look out for updates on  &  259 Hawken Dr, St Lucia QLD 4067

The Give - and - Take of Lent (2 March - 14 April)

Giving up

- social media
- soft drink or sugar
- worry
- sleeping in
- binge-watching
- anger
- working overtime
- snacking
- alcohol

Taking on

- Bible Study
- daily Bible reading
- volunteering
- letter of gratitude each day
- forgive
- donate
- The miracle morning
- Workout
- Prayer journal

Sunday Roster: March 2022

	13 Mar	20 Mar	27 Mar	3 April
	9.30 am	9.30 am	9.30 am	9.30 am
Speaker	Kelvin W	Matts	Jisu S	Kelvin W
Elder	Dianne H	David V	Ben R	Will S
Reader	Will S	Dianne H	-	Emilia B
Pastoral Prayer	Ross H	Wendy B	Laurel A	Will S
Kids' Talk	Wendy B	Clare H	Jo R	-
Door	Kabir S Jane T	-	Karen N Carly K	Sue O Nikki B
Bathroom Cleaner	David V	Ben R	Clare H	Josephine R
Coffee Machine	-	Brodie S Rosanne G	Brad M	Carly K Brodie S
M'Tea	Grace T Karen B	Brendan T	Wendy B Dianne H	Karen B Grace T
Prayer Ministry	Neil D	Karen N	Will S	Wendy B
Offering Counters	Emilia B	Grace T Emilia B	Kelvin W Jane T	Karen N Rob L
Tech Team	data: Asher sound: Mitch camera: Samuel	data: Bill sound: Brad camera: Luke	data: Grace sound: Jack camera: -	data: Luke sound: Adrian camera: Samuel
Music Team	Thadeus, Yohannes, Issy, Karen	David, Eli, Adrian, Mex, Amelia	Sue, Asher, Boram	Jisu, Brad, YeEun, Jordan, Amelia

We are hiring..

Office Manager

- Permanent Part time role
- Responsible for Office Management, Pastoral Care, Property Maintenance, and General office duties
- Be a first point of contact
- Take an active role in TUC congregation

Scan QR code for
Position Description



Applications close 14 March

Send your CV to matt@toowongunitingchurch.org.au

March 2022

- 2 Wed:** Lent begins
- 5 Sat:** Safe Space recommences
- 11 Fri:** Encounter Chapel Hill UC
- 13 Sun:** QASMT Chaplain to speak
- 16 Wed:** Church Council meeting
- 25 Fri:** 7 pm Youth Group
- 27 Sun:** AGM & BBQ

April 2022

- 10 Mon:** Palm Sunday Celebration KATS
- 14 Thu:** Prayer Walk
- 15 Fri:** Good Friday
- 17 Sun:** Easter Sunday
- 20 Wed:** Church Council meeting
- 22 Fri:** 7 pm Youth Group
- 24 Sun:** Mt Coot-tha Church Picnic

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



TOOWONG
UNITING CHURCH