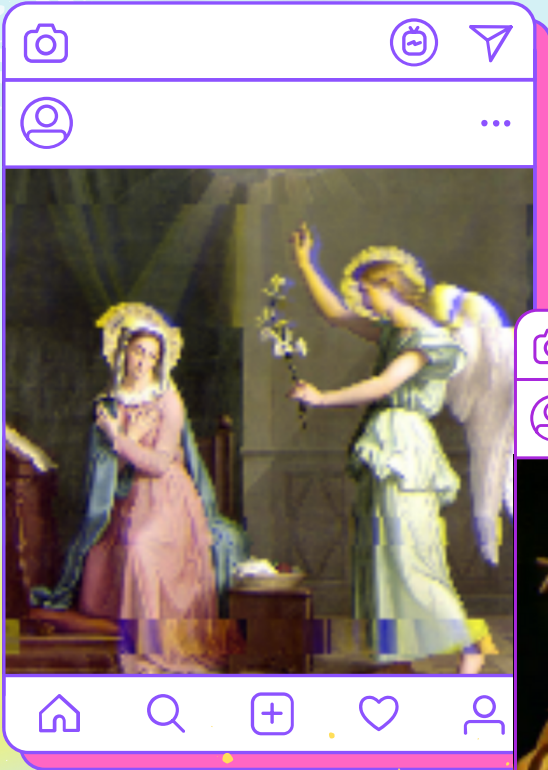
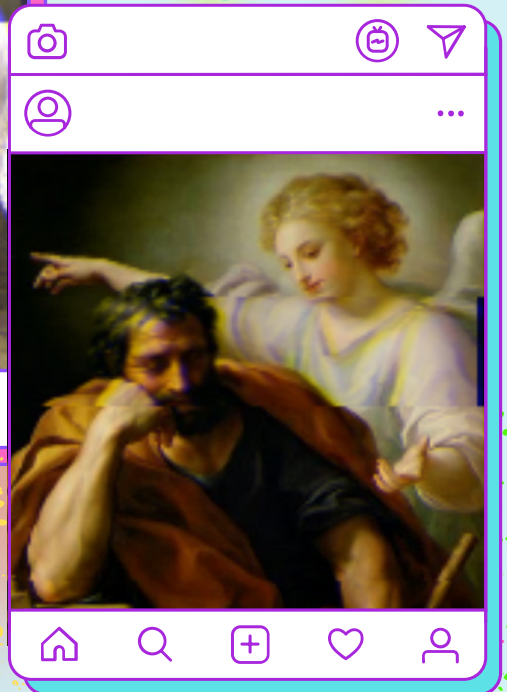


#BLESSSED



I FEEL BLESSED

WHAT A BLESSING!



GOD BLESS YOU

FEBRUARY 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 Wednesdays.

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 - 3.00 pm Tue, Wed and Thu

www.toowongunitingchurch.org
www.facebook.com/toowonguniting
www.youtube.com/c/ToowongUnitingChurch

Minister's Welcome, February 2023

"It's a blessed life!"

Occasionally we hear people say words like this, most likely at the end of a wonderful day and while they may not verbalise that 'God is the source of my blessing', the sacred meaning isn't lost on them. Their lived experience over many years leads them to conclude they have received gifts of opportunity, love and grace they cannot reasonably attribute because they "deserved them". Their life has indeed been blessed, and the epistle of James tells us "Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow." (James 1: 17)

Surveying the scriptures we see there is undeniably the blessing of God declared on people, families, and even nations. Jacob receives the blessing of God from Isaac, David is anointed at God's choosing through Samuel, Mary is chosen - "Greetings - you who are highly favoured!" As we hear the Aaronic blessing announced over us - the Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you - we are reminded we are people who in covenant grace, live under a blessing. That's extraordinary!

Jesus encourages us in the Beatitudes to also receive our blessing - the favour of God - through living out Kingdom life now. These blessings come to the poor in spirit, the meek and those who hunger for righteousness, the peacemakers and merciful. I am never elated when I read these invitations, they don't sound like the blessed life that I have in mind for me. Yet the words of Jesus will so often upend our mindset, and re-order our loves, that I know I have to embrace these invitations (even reluctantly) to know more about fellowship in the Kingdom of Heaven.

We can only fully understand these beatitudes in community life, so please come and share your story and teach us about the blessing through your lived experience.

Thanks for sharing your life and journey with Jesus at TUC. Shalom.

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 Wednesdays.

Bible Readings

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

5 Feb: Matthew 5: 13 - 20

12 Feb: Matthew 5: 3

19 Feb: Matthew 5: 4 - 6

26 Feb: Matthew 5: 8 - 10



Fragments

written by Beryl Mortimer

*He gave his lunch. Yes, that was all.
'Twas willingly given but oh, so small.
Then Jesus prayed and a blessing did fall
He was only a lad, but he answered the call.
I wonder why..... But it's true.*

*She gleaned from the fragments they left in the field.
It was all that she asked from their rich harvest yield,
But it led Ruth to Boaz; in love prostrate she kneeled,
For this beautiful woman was under God's shield.
I wonder why..... But it's true.*

*Oh, give my child fragments of your healing power,
Is all that she asked, and Christ healed in that hour.
One woman with faith that was strong like a tower.
She called, and He answered. Then the blessings did shower.
I wonder why..... But it's true.*

*The fragments of life may be lessons of love
Sent to instruct from the Father above..
They may come in a storm, or in peace like a dove
But if they're from Him, they will nurture. That's love.
I wonder why..... But it's true.*

*Perhaps you're one of the fragments He is waiting to use.
The need is so clear but He wants us to choose..
Oh, the joy that's experienced! How can we refuse?
He often works best through the ones and the twos.
I wonder why..... But it's true.*

FREE

**BREAKFAST
IN THE PARK**

SAT. 25TH FEB

8AM - 9.30AM | PERRIN PARK

FREE BREAKFAST • COFFEE VAN • LIVE MUSIC





What is the role of the Church in growing your child's faith?

Children can learn about God and worship Him anywhere

A study of largely secular British School children done by Rebecca Nye in 1998* showed that their spiritual life surprisingly was not 'compartmentalised' from all other aspects of their lives. Rather, she found that one must 'take the child as a whole to get a feel for their spiritual life, which flies like a bird through their intellectual life **and** their emotional life **and** their social life **and** their cultural life **and** their moral life. It is about their simply "**being a child**" [bold mine].

But children need friends to share their faith journey with

She writes that 'Children recognised their spiritual thoughts, feelings and experiences as profound, significant and inspiring.' Yet sadly, many children are led to believe that they will grow out of these to pursue something more worthwhile. It is a child's Christian friendship group that will help validate these thoughts and feelings through shared experiences.

& children need to explore their faith in a safe, creative and caring environment

The African proverb: 'It takes a village to raise a child' can be aptly applied to the church community.

Take a moment to pray and reflect on the role the Church can play in your child's faith journey.

What if we pray for the Holy Spirit to provide 'spiritual oxygen' (Rebecca Nye) so that children can learn to recognise and love God for themselves and to see this as a life-long adventure of discovery?

Does this excite you? Pause and pray for the Holy Spirit to fill us with wisdom and joy in this work.

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.

*Rebecca Nye (In: Children's Spirituality (2011)(2nd Ed) Kevin Lawson & Scottie May,

Clare Hankamer Families Pastor

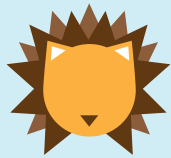
Clare oversees KATS and Youth and runs the Thursday Playgroup. Clare has a PhD in Horticulture with significant experience in both church and community youth work in the UK and Australia.

Contact Clare for details
0432 861 841



Leopards

Preschool - Grade 2



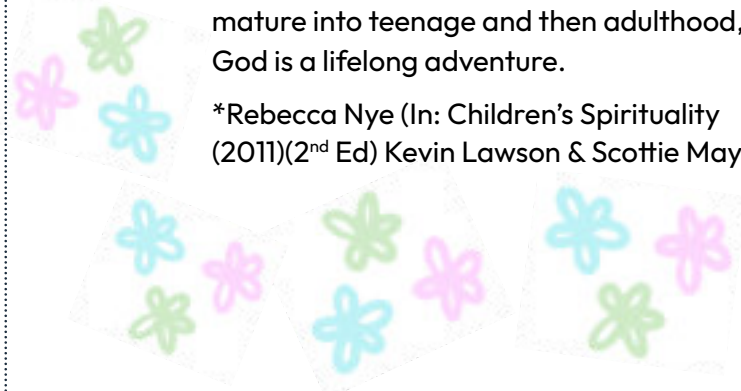
Lions

Grade 3 - Grade 5

Youth Group

Junior Youth
Grades 6 - 8

Senior Youth
Grades 9 - 12



Kids At Toowong on Sunday

Every Sunday
During the service
Over the school term

JUNIOR YOUTH

EVERY SECOND SUNDAY

STARTING FEB 5TH

DURING THE SERVICE

FEB 5 FEB 12 FEB 26 MAR 12 MAR 26

PLAYGROUP

AT TOOWONG UNITING CHURCH

EVERY THU & FRI

9.30 AM - 11 AM



KATS LION'S

Grade
3-5

Pancake Party



SATURDAY 18 FEB

5-8PM | CHURCH HOUSE

Contact Clare for more info

SENIOR YOUTH

IS ON

EVERY 2ND FRIDAY

27 JAN 10 FEB 24 FEB

10 MAR 24 MAR

6.30 - 9PM IN THE CHURCH HALL

BIBLE STUDY

AT TOOWONG UNITING CHURCH



TUESDAY

Women's Group

- 7.00-8.30 pm
- Every Tuesday nights
- At Kate's house
- During school term

New people welcome!

Please contact the church office for details if you are interested in joining.

THURSDAY

Evening Group

- 7.00-8.30 pm
- Every Thursday nights
- In the church house.
- During school term

Email Ross on
Ross.Homel@icloud.com,
or text him on 0407 754 064.
if you are interested in joining.

We are hiring..

NEXT GEN PASTOR

to join Toowong Uniting Church

who can provide leadership and build connections with TUC senior youth and young adult ministry.

Please read more at seek.com or christianjobs.com.au

Sunday Roster: February 2023

	5 Feb	12 Feb	19 Feb	26 Feb
	9.30 am	9.30 am	9.30 am	9.30 am
Speaker	Dr Rachel Krohn	Matt	Matt	Matt
Kids' Talk	Bev H	Communion Sunday	Bev H	Wendy B
Communion Elders	-	Will S Di H	-	-
Reader	Eve N	Karen N	Emilia B	Nadia A
Pastoral Prayer	Ross H	Rob H	Laurel A	Kate G
Prayer Ministry	Karen N	Laurel A	Wendy B	Karen N
Elder	Di H	Wendy B	Ben R	Di H
Door	Sue O Gary O	Will S Jane T	Nikki B Grace T	Will S Kabir S
M'Tea	David D Jane D	Di H Brendan T	Gail T Michelle S	Asher W Eve N
Coffee Machine	-	Hanum L Amelia B	-	-
Offering Counters	Rob J Nadia A	Rob L Emilia B	Grace T Kelvin W	Rob J Jane T
Tech Team	data: Grace sound: Mitch camera: Samuel	data: Madeline sound: Asher camera: Luke	data: Kahlia sound: Jack camera: Kelvin	data: Issy sound: Eli camera: Sam
Music Team	Yohannes, Thadeus	Renata, Geoff, Boram	Sue, Amelia, Eli, Adrian, Stephanie	Asher, Jordan



February 2023

- 2 Thu** Playgroup resumes for Term 1
- 5 Sun** KATS Teaching resumes
Junior Youth begins
- 10 Fri** Senior Youth
- 12 Sun** Commissioning Service for all
volunteers
Communion Sunday
Junior Youth
- 14 Tue** Craft Group resumes
- 15 Wed** Church Council
Worship Leaders Training
- 18 Sat** Lion's Pancake Party
- 22 Wed** Lent begins
- 24 Fri** Senior Youth
- 26 Sun** Junior Youth

March 2023

- 10 Fri** Senior Youth
- 12 Sun** Connect Brunch
Junior Youth
- 15 Wed** Church Council
- 19 Sun** QASMT Chaplain Denise Ko
Safe Ministry Training at TUC (M1
only) - TBC
- 24 Fri** Senior Youth
- 26 Sun** AGM & BBQ
Junior Youth
- 31 Fri** Last Playgroup of Term 1

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 Boram:
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

Bible Study - Evening Group

7 - 8.30 pm Thursdays
During the school term
In the church house
contact Ross: ross.homel@icloud.com

Playgroup

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



TOOWONG
UNITING CHURCH