



Advent 2019  
*the whole story*

## 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.

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## Offerings

Monthly Budgeted Offerings:

**\$16,350.00**

Offerings received October:

**\$14,065.94**

Thank you for your generous  
support of TUC's mission!

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## Online Giving:

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 Thursdays are Matt's day off

**Clare Hankamer | Families Pastor**

0432 861 841 c\_hankamer@hotmail.com

**Claudia Diaz | Playgroup Coordinator**

arq.claudiaz@hotmail.com

**Joyce Shi | Uni Chaplain**

lynns1009@gmail.com

**Garry Jennings | Office Manager**

3870 9684 info@toowongunitingchurch.org.au

**Lauren Murray | Relationships Manager**

0417 713 444 lauren@toowongunitingchurch.org.au

**Will Stewart | Church Council Chair**

walswdes@gmail.com

**Alicia McLachlan | Church Council Secretary**

aliciaemmasmith@gmail.com

**Jane Trewern | Congregational Chair**

jftrewern@gmail.com

**Sue O'Brien | Congregational Secretary**

sobrien868@gmail.com

**Dianne Hubbard | Care & Connect - Pastoral Care**

dianne.j.hubbard@gmail.com

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## Church Details

82 Sherwood Road, Toowong, QLD, 4066

## Office Details

11 Grove Street, Toowong, QLD, 4066

**Phone:** 3870 9684

**Email:** info@toowongunitingchurch.org.au

**Hours:** 9.30 am–1.00 pm Tues, Wed and Fri

**www.toowongunitingchurch.org.au**

**www.facebook.com/toowonguniting**

# Welcome!

We are keenly aware of the privilege to be  
in relationship with you, as we join our lives  
together to be part of the Bride of Christ.

Approaching Christmas, the Gospels again offer us the chance  
to rediscover the whole story of the incarnation, with surprises  
and truths from the nativity. Throughout Advent, we will look  
at Christmas in four Gospel homes, in a sense to peek into  
the homes of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, getting a fresh  
understanding of how their gospel celebrates Christmas in their  
own unique way.

The four gospels reveal different insights they have on Jesus'  
coming (although Mark doesn't rate it worth mentioning!) Sure,  
we know the story so well, yet prayerfully attending to their  
account can give us new eyes to see the incarnation in fresh  
ways, revealing aspects we had rushed over before.

Luke's nativity reveals that God gives each of us a spiritual remedy that is  
individualised for exactly what we need. Mary and Zechariah in Luke's account  
each find the angel Gabriel's announcement dubious and respond accordingly. In  
Mary's case, God provides her with a joy that floods her entire being, and we too  
can sing her Song of Praise which expresses our hope built on Jesus for the future.  
Zechariah alternatively, is bestowed with the inability to talk for nine months, giving  
him ample opportunity to dwell on prayer and deep contemplation. The moment  
John is born, and his speech is restored, he instantly bursts into a song of praise  
to God, prophetically identifying his son's role as herald to the "rising sun". In the  
end, there's an identical response from both Mary and Zechariah in being able to  
praise God lavishly with every fibre of their being. God's clear intervention in their  
lives shows them to be living in the moment with God, and the only way anyone can  
respond to that is with whole of life praise.

In Advent, we are encouraged to prayerfully look for the ways that God unexpectedly  
breaks into our settled and scheduled lives with his announcements that may seem  
absolutely, not a chance, improbable to us. And when that happens, can we say to  
God "I am the Lord's servant, may it be to me according to your word".

Immanuel, come into our lives.

**Matt**



**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 – Clare, Lauren,  
Garry, Claudia and Joyce.

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

Please note that Matt's day  
off is Thursday.

## New to TUC? Welcome, it's great to have you here!

Our desire is to live and explain the Christian faith with as much clarity, authenticity and relevance as we can. Please stick around if you can for morning tea after worship; we'd love to have a chat!

To receive a weekly prayer email, or fortnightly enews, please fill in the "Connect" form found in the pews, and place it in the offering basket.

Please be in touch and let us know if we can be of service in any way:

[lauren@toowongunitingchurch.org.au](mailto:lauren@toowongunitingchurch.org.au)



## KATS Nativity Play & Christmas Party

**Sunday 8 December | 9.30 am at TUC**

Join us for a wonderful retelling of the Christmas story by the KATS kids and their leaders.

All visiting kids are welcome to join in by dressing up as nativity characters. We will also have a box of costumes to borrow from.

Following the nativity, the kids will go downstairs for their party. The party and service will finish at approximately 11.00 am, followed by morning tea. We'd love to see you there!

Pick up some invitations from the foyer to invite along family and friends.



Toowong Uniting Church

## Christmas Celebrations



Join us for carols and fun!

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### Sunday 22 December

Our regular 9.30 am Sunday service

### Tuesday 24 December

5.30 pm Sausage Sizzle | 6.30 pm Christmas Eve worship service

On Christmas Eve, bring along all the family for a sausage sizzle (gold coin donation) starting at 5.30 pm followed by a carol service at 6.30 pm.

### Wednesday 25 December

8.00 am Christmas Day worship service

Come on over bright and early at 8.00 am to celebrate the birth of Christ with us!

**Please note we will collect an offering for the Act For Peace Christmas Bowl Appeal on Christmas Eve.**

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## Clare Hankamer Families Pastor

Clare oversees KATS, Junior Youth, Senior 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:**  
0432 861 841

# Children's & Youth Ministry

## KATS (Toddlers - Year 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 **Tiger, Leopard and Lion age groups**. An enthusiastic group of volunteers lead these groups, teaching the children about God in a fun and friendly environment.

## Junior Youth (years 6 - 8)

Junior Youth also gather on Sunday mornings after the children's talk in the church house for a time of bible study and fun activities. The Scripture Union Light curriculum is used for KATS and Junior Youth. Each session encourages the children to get to know God better through praying together, looking at the bible together and themed games and craft.

## Senior Youth (years 9 - 12)

Senior Youth join in with the whole Sunday worship and are encouraged to take on leadership roles in the church. Senior Youth also meet together every second Saturday night during the school term for Youth Group. **Our remaining dates for Senior Youth in term 2 are: 11 May, 25 May, 8 June and 22 June.**

## Children's & Youth Events

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



## Camp Connect 2020

**Date: Fri 1 - Sun 3 May**

**Location: Camp Drewe, Lennox Heads**

Mark the date in your calendars now, because TUC's Camp Connect is happening next year from Friday 1 - Sunday 3 May!

The camp is for all ages and we look forward to gathering together as a Christian community to grow in our faith and get to know each other better.

Stay tuned for more details regarding bookings and prices.

Please be in touch with Sarah Smith for more information:  
**[sarahsmith@email.com](mailto:sarahsmith@email.com)**



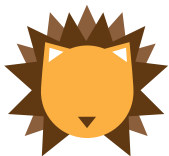
### Tigers

Toddlers - Preschool



### Leopards

Preschool - Year 2



### Lions

Year 3 - Year 5



## Thank you, TUC, for your support of the Red Bag Appeal!

Let's keep praying for all those who will receive a bag this Christmas.

## Pastorate Christmas Party Tuesday 3 December | 6 pm at TUC

The Tuesday Pastorate would like to invite you to our Christmas breakup party.

We'll meet at 6 pm in the hall to start barbecuing, and will sit down to eat at approximately 6.45 pm. There will be carols, prayer, games and lots of fun!

Please let Lauren know if you'll be there so we can make sure there's plenty of food:

[lauren@toowongunitingchurch.org.au](mailto:lauren@toowongunitingchurch.org.au)



### Make a difference with your Christmas giving!

Instead of buying more gifts that aren't really needed or wanted, why not buy something from the Everything in Common catalogue! There are gifts like goats, chickens, clean water, train a teacher, and all kinds of things that will help lift people out of poverty and support developing communities to build a better future.

[www.everythingincommon.com.au](http://www.everythingincommon.com.au)



Supported by Oxley-Darra Uniting Church, the Oxley Community Carols will be held on Sunday 15 December from 5.00 - 8.30pm.

Before the carols start at 6.30 pm, there will be face painting, jumping castles, a petting zoo and dinner available for purchase (sausage sizzle).



## Stroll Through Bethlehem

**Free Event! December 18, 19, 20 | 6.30pm**  
**Indooroopilly Uniting Church, 74 Station Rd**

Join in the hustle and bustle of Bethlehem streets and re-live the real story of Christmas. See the carpenters, potters, scribes, soldiers and shepherds. Children will love the live animals and seeing a real baby in the manger. Enjoy local foods at the market and grind some grain for the bakers. Chat to the innkeepers and women at the well, and watch the wise men bring gifts to baby Jesus.



## TUC Vision & Planning Day

**Save the Date: Saturday 1 February, 2020**

Everyone is welcome to join the Toowong Uniting Church Council for our Vision & Planning Day in February, 2020. Please let Will Stewart or Matt Smith know if you are intending to be there:

**walswdes@gmail.com**  
**matt@toowongunitingchurch.org.au**

## Sunday Roster: December

	01 Dec	08 Dec	15 Dec	22 Dec	24 Dec	25 Dec	29 Dec
	9.30 am	9.30 am	9.30 am	9.30 am	6.30 pm	8.00 am	9.30 am
<b>Speaker</b>	Garry J	Matt S	Lauren M	Karen N	Matt S	Matt S	Matt S
<b>Elder</b>	Dianne H	Dave V	Will S	Alicia M	Garry J	Dianne H	Sue O'B
<b>Reader</b>	Emilia B	KATS	Liz W	Garry J	-	TBC	Wendy B
<b>Pastoral Prayer</b>	-	Joyce S	Laurel A	Kim J	-	-	Ross H
<b>Door</b>	Zac L Ray M	Sarah S Sue O'B	Kelvin W Joyce S	Ross H Jane T	-	-	Kelvin W Ray M
<b>Connect</b>	Anthony E	Rob H	Claudia D	Lee P	Kim J	Kim J	Dianne H
<b>Count Offering</b>	Rob J	Ray M Rob L	Rob M Sandra H	Rob M & Other TBC	-	-	Paul B Will S
<b>Coffee</b>	Amelia B Rosanne G	Brad M Jenny M	Ness S	Rosanne G Reuben B	-	-	-
<b>M'Tea</b>	Sandra H Mex B	Lauren M Louise M	Lee P & Karen A	Lijean B Narelle WS	-	-	TBC
<b>Prayer Ministry</b>	Wendy B	Catherine Z	Lauren M	Neil D	-	-	Rob H
<b>Data / Sound</b>	Jack L / Mitch G	Luke R	Scott G/ Mitch B	Bill B/ Elias P	Scott G/ Mitch G	TBC	Lauren M
<b>Music Team</b>	Jisu, Luke, Brad, Grace, Lauren, Issy	Lucy, Elias, Adrian Z, Clara, Garry, Jordan, Kahlia, Issy	Hamish, Luke, Brad	Dave, Mitch, Garry, Lucy, Riley, Gabe	Dave, Lucy, Adrian G, Eli	Garry	Renata, Geoff, Elias

## December 2019

- 03 Tues:** 6 pm Pastorate Breakup
- 08 Sun:** 9.30 am KATS Nativity
- 09 Mon:** 9.30 am final English Conversation for 2019
- 10 Tues:** 7 pm Church Council
- 12 Thurs:** 9.30 am final Playgroup for 2019  
7.30 pm final Pastorate for 2019
- 13 Fri:** last day Term 4  
9.30 am final Playgroup for 2019
- 24 Tues:** 5.30 pm TUC Christmas Eve Service
- 25 Wed:** 8 am TUC Christmas Service

## January 2020

- 01 Wed:** New Year's Day
- 28 Tues:** first day Term 1
- 30 Thurs:** 9.30 am Playgroup resumes
- 31 Fri:** 9.30 am Playgroup resumes

## February 2020

- 01 Sat:** Vision Planning Day
- 02 Sun:** 9.30 am KATS Welcome Party
- 03 Mon:** 8.30 am Prayer Meeting resumes  
9.30 am English Conversation resumes
- 19 Wed:** 9.45 am Morning Tea Under the Umbrellas

## Weekly Events

### Prayer Meetings

8.30 - 9.30 am Mondays  
in the church house  
contact Matt:  
matt@toowongunitingchurch.org.au

### English Conversation

9.30 - 11.30 am Mondays  
**during the school term**  
in the hall  
contact Will: walswdes@gmail.com

### Playgroup

9.30 - 11.00 am Thursdays  
9.30 - 11.00 am Fridays  
**during the school term**  
in the hall  
contact Clare (Thursdays):  
c\_hankamer@hotmail.com  
contact Claudia (Fridays):  
arq.claudiadiaz@hotmail.com

### Thursday Pastorate

7.30 - 9.00 pm Thursdays  
**during the school term**  
in the church house  
contact Wendy:  
wendy.g.browne@gmail.com



**TOOWONG**  
UNITING CHURCH