

**Vision Statement:**

**We see a Jesus-orientated church having a passion for the Gospel and compassion for the world expressed through dynamic worship, love in action, the empowering of the servant leaders and the growing of disciples.**

**Reverend Jonathan Button can be contacted at [j.button@bigpond.com](mailto:j.button@bigpond.com).**

**I am available in the event of emergencies at any time, but other than that would appreciate not receiving calls on Wednesdays, where possible, as this is my day off.**

**Church Telephone Number: 8251 4298**

**This Week's Roster**

**17th March, 2019**

Preacher: **Jonathan**  
Leader (am): **Cath**  
Leader (pm): **David M.**  
Welcome: **Myra**  
Duty Elder: **Richardt**  
Reader: **Chris DeB.**  
Musicians: **Brunetta & the Boys**  
Stewards: **Myra & Neil**  
Manager: **Max**  
Crèche: **Joy**  
Kidz Connect: **Jane**  
Morning Tea: **Coral & Joy**  
Audio: **Jim**  
Visual: **Alan**  
Cleaning: **Brunetta, Chris, Ray, Tim & Tina**

**Next Week's Roster**

**24th March, 2019**

Preacher: **Ross Honey**  
Leader (am): **Kathryn**  
Leader (pm): **Jonathan**  
Welcome: **Renée**  
Duty Elder: **Richardt**  
Reader: **Alan**  
Musician: **Heather**  
Stewards: **Ray & Sheila**  
Manager: **Max**  
Crèche: **Michelle**  
Kidz Connect: **Eileen**  
Morning Tea: **Beverley, Kerri & Eileen**  
Audio: **Jim**  
Visual: **James**  
Cleaning: **\*\*\*\*\***

***".....I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink....." (Matthew 25: 35)***



# Golden Grove Gazette

Keeping in touch with the G.G.U.C. family

<http://goldengroveuniting.org.au>

Sunday, 17th March, 2019

Second Sunday in Lent

Preacher: **Jonathan**

Theme: **What wouldn't you?**

Scripture Reading: **Luke 13: 31-35**

**Mission Statement: To draw people**



**to our Lord Jesus Christ**

**and nurture them through our church**

## **Sacred Cows Make the Best Burgers**

I stole that title – from the 1996 book on best business practice by Robert Kriegel. *Thanks, Robert!*

A 'sacred cow' is anything we have become accustomed to doing, and keep doing simply because we have become accustomed to doing it. It could be a particular way that we pray or worship (whether new and 'trendy', or old and 'traditional', or something 'in between'), a particular translation of the Bible we prefer, or a way we dress when going to church, or a style of church building we like. We first did them because we wanted to express our real faith in Jesus Christ and our relationship with Him, and these ways of doing them seemed most natural and meaningful to us at the time.

These ways of doing things become 'sacred cows' when they cease to express our real relationship with Jesus Christ, and we do them just because "we've always done them that way". We make them 'sacred' – i.e., praise, hang on to, and protect them, as though they are essential to God's truth and life in His Kingdom.

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But in fact they are 'cows' – i.e., just come from amongst creaturely life, and are not essential to God's truth or Kingdom.

The problem is that, when we cling on to them like that, instead of expressing our relationship with God, more and more they distance us from Him. This is because we give them equal or greater importance than God the Father, and the Bible says we can't have two gods! ('masters') - but will love one and hate the other. The other tragic thing is that our 'sacred cows' are completely foreign to those who have not had our experience (especially non-Christians), and can create a barrier to them truly drawing near to hear, receive and respond to the love of God the Father and His children – us, the church.

Time to hang on to the truth of Jesus Christ and the Scriptures with all our might... and fire up the Barby!

*Grace and cheers, Jonathan*

### MISSION AND WIDER WORK

The Mission & Wider Work Committee would like to say thank you for supporting our first function, which was a Pancake Lunch.

With your support and donations a total of \*\*\*\*\* was raised.

Our next function will be held on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> May after Worship. This will be a lunch, comprising soup, rolls and sweets.

Please save the date in your diaries.

All monies raised by Mission & Wider Work go to the following four charities:-

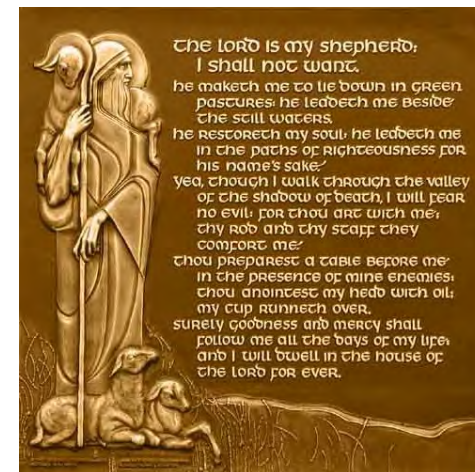
- Joemar Gasang Philippines Child Sponsorship
- Leigh & Tamara Filmer (Nepal)
- Pastoral Support Workers (Schools Ministry)
- Back Packs SA 4 Kids.

### An Expression of Thanks from Metro

Thank you so much for allowing me to share Sunday Worship with you today and last Sunday.



And look what Chevy, with whom we have also shared worship, is able to do!



## **Renée and Ruan Make a Splash**

**Save the date, everybody — Renée and Ruan are getting baptised!**

**Sunday, 24th March, at 5.00 pm**

**@ the home and swimming pool of the Buttons**

**(20, Linwood Court, Wynn Vale)**

**Come at 5.00 pm for the Baptism (\*in place of Café Church).**

**Stay for a sausage sizzle.**

**Sausages, bread and sauce will be provided.**

**You can bring a salad or dessert.**

**BYO any drinks.**

## **Today's Hymns and Songs**

Seek ye first the Kingdom of God (Together in Song 745)

Lord, the light of Your love is shining (Together in Song 675)

Brother, sister, let me serve you (Together in Song 650)

Jesus loves me, this I know (Together in Song 229)

Onward, Christian soldiers (Songs of Fellowship 442)

When love is found and hope comes home (Together in Song 654)

I am not proof against Your love (New Creation Hymn Book 166)

May the feet of God walk with you (Together in Song 779)

## **Dates for our Diaries**

- Commissioning Service for Elders & Councillors: Sunday, 17th March
- Craft Group: Tuesday, 19th March: 1.30 pm
- Third Sunday in Lent: Sunday, 24th March
- Church Council: Tuesday, 26th March: 7.00 pm
- Fourth Sunday in Lent: Sunday, 31st March
- Estia Worship Service: Monday, 1st April: 2.00 pm
- Final Craft Group: Tuesday, 2nd April: 1.30 pm
- Women's Fellowship at the Cinema: Thursday, 4th April: 9.00 am
- Working Bee: Saturday, 6th April: 8.00 am
- End of Daylight Saving: Sunday, 7th April: 2.00 am
- Elders Meeting: Tuesday, 9th April: 7.00 pm
- End of Term Two: Friday, 12th April
- Palm Sunday: Sunday, 14th April
- Church Council: Tuesday, 16th April: 7.00 pm
- Church Council & Elders Retreat: Saturday, 18th May: 10.00 am

## **Easter Services**

**Maundy Thursday: Thursday, 18th April at 7.00 pm**

**Good Friday: Friday, 19th April at 9.00 am**

**Easter Sunday Dawn Service: : Sunday, 21st April at 7.00 am**

**Easter Sunday Service: Sunday, 21st April at 10.00 am**

**Easter Sunday: No Evening Service**

## **Evening Services**

Week 1: Holy Communion  
Weeks 2 and 4: Café Church  
Weeks 3 (and 5): Regular Service



**MORE SPONSORS NEEDED. COULD YOU PLEASE HELP?**



**Name : Junice Letada**  
**Age : 9 years old**  
**Date of Birth : February 9, 2009**  
**Current City : Davao City Philippines**  
**Type of Support: Educational Assistance**

**Philippines Child Education Scheme**

This is a reminder that your March quarter sponsorship payments are now due.

Thank you for your continued support of this very worthwhile work. Your generosity is really appreciated, both here and in Davao City.

**Stop Press:** Lucinda and Richardt have agreed to be the new sponsors for Junice Letada. Thank you very much, Lucinda and Richardt.

However (there's always a however), Luciano has many more children who would benefit greatly from sponsorship. Hence, if you feel that you are able to help in this way, please talk to me.

*(Gordon Cooksey)*

**Window Undressing**

A huge thankyou to Neil, who has been spending many arduous and potentially dangerous hours removing the lead-filled paint from our historic sanctuary windows, in order that they are able to be preserved with a new coat of paint. Neil is yet another example of a craftsman who has saved our church many, many hundreds of dollars.

**Activities Leaders to Contact**

**Craft Group:** Katherine McDonald  
**Day of Prayer:** Ray Holroyd  
**Kidz Club / 12UP:** James Ross-Naylor, Katherine McDonald and Sarah Baeker  
**KYB (Know Your Bible):** Joan Checkley  
**mainly music:** Katherine McDonald  
**Men's Bible Study:** Jonathan Button  
**Mission and Wider Work:** Coral Larcombe  
**Music Worship Service:** Jonathan Button and James Ross-Naylor  
**Philippines:** Gordon Cooksey  
**Schools Ministry:** John Wheatcroft  
**Women's Fellowship:** Eileen Stapleton  
**Working Bees:** Max Reed

**Pastoral Care Worker Coordinators**

**Banksia Park Primary School:** Vacancy  
**Greenwith Primary School:** Chris Holroyd



**What's on at Golden Grove Uniting Church?**

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| <b>Sunday – 10.00 am</b>  | <b>Worship and Children's Programme</b>              |
| <b>Sunday – 6.00 pm</b>   | <b>Sunday Night Music Worship Service</b>            |
| <b>Monday – 10.00 am</b>  | <b>KYB – Know Your Bible Women's Bible Study</b>     |
| <b>Monday – 2.00 pm</b>   | <b>Worship at Estia Aged Care (monthly)</b>          |
| <b>Tuesday – 9.00 am</b>  | <b>Men's Fellowship at Soul Café</b>                 |
| <b>Tuesday -10.30 am</b>  | <b>Men's Bible Study (morning group)</b>             |
| <b>Tuesday – 1.30 pm</b>  | <b>Craft (first and third Tuesday of each month)</b> |
| <b>Thursday - 8.00 am</b> | <b>Day of Prayer (second Thursday of each month)</b> |
| <b>Thursday – 1.00 pm</b> | <b>Women's Fellowship (monthly)</b>                  |
| <b>Thursday - 6.45 pm</b> | <b>Men's Bible Study (evening group)</b>             |
| <b>Friday – 9.30 am</b>   | <b>mainly music (for 0-5 years old)</b>              |
| <b>Saturday – 8.00 am</b> | <b>Working Bee (monthly)</b>                         |
| <b>Saturday – 7.00 pm</b> | <b>Kidz Club / 12UP (1st Saturday of each month)</b> |

**Mission and Wider Work - Fundraising for Mission, in Australia and overseas (as advised)**

## The Aaronic Blessing

By Jeff A. Benner



Most are familiar with the beginning of the Aaronic blessing; "May the LORD bless you and keep you" (Numbers 6:24). We often read or say these words without really knowing what they mean. The words "bless" and "keep" are abstract words which we are familiar with in English. But, the ancient Hebrews were concrete thinkers who related all things to concrete ideas.

The Hebrew word for "bless" is "barak" which literally means "to kneel". A berakah is a "blessing" but more literally, the bringing of a gift to another on a bended "knee". When we bless God or others, we are in essence, bringing a gift on bended "knee". A true king is one who serves his people, one who will humble himself and come to his people on a bended knee.

The Hebrew word for "keep" is "shamar" which literally means "to guard". A related word is "shamiyr" which means "thorn". When the shepherd was out in the wilderness with his flock, he would construct a corral of thorn bushes to protect the sheep from predators, a guarding over of the sheep.

With this more Hebraic concept of Hebrew words we can now read the beginning of the Aaronic blessing as, "*Yahweh will kneel before you presenting gifts and will guard you with a hedge of protection*". The remaining portions of the Aaronic blessing can also be examined for its original Hebraic meaning revealing the following:

Yahweh will kneel before you presenting gifts and will guard you with a hedge of protection, Yahweh will illuminate the wholeness of his being toward you bringing order and he will beautify you, Yahweh will lift up his wholeness of being and look upon you and he will set in place all you need to be whole and complete.

## THE POWER OF PRAYER

### PRAYER AT SUNDAY WORSHIP

On Sunday mornings, before Worship, if you require and need some quiet time for prayer, you can meet in the meeting room in the hall from 9.00 am to 10.00am.

After Worship, if you would like prayers, there will be people sitting at the front of the Church who would be more than happy to pray with you for either yourself or for loved ones. If you need healing, or if there is any other issue for which you may need prayer, there will be someone available to share with, and pray for, you.

However, if you feel that you want some time to yourself, please just sit in the pew without rushing into the hall for a time of fellowship.

### THE PRAYER CHAIN

Please contact Sarah Cooksey, if you wish to have someone's name placed on the prayer chain. If Sarah is not available, please contact Andrew MacTier.

### MONTHLY PRAYER

At our church we have a day of prayer, which is held on the second Thursday of every month, in the sanctuary, from 8.00 am to 6.00 pm.

Please see Ray Holroyd, if you wish to help, to pray or just to have a quiet time for reflection.

Everyone is most welcome.