

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.

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

24th November, 2019

Preacher: **Jonathan**
Leader (am): **Neil**
Leader (pm): **Jonathan**
Welcome: **David M.**
Duty Elder: **Andrew**
Reader: **Chris DeB.**
Musicians: **Pat**
Stewards: **Cath & Graham**
Manager: **Ray**
Crèche: **Cath**
Kidz Connect: **Tina**
Morning Tea: **Bob & Faye**
Audio: **Jim**
Visual: **Kay**
Cleaning: *********

Next Week's Roster

1st December, 2019

Preacher: **Jonathan**
Leader (am): **Kathryn**
Leader (pm): **David**
Welcome: **Joan C.**
Duty Elder: **Cath**
Reader: **Trevor**
Musician: **Heather**
Stewards: **Neil & Sheila**
Manager: **Max**
Crèche: **Coral**
Kidz Connect: **Tina**
Morning Tea: **Coral, Peter & Yvonne**
Audio: **Jim**
Visual: **Alan**
Cleaning: **Asa, Brunetta, John, Lucinda & Tim**

Have you considered E-giving?

Envelopes with an "E" on the front, prayer requests or thanks can be placed in the offering bags on a Sunday morning.

Our bank details are as follows:

BSB 805-007 Account Number: 00702729 Credit Union SA

Please speak to Chris Holroyd if you require more information.

Golden Grove Gazette

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

<http://goldengroveuniting.org.au>

Sunday, 24th November, 2019

Twenty-Third Sunday after Trinity

Preacher: **Jonathan**

Theme: **King by Crucifixion**

Gospel Reading: **Luke 23: 33-43**

Mission Statement: To draw people



to our Lord Jesus Christ

and nurture them through our church

Grubbing Thistles

A colleague and friend of mine tells of funeral he conducted for a man on the north coast of Tasmania. The man was a loner, eccentric, and a human being of unbounded hope! He had the habit of roaming the district with a grubber, and, wherever he found a thistle, he dug it up. The thistles were persistent, and came back, but it never dented his resolve to keep digging them up!

Are "thistles" choking your path? Frustrating your progress and tripping you up? Pricking you with painful "thorns"?.... Life can often be that way! Ironically we bring this on ourselves. God states that this is the direct result of our human self-will (Gen 3:17,18). To mirror this, the environment itself seems overrun with "thorny" problems – pollution, extinctions, climatic disaster.

It's enough to make you want to give up!...

However, *Christ is making all things new* (Rev 21:5)! In the victory of His cross and resurrection, He has broken the power of evil, cancelled sin, and set in train the full restoration of the creation, and of all people who will believe in Him. In faith in Him, we can progress toward that goal with full hope and even joy - however "thorny the thistles"!

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As we approach this Advent and Christmas season, may we do so with the hope of the usually missing third verse of Charles Wesley's hymn – "Joy to the world!"

*No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground.
He comes to make His blessings flow,
Far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found!*

Joy to the world, Jonathan.

A Good News Story

What a difference can one person make? Please read on.

Many years ago Maureen and David Hurcombe sponsored a girl by the name of Chrestine (sic) Torrejos as part of our sponsorship scheme.

We have recently received a picture of the young lady with the following information:

"Chrestine graduated with a Bachelor of Science and Secondary Education (Biological Science) and was ranked 6th in the board exam for teachers. She is now a Professor at the University of Mindanao, Davao City."

I'm sure you will agree that this is really great news and that David will be greatly encouraged in his ongoing giving. David still sponsors two children! God bless you, David, you're an inspiration to us all!

He has the picture and will be delighted to show it to you.

Gordon Cooksey

Congratulations to Katherine McDonald

Did you know that Katherine celebrated her 40th (!!) birthday last Tuesday? Belated congratulations and blessings from your church family, Katherine. And, thank you so much for the enormous amount of baking you and Caroline do for us.

Dates for our December Diaries

- **First Sunday in Advent (Hope): Sunday, 1st December**
- **Estia Worship Service: Monday, 2nd December: 2.00 pm**
- **Women's Fellowship (Christmas Lunch): Thursday, 5th December**
- **Working Bee: Saturday, 7th December: 8.00 am**
- **Second Sunday in Advent (Peace): Sunday, 8th December**
- **Elders and Church Council Meeting: Tuesday, 10th December: 7.00 pm**
- **Day of Prayer: Thursday, 12th December: 8.00 am to 6.00 pm**
- **The Dinner Table: Thursday, 12th December: 6.00 pm**
- **Third Sunday in Advent (Joy): Sunday, 15th December**
- **Blue Christmas: Sunday, 15th December: 7.00 pm**
- **Carols Service: Wednesday, 18th December: 7.00 pm**
- **Fourth Sunday in Advent (Love): Sunday, 22nd December**
- **Christmas Eve, Children's & Café Services: Tuesday, 24th Dec.: 6.00 pm**
- **Christmas Day Service: Wednesday, 25th December: 9.00 am**

Steptoe and Son

Steptoe and Son Inc. (alias Ray and Neil) has no intention of retiring. Please contact the father or the son if you are anxious to dispose of some metal.

Volunteering at Golden Grove Helping Hand

Are you interested in becoming a volunteer at this centre? The residents would welcome both two-legged and four-legged visitors. A Police Check is required. If you feel that you would like to help, please see Cath, who has all the necessary paper work. Thanks very much.

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

As we are no doubt aware, once again it is getting close to Christmas, the time when we normally assist with food hampers for the two schools that we support, Greenwith Primary and Banksia Park Primary.

If you could possibly start bringing on a Sunday, up until Sunday, 8th December, something to help families in need so that they might enjoy a meal on Christmas Day, it would be greatly appreciated.

On the back hall table there will be containers ready to accept your generous gifts. Thank you so very much.