

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

8th December, 2019

Preacher: **Jonathan**
Leader (am): **Ceri**
Leader (pm): **Jonathan**
Welcome: **Joan W.**
Duty Elder: **Cath**
Reader: **Sandy**
Musician: **Brunetta**
Stewards: **John & Kevin**
Manager: **Max**
Crèche: **Lucinda**
Kidz Connect: **Richardt**
Morning Tea: **Eileen, Michelle & Ray**
Audio: **Jim**
Visual: **James**
Cleaning: *********

Next Week's Roster

15th December, 2019

Preacher: **Ceri**
Leader (am): **Cath**
Leader (pm): **James**
Welcome: **Sandy**
Duty Elder: **Cath**
Reader: **Chris H.**
Musicians: **Brunetta & the Boys**
Stewards: **Neil & Sheila**
Manager: **Max**
Crèche: **Eileen**
Kidz Connect: **Sandy**
Morning Tea: **Bob & Faye**
Audio: **Jim**
Visual: **James**
Cleaning: **Chris, Graham, Sandy & Trevor**

FIRST QUARTER ROSTER: 2020

Cath and Jim have already made a start on the next roster. Could you please make sure that you let either one of them know if there are any times, for which you will be unavailable for any duties, by Sunday, 8th December (TODAY)? Designing the roster is a complex and time consuming process. This quarter we have been continually frustrated by people not reading it, thus causing eleventh hour mayhem. We thank you for being so willing to be rostered and to serve the needs of our church. God bless you all.

Golden Grove Gazette

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

<http://goldengroveuniting.org.au>

Sunday, 8th December, 2019

Second Sunday in Advent: Peace

Preacher: **Jonathan**

Theme: **Good News: Repent!**

Gospel Reading: **Matthew 3: 1-12**

Mission Statement: To draw people



to our Lord Jesus Christ



and nurture them through our church

HE WILL COME

The first Sunday in Advent (last Sunday) marks the beginning of the Church's liturgical year. The purpose of the 'liturgical year' is to remind us of the mission of Jesus – His life, death and resurrection.

As the word 'advent' suggests, this season of the Church's year has to do with 'coming'. During the four weeks of Advent, the Church's liturgy invites us to prepare to celebrate Christ's first coming into the world at Christmas. It also, however, directs our attention towards the second coming of Jesus into the world at the end of time. In fact, the biblical theme of Christ's second coming (His '*parousia*') is more prominent in Advent than in the Christmas theme.

There is a kind of overlap between the end and the beginning of the liturgical year in that both deal with the final victory of Christ. The implication seems to be that the basic fabric of Christian life – its end and its beginning – is hope in the fullness of Christ's presence, which constitutes the completion of God's plan of love for His human creatures.

The Son of God, who once came to this earth in great humility, will one day come again in great glory. His first coming was silent and secret and heavily disguised. His second coming will be in majesty and power. He came as a Saviour; next time He will come as a Sovereign.

(Rev. Gordon)

A Message from the Elders

The theme of the Bible readings and teachings during the season of Advent is balanced between the remembrance of Christ's first coming and the anticipation of His triumphant return as Judge and Ruler at the end of time. The first two Sundays in Advent (01 and 08 Dec.) look forward to Jesus's second coming, whilst the last two Sundays (15 and 22 Dec.) reflect back to remembering His birth.

In our church, on this second Sunday in Advent, we light the Bethlehem Candle - symbolising Peace. We light it in remembrance of the journey made by Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem, where Jesus Christ the Peacemaker of the world, was born. He will soon come again, set things right and bring everlasting peace to all of creation.

During this week read and think about these passages:

- Micah 5: 2-5, Malachi 3: 1-4, Luke 1: 68-79 and Luke 3: 1-6.

There is nothing like the peace that comes from knowing the Lord. This week thank God for the peace that surrounds your life. Pray about how you can share this peace with those whom you come across, so that they too may know the peace of the Lord.

Our church elders are: Jonathan, Andrew, Cath, David, Ray and Richardt.

Philippines Sponsorship

Thank you for continuing to support our children in the Philippines. Your December quarter donation is now due. I would very much like to be able to let Luciano receive the money before Christmas, and your cooperation in this regard would be really appreciated.
Thanks again, Gordon Cooksey.

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.

Dates for our December Diaries

- 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

A THANK YOU FROM JANET

I would like to thank all the ladies of the Women's Fellowship and also the members of the congregation (including one gentleman), who knitted squares (some for the first time), in order to make blankets to be included in the Christmas Hampers for needy families. Between us we knitted over 400 squares, enough to make 8 blankets. As one lady crocheted 2 blankets as well, we reached a final total of 10 blankets. Well done! Merry Christmas to you all.

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.

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.