

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

29th December, 2019

Preacher: **Reverend Ross Honey**
Leader (am): **Eileen**
Leader (pm): **David**
Welcome: **Katherine**
Duty Elder: **Cath**
Reader: **Barrie**
Musician: **Brunetta**
Stewards: **Cath & Graham**
Manager: **Max**
Crèche: **Vacation**
Kidz Connect: **Vacation**
Morning Tea: **Lucinda, Richardt & Ruan**
Audio: **Jim**
Visual: **James**
Cleaning: *********

Next Week's Roster

5th January, 2020

Preacher: **Ceri**
Leader (am): **Cath**
Leader (pm): **David**
Welcome: **Julia**
Duty Elder: **Richardt**
Reader: **Sylvia**
Musician: **Heather**
Stewards: **Kevin & Sheila**
Manager: **Jim**
Crèche: **Vacation**
Kidz Connect: **Vacation**
Morning Tea: **Coral, Peter & Yvonne**
Audio: **Jim**
Visual: **James**
Cleaning: **Chris & Ray**

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, 29th December, 2019

First Sunday after Christmas

Preacher: **Reverend Ross Honey**

Theme: **Choose hope**

Scripture Reading: **Romans 15: 1-13**

Mission Statement: To draw people



to our Lord Jesus Christ

and nurture them through our church

Reflections for the New Year

- *It is of the LORD's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness. The LORD is my portion, saith my soul; therefore will I hope in him. The LORD is good unto them that wait for him, to the soul that seeketh him. It is good that a man should both hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the LORD.*

(Lamentations 3: 22-26)

- *Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.*

(Proverbs 3: 5-6)

- *Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*

(Philippians 4: 6-7)

Great News

Following my appeal on the Sunday before last, Lyn and Grant Winn have very kindly agreed to sponsor Daniel Petaflorin, *in addition* to the child they are currently sponsoring. Many thanks, Lyn and Grant.

This is very much appreciated, both here and in the Philippines. ***However, although you have missed out on this golden opportunity, Luciano always has a list of deprived children who would love to be given the gift of a brighter future.***

If this is something you may like to do, please speak to me and I will give you information to enable you to help make a decision.

(Gordon Cooksey)

Today's Hymns and Songs

O come, all ye faithful (Together in Song 304)

The first nowell the angel did say (Together in Song 301)

Joy to the world (Together in Song 268)

Angels we have heard on high (The Presbyterian Hymnal 23)

Hark! the herald angels sing (Together in Song 303)

Now unto Him who is able to keep (Praise and Worship 470)

MISSION & WIDER WORK

Thank you, members of the congregation, for your wonderful support once again with either buying cards, or attending or donating to our four functions during the year.

The Committee felt that, as a result of the devastating bushfires in SA, moneys should be sent to help the families here in SA.

Thank you all once again.

Dates for our 2019 and 2020 Diaries

- **Jonathan on Holidays: 26th December to 9th January**
- **New Year's Day: Wednesday, 1st January**
- **Working Bee: Saturday, 4th January: 8.00 am (Cancelled)**
- **Estia Worship Service: Monday, 6th January: 2.00 pm (Cancelled)**
- **Holy Communion: Sunday, 12th January**
- **Australia Day: Sunday, 26th January**

THE GATE OF THE YEAR

This poem caught the public attention and the popular imagination when [King George VI](#) quoted it in his [1939 Christmas broadcast](#) to the [British Empire](#).

The King began by saying: "May we all find a message of encouragement in the lines which I would like to say to you."

And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year:
"Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown."

And he replied:
"Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God.
That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way."



So I went forth, and, finding the Hand of God, trod gladly into the night.
And He led me towards the hills and the breaking of day in the lone East.

His Majesty concluded with these words: "May that Almighty hand guide and uphold us all."

(submitted by Rev. Gordon)

Volunteering at Golden Grove Helping Hand Centre

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.



PRAYER (used by Gordon at the end of his sermon on 22nd December)

“Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.” Luke 2: 10-11

Dear Lord, in this season of giving and getting I so easily overlook Your gifts to me. Thank You for so many reasons to celebrate.

Thank You for a future filled with hope because it rests in Your Hands. For peace of mind when I keep my eyes on You. For joy beyond all my circumstances.

I'm grateful for what I often take for granted. For a place to live, clothing, food, and all the good things that you daily provide.

Thank You for the beauty of Your creation. For sunny days, majestic sunsets, twinkling stars. What a wonderful world You've created.

I appreciate those people You've put into my life who know my faults yet still love me. Thank You for their love and support.

Thank You for being with me in life's trials, drawing me closer to Yourself. Teaching me to trust You more each day.

How drab, how empty life would be without all these gifts.

Most of all, dear Lord, thank You for coming to this earth, to live, to love, to die, to live again.

Thank You for becoming a man, closed in by a body that got tired and worn like mine, that suffered on the cross for me.

Thank You for promising that You are the Way, the Truth, and the Life. And through receiving You I may know You now and someday live in the Father's House forever.

O, Lord, thank You for all Your gifts to me.

“Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable Gift.” 2 Corinthians 9: 15

(This beautiful prayer was written by Robert Louis Stevenson, the Scottish novelist, essayist and poet, who lived from 1850 to 1894.)

THE FIRST QUARTER ROSTER

Please check the new roster carefully. Please remember that the onus is on the rostered person, if a scheduled time is not convenient, to arrange a swap or find a replacement and then to let Cath or Jim know. You will notice that cleaners, morning tea personnel, adult stewards and data projector operators are in very short supply.

WORKING BEES

2019

At 12 working bees on the first Saturday of each month, in order to keep our church grounds neat and tidy in appearance:

Ceri, David (B.), Gordon (Rev.), John, Kent, Max, Richardt, Ruan and Barrie have raked up and removed:

3 billion, 241 million and 478,882 gum leaves (from our evergreen trees!!) inhabiting the car park, the driveway and the front of the church, disposing of them and other deleterious matter in 37.2 wheelbarrow loads.

Tim (aka Spiderman) has cleared from the hall roof 1.7 million, 437, 481 gum leaves in 42.3 wheat bags.

George has filled 23.8 garbage bags with adjacent roadside rubbish and collected 47 recyclable (10c.) containers.

These toilers have been fed and sustained from the kitchen by Cath, Jim and Jo. The last three have been responsible for facilitating the consumption of 8 dozen delicious scones, complete with jam and cream (courtesy of Janet and highly recommended by our scone aficionado, Kent), 12 Chelsea (not Leeds United) buns, 145 lamingtons, 7.4 chocolate cakes, as well as numerous biscuits and other tasty morsels.

Lucinda has busied herself for countless hours in the kitchen, cleaning and servicing the dish washer (a demanding honour which she inherited from Jo).

In past years, Bill C., the two other Davids (Hurcombe and Hoffman), Gordon C., Henk, Kevin, Marlene and Patrick have done more than their bits as well.

We also think of the Reverend Robert and the photographic evidence (that is still in existence) of his prowess with the lawnmower.

Thank you, ladies and gentlemen, for your sterling and loyal efforts.

(Statistics carefully logged and noted by the Turtle,

the identity of whom should be easy to detect.)