

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

19th January, 2020

Preacher: **Dominic Hopps**
Leader (am): **Neil**
Leader (pm): **James**
Welcome: **John**
Duty Elder: **Richardt**
Reader: **Barrie**
Musicians: **Brunetta & the Boys**
Stewards: **Cath & Sheila**
Manager: **Jim**
Crèche: **Vacation**
Kidz Connect: **Vacation**
Morning Tea: **Joy & Katherine**
Audio: **Jim**
Visual: **Alan**
Cleaning: *********

Next Week's Roster

26th January, 2020

Preacher: **Jonathan**
Leader (am): **Eileen**
Leader (pm): **Jonathan**
Welcome: **David M.**
Duty Elder: **Richardt**
Reader: **Marlene**
Musician: **Pat**
Stewards: **Kevin & Myra**
Manager: **Jim**
Crèche: **Vacation**
Kidz Connect: **Vacation**
Morning Tea: **Eileen, Michelle & Ray**
Audio: **Jim**
Visual: **James**
Cleaning: **Coral, Neil, Jill, Katherine & Lynne**

Golden Grove Gazette

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

<http://goldengroveuniting.org.au>

Sunday, 19th January, 2020

Second Sunday after Epiphany

Preacher: **Dominic Hopps**

Theme: **Preparing the Way**

Scripture Readings: **Mark 1: 1-16 and Isaiah 40: 3-5**

Mission Statement: To draw people

to our Lord Jesus Christ

and nurture them through our church



A Raging Fire That Many Waters Cannot Put Out

We have continued to be shocked at the raging ferocity of the fire storms that have been devastating the Australian landscape, causing untold harm to people and property. The family home of KI UCA Pastor, Louise Davis, was destroyed; friends of our congregation members have tragically died.

Song of Songs 8:6-7 speaks of a "raging fire that many waters cannot put out". This fire is the strong, strong love that a husband and wife may know, which, as many translations have it, is "the very flame of the Lord"! The strong, strong love is God the Father's, *for us*. Thankfully many prayers have been answered, and many of the fires are going out; however, the fire of the Father's love won't – *it is stronger, greater!*

God's love for us is so strong that *He actually goes into the fire with us* (Daniel chpt. 3); if we get burnt, so does He. Ultimately we see this in the inferno of Christ's crucifixion.

Yet God is also above the firestorms (Ps 29:10), and every storm – cosmic, or personal; He rules in and over them, and makes them to serve His and our ultimate good (Ro 8:28).

God enters the storm with us in order to strengthen, protect, lift us up, and bring us through the storm into a place of peace. God raises us up to new and eternal life from the ashes.

As we continue to pray, and give whatever practical support we can, may we and all who are affected know, trust and follow this God, our Father, as He renews the whole creation (Acts 3:19-21).

Grace in Christ, Jonathan

Generate Presbytery Ministry

This weekend Jonathan is fulfilling ministry duties for the Generate Presbytery, preaching at the induction of the new Minister at the Port Lincoln Uniting Church, Reverend Nathan Whillas. Jonathan has been Nathan's supervisor for the last four years. Nathan also happens to be the son-in-law of Reverend Ross Honey.

2021 Academic Scholarships: Pedare Christian College

To founding and supporting churches: Registration is now open for the ACEP Test for Academic Scholarships for Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 in 2021. Registrations close on Thursday, 23rd January and students will sit the test on Saturday, 8th February, 2020, at the College.

Pedare Christian College, as one of the many schools who offer this ACEP Cooperative Scholarship examination, would like to bring this to the attention of families with a child who worships with your congregation. Remissions of up to 50% off the tuition fee normally apply for successful candidates.

This scholarship may give some families an opportunity to enrol their child at Pedare, which would not otherwise be possible. It would be appreciated if you could promote this opportunity to families through your church newsletter.

Both current Pedare students and new applicants are welcome to register.

Please do not hesitate to contact Julie Holland (jholland@pedarecc.ed.au or 8280700) if you have any questions or require further information.

The New Look Offering Envelopes for 2020 are available on the table at the back of the hall, for those who have not yet collected them.

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 2019.

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 Hot and Dry Summer Diaries

- **Church Council: Tuesday, 21st January: 7.00 pm**
- **mainly music Meeting: Thursday, 23rd January: 10.30 am**
- **Australia Day: Sunday, 26th January**
- **Commencement of Term One: Tuesday, 28th January**
- **Working Bee: Saturday, 1st February: 8.00 am**
- **Estia Worship Service: Monday, 3rd February: 2.00 pm**
- **Women's Fellowship: Thursday, 6th February: 1.00 pm**
- **Day of Prayer: Thursday, 13th February: 8.00 am to 6.00 pm**
- **The Dinner Table: Thursday, 13th February: 6.00 pm**

THANK YOU VERY MUCH

Thank you to the members of the Golden Grove Uniting Church and also to members of the Community for supporting our call to help in some way to assist the Fire Service and the families who have been affected by the bushfires.

Your response for help was overwhelming.

We would just like to let you all know that the following items were sent to:-

Kangaroo Island: All male and female toiletries, all babies' needs, food and towels.

Lobethal BlazeAid: All male, female and children's clothing, bedding, towels, cash donations, gift vouchers, ladies' and gents' shoes

Animal Rescue: Towels, pillow slips, sheets and blankets.

CFS: Water.

Thank you once again for your most wonderful support.

Philippines Child Education Scheme

Recently two new children have been added to the sponsorship scheme, replacing two who have left the scheme. On reading their details, it occurred to me that you would be interested to hear of their circumstances. The girls, Maris and Christine Mae, sisters, aged nine and fifteen, are in a family of six children. Their mother, Marissa, is a battered wife whose husband left her for another woman eight years ago. Since then she has struggled to feed and clothe her family, finding work when she can. Hence, educational assistance through our sponsorship scheme will be a tremendous blessing, and she is very thankful for our support.

Thank you, Gordon Cooksey