

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

16th February, 2020

Preacher: **Reverend Ross Honey**
Leader (am): **Neil**
Leader (pm): **David**
Welcome: **Joan W.**
Duty Elder: **Ray**
Reader: **Sylvia**
Musicians: **Brunetta & the Boys**
Stewards: **John & Sheila**
Manager: **Max**
Crèche: **Chris H.**
Kidz Connect: **Michelle**
Morning Tea: **Coral, Peter & Yvonne**
Audio: **Jim**
Visual: **Alan**
Cleaning: *********

Next Week's Roster

23rd February, 2020

Preacher: **Jonathan**
Leader (am): **Eileen**
Leader (pm): **Jonathan**
Welcome: **Cath**
Duty Elder: **Ray**
Reader: **David M.**
Musician: **Pat**
Stewards: **Cath & John**
Manager: **Max**
Crèche: **Joy**
Kidz Connect: **Tina**
Morning Tea: **Bob & Faye**
Audio: **Jim**
Visual: **James**
Cleaning: **Asa, Lucinda & Tim**

The Prayer Chain

If you would like any prayers for your family or friends on the Prayer Chain, could you please contact Ray Holroyd? Ray will then pass this on to a member who is on the Prayer Chain. When the prayer request comes to you, if that person is not available, please continue on down the list until you speak with someone. This ensures that the prayer request reaches as many people as possible. If you would like to be on the Prayer Chain list, please contact Ray.



Golden Grove Gazette

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

<http://goldengroveuniting.org.au>

Sunday, 16th February, 2020

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

Preacher: **Reverend Ross Honey**

Theme: **Cultivate Intimacy with God**

Scripture Readings: **Deuteronomy 30: 15-20 and Revelation 2: 1-7**

Mission Statement: To draw people



to our Lord Jesus Christ

and nurture them through our church

Love Gone Viral

The outbreak of the coronavirus in Hubei in China has "rattled the cage" of ordered, secure, day-to-day routines around the world, and especially in the West. Hubei itself is paralysed. Visitors can't return to their home countries and to their regular lives, or work – or, if so, then only to go into quarantine. Ships full of travellers have been quarantined on board. Deaths have topped 1000, and infections almost 50,000; and we don't know, and fear, where it may end!

In the midst of that, as Christian believers, we seek and pray for two things. Firstly, that we obey the first greatest commandment – i.e., to love God the Father with all our heart, mind, soul and strength. This means knowing that He has loved us and all people – strong enough that His Son died in our place to save us! He has given salvation and eternal life in grace for all who will receive it. We need to trust our lives entirely to His gracious care, for ever, and for now.

The other thing we seek and pray for is that we obey the second greatest commandment – i.e., to love our neighbour as ourselves. This means that we put the wellbeing of all of our neighbours ahead of our own. We've seen movies of global disasters, where people turn into "rats", devouring each other to save their own skins. Nothing is uglier! But we trust God to look after us in His extravagant grace towards us. Thus, we will not be selfish like this. Li Weuliang, the Dr who discovered the coronavirus, and worked hard to save many lives - a strong Christian - died of the virus just last week. That is how Christ loved us!

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We can afford to love in all circumstances, because nothing on earth, neither in heaven nor in eternity will be able to separate us from the love of Christ! (Ro 8: 38, 39)

Grace in Christ, Jonathan

A Message from the Elders

In our December gazette messages, we looked at the meaning of Advent, a season celebrated in the liturgical calendar of our church, as a time of celebration and anticipation for the coming of Christ, from three different perspectives. The next liturgical season, that we shall soon enter, is Lent.

Compared to Advent, Lent is a more solemn observance, focussed on the preparation and celebration of the death and resurrection of Jesus at Easter. It is a season of self-examination, a time of drawing oneself nearer to God and an opportunity to open our hearts a little more and to allow ourselves to understand the Lord more deeply.

Lent is a time to realise the great and awesome love the Lord Jesus has for us and to understand why He had to die for us on the cross. The focus of Lent is not on sadness or despair but in the hope of the resurrection and the day that every tear will be dried (Revelation 21: 4).

Lent starts on Ash Wednesday (24th February) and lasts for forty days. Think and pray about how you can benefit by taking part.

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



Sunday Morning Prayers

Every Sunday morning the Prayer meeting room door will be opened from 9.00am to 10.00am. Members of the congregation who would like prayers before Morning Worship are welcome and can stay for as long as they require.

Thank You, Barbara

Thank you to Barbara Wheatcroft, who has very kindly taken over the most important role of sending cards to members of the congregation, who are sick, bereaved or just need a card of encouragement.

Dates for our February and March Diaries

- **Church Council: Tuesday, 18th February: 7.00 pm**
- **Shrove Tuesday: Tuesday, 25th February**
- **Ash Wednesday: Wednesday, 26th February**
- **First Day of Lent: Wednesday, 26th February**
- **Working Bee: Saturday, 7th March: 8.00 am**
- **Public Holiday: Monday, 9th March**
- **M&WW Pot Luck Lunch: Sunday, 29th March: After Worship**

What's on This Week

Monday Morning – KYB

Monday Morning – Sewing Group

Monday Night – Scottish Dancing

Tuesday Morning – Men's Breakfast

Tuesday Morning – Men's Bible Study

Tuesday Night- Church Council Meeting

Wednesday Night – Salisbury East Bible Study

Thursday Night – Women's Bible Study

Thursday Night – Men's Bible Study

Friday Morning – *mainly music*



Church Councillors and Elders for 2020

Jonathan Button – Minister
Cath McKechnie – Administrator & Elder
Neil Larcombe – Church Council Chairperson
Chris Holroyd – Treasurer
Richardt Wilkinson - Head Elder
Ray Holroyd, Prayer Chain Convener & Elder
Andrew MacTier – Elder
Tim Checkley – Church Councillor
Coral Larcombe – Church Councillor

LENTEN BOXES

This year the period of Lent starts on Sunday, 1st March and concludes on Sunday, 29th March. The Lent boxes will be on the back table in the hall. If any members of the congregation would like to take a box home and bring it back for Sunday, 29th March, that would be very much appreciated. Thank you.