

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

1st March, 2020

Preacher: **Jonathan**
Leader (am): **Kathryn**
Leader (pm): **David**
Welcome: **Marlene**
Duty Elder: **Andrew**
Reader: **Barrie**
Musician: **Heather**
Stewards: **John & Richardt**
Manager: **Jim**
Crèche: **Cath**
Kidz Connect: **Tina**
Morning Tea: **Joy & Katherine**
Audio: **Jim**
Visual: **James**
Cleaning: *********

Next Week's Roster

8th March, 2020

Preacher: **Jonathan**
Leader (am): **Jonathan**
Leader (pm): **Jonathan**
Welcome: **Marlene**
Duty Elder: **Andrew**
Reader: **Marlene**
Musician: **Pat**
Stewards: **Kevin & Myra**
Manager: **Jim**
Crèche: **Katherine**
Kidz Connect: **Kathryn**
Morning Tea: **Kerri & Lila**
Audio: **Jim**
Visual: **Alan**
Cleaning: *********

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, 1st March, 2020

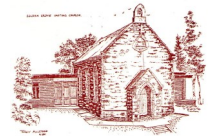
First Day of Lent

Preacher: **Jonathan**

Theme: **Sin**

Old Testament Reading: **Genesis 2: 15-17 and 3: 1-7**

Mission Statement: To draw people



to our Lord Jesus Christ

and nurture them through our church

Nevertheless, Hope!

Many tumultuous things are happening in our world. The Coronavirus crisis gripping the globe is one among many other problems being faced by the human and, increasingly, Australian communities. Christian love moves and obliges us to help our neighbours in face of these various challenges. Yet we must not be consumed or overwhelmed by the world's troubles.

We are equally moved and obliged by Christian love to remain trusting, hope-filled, and even quietly joyous. This doesn't mean "whistling in the dark", pretending that things aren't really as bad as they are, nor "beating our chests", pretending that our "pumped-up" sense of Christian triumph will enable us to face-down all challenges.

No, rather our trust, hope and joy are based solely upon the promise of Jesus Christ, our human Brother, God, Saviour and Redeemer. He faced and went through the worst evil and suffering that earth or hell could throw at Him, died for us, cancelling all of our sins, was raised from the dead to eternal life by the power of God, and will raise us in exactly the same way. He now reigns as eternal Lord, and nothing can ever separate us from God's love in Him.

With that faith, it is simply realistic for us to be trusting, hope-filled and quietly joyous, as we, with all of our neighbours, face and deal with all the real crises before us. *This is truly loving our fellow human beings* – i.e., bearing witness to the same unflinching hope that God offers to them, just as He has to us.

Be of good cheer, Jonathan.

A Message from the Elders

Our church is currently observing the six-week liturgical season of Lent, which started on Ash Wednesday (26th February). To mark this solemn season, some decorations around the church are removed and a purple cloth is draped over the cross, symbolising penance and mourning.

Last week we examined the first of three traditional practices associated with Lent: prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Throughout the Lenten season we conform to these practices with renewed vigour in pursuit of a closer relationship with our holy Father.

Many Christians use fasting, as well as giving up certain luxuries and leading a simpler life, as a practical way to take part in Lent and renew their relationship with God. Some fast by limiting the amount and type of meals eaten during Lent, whilst others give up luxuries such as chocolate, coffee, tea, alcohol and/or take-away food. For others Lenten fasting also includes limiting screen time, giving up or limiting the use of social media and not taking part in negative talk, sarcasm or criticism for the 40-day period.

The Bible contains many accounts of 40-day fasting. Read about Moses in Exodus 34: 28, Elijah in 1 Kings 19: 8 and Jesus in Matthew 4: 2. Let the words of Joel 2: 12-14 fill you with inspiration to take part in Lent.

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.

Women's Fellowship

Thursday, 5th March at 1.00 pm

Guest Speaker: *Ralph Walcott*

Devotions: *Eileen* Afternoon Tea: *Elizabeth & Sandy*



Dates for our Autumnal Diaries

- Tea Tree Gully History Tour: Monday, 2nd March
- Estia Worship Service: Monday, 2nd March: 2.00 pm
- Women's Fellowship: Thursday, 5th March: 1.00 pm
- Working Bee: Saturday, 7th March: 8.00 am
- Public Holiday: Monday, 9th March
- Generate Presbytery Meeting: Saturday, 14th March
- Church Council & Elders Retreat: Saturday, 21st March: 8.00 am
- Commissioning of Elders & Councillors: Sunday, 22nd March
- M&WW Pot Luck Lunch: Sunday, 29th March: After Worship
- Conclusion of Daylight Saving: Sunday, 5th April: 2.00 am
- Palm Sunday: Sunday, 5th April: 10.00 am
- Maundy Thursday: Thursday, 9th April: 7.00 pm
- Good Friday: Friday, 10th April: 9.00 am
- Holy Saturday: Saturday, 11th April
- Easter Day Dawn Service: 7.00 am
- Easter Day Morning Service: 10.00 am
- Easter Day Evening Service: There will not be one.
- Jonathan's Annual Leave: 14th April to 21st April
- Barbecue at Bunnings: Tuesday, 21st April

Philippines Child Education Scheme

Fellow sponsors: thank you for your continued support of this very worthwhile outreach.

This is a reminder that your March quarter donation is now due.

Thank you again to those who faithfully and generously continue to support two of our children by means of the "Philippines jars".

Gordon Cooksey

LENTEN BOXES

This year the period of Lent starts on Sunday, 1st March and concludes on Sunday, 29th March. The Lenten 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.