

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 March, 2020

Preacher: **Jonathan**
Leader (am): **Ceri**
Leader (pm): *****
Welcome: *****
Duty Elder: **Andrew**
Reader: **David M.**
Musician: **Pat**
Stewards: *****
Manager: *****
Crèche: *****
Kidz Connect: *****
Morning Tea: *****
Audio: **Alan**
Visual: **Alan**
Cleaning: *****

Next Week's Roster

5th April, 2020

Preacher: **Dominic Hopps**
Leader (am): **Kathryn**
Leader (pm): *****
Welcome: *****
Duty Elder: **Ray**
Reader: **Barbara**
Musician: **Heather**
Stewards: *****
Manager: *****
Crèche: *****
Kidz Connect: *****
Morning Tea: *****
Audio: **Alan**
Visual: **Alan**
Cleaning: *****

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

www.goldengroveuniting.org.au

Sunday, 29th March, 2020

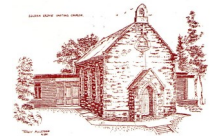
Fifth Sunday in Lent

Preacher: **Jonathan**

Theme: **Jesus Wept**

Gospel Reading: **Psalm 23**

Mission Statement: To draw people



to our Lord Jesus Christ

and nurture them through our church

Learning Who Instead of Why

As all parents know, every child's favourite question is *why*: 'Why do I have to go to bed now?' 'Why can't I watch TV?' This is not just a passing phase that the child will grow out of, their *why* question will continue throughout life.

In fact, the hard reality is, even as adults, they will keep on asking, *why*. When their parent is struck down with Alzheimer's or a friend has cancer, or when their own children are plagued with problems, they will ask the same question.

Many Christians turn to the book of Job in unsettling times because *why* was his favourite question, too. The German philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche once wrote: 'He who knows the why can bear with any how.' That seems to be what Job thought, and that's what we often mistakenly think as well.

Yet, in the whole of Job (42 chapters), God never answers the *why* question. Instead, he shows Job that knowing *who* is far more important than knowing *why*. If you get to know the *who*, any *why* will be okay. Like a parent who becomes exhausted at the end of a child's string of *why* questions and answers, 'Because I said so', God must often tell us, 'Trust me, even when you don't get answers.' We are to live by faith — not just with the first step of our journey but with every step.

The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. (Psalm 46:10)

(Rev. Gordon)

A Message from the Elders

As the season of Lent nearly draws to a close, let us re-examine the purpose of taking part. The purpose of Lent is to prepare us for Easter, through prayer, doing penance, the repentance of sins, almsgiving and self-denial.

Whether or not we have decided to participate in Lent, and even if we do not acknowledge the existence of God, the current state of affairs in which the world finds itself has everyone, either knowingly or unknowingly, willingly or unwillingly, participating in Lent in one way or another. The recent unfolding of events and rapid changes to our daily routines have turned many people's worlds upside down, and we are left shaken, afraid and feeling alone as we ask ourselves: "What if...?"

Instead of focussing on the stresses surrounding you, trust completely in the living God. Trust in His love, mercy and kindness. Trust that He is in total control of your life.

Know that you are never alone. (Read Joshua 1:1-9, Psalm 22 and Hebrews 13:1-7.)

Know that Jesus Christ continues to care for all of us and has promised to renew and set right all things. (Read Revelation 21:1-8.)

This week focus on recognising, in the recent events unfolding in your life, the voice of Jesus, prompting, guiding and shaking your world, to re-align you spiritually, emotionally and physically to trust Him and in Him alone.

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

A Timely and Relevant Talk from an Expert on the Immune System

As this excellent talk by Ralph Walcott has had to be suspended until further notice, please ensure that you have received a copy of his most informative and helpful three page article by e-mail or, in some cases, by carrier pigeon or post. If you have not, please let Ralph know as soon as possible.

A Prayer for Connection

Dear God,

Being alone is hard. We were created for community, not confinement.

But we're grateful that no matter how alone we may feel, You never leave or forsake us. And, we're grateful for technology that helps us stay in touch with each other.

Today, please remind us that this time of social distancing and isolation will not last forever.

Give us the strength to endure this difficult season, and deepen our connection with You and Your people.

Empower us with an extra dose of Your love, peace, hope and joy, because we need it. Remind us of Your promises, and please heal our land.

In Jesus' Name, Amen. (from 'YouVersion')

Alterations to our Church Programme

As a result of the COVID-19 virus the following programmes have been suspended until further notice:

All Bible Study Groups	The Dinner Table
Estia Nursing Home	KidzConnect & Crèche
Evening Worship	Mission & Wider Work Lunch
Mainly Music	Women's Fellowship
KYB	All Community Programmes
Day of Prayer	Men's Breakfast

Please Note

All church activities are currently in a state of flux. In order to keep well informed, please refer to Jonathan's pastoral letter and to our church website. You will be able to keep up, and join in, with the regular Sunday morning services, thanks to the miraculous wonders of technological wizardry, spearheaded by Alan Howard-Jones. Please do not forget that all the services are live streamed on our website and that the Gazette (no hard copy for the time being) is to found there as well.