

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

24th May, 2020

Preacher: **James**
Leader (am): **Ceri**
Leader (pm): *****
Welcome: *****
Duty Elder: *****
Reader: **Julia**
Musician: **Pat**
Stewards: *****
Manager: *****
Crèche: *****
Kidz Connect: *****
Morning Tea: *****
Audio: **Alan**
Visual: **Alan**
Cleaning: *****

Next Week's Roster

31st May, 2020

Preacher: **Jonathan**
Leader (am): **Neil**
Leader (pm): *****
Welcome: *****
Duty Elder: *****
Reader: **Coral**
Musicians: **Alan, Ken & Tim**
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, 24th May, 2020

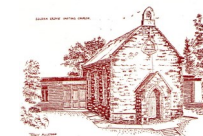
Seventh Sunday in Eastertide

Preacher: James

Theme: Waiting for the Lord

Scripture Reading: Acts 1: 1-11

Mission Statement: To draw people



to our Lord Jesus Christ

and nurture them through our church

Don't Fence Me In!

"Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." (Jn 21:18)

As some social restrictions due to COVID-19 have relaxed a little, it's been fascinating to see people come out of the "lockdown woodwork" with a vengeance! This is a natural reaction to the forced confinement we've all tasted. It's also an expression of the truth that God made us in His very image, as noble overseers of His creation, to live in freedom.

While we are enjoying some freedoms, we are a long way from clear of all the restrictions, and who knows if we ever will be like we once were?!...

The Bible says that "God has bound all in disobedience, so that He may have mercy upon all" (Ro 11:32); i.e. there is a bondage that all of us are under and must come to terms with, but that in doing so we discover true freedom!

We rankle against restriction both because it runs counter to the freedom for which God created and redeemed us, and because it reminds us of the disobedience from which God alone must redeem us, which He does liberally in grace for all who look to Him in faith and repentance. In this way, the restrictions placed upon us can actually become the instruments that lead us to know greater freedom in Christ. That's why the Bible can even tell us to rejoice in our suffering! (Ro 5:1-5)

The Bible says that this freedom makes us completely new people, (2Cor 5:17), and gives us the gift of eternal life! (Jn 4:14). This is the kind of freedom that is bigger and stronger than any restriction or confinement, and can give us peace, hope and joy in the face of them.

Grace and cheers, Jonathan.

Grace and cheers, Jonathan

A Message from the Elders

Today is the seventh and final Sunday in Eastertide. The liturgical season commenced on Easter Sunday with our Lord's Resurrection and concludes with the Ascension of Jesus, which happened on the 40th day (this past Thursday). However, many churches choose to commemorate the Ascension on this Sunday.

Prior to Jesus ascending to heaven from the Mount of Olives, He gave the disciples one last set of instructions (Matthew 28:16-20). In this passage He commands the disciples to make more disciples, out of all peoples, teaching and baptising them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. How are the disciples going to accomplish this massive task?

Read Acts 1:1-11. In this passage we see that the disciples are not to rely on their own efforts to spread the Good News of the Gospel, but to wait for the Holy Spirit, which will enable them and empower them for all their evangelistic and missionary efforts.

Jesus' ascension into heaven also confirms His divine status as the Son of God and fulfils His earlier promise to the disciples that He must go to His Father's house to prepare a place for all of us. In John 14:1-14, Jesus teaches that He is the only way to the Father, who is the source of eternal life. No-one can reach the Father, except through knowing Jesus. And, if we don't tell others about Jesus, how will they be saved?

Read John 14:15-31. In this passage Jesus promises that He will send another Advocate, who will teach us and remind us of all the things He said. This Advocate is the Holy Spirit, who came on the day of Pentecost and is the Encourager whom Jesus had told the disciples to wait for in Jerusalem.

It is not on our own strength that we are called by Jesus to be His disciples and to spread the Gospel. Just like the original disciples, we too need the Encourager to live in us, enabling, instructing and strengthening us to be His disciples for His glory.

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



A "CALL FOR HELP" IN THE FACE OF COVID-19

Uniting Care, the welfare agency of the UCA in SA, is setting up Emergency Relief Centres across the state to provide emergency relief for the many individuals and families across the community affected by the economic fall-out of the COVID-19 crisis.

One such centre is to be located at Modbury Uniting Church and, at this critical time, for those who would like to, an invitation has been received to participate.

So, if you wish to support this programme, you can do so by contributing a range of food items and other essential goods, as listed below.

In addition, if you would like to help out financially, a fund has been set up to acquire goods for the programme. (Bank details for EFT donations below.)

Also, if you are between the ages of 18 and 69, and in good health, you may like to volunteer to assist with running the programme. (Details of who to contact below.)

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Food and essential goods needed (* note: these are the *types of goods* needed—not an exhaustive list):

Cans/jars: soup, vegetables, baked beans, spaghetti, tomatoes, tuna, tinned fruit, pasta sauces

Packets: muesli bars, breakfast cereals, cheese & cracker snacks, 2 minute noodles, pasta

UHT milk (lots), baby nappies, bread (usually from bakers or supermarkets), apples, lemons, seasonally available fruit, green vegetables, carrots, eggs.

(*Food/essential goods contributions may be left at the Golden Grove church hall between 10am and 12noon on Thursdays)

Financial donations can be made to:

Modbury Uniting Church
BSB: 704-095
Account No.: 188344
Ref. Modbury ERC

Any enquiries about volunteering can be made to Shelia Roxby: 0439540660, Priscilla Anderson: 0402900481, or Lyn Leane: 0421130788.

Also, feel free to get in touch with Cath if you have any questions (8251 4298;

office@goldengroveuniting.org.au).