

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

26th July, 2020

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

Next Week's Roster

2nd August, 2020

Preacher: **Jonathan**
Leader (am): **Jonathan**
Leader (pm): *********
Welcome: **Council**
Duty Elder: **Council**
Reader: **Barbara**
Musician: **Heather**
Stewards: **Council**
Manager: **Council**
Crèche: **Chris H.**
Kidz Connect: **Tina**
Morning Tea: *********
Audio: **Alan**
Visual: **Alan**
Cleaning: **Council**

Golden Grove Gazette

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

www.goldengroveuniting.org.au

Sunday, 26th July, 2020

Seventh Sunday after Trinity

Preacher: **Jonathan**

Theme: **You can't escape God's love**

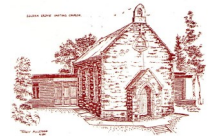
Scripture Readings: **Romans 8: 26-39**

Mission Statement: To draw people



to our Lord Jesus Christ

and nurture them through our church



Frustrated?

I'm an Adelaide Crows supporter. Having just suffered our 7th consecutive defeat this season, and having watched game after error-laden, skill-less, plan-less, joyless, depressing game... *I'm way beyond frustrated!*.... I even had a nightmare last night... that I was beginning to think the colour teal quite fetching!!

The country, and we as the church, are beginning to make our way out of some of the COVID-19 social restrictions, and back toward how we used to meet and operate as a church family. It is clear that this is going to be a slow, drawn-out, piece-meal process, and that's even *if* we don't get a further surge of the virus through SA, which would take us backwards! If we're not feeling frustrated by all of this at the moment, it is safe to bet that we all will be at some stage before the end of it.

Paul talks about this in Romans 8. He says that the whole of creation (that includes us!) was subjected to *frustration*, or *futility* (vv20-23). He says that it was God who subjected it to this futility, in order to lead people and the world to liberation from it, through receiving His grace and following Him. However, in order for us to come to this liberation, we first have to know and accept that *only God can liberate us*. We cannot do it ourselves, nor can any other person, nor any worldly power.

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God is not playing games with us in this; rather, *He is loving us*. He proves this by the fact that He Himself fully enters into the world, as a human being, just like us, and experiences all the worst frustration and futility that can be thrown at a person, including torturous death. *Why?*... because that's how much He loves us... and to liberate us forever from all that frustrates us... He may even get the Crows to a win in 2020 yet!

Grace and cheers, Jonathan.

Worth Quoting from the Editor's Reading This Week

"God is Infinite Wisdom, and Power, and Goodness - and Love; but if this idea is too vast for your human faculties - if your mind loses itself in its overwhelming infinitude, fix it on Him who condescended to take our nature upon Him, who was raised to heaven even in His glorified human body, in whom the fullness of the Godhead shines."

*(a woman's advice to her dying, non-believer husband, who dreads the fires of hell that will punish him for his countless atrocities committed during his life)
(Page 346 of Anne Brontë's "The Tenant of Wildfell Hall" - 1848)*

From "A Taste of the Spirit" for 26th July

*"For I can do everything with the help of Christ who gives me the strength I need."
Philippians 4: 13*

*Whatever you can do, or dream you can, begin it.
Boldness has genius, power and magic in it.
Only engage, and then the mind grows heated.
Begin it and the work will be completed."*

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832)

Begin the new day, the new job, the new life, and know that you are strengthened every step of the way by God's love.

"A Taste of Peace": Lord it isn't easy to feel totally at peace when starting something new. Remind me today that whatever I do, You'll be right there with me. Amen.

DATES FOR OUR DIARIES

- Sunday Morning Worship: 26th July: 10.00 am (Church Hall)
- Sunday Evening Café Church: 26th July: 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm
- Monday Morning: KYB: 27th July: 10.00 am
- Working Bee: Saturday, 1st August: 8.00 am
- Sunday Morning Worship: 2nd August: 10.00 am (Holy Communion)
- Sunday Morning: KidzConnect restarting
- Women's Fellowship: Thursday, 6th August: 1.00 pm

mainly music

Our *mainly music* programme commenced on Friday, 24th July, at 9.30 am. If you would like to volunteer, could you please contact Katherine McDonald on 0434 950 931 for further information? All volunteers must have their DHS Working with Children Check.

Philippines Sponsorship

Very many thanks to those who have continued to contribute to the "Philippines jars" during the church closure.

I was really surprised and delighted to learn that a little over \$100 was donated during this time towards the two children who are supported by the jars.

Until the jars again make their physical reappearance, you may wish to place your donations in the offertory bags, marked "Philippines".

I would also like to express my thanks to our donors, who made their donations so promptly in what was a difficult time.

(Gordon Cooksey)

"I would rather be a gatekeeper in the house of my God than live the good life in the homes of the wicked. For the Lord God is our light and our protector. He gives us grace and glory." Psalm 84: 10-11

I, the undersigned declare that:

- I have not returned from international or interstate travel in the last 14 days.
- I have not been exposed to a person with a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the last 14 days.
- I am not currently required to self-isolate for any other reason.
- I am well, and not displaying any symptoms of COVID-19.
- I will practise good hand hygiene and utilise the hand washing and sanitiser facilities made available for this purpose.
- I will follow all reasonable steps requested by the Golden Grove Uniting Church to ensure the health and safety of all other personnel and visitors.
- Visitors' Phone Numbers are required.

DATE :

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In Galatians 5:22-23, we read about the kinds of fruit the Holy Spirit produces in our lives. Of these, the greatest Christian virtue that encompasses all others is love.

Read 1 Corinthians 13:1-13.

In the first part of this reading we learn that love is the most important thing there is and that, without it, we are nothing. Everything we do counts for nothing, if it is not done motivated by love for others.

What is the nature of a faithfully loving person? Verse 4 tells us that a person, with this type of love in their hearts, is patient and kind. Verse 6 says that such a person desires truth and rejoices when truth wins out. Verse 7 explains that this love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful and endures through every circumstance.

How can we get hold of such an everlasting love?

Read 1 John 4:7-21.

This reading teaches us that God is love (verse 8) and that love comes from Him (verse 7). He loved us first, and loved us so much that He sent His one and only Son as a sacrifice, to take away our sins (verse 10), so that we can have a face to face relationship with Him. God is the source of real and everlasting love.

Verse 16 states that God is love and that all, who live in love, live in God and God lives in them. This is how our love grows to perfection (verse 17) and how we are able to love one another. This is how we are able to love our enemies.

In your prayer time this week, read the words of 1 John 4:7-21 again and ask God to send His Spirit to make His home in your heart. Ask Him to transform your life and to grow His love in you.

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