

**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](mailto: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**

**22nd November, 2020**

Preacher: **Jonathan**  
Leader (am): \*\*\*\*\*  
Leader (pm): \*\*\*\*\*  
Marshal (Church): \*\*\*\*\*  
Marshal (Hall): \*\*\*\*\*  
Reader: \*\*\*\*\*  
Musician: \*\*\*\*\*  
Stewards: \*\*\*\*\*  
Manager: \*\*\*\*\*  
Crèche: \*\*\*\*\*  
Kidz Connect: \*\*\*\*\*  
Morning Tea: \*\*\*\*\*  
Audio Desk: \*\*\*\*\*  
Camera Operator: \*\*\*\*\*  
Computer: \*\*\*\*\*  
Overflow Overseer: \*\*\*\*\*  
Cleaning: \*\*\*\*\*

**Next Week's Roster**

**29th November, 2020**

Preacher: **Reverend Ross Honey**  
Leader (am): **James**  
Leader (pm): \*\*\*\*\*  
Marshal (Church): \*\*\*\*\*  
Marshal (Hall): \*\*\*\*\*  
Reader: **Barbara**  
Musician: **Pat**  
Stewards: \*\*\*\*\*  
Manager: \*\*\*\*\*  
Crèche: \*\*\*\*\*  
Kidz Connect: \*\*\*\*\*  
Morning Tea: \*\*\*\*\*  
Audio Desk: **Rykhardt**  
Camera Operator: **Tim**  
Computer: **Ruan**  
Overflow Overseer: \*\*\*\*\*  
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](http://www.goldengroveuniting.org.au)

Sunday, 22nd November, 2020

Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Trinity

Preacher: **Jonathan**

Theme: **The Good News of God's Judgement**

New Testament Reading: **Matthew 25: 31-46**

**Mission Statement: To draw people**



**to our Lord Jesus Christ**

**and nurture them through our church**

**Why Doesn't God Get Rid of Coronavirus?...**

Good question!... First of all, I don't know.

The above question is asked about any bad thing that happens in life. But our response as Christians must always start from the Gospel of Jesus Christ. This tells us that - whatever bad thing is happening - *we have a God who gets involved in our suffering and that of the world*. The Son of God became our flesh and blood brother, lived our life, suffered like us, and died our death in the horrific form of crucifixion, because of His love for the world (Jn 3:16)

He is the same God now, and He is present with us in the power of the Holy Spirit and dwells within us (Jn 1:4,14, 14:20). This means that He goes through our suffering and pain with us, and we are not on our own dealing with it. He is also with us in great grace, to lift us up, provide for us, carry us, and to heal us and society. We can look to Him, pray to Him and trust Him absolutely in that, and to lead us through, and end, the Coronavirus.

Our not knowing the answer to the question above doesn't mean that there isn't an answer. It's just that we don't know what it is, and quite possibly can't know it - God's wisdom is much bigger than ours! However, as Christ taught, the interruptions to our lives and world through suffering tell us that the only truly lasting things are God and His Word and that everything else depends upon them, and ultimately we must recognise this (Mt 24:23-35).

And considering the limitless love and grace of God towards us, there is no better place that we could be!

*Grace and cheers, Jonathan*

### A Message from the Elders

It is hard to believe that the year 2020 will be over in just over five weeks! This year has proven challenging and different from so many perspectives. As we enter the silly season and the mad shopping rush towards buying gifts for everyone and ensuring the Christmas table is perfectly decorated, rather than speed up to complete our checklist of things to get done, the Gospel calls us to take a breath and to slow down.

The Christmas season is not about Boxing Day bargains, binge eating/drinking or reigniting old family feuds; we need to stop and remind each other that it is about Jesus Christ and the celebration of the season of Advent.

The term "Advent" is a version of the Latin word meaning "coming" and it is a season observed in many churches as a time of expectant waiting and preparation for the Comings of Christ from three different perspectives: in the flesh when Jesus was born in Bethlehem, in our hearts daily and in glory at the end of time. It is a season of expectation and hope, even in COVID restricted 2020.

This year Advent commences on Sunday 29 November and concludes on Thursday 24 December. Practices associated with Advent include keeping an Advent calendar, lighting an Advent candle, praying an Advent daily devotional, erecting a Christmas tree and setting up Christmas decorations.

In our church, on each of the Sundays in Advent, we light one of the candles of our Advent wreath. Each candle symbolises a theme of Advent: Hope, Peace, Joy and Love. The final candle (the Christ candle) is lit on Christmas Day.

Let us pray this season of Advent for a genuine awareness of God's grace in our lives and the humility to extend it to others. Let's pray to be open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit, for purity and to grow as we encounter God more fully. Let us pray for confidence in God's love and to trust in His power to work things out for the best in our lives.

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

### THE YEAR CONTINUES ITS DECLINE

- **Sunday Morning Worship: 22nd November: 10.00 am (Streamed)**
- **Church Council Meeting: Tuesday, 24th November: 7.00 pm (Zoom)**
- **Sunday Morning Worship: 29th November: 10.00 am (Streamed)**
- **First Sunday in Advent (Hope): Sunday, 29th November**
- **Women's Fellowship: Thursday, 3rd December: 12.00 noon**
- **Friday Morning: *mainly music*: 4th December: 9.30 am**
- **Working Bee: Saturday, 5th December: 8.00 am**
- **Sunday Morning Worship: 6th December: 10.00 am**
- **Second Sunday in Advent (Peace): Sunday, 6th December**
- **Church Council Election: Sunday, 6th December**
- **Third Sunday in Advent (Joy): Sunday, 13th December**

### CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

As from Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November, until Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December, we are once again asking if you could please support us in helping with non-perishable food to make Christmas hampers again this year for families in need in the community. Could you please put your donations in the plastic containers that will be left at the tables in the hall, if you are able to help? Thank you very much.



### Family Directory Update

George and Jo Reeves have a new mobile telephone number.

It is: 0415 256 884. Please update your directories. Thank you.