

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

6th December, 2020

Preacher: **Jonathan**  
Leader (am): **Kathryn**  
Leader (pm): **\*\*\*\*\***  
Marshal (Church): **Ray**  
Marshal (Hall): **Cath**  
Reader: **Trevor**  
Musician: **Heather**  
Stewards: **\*\*\*\*\***  
Manager: **\*\*\*\*\***  
Crèche: **Sandy**  
Kidz Connect: **Trevor**  
Morning Tea: **\*\*\*\*\***  
Audio Desk: **Ralph**  
Camera Operator: **Tim**  
Computer: **Ruan**  
Overflow Overseer: **Rykhardt**  
Cleaning: **Chris & Ray**

Next Week's Roster

13th December, 2020

Preacher: **Jonathan**  
Leader (am): **Jonathan**  
Leader (pm): **Jonathan**  
Marshal (Church): **Coral**  
Marshal (Hall): **Ray**  
Reader: **Sandy**  
Musician: **Brunetta**  
Stewards: **\*\*\*\*\***  
Manager: **\*\*\*\*\***  
Crèche: **Chris H.**  
Kidz Connect: **Tina**  
Morning Tea: **\*\*\*\*\***  
Audio Desk: **Ruan (am & pm)**  
Camera Operator: **Ralph**  
Computer: **James (am & pm)**  
Overflow Overseer: **Lucinda**  
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, 6th December, 2020

Second Sunday in Advent (Peace)

Preacher: **Jonathan**

Theme: **The Good News of Repentance**

New Testament Reading: **Mark 1: 1-8**



Mission Statement: To draw people

to our Lord Jesus Christ

and nurture them through our church



**Go Full Christmas!**

*It's just not like Christmas!....I've heard that phrase quite a bit recently. It kind of goes together with another phrase we've often heard in this year of the virus - i.e. "life is just not normal anymore". Many of the "normal" Christmas and end of year events have been cancelled, deemed too difficult or impossible to conduct, given the current Government social restrictions. We are hoping these won't mess up our plans to gather as families too much!*

This can make us feel a bit "cut adrift" as we come to acknowledging and celebrating the great event of Christmas: the miracle of the Son of God being born into our world as a flesh and blood baby, who is at the same time both Saviour and Lord. Yet, just as He was present visibly in His First Coming at Christmas, and will be at His Second Coming at the end of the age, so *He is present now by the power of the Holy Spirit* as Redeemer of the world. This truth is clearly and comprehensively attested to in the Bible, God's Word.

Therefore, whether we feel like it's Christmas or not, *Christ Himself is present*. In order to know this, we *always have to see past the accoutrements of our normal Christmas celebrations anyway,.... just as we now need to look past the absence of those normal trappings.*

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We can and must do this, and will find that Christ is bringing to us all of His eternal truth, forgiveness and gifts of grace. We have the greatest Christmas present - i.e. *His presence!*

This means that, as our good friends at *ALDI* exhort us, we can “*Go Full Christmas!*”

*Grace and peace, Jonathan.*

### **Philippines Child Education Scheme**

A reminder to our sponsors that your December quarter donations are now due.

To our anonymous sponsors: In the absence of the “Philippines jars”, please put your donations in an envelope marked “Philippines” and place it in the offertory bag at Sunday worship.

If anyone would like an explanation of what the scheme is about, I’d be delighted to talk to you about it.

Thank you all again for your generous support of the children at Hope Ministry, Davao City.

Gordon Cooksey

### **Missing in Action, or Inaction**

Someone has borrowed the brush from the upright vacuum cleaner. Could the person who has please let Cath know as soon as possible, as the cleaner will not operate at all without its brush? Thank you.



### **Christmas Hampers**

**Today is the last day on which to bring your donations for the Christmas hampers. Thank you so much to all of those who have contributed.**

### **OUR DECEMBER DIARY DATES**

- **Sunday Morning Worship: 6th December: 10.00 am**
- **Second Sunday in Advent (Peace): Sunday, 6th December**
- **Church Council Election: Sunday, 6th December**
- **Friday Morning: *mainly music*: 11th December (last for the year)**
- **Sunday Morning Worship: 13th December: 10.00 am**
- **Third Sunday in Advent (Joy): Sunday, 13th December**
- **Café Church: Sunday, 13th December: 6.00 pm**
- **Fourth Sunday in Advent (Love): Sunday, 20th December**
- **Blue Christmas Service: Sunday, 20th December: 6.00 pm**
- **Christmas Day Service: Friday, 25th December: 9.00 am**
- **Jonathan on Leave: 26th December to 7th January**
- **Sunday Morning Worship: 27th December: 10.00 am**

### **A Message from the Elders**

The theme of Bible readings and teachings during the season of Advent is balanced between the remembrance of Christ’s first coming and the anticipation of His triumphant return as Judge and Ruler at the end of time. The first two Sundays in Advent (29 November and 6 December) look forward to Jesus’s second coming, whilst the last two Sundays (13 and 20 December) reflect backward to remember His birth.

In our church, on this second Sunday in Advent, we light the Bethlehem Candle, symbolising Peace. We light it in remembrance of the journey made by Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem, where Jesus Christ, the Peacemaker of the world, was born. He will soon come again, set things right and bring everlasting peace to all of creation.

During the week read and think about these passages: Micah 5, Malachi 3:1-5, Luke 1:67-80 and Luke 3:1-20. In your personal prayer time, make a point of it to thank God for the wholeness of community and promise of peace that comes from knowing Him. Pray about how you can be an ambassador of the Prince of Peace. Open your heart to Him, let His Spirit guide you and seek peace in all your endeavours.

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