

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

10th January, 2021

Preacher: **Ross**  
Leader (am): **James**  
Leader (pm): **Ross**  
Marshal (Church): **Cath**  
Marshal (Hall): **Rykhardt**  
Reader: **Brunetta**  
Musician: **Brunetta**  
Stewards: **\*\*\*\*\***  
Manager: **\*\*\*\*\***  
Crèche: **Vacation**  
Kidz Connect: **Vacation**  
Morning Tea: **\*\*\*\*\***  
Audio Desk: **Ralph & Rykhardt (pm)**  
Camera Operator: **Tim**  
Computer: **Ruan & James (pm)**  
Overflow Overseer: **Rykhardt**  
Cleaning: **\*\*\*\*\***

Next Week's Roster

17th January, 2021

Preacher: **Ceri**  
Leader (am): **Cath**  
Leader (pm): **\*\*\*\*\***  
Marshal (Church): **Chris H.**  
Marshal (Hall): **Andrew**  
Reader: **Chris H.**  
Musician: **Brunetta**  
Stewards: **\*\*\*\*\***  
Manager: **\*\*\*\*\***  
Crèche: **Vacation**  
Kidz Connect: **Vacation**  
Morning Tea: **\*\*\*\*\***  
Audio Desk: **Ruan**  
Camera Operator: **Ralph**  
Computer: **Lucinda**  
Overflow Overseer: **Tim**  
Cleaning: **Barb & Patrick**

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, 10th January, 2021

First Sunday after Epiphany

Preacher: Reverend Ross Honey

Theme: Delighted in

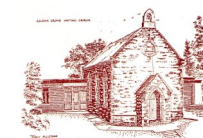
Gospel Reading: Mark 1: 4-11

Mission Statement: To draw people



to our Lord Jesus Christ

and nurture them through our church



**PLEASE  
CLOSE THE  
GATE**

When travelling through farming districts, it is common to be reminded, by a sign fixed to a gate, "Please close the gate". Failure to do so, could allow valuable stock to wander away.

On the first day of the New Year, it is a day for gate-shutting. Where, for instance, a decision has been made, let that judgement be final. The car has been sold; the house bought; the contract signed; the situation declined; the step taken cannot be retraced. A wise person will firmly and finally shut the gate. It is better that way.

If the paddocks behind us contain any creatures that we do not wish to meet again, like fear or gloom, let us carefully close the gate.

Let us forget the things that troubled and tried us, the worrying things that caused our souls to fret, the hopes that, deeply cherished, were still denied us. Let us forget the little slights that grieved us, the greater wrongs that still rankle, the pride that has been hurt. Let us close the gate.

It is great to be able to walk in green pastures and beside still waters with the Good Shepherd, unafraid of anything that we have left in the troubled fields behind us.

*(Reverend Gordon)*

### A Message from the Elders

Epiphany was this past Wednesday (06 January) and is known as "Three Kings Day" in other churches. In our church, we celebrate Epiphany as a liturgical season lasting until Ash Wednesday (17 February), which is the start of the season of Lent.

Epiphany comes from the Greek word "*epiphaneia*", which means *manifestation*; and, during this season, we celebrate God revealing Himself to all peoples of the world through the person of Jesus Christ:

- During the birth of Jesus - Read Matthew 1:18-25;
- When the Angels visited the shepherds (representing Israel) - Read Luke 2:8-20;
- When the three Magi (representing the Gentile world) recognised Jesus as the Son of God - Read Matthew 2:1-12;
- At Jesus's baptism, when the Holy Spirit descended on Him and God revealed His identity - Read Mark 1:9-11; and
- At Jesus's first miracle at a wedding in Cana - Read John 2:1-12.

Epiphany closes out the Christmas season and turns our focus to Jesus at the centre of our lives. God made Himself known so that we may know Him intimately. He came into this world for you. Embrace Him with all of your heart.

Our church elders are: Ross, Cath, Ceri, Ray and Rykhardt.

### Philippines News

**Many thanks to Jenni and Norman McArdle, who have agreed to be the new sponsors for Jacob Gabatilla; he and his parents will be very grateful to them.**

**Thank you also to the person who recently made a sizeable donation to the Philippines scheme; this will also be accepted gracefully by Luciano and his family to further their work in Davao City.**

Gordon Cooksey

### OUR JANUARY DIARY DATES

- **2021 Church Council Commissioning: Sunday, 10th January**
- **First Café Church: Sunday, 10th January: 6.00 pm**
- **First Estia Worship Service: Monday, 18th January: 2.00 pm**
- **Café Church: Sunday, 24th January: 6.00 pm**

### EASTER EVERY DAY

*"And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith." 1 Corinthians 15.14.*



There will be protests again this year that the moment Christmas is over, the supermarkets will have hot cross buns for sale. Whilst obviously their appearance is for commercial gain, they are a great daily reminder that the Easter event is the central fact of our Christian faith.

1 Corinthians 15 is arguably the New Testament's longest and most detailed treatise on Christ's resurrection.

Paul argues: If Jesus has been raised from the dead that proves he really was the Messiah. His death then was not a tragic and ghastly end, but God's strange means of dealing with the sin of the world. But, if he wasn't raised from the dead, he wasn't and isn't the Messiah, and his cross had no such effect. Sin has not been dealt with; the world is still as it was.

With Christ's resurrection, a new world has opened up, promising a life yet greater, more beautiful, more powerful, than this one. Without the hope of the resurrection, what is the point of being a Christian?

The bun with a cross on it is a great reminder of Christ's death and resurrection. That, and nothing less, is the Christian hope.

*(Reverend Gordon)*

**A Message from David Bickerton:** David is collecting used plastic bottle tops from soft drink bottles, milk bottles and fruit juice bottles, to name some examples. These are able to be reused and melted down by a manufacturer of wheel chairs. If you are able to assist, please speak to David. Thank you very much.