

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

21st March, 2021

Preacher: **Leigh Filmer**
Leader (am): **Kathryn**
Leader (pm): *********
Marshal (Church): **Andrew**
Marshal (Hall): **Tim**
Reader: **Barbara**
Musician: **Brunetta**
Stewards: *********
Manager: *********
Kidz Connect: **Joy & Ailsa**
Morning Tea: *********
Audio Desk: **Ruan**
Camera Operator: **Rykhardt**
Computer: **Ralph**
Overflow Overseer: **Tim**
Cleaning: *********

Next Week's Roster

28th March, 2021

Preacher: **Jonathan**
Leader (am): **James**
Leader (pm): **David M.**
Marshal (Church): **Neil**
Marshal (Hall): **Ray**
Reader: **Barrie**
Musician: **Pat**
Stewards: *********
Manager: *********
Kidz Connect: **Chris DeB. & Tina**
Morning Tea: *********
Audio Desk: **Rykhardt & Lucinda**
Camera Operator: **Ralph**
Computer: **Ruan & James**
Overflow Overseer: **Lucinda**
Cleaning: **Chris & Graham**

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, 21st March, 2021

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Bible Readings: Psalm 146 and Luke 4: 16-21

Theme: Jesus' Mission and Ours

Preachers: Leigh and Tamara Filmer (Church Mission Society, Nepal)

Mission Statement: To draw people



to our Lord Jesus Christ

and nurture them through our church

Hating Grace

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God - not the result of works, so that no one may boast. [Eph 2:8,9]

In this famous verse, St Paul succinctly states the Christian Gospel: we are saved from sin and death, and saved into fullness of life and eternal life, not by anything that we do, but by God's grace and doing alone as a gift, which we receive by faith. *That sounds like a pretty good deal!* You'd think any person would just have to say "YES!" to it and never look back.

The hitch is, if we accept that this is the way things really are, then we have to accept that this means that *we can never boast*. That's a problem, because *every human being* naturally gets their sense of self-worth and wellbeing *from boasting*.

It's true! Middle-class people say, "*poor people just didn't work as hard or smart as me, and rich people just got it handed to them by stupid luck, but I deserve what I got!*" Poor people say, "*those middle class and rich people are crooks who just got an unfair advantage, but I've really done it tough and honest - I'm a better type of person than them!*" rich?... well, they just scoff, "*we're obviously the best type of person - why else are we better off than everyone else?!*" The bad say, "*I'm really smart; that's how I get ahead, not like all those other stupid suckers!*"

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The good say, "I'm obviously a much better person than all those morally corrupt types!" The Christians say, "I'm doing God's will; therefore, I'm approved!"

Everybody boasts. Grace means death to this way of life. Therefore, by nature we all hate grace!... But, when we see and taste the salvation and fullness of life that come only from grace, we will gladly let all our pride and boasting die, and be true lovers of grace.

Grace upon grace, Jonathan.

A Message from the Elders

Prayer is the answer to many of life's challenges. It is through prayer that we have the amazing opportunity to have a one on one conversation with our Heavenly Father, to lay out everything before Him and expectantly wait for Him to answer as a loving Father would answer His most beloved children.

God always answers prayer, but not necessarily in the ways we wanted or imagined that He would. He does not only know what is best for us right now, but also what is best for the whole of our lives. We should trust Him completely. Throughout the Bible there are many examples of prayer for us to follow:

* Psalm 51 contains a prayer David prayed out of repentance for the sin of adultery committed with Bathsheba. This is an example of a prayer of confession and request for forgiveness.

* In 1 Kings 8:22-61 is the prayer of praise and dedication Solomon prayed after completing the Temple of the Lord. This prayer also contains a blessing for God's people.

* John 17 contains a very detailed account of the prayer Jesus prayed on the night of His betrayal. In this personal prayer Jesus expresses His concerns to the Father regarding Himself, His followers and the future.

* A more well-known example of prayer is in Matthew 6:5-15, where Jesus teaches us how to pray. This prayer gives us a pattern to follow for our own prayers: adoration, confession, thanksgiving and supplication.

These four examples are but a few throughout the Bible. We might feel that we don't have the right words to say in order to pray, and Romans 8:26-27 tells us that the Holy Spirit prays with us in our weakness, praying with groans that cannot be expressed in words.

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

OUR AUTUMNAL DIARY DATES

- **Sunday Morning Worship: 21st March: 10.00 am**
- **KYB: Monday, 22nd March: 10.00 am to 11.30 am**
- **Thursday Morning Prayers: 25th March: 8.00 am to 9.00 am**
- **mainly music: Friday, 26th March: 9.30 am to 11.30 am**
- **Palm Sunday: 28th March**
- **Sunday Morning Worship: 28th March: 10.00 am**
- **Café Church: Sunday, 28th March: 6.00 pm**
- **KYB: Monday, 29th March: 10.00 am to 11.30 am**

Essential Information

****Easter Services:** Maundy Thursday - 1st April - 6.00 pm (Hall)
Good Friday - 2nd April - 9.00 am
Easter Day - 4th April - 10.00 am

****Women's Fellowship:** At our meeting on Thursday, 1st April, at 1.00 pm, we shall be having a fantastic and fun-filled Easter parade (Watch out, bunnies!), followed by some informative advice from Ralph.

****Church Council:** We are delighted to inform our congregation that the following persons have been endorsed as officers in the 2021 Church Council: Chairperson: (Neil Larcombe), Treasurer: (Chris Holroyd) and Minutes Taker: (Coral Larcombe).

Words of Wisdom from a New Nonagenarian:

"If you can turn to ninety, it is great."

A Word of Wisdom from our Newest Nonagenarian



If you can turn to ninety, it is great!

Your older brother, David.

**Congratulations, too, to Vivienne's Eddie, who also turned ninety,
and on the same day as David, last Wednesday.**