

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

18th July, 2021

Preacher: **Jonathan**
Leader (am): **Jonathan**
Leader (pm): *****
Marshal (Church): **Tim**
Marshal (Hall): **Andrew**
Reader: **Sandy**
Musician: **Brunetta**
Stewards: *****
Manager: *****
Kidz Connect: **Vacation**
Morning Tea: **Peter, Yvonne & Ken**
Audio Desk: **Rykhardt**
Camera Operator: **Ralph**
Computer: **Lucinda**
Overflow Overseer: **Ruan**
Cleaning: *****

Next Week's Roster

25th July, 2021

Preacher: **Jonathan**
Leader (am): **Kathryn**
Leader (pm): **Jonathan**
Marshal (Church): **Andrew**
Marshal (Hall): **Rykhardt**
Reader: **Kathryn**
Musician: **Pat**
Stewards: *****
Manager: *****
Kidz Connect: **TBA**
Morning Tea: **Ailsa, Chris & Tina**
Audio Desk: **Ruan & Ralph**
Camera Operator: **Tim**
Computer: **Ralph & TBA**
Overflow Overseer: **Rykhardt**
Cleaning: *****



Prayer Chain

If you require prayers to be put on the Prayer Chain, can you please contact Ray Holroyd on his mobile only, at **0468 681 497**. Please do not leave messages on the land line until further notice.



Most Important: Could all members of the Prayer Chain, please remember, if they cannot get hold of the next person on the list, they need to make sure they keep passing on the message until someone answers? Thank you, Ray.

Golden Grove Gazette

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

www.goldengroveuniting.org.au

Sunday, 18th July, 2021

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Preacher: **Jonathan**

Theme: **Reconciled**

Scripture Reading: **Ephesians 2: 11-22**

Mission Statement: To draw people



to our Lord Jesus Christ

and nurture them through our church

What if the worst happened?

Will SA continue to remain largely free of a major surge in COVID-19 infection, or, at some point, succumb, similar to the experience of the Eastern states? Things are feeling a little poised on a knife-edge at the moment. The truth is, we cannot know; it could go either way.

Whichever way things do go, the Bible tells us that *it will serve God's good purpose for our lives*. Paul says, "We know that *in all things God works for the good* of those who love Him, who are called according to His purpose." (Ro 8:28) Yet, how can God work together for good *in all the bad things* (even in a pandemic)?

The Bible doesn't explain this to us; we usually only see the truth of it after the event. Yet obviously God knows much more and better than us how all of our experiences will work for our good.

However, we do know that in the death of Jesus Christ, God took the worst of evil circumstances and suffering, and made them bring about the greatest good – i.e., Jesus' victory over sin, evil and death forever, so that, by faith and repentance, we too can share in that same victory!



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All of our experiences - particularly the bad ones - throw us back upon Christ in faith, more and more, so that we are held more and more securely in the power of His victory. Evil events cannot separate us from Christ's victory for us, but only lead us further and further into it!

Grace and peace, Jonathan.

A Message from the Elders

The miracle, where Jesus feeds the five thousand with five loaves of bread and two fish (Mark 6:30-44), not only gives us an insight into how Jesus takes care of people's spiritual and bodily needs, but also shows us that with God anything is possible.

In this passage of Scripture, Jesus took pity on the huge crowd that had gathered around Him. He saw that the people were as "sheep without a Shepherd" and He taught them many things (verse 34). This addressed the people's spiritual needs.

In verses 35 and 36, the Bible mentions that the disciples urged Jesus to send the crowds away, so that they could go and buy food for themselves. Jesus saw this as an opportunity to address the spiritual needs of His disciples - notice Jesus's words in verse 37 and the disciples' response.

Jesus wanted the disciples to feed the crowd, not on their own strength, but by relying on His power as they had done before when He sent them out in pairs to the nearby villages, to preach repentance of sins and to heal the sick (Mark 6:6b-13). The disciples, however, saw only what they themselves could not do with the lack of resources they had at their disposal (verse 37).

The story concludes with Jesus performing a miracle, multiplying the food they had to be more than enough for everyone to satisfy their hunger (verses 38-44). Jesus proved to the disciples that He can make the impossible, possible.

How often do we not do the same as these disciples - relying only on what we ourselves can do, instead of believing that God can do the impossible?

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

Have
Faith
in
GOD

Women's Fellowship

Our guest speaker from SAPOL for Thursday, 5th August has cancelled the appointment. Therefore, we shall be having a movie and afternoon tea instead, plus laughs and chats, which are all part of fellowship. I look forward to seeing you there. (Eileen)



OUR WINTER DIARY DATES

- **Sunday Morning Worship: 18th July: 10.00 am**
- **Commencement of Term 3: Monday, 19th July**
- **KYB: Monday, 19th July: 10.30 am to 11.30 am**
- **Estia Worship Service: Monday, 19th July: 2.00 pm**
- **Thursday Morning Prayers: 22nd July: 8.00 am to 9.00 am**
- **mainly music: Friday, 23rd July: 9.30 am to 11.30 am**
- **Sunday Morning Worship: 25th July: 10.00 am**
- **Café Church: Sunday, 25th July: 6.00 pm**
- **KYB: Monday, 26th July: 10.30 am to 11.30 am**
- **Thursday Morning Prayers: 29th July: 8.00 am to 9.00 am**
- **mainly music: Friday, 30th July: 9.30 am to 11.30 am**
- **Women's Fellowship: Thursday, 5th August: 1.30 pm**

An URGENT update from the General Secretary to Congregations and other ministries

15th July 2021

COVID-19 Restrictions in SA

The Premier has announced new restrictions applicable to churches effective from midnight (12:01am) Friday, 16th July 2021. These changes include:

- Density requirements for ceremonies (which includes church services, weddings and funerals) revised back to 1 person per 2sqm
- We encourage masks in contexts where it is difficult to maintain social distancing
- No congregational singing this Sunday (18th July), even wearing masks.

This means that there is to be **no congregational singing, chorus singers or choirs until further notice** - even wearing masks.

We strongly encourage congregations to consider the intent of this restriction and to seek to find other ways to worship together. Please pay special attention to the [SA Government](#) website as you prepare for worship and other events this weekend.

We expect that as per the previous direction, a small worship group of musicians and singers who regularly rehearse and perform together may be permissible.