

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

19th September, 2021

Preacher: **James**
Leader (am): **James**
Leaders (pm): **Renée & James**
Marshal (Church): **Andrew**
Marshal (Hall): **Cath**
Reader: **Tina**
Musician: **Brunetta**
Stewards: *********
Manager: *********
Kidz Connect: *********
Morning Tea: **Owen, TBA & TBA**
Audio Desk: **Rykhardt**
Camera Operator: **Lucinda**
Computer Operator: **Ruan & Rykhardt**
Overflow Overseer: **Ralph**
Cleaning: *********

Next Week's Roster

26th September, 2021

Preacher: **Jonathan**
Leader (am): **Jonathan**
Leader (pm): **Jonathan**
Marshal (Church): **Rykhardt**
Marshal (Hall): **Cath**
Reader: **Trevor**
Musician: **Pat**
Stewards: *********
Manager: *********
Kidz Connect: *********
Morning Tea: **Peter, Yvonne & Ken**
Audio Desk: **Ralph & Lucinda**
Camera Operator: **John**
Computer Operator: **James & Rykhardt**
Overflow Overseer: **Tim**
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, 19th September, 2021

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Preacher: **James**

Theme: **The First Will Be the Last**

Gospel Reading: **Mark 9: 33-42**

Mission Statement: To draw people



to our Lord Jesus Christ

and nurture them through our church



Living with the Disease

I was a teenager at high school in the late 1970s. It was the height of the Cold War between the United States and the West, and the Soviet Union and the East. I remember 'living and breathing' the threat of WWII breaking out, and nuclear winter.

In one way or another, humanity has always lived under many threats to our wellbeing and existence; it just takes different forms at different times. Of course, the more novel, the more it looms in our awareness and engages our emotions, but we should always beware of exaggerating our present danger.

We also need to remember that every human being lives constantly under a death sentence given in the early days of the world; because of sin and departing from God and His good will, human beings have to die and return to their dust (Gen 3:19).

None of this means that we are without hope, nor that we don't do anything to combat the threats and diseases. Because Jesus Christ cancelled sin, defeated evil, promised us resurrection and eternal life, and began the healing and restoration of the universe, in faith and complete reliance on Him, *we hope and act for that healing and restoration.*

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This frees us not to be overly shocked by the presence of the disease, have great hope in Jesus Christ, the world's Redeemer and Healer, and work to defeat the disease in any way that we are able.

Grace and peace, Jonathan.

A Message from the Elders

To be able to resist the evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world in the time of evil, we must put on every piece of the Armour of God (Ephesians 6:10-20). In total there are six pieces that every Christian needs to stand firm, and this week we pick up the Shield of Faith to extinguish the fiery arrows of the evil one (verse 16).

A shield is a soldier's primary defensive weapon. It's a life saving device designed to take the brunt of an attacker's blows or projectile attacks, that would have otherwise impacted and seriously injured the defender. An even greater defence is the interlocking of shields by a formation of soldiers: an effective Roman siege strategy used in ancient warfare known as "*Testudo*" or Tortoise formation. This war strategy forms a near impenetrable wall of shields where the overlapping shields enable adjacent soldiers to offer mutual protection to one another.

Faith is a Christian's life saving device. Faith is our conviction that Jesus Christ is our Saviour and our complete trust in God, that He works for good in everything that He does (Romans 8:28) and that He will always remain true to His promises (Hebrews 10:23).

When the evil one fires his arrows of deceit, quarrelling, gossip, envy, greed, disappointment, discouragement, doubt, division, hate, lust and pride at you, ensure you have your Shield of Faith equipped and ready for defence, as a shield can't offer defence unless one is holding tightly on to it.

When you feel the burning arrows impact your Shield of Faith, don't be anxious about the number of impacts that are raining down, rather trust in the strength of your Shield of Faith - remembering all the times God came through for you and all the times He answered your prayers. Interlock your Shield with those of your fellow believers at church and in a small Bible study group, strengthening and encouraging each other's defence.

Our church elders are:

Jonathan, Cath, Ceri, Ray and Rykhardt.



OUR SEPTEMBER and October DIARY DATES

- **Sunday Morning Worship: 19th September: 10.00 am**
- **Café Youth: Sunday, 19th September: 6.30 pm**
- **KYB: Monday, 20th September: 10.30 am to 11.30 am**
- **Estia Worship Service: Monday, 20th September: 2.00 pm**
- **Thursday Morning Prayers: 23rd September: 8.00 am to 9.00 am**
- **End of Term Three: Friday, 24th September**
- **Sunday Morning Worship: 26th September: 10.00 am**
- **Café Church: Sunday, 26th September: 6.00 pm**
- **Church Council: Tuesday, 28th September: 7.00 pm**
- **Thursday Morning Prayers: 30th September: 8.00 am to 9.00 am**
- **Commencement of Daylight Saving: Sunday, 3rd October**
- **Labour Day Public Holiday: Monday, 4th October**
- **Beginning of Term Three: Monday, 11th October**
- **Women's Fellowship: Friday, 15th October**

Philippines Sponsorship

Our generous sponsors are reminded that the September quarter sponsorship payments are now due. They need to be finalised by the **end of this month**. **We shall always remember Gordon's fantastic work** in coordinating the entire process, and may still find it hard to believe that he is irreplaceable. Nonetheless, a replacement has to be found. However, the decision is still several weeks away, as we have to wait until our four intrepid northern travellers return at the end of October. In the meantime, please make sure that your payments are up to date. Thank you for your generosity and your patience.

Women's Fellowship

Our next gathering takes place on Friday, 15th October. It promises to be a tear inducing afternoon. This is because we are going to the Gawler Cinema **again, this time to see the film "Buckley's Chance" (all about a boy and a dingy)**, after a refreshing morning tea and a luncheon of mouth watering sandwiches. You must all come - ladies and gentlemen of GGUC and friends!

(Eileen: Women's Fellowship Convener)