

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

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: **Ailsa, Tina & Ken**
Audio Desk: **Ralph & Lucinda**
Camera Operator: **John**
Computer Operator: **James & Rykhardt**
Overflow Overseer: **Tim**
Cleaning: *********

Next Week's Roster

3rd October, 2021

Preacher: **Jonathan**
Leader (am): **Kathryn**
Leader (pm): *********
Marshal (Church): **Andrew**
Marshal (Hall): **Cath**
Reader: **Owen**
Musician: **Heather**
Stewards: *********
Manager: *********
Kidz Connect: *********
Morning Tea: **Peter, Yvonne & Chris**
Audio Desk: **Ruan**
Camera Operator: **Rykhardt**
Computer Operator: **Lucinda**
Overflow Overseer: **John**
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, 26th September, 2021

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Preacher: **Jonathan**

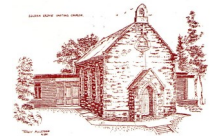
Theme: **Utter Evil**

New Testament Reading: **James 3: 1-18**

Mission Statement: To draw people

to our Lord Jesus Christ

and nurture them through our church



Utter Evil

I was on the small side as a young rider, and I was put on a 16 hands plus thoroughbred. I broke from the trees on the opposite side of a hundred acre paddock, the horse saw home, and bolted. I grabbed one rein in both hands and tried to wheel the horse with all of my weight dragging on the metal bit in its mouth, but it was useless. The horse was still uncontrollable!

James likens our "tongue" (what we say) to a bit in a horse's mouth (James 3:3). As the bit can be used to direct the whole animal to obey our will (!), so our tongue can direct our lives in the path of true wisdom. I didn't have much success with the actual bit and horse! My experience has been that we don't have much more success with the metaphorical "bit and horse" either!



(JB gallops towards the safe arms of his Good Shepherd.)

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With our tongues we utter selfishness, insults, lies, curses, anger, hatred and gossip (and even if not out loud, then in our own hearts and minds - which is just as bad as the real thing, according to Jesus!), that are an offence to God our Father, a dagger to the hearts of other people, make us hateful, and put us in the realm of the evil and demonic (James 3:8,14-15)!

What's to be done?.... James says that the antidote to our evil tongue is a wisdom that we don't have, but which "comes down from above", that is characterised by purity, peace, gentleness, forbearance, mercy and goodness (3:17). This was all personified in only one human being, Jesus Christ. Yet in His death on the cross, He who only ever spoke truth and purity, was judged for every evil that we have ever uttered, so that we might be forgiven and accounted as true and pure!

This converts us and our tongues to thanksgiving, and to only speak His truth and purity.

Grace and peace, Jonathan.

Women's Fellowship: Two October Meetings

A special fellowship event will take 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 dingo), 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)

Please note that the meeting scheduled for 7th October will be a games afternoon. The organisation of this event is in the capable hands of Sandy Walker. Would you please see her if you require further enlightenment?

Thank you.



OUR SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER DIARY DATES

- 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
- Women's Fellowship: Thursday, 7th October: 1.30 pm
- Beginning of Term Three: Monday, 11th 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.



Recycling Information



First of all, a huge vote of thanks to all the members of our church family who have been bringing along plastic bottle tops and placing them in the containers. We are especially grateful to Pedare Christian College, inspired by Ailsa, who has provided box after box of these items. What a phenomenal achievement! Thank you, as well, to all of you for continuing to provide countless ring pulls (which raise money for GGUC). In this era of communicating by technology, used stamps are becoming increasingly scarce. However, as they help raise funds for Frontier Services, please continue to bring them along. However, let it be known that bread tags and plastic bottle tops are no longer required, as the charity to help disabled children has been swamped with an over-abundance of them.



I have a confession. I am prone to impatience. I find it frustrating when golfers ahead of me just dawdle along between holes. I don't like red stop signs or long queues. I would prefer running to catch a bus than waiting for the next one.

I remind myself that a bad habit should be replaced with a good one. So, instead of impatience, I determine to use that 'down time' for Christian meditation or reflection. Some things I have tried include, repeating a verse from the Bible, for instance, "Be still and know that I am God", or "Keep me safe, O God, for I have come to you for refuge". Lines from well known hymns are also therapeutic. I have used "Eternal Father strong to save" as a type of mantra. Silent prayer is also helpful.

As I have practised turning a stressful time into a positive experience, I have found a centredness that helps me listen to God and to refocus on what matters. Some might call this behaviour "practising the presence of God" or Christian mindfulness.

Opening our hearts to intimacy with God cultivates Christian maturity. Turning the mind Godward rather than fretting impatiently is helpful in responding to our fast paced and busy world. God is the friend of silence. What does He want to say to me or you as we learn to switch our thoughts heavenward?

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. (Colossians 3:12).
(Rev. Gordon)



Sunday, 17th October
is the last day for handing in your
Christmas boxes.
Thank you so much for your
participation.



A Message from the Elders

To be able to keep standing firm and to be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power, we must put on the whole Armour of God (Ephesians 6:10-20). In total there are six pieces that every Christian needs for protection, and this week we put on the Helmet of Salvation (verse 17).

A person's head commands their body. It is the place where the senses of sight, hearing, taste and smell are housed. The head also contains the mind, which is a person's centre of thought, reasoning and storage space for knowledge and experience. In battle, it is essential that a soldier wears a helmet in order to keep his/her head protected at all times. Not just to keep the soldier alive and functional, but perhaps, more importantly, to keep the soldier's mind active and focussed on the task at hand.

Similarly it is vital that each Christian puts on the Helmet of Salvation to defend our minds and thoughts against the discouragement and despair that surrounds us in this world. The Helmet of Salvation keeps us focussed on the incredible love and grace of God, who grants us salvation through the finished work of Jesus on the cross (1 John 4:7-21).

Put on your Helmet of Salvation today and walk in the light, standing firm in the belief that if you confess your sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive you, so that you may have fellowship with Him in His kingdom forever (1 John 1:5 to 1 John 2:11).

Our church elders are:

Jonathan, Cath, Ceri, Ray and Rykhardt.

