

**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**

**26th December, 2021**

Preacher: **James**  
Leader (am): **Neil**  
Leader (pm): **\*\*\*\*\***  
Manager: **Max**  
Marshal (Church): **Coral**  
Marshal (Hall): **Chris H.**  
Reader: **Coral**  
Musician: **Pat**  
Kidz Connect: **\*\*\*\*\***  
Morning Tea: **David, Linda & Joy**  
Audio Desk (am): **Rykhardt**  
Audio Desk (pm): **\*\*\*\*\***  
Camera : **Lucinda**  
Computer (am): **Ruan**  
Computer (pm): **\*\*\*\*\***  
Overflow Overseer: **John**  
Cleaning: **\*\*\*\*\***

**Next Week's Roster**

**2nd January, 2022**

Preacher: **Kathryn**  
Leader (am): **Cath**  
Leader (pm): **\*\*\*\*\***  
Manager: **John**  
Marshal (Church): **Andrew**  
Marshal (Hall): **Neil**  
Reader: **Barrie**  
Musician: **Heather**  
Kidz Connect: **\*\*\*\*\***  
Morning Tea: **Peter, Yvonne & Ken**  
Audio Desk (am): **Ralph**  
Audio Desk (pm): **\*\*\*\*\***  
Camera: **Tim**  
Computer (am): **James**  
Computer (pm): **\*\*\*\*\***  
Overflow Overseer: **John**  
Cleaning: **Cleaner**

**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, 26th December, 2021

Boxing Day

Preacher: **James**

Theme: **I had to be in my Father's house**

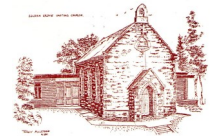
Gospel Reading: **Luke 2: 41-52**

**Mission Statement: To draw people**

to our Lord Jesus Christ



and nurture them through our church



**Christmas**

And there were shepherds living out in the fields near by, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.' Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

'Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests.' [Luke 2:8-14]

Dear Friends, whether you are in joy or sorrow, we pray that you will know the presence, grace and love of the Saviour of the world are with you, and transforming you with faith, hope and joy at this Christmas time!

You can know this for certain because the Word of God says that He was born into our world as human flesh and blood, on a particular date in history, in a town called Bethlehem, for all people in all times.

That means, *you!*... Unwrap this present, and enjoy!

*Grace and love, Jonathan & Kathryn.*

### A Message from the Elders

The season of Advent concluded on Friday 24 December; and, this past Christmas Morning, we lit the final candle of our Advent wreath. This white, central candle is known as the "Christ Candle", which symbolises Jesus's arrival and His centrality to the themes of Advent. The candle's white colour represents His purity as our sinless Saviour.

Now and always Jesus Christ must be the central theme of our lives. Put your complete trust, love, faith and hope in Him! He will never leave you or forsake you (Deuteronomy 31:6).

The three comings of Jesus Christ: in the flesh when He was born in Bethlehem, in our hearts daily and in glory at the end of time, is the central and primary theme of Advent; tying together the other themes of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love, that were celebrated during each of the past four weeks.

As this liturgical season and the year 2021 draw to a close, let us reflect on the good things this year has brought and let this season be a reminder that Jesus is certainly coming to judge the world and to restore all of creation (Matthew 25:31-46 and Revelation 21:1-8).

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

### AUDITOR REQUIRED

If you know of a good Auditor, could you please speak with Chris Holroyd, our Treasurer, as soon as possible? Our Auditor whom we had for a number of years has retired. Thank you.

### Operation Christmas Child

We have had 2,045 cartons of shoe boxes ready for dispatch. On 10th December we packed two large containers. On 15th December we packed one more large container. On 20th December we packed the fourth large container. The remaining cartons were then packed into a smaller fifth container (of only twenty feet). We were all very excited and relieved. We are also very thankful to the people who came to pack at short notice.

### OUR FUTURE DIARY DATES

- **Boxing Day: Sunday, 26th December**
- **Sunday Morning Worship: 26th December: 10.00 am**
- **Boxing Day Holiday: Monday, 27th December**
- **Proclamation Day: Tuesday, 28th December**
- **Thursday Morning Prayers: 30th December: 8.00 am to 9.00 am**
- **New Year's Day: Saturday, 1st January**
- **Sunday Morning Worship: 2nd January: 10.00 am**
- **Thursday Morning Prayers: 6th January: 8.00 am to 9.00 am**
- **Working Bee: Saturday, 8th January: 8.00 am**
- **Sunday Morning Worship: 9th January: 10.00 am**
- **Holy Communion: Sunday, 9th January (deferred from 2nd January)**

### Minister's Annual Leave

Jonathan will be taking annual leave from 26th December to 24th January. For any pastoral care or other concerns during this time, please speak with our Administrator, Cath McKechnie, or the Chair of Church Council, Neil Larcombe.

### Operation Christmas Child (continued)

**The current plan is that the containers will be held at Port Adelaide until a ship is available to take all of them to...??? This will be a surprise. I will let you know when I know.**

**In a year of such uncertainty certain words have been common for many aspects of Operation Christmas Child — e.g. wait, be flexible, pray, be patient, maybe, pray, God has the answer.**

**Praise be to Him, Operation Christmas Child is part of God's plan, to bless children, where they are and how the shoe boxes will reach them.**

**We play our part and God uses that to accomplish His purpose in His way.**

**Thank you so very much to the generous and giving church family at Golden grove Uniting Church. Shalom. (Lynette)**