

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

15th May, 2022

Preacher: **Jonathan**
Leader (am): **TBA**
Leaders (pm): **Renée & James**
Manager: **Neil**
Marshal (Church): **Andrew**
Marshal (Hall): *********
Reader: **Sandy**
Musician: **Brunetta**
Kidz Connect: *********
Morning Tea: **Bob, Faye & Brunetta**
Audio Desk (am): **Rykhardt**
Audio desk (pm): *********
Camera : **Lucinda**
Computer (am): **Rykhardt**
Computer (pm): *********
Overflow Overseer: *********
Cleaning: *********

Next Week's Roster

22nd May, 2022

Preacher: **Jonathan**
Leader (am): **Kathryn**
Leader (pm): **David**
Manager: **Ray**
Marshal (Church): **Neil**
Marshal (Hall): *********
Reader: **Chris H.**
Musician: **Brunetta**
Kidz Connect: *********
Morning Tea: **Trevor, Sandy & Owen**
Audio Desk (am): **Ralph**
Audio Desk (pm): **Ralph**
Camera: **Tim**
Computer (am): **James**
Computer (pm): **James**
Overflow Overseer: *********
Cleaning: *********

Golden Grove Gazette

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

www.goldengroveuniting.org.au

Sunday, 15th May, 2022

Fourth Sunday after Easter

Preacher: **Jonathan**

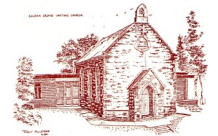
Theme: **TBA**

Scripture Reading: **TBA**

Mission Statement: To draw people

to our Lord Jesus Christ

and nurture them through
our church



Getting Along with the Neighbours

Jesus Christ gave us a commandment: that we must love one another (John 13:34) - and He does use the word "must". He also says that our doing this will be a special sign that we are His followers; there will be an attraction about it that will draw people to us, and Him (v35).

Jesus also says what kind of love this will be - i.e., "just as I have loved you". *How has He loved us?*.... He has loved us in grace - i.e., we are sinners who do not deserve His love or help; and He has loved us selflessly - i.e., sacrificing His desires, needs, comfort and peace - *His very life*, in order to give us the greatest possible good - i.e., salvation and eternal life.

How do we relate to those around us?.... Do we love in grace - i.e., all, whoever they are, including those who don't deserve it, and maybe our enemies, or only our friends? Do we put the desires, peace and comfort of others first, or our own desires, peace and comfort first?

The reason that we will love others as Jesus has loved us, is because His love changes us. If we don't love others in the way that Jesus has loved us, it means that we haven't received His love. Let's get real about Jesus' love for us, get it into us, and love others in grace, and selflessness!

Grace and peace, Jonathan.

Samaritan's Purse and Christmas Boxes

Dear friends, with a lot of not-so-good news around these days, it is pleasing for me to have some great and encouraging news to share with you.

Firstly, 600,000 Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes arrived in Ukraine and were already being distributed as war began there. It has been very encouraging for Ukrainian Christian brothers and sisters to have special gifts to give children as they share the love of Jesus. Let us keep these folk in our prayers.

As you may be aware, Operation Christmas Child operates as a project of Samaritan's Purse and is internationally evangelistic. The rest of the projects are aid oriented - always motivated by the love of Jesus to care for struggling people and working in His name particularly in disaster areas. Recently they deployed teams to Goonda in NSW to help in the clean up after massive flooding there.

Secondly, Samaritan's Purse was very quick to despatch various aid to Ukraine. By mid-March a Samaritan's Purse aeroplane had arrived 5 times, with loads of goods and medical supplies, at Ukraine, near the Polish border, where refugees were arriving in large numbers with usually no belongings. Often they were elderly, very young (even newborn), sick, injured and in shock. Supplies were set up in basement spaces, where vans came to be filled with basic items to help relieve need and anxiety. An emergency hospital, also in a bunkered basement, staffed with volunteers, met immediate health needs from bandages and medication to operations. We may not all be able to go in person, but we can pray for the safety and strength of those volunteering there in Jesus's name. These stories are very much worth hearing. The following link (<https://samaritanspurse.org.au/pray-for-the-crisis-in-Ukraine>) will take you to a video of a field hospital being set up in Ukraine.

In an internet search I found other interesting videos, particularly one with a Samaritan's Purse aeroplane being prepared to leave for Ukraine. I encourage you to check out these clips and encourage your church groups to see them also. May God richly bless you as you serve Him in many and various ways, including encouraging people in your churches and groups to pack shoe boxes. In May I hope to have news about resources for OCC.

Shalom. Lynette Beck (NE Area Coordinator)

MAY OUR DIARY DATES BE WITH YOU

- **Sunday Morning Worship: 15th May: 10.00 am**
- **Commissioning of Elders/Councillors and Membership Transfer for Marion Davis: Sunday, 15th May**
- **Café Youth: Sunday, 15th May: 6.30 pm to 8.00 pm**
- **KYB: Monday, 16th May: 10.00 am to 11.30 am**
- **Estia Worship Service: Monday, 16th May: 2.00 pm**
- **Thursday Morning Prayers: 19th May: 8.00 am to 9.00 am**
- **Polling Booth Barbecue Fundraiser: Saturday, 21st May**
- **Sunday Morning Worship: 22nd May: 10.00 am**
- **Presentation of 2021 Reports : Sunday, 22nd May (after Worship)**
- **Café Church: Sunday, 22nd May: 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm**
- **KYB: Monday, 23rd May: 10.00 am to 11.30 am**
- **Thursday Morning Prayers: 26th May: 8.00 am to 9.00 am**
- **Sunday Morning Worship: 29th May: 10.00 am**
- **Annual General Meeting: Sunday, 29th May (after Worship)**
- **KYB: Monday, 30th May: 10.00 am to 11.30 am**
- **Church Council Meeting: Tuesday, 31st May: 7.00 pm**

Coming Attractions: Winter Meetings

- **Pentecost Sunday: Sunday, 5th June**
- **Pastoral Carers Meeting: Tuesday, 7th June: via Zoom**
- **Mission Planning/Church Council Retreat: Saturday, 11th June: 9.00 am**
- **Musicians & Leaders: Saturday, 9th July: 10.00 am to 12.00 noon**

Welcome, Marion, as a new and official member of the Golden Grove Uniting Church family.



Result of Church Council Election for 2022

The following persons have been elected as officers for the Church Council:-

**Church Council Chairperson - Neil Larcombe
Deputy Chairperson - Tim Checkley Treasurer - Chris Holroyd**

The Elders are Ray Holroyd and Cath McKechnie.

