

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

3rd July, 2022

Preacher: **Jonathan**
Leader (am): **Jonathan**
Leaders (pm): **Renée & James**
Manager: **Neil**
Reader: **Chris H.**
Musician: **Heather**
Kidz Connect: **Tina**
Morning Tea: **Peter, Yvonne & Ken**
Audio Desk (am): **Ralph**
Audio desk (pm): *********
Camera : **John**
Computer (am): **James**
Computer (pm): *********
AV Editing **Jonathan**

Next Week's Roster

10th July, 2022

Preacher: **Jonathan**
Leader (am): **Kathryn**
Leader (pm): **Jonathan**
Manager: **Ray**
Reader: **Tina**
Musician: **Brunetta**
Kidz Connect: **Tina**
Morning Tea: **Chris DeB. & Tina**
Audio Desk (am): **Rykhardt**
Audio Desk (pm): **Rykhardt**
Camera: **Lucinda**
Computer (am): **Rykhardt**
Computer (pm): **Rykhardt**
AV Editing: **Rykhardt**

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

Sunday, 3rd July, 2022

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Preacher:: **Jonathan**

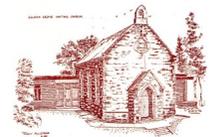
Theme: **Breaking Our Idols**

New Testament Reading: **Galatians 4: 8-20**

Mission Statement: To draw people

to our Lord Jesus Christ

and nurture them through
our church



Christianity in Decline?

Figures were released this week from the national census taken last year. They indicate that Australia is becoming less religious, and less Christian. 43.9% now claim adherence to the Christian faith, down from 60% in 2011. The question is *what exactly does this mean?*....

It may mean that many who have had only a nominal attachment to Christian faith (i.e., because their family traditionally identified with a particular church) just decided to be more honest and indicate that, no, they don't have a real relationship with the Christian faith or God.

It may indicate that people are turning away from God. However, the Bible shows us that people's resistance to God's truth is because it is real and present in the world, not because it is declining (Romans: Chapter 1).

However, the statistics certainly indicate that the majority of Australians are not connecting with the Christian Church's message - i.e., that a faith relationship with Jesus Christ offers real healing and wholeness for our lives, our community, and for the world. The lack of connection here may be the churches' failure, or it may be the resistance of people. Actually, to one degree or another, *it is always both*.

Christian faith and life do go through periods of decline (just as they have persistently renewed throughout history), but the Lord Jesus Christ, and His truth, do not decline. . This encourages and calls us to continue to hold fast in faith to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and confidently hold out that same good news to all Australians (...and visitors).

Grace and Hope, Jonathan.

Grace and Hope, Jonathan.

Encouragement to Wear Name Tags

We all know each other, but visitors or newcomers do not. For this reason we are encouraging our congregants to wear their name tags. Jim has replaced all the old, discoloured ones that were on the board, near the eastern door of the hall. However, he does not know who has lost a name tag or has left one at home. He will make you a new one, if you ask him to do so. Thank you.



An Update from Operation Christmas Child

It is exciting for me to be sending news to this great team of people leading groups who are packing or preparing to pack shoe boxes this year in the OCC NE area between the River Torrens and the southern boundary of Salisbury Council. (There are more north towards Gawler too.)

In the NE area there are currently 2 community groups, 5 schools and 30 churches: Fantastic! Each one has a Project Leader. I am hopeful that some churches and another school will join us in the next few weeks.

The more people who pack boxes - whatever the number is - it means more children will be pleased by a special gift (often their only gift ever) and hear about Jesus' love for them! Every box is a good news story. We are really keen to significantly increase that number from South Australia this year. THANK YOU for your enthusiasm. May it be 'contagious' - for a great purpose.

You are all encouraged to attend an afternoon tea gathering especially for Project Leaders. **Please plan to be there.** I am keen to see everyone.

**DIARY DATE: Saturday 13 August at Elizabeth Church of Christ
OR Sunday 14 August at Tea Tree Gully Uniting Church**

Each event will be the same. This arrangement offers a choice. One date never works for everyone!! Full details will follow in 2 to 3 weeks.

I am praying for each of you and the people you encourage to be part of Operation Christmas Child. Could there be an opportunity for me (Lynette Beck, NE Area Coordinator) to have a chat with your group or to take a few minutes to have a more formal presentation, I would love to come and see you all one Sunday.

It's a privilege to serve our God. May we do so with joy.

OUR DIARY DATES FOR JULY

- Beginning of NAIDOC Week: Sunday, 3rd July
- Sunday Morning Worship: Sunday, 3rd July: 10.00 am
- Café Youth: Sunday, 3rd July: 6.30 pm (Mystery Excursion)
- KYB: Monday, 4th July: 10.00 am to 11.30 am
- Thursday Morning Prayers: Thursday, 7th July: 8.00 am to 9.00 am
- Women's Fellowship: Thursday, 7th July (Christmas in July)
- End of Term Two: Friday, 8th July
- Musicians & Leaders: Saturday, 9th July: 10.00 am to 12.00 noon
- Sunday Morning Worship: Sunday, 10th July: 10.00 am
- Café Church: Sunday, 10th July: 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm
- Le Quatorze Juillet (Bastille Day): Thursday, 14th July
- Thursday Morning Prayers: Thursday, 14th July: 8.00 am to 9.00 am
- Sunday Morning Worship: Sunday, 17th July: 10.00 am
- Estia Worship Service: Monday, 18th July: 2.00 pm
- Thursday Morning Prayers: Thursday, 21st July: 8.00 am to 9.00 am
- Sunday Morning Worship: Sunday, 24th July: 10.00 am
- Café Church: Sunday, 24th July: 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm
- Beginning of Term Three: Monday, 25th July
- KYB: Monday, 25th July: 10.00 am to 11.30 am
- Thursday Morning Prayers: Thursday, 28th July: 8.00 am to 9.00 am
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Women's Fellowship: Christmas in July

This Thursday we are celebrating Christmas in July at the highly recommended Hotel Windsor (not Windsor Castle), located on the North East Road, Windsor Gardens.

There is a list on the table at the rear of the hall. If you intend participating, would you please fill in your details (name, number, need for transport, etc.) on the sheet? Thank you.

If you do not affix your name before 12.00 noon today, you will miss out on a wonderful time of fellowship.

RECYCLING is an environmentally rewarding habit. Please continue to save your drink bottles and cans (to Max and John), ring pulls and other pre-loved metallic objects (to Neil and Ray) and used stamps (to Jim, via Yvonne Windsor, to Synod).