

**Vision Statement:**

We see a Jesus-orientated church having a passion for the Old Testament and compassion for the world expressed through dynamic worship, love in action, the empowering of the servant Leader and the growing of disciples.

Reverend 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**

**4th December, 2022**

**Next Week's Roster**

**11th December, 2022**

Preacher:	<b>Jonathan</b>
Leader (am):	<b>Jonathan</b>
Leaders (pm):	<b>René &amp; James</b>
Manager:	<b>Ray</b>
Reader:	<b>Chris DeB.</b>
Musician:	<b>Heather</b>
Kidz Connect:	<b>Tina</b>
Morning Tea:	<b>Peter, Yvonne &amp; Ken</b>
Audio Desk (am):	<b>Ruan</b>
Audio Desk (pm):	*****
Camera :	<b>Lucinda</b>
Computer (am):	<b>Rykhardt</b>
Computer (pm):	*****
AV Editing	<b>Jonathan</b>

Preacher:	<b>Jonathan</b>
Leader (am):	<b>Kathryn</b>
Leader (pm):	<b>Jonathan</b>
Manager:	<b>John</b>
Reader:	<b>Brunetta</b>
Musician:	<b>Brunetta</b>
Kidz Connect:	<b>Tina</b>
Morning Tea:	<b>Trevor, Sandy &amp; Owen</b>
Audio Desk (am):	<b>Ralph</b>
Audio Desk (pm):	<b>Ralph</b>
Camera :	<b>John</b>
Computer (am):	<b>James</b>
Computer (pm):	<b>James</b>
AV Editing	<b>Rykhardt</b>

**Season of Advent**

**First Sunday in Advent: 4th December: Hope**

**Second Sunday in Advent: 4th December: Peace**

**Third Sunday in Advent: 11th December: Joy**

**Fourth Sunday in Advent: 18th December: Love**

# Golden Grove Gazette

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

[www.goldengroveuniting.org.au](http://www.goldengroveuniting.org.au)

Sunday, 4th December, 2022

Second Sunday in Advent: Peace

Preacher:: Reverend Jonathan

Theme: Peace on Earth

Old Testament Reading: **Isaiah: 11: 1-9**

**Mission Statement:** To draw people



to our Lord Jesus Christ  
and nurture them through our church



## **Dark Devourer?**

Death is a terrible thing! It is an alien intruder into God's good creation. It is a part of the disfigurement of God's world caused by the entrance of sin and evil into it (Gen 3; Ro 6:23). When His friend Lazarus died, Jesus wept and shook with rage to see the indignity and sorrow that death had inflicted on women and men, who are made in God's image (Jn 11:28-37).

God hates death. That's why He sent His Son Jesus into the world to abolish it. He cancelled its cause, sin, by paying its price in His death on the cross; therefore, He reversed death, rising bodily from the dead to eternal life. By faith in Him, we know our sin cancelled and forgiven, and that we too will be raised from the dead to eternal life like Him.

This doesn't mean that we will never struggle with the fear of death - and that's ok, because the truth never depends on the strength of our faith, but on Christ's victory. Death may still appear like a snake, inspiring some fear, but Christ has removed its fangs; it can do us no ultimate harm.

Apart from Jesus' victory, death could only be a dark devourer to us. But by faith in Him, we can know that it has lost the power to dominate and disfigure our lives. And we have the greatest hope: resurrection from the dead to eternal life with all of God's people in a new heaven and earth!

This has to touch and transform our lives, relationships and our world, now, with indestructible purpose and joy.

*Grace and great hope, Jonathan.*

Morning Tea, Coffee and Biscuits

Thank you to all our volunteers on the morning tea roster. We all appreciate having a cuppa and a time of fellowship after our morning Worship service. At our AGM earlier in the year it was suggested that we each start paying 50 cents for our cuppa. To date this has not been happening, and it really would be appreciated if we all could start doing this. Thank you.

*Editor: In November the income from the Pink Pig was \$42.15 and the expenditure was \$56.15. The current balance is \$24.85, which is \$14.00 less than it was at the end of October.*

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Reminder: Congregational Meeting after Worship

This morning we have the Election of Church Councillors and Elders for 2023, conducted by our Congregational Chairperson, Owen Davis. Ballot papers will be handed out to Members and Members-in-Association in order to vote. The voting will take place in the sanctuary immediately after Worship.

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Retiring Offering for Michael Musale

Last Sunday we had a retiring offering for Bishop Michael Musale from Kenya. Thank you very much for your generous donations which amounted to \$441.15.

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Women's Fellowship Christmas Luncheon

Ladies, you are reminded that our Christmas luncheon will now take place on Thursday, 15th December, at the Windsor Hotel, at 12.00 noon. Please remember to bring a \$5.00 Kris Kingle gift for sharing. It is still not too late to place your name on the list at the back of the hall.



DECEMBER HAS ARRIVED

- Sunday Morning Worship: Sunday, 4th December: 10.00 am
- Sunday, 4th December: Church Council Election: (after Worship)
- Café Youth: Sunday, 4th December: 6.00 pm (Ten Pin Bowling)
- Pastoral Carers Meeting: Tuesday, 6th December: 8.00 pm (Via Zoom)
- Thursday Morning Prayers: Thursday, 8th December: 8.00 am to 9.00 am
- Sunday Morning Worship: Sunday, 11th December: 10.00 am
- Café Church: Sunday, 11th December: 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm
- Thursday Morning Prayers: Thursday, 15th December: 8.00 am to 9.00 am
- Last Day of Term Four: Friday, 16th December
- Café Youth Christmas Party: Saturday, 17th December: 6.30 pm
- Sunday Morning Worship: Sunday, 18th December: 10.00 am
- Blue Christmas: Sunday, 18th December: 6.00 pm
- Estia Worship Service: Monday, 19th December: 2.00 pm
- Thursday Morning Prayers: Thursday, 22nd December: 8.00 am to 9.00 am
- Lessons and Carols: Saturday, 24th December: 7.00 pm
- Christmas Day Service: Sunday, 25th December
- Jonathan's Annual Leave: 27th December to 10th January, 2023
- Thursday Morning Prayers: Thursday, 29th December: 8.00 am to 9.00 am

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Vale, Dear Bill



At Bill's funeral last Friday we said goodbye to a dear and revered English gentleman, who was born in Battersea, London. A man of a profound and abiding Christian faith, he enjoyed seventy-one years of marriage to his perfectly matched wife, Joan. He was adored by his children and grandchildren. For him his family was the cornerstone of a fulfilling and blessed life. A man endowed with many practical gifts, he was a masterly and innovative technician, with such talents as house building, toaster repairing, and the dismantling and reassembling of motor cars. He and his wife loved to travel, both around Australia and overseas. He was a truly valuable member of our church family, during which time he provided leadership in many areas. He will particularly be remembered for being one of the founding fathers, along with Robert Iles, of the Philippines sponsorship scheme, which still thrives today. Above all, he was a genuine Christian: humble, quietly unassuming, patient, loving, supportive, tolerant and non-judgemental, with a perceptive sense of humour. He had been a chorister, and enjoyed the music of Sergei Rachmaninov and Ella Fitzgerald. However, playing chess will remain only a partially fulfilled passion because Joan preferred Scrabble. We know that Jesus has welcomed you with open arms, Bill. Meanwhile, we extend our deepest sympathy to dear Joan and the rest of your cherished family.