

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 Leader and the growing of disciples.

Reverend 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

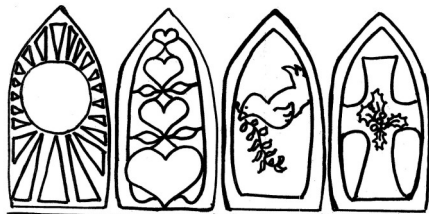
18th December, 2022

Next Week's Roster

25th December, 2022

Preacher: **Jonathan**
Leader (am): **Jonathan**
Leader (pm): *********
Manager: **Ray**
Reader: **Barrie**
Musician: **Brunetta**
Kidz Connect: **Tina**
Morning Tea: **Bob, Faye & Brunetta**
Audio Desk (am): **Ralph**
Audio Desk (pm): *********
Camera : **Tim**
Computer (am): **James**
Computer (pm): *********
AV Editing: **Jonathan**

Preacher: **Jonathan**
Leader (am): **Jonathan**
Leader (pm): *********
Manager: **Neil**
Reader: **TBA**
Musician: **Heather**
Kidz Connect: **Tina**
Morning Tea: *********
Audio Desk (am): **Ruan**
Audio Desk (pm): *********
Camera : **Lucinda**
Computer (am): **Rykhardt**
Computer (pm): *********
AV Editing: **Rykhardt**



Hope Peace Joy Love



Golden Grove Gazette

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

www.goldengroveuniting.org.au

Sunday, 18th December, 2022

Fourth Sunday in Advent: Love

Preacher:: Reverend Jonathan

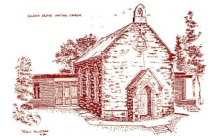
Theme: God on Our Turf

Gospel Reading: Matthew 1: 18-25

Mission Statement: To draw people



to our Lord Jesus Christ
and nurture them through our church



You Can't Be Human Without God's Word

Jesus said that we cannot be real, full human beings apart from the truth and life that are given to us by every word that God speaks (Mt 4:4).

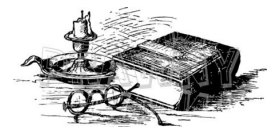
When the Bible speaks of the Word of God it means two things: firstly, it is a name for Jesus Christ, the Eternal Son of God, who is the Word of God become a living, breathing human being (Jn 1:1-5,14), to act in grace to give salvation and fullness of life to all who believe in Him (Jn 3:16).

Secondly, the Word of God means all the words and teachings of the Bible, the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments (2Tim 3:16), which also seek to lead all who hear and believe them to salvation and life (2Tim 3:15).

These two meanings of God's Word are tied together and can never be separated: all the words of the Bible are crucial, because it is only through them that we can know the truth of who Jesus is, what He does, and what He means for us and the world as gracious Saviour and giver of life; a living relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ is crucial, because it is only through Him that salvation and fullness of life come (Acts 4:12).

Do you want to have a complete and fulfilling life? - in fact, the best life that you can?... Then get into the Word of God that gives you salvation and fullness of life as a gift of grace!

Grace and life, Jonathan.



Operation Christmas Child Update

Greetings to everyone who participated in OCC shoebox project 2022.

As you know there are a number of basic phases in the project:

- Publicity, Preparing and Packing boxes
- Collection - locally and to the State Collection Hub
- Processing - checking boxes, packing them into cartons and loading into containers for shipping
- Distribution to and in receiving countries
- Presentation of The Greatest Journey

2022 was a year of change – 2 significant ones.

1. For the all Australian states – only 2 weeks for the **collection** of boxes.

Thanks to everyone in the North Area for getting your boxes to the Drop Off points within the shorter time-frame.

The central collection for SA was on the property of Edwardstown Baptist Church at St Marys where we have the SA State Office. We had a temporary set-up to receive boxes, pack them in cartons and into three containers which went by rail to Melbourne.

2. For SA – all of our boxes went to Melbourne for **processing**.

There are several main reasons for this decision. Finding suitable property for short term rent is very difficult and time consuming every year. Also, world shipping is in disarray. Getting suitable containers onto ships leaving Adelaide is also very difficult and expensive.

To date 18,495 boxes have been received in SA/NT. This total will increase when online Pack A Box figures are added. The final number will be available in the new year.

We have been advised that the SA/NT boxes are scheduled to leave for the Philippines by mid-December.

Exciting News. This year the 200 millionth box since OCC started will be received. The symbolic 200 millionth box will be handed to a 5-9 year old girl in Ukraine. It is planned that it will contain items representing each of the nations which pack boxes. The Australian item is a soft koala toy. Ukraine will receive a container of shoeboxes from each "sending" country.

I pray that you will have a blessed Christmas and look forward to being in touch with you in 2023.

Shalom.

Lynette Beck.
North Area Coordinator.



SUMER IS ICUMEN IN

- **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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A CHRISTMAS PRAYER



"Loving Father, help us remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and the worship of the wise men.

"Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world.

"Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting.

"Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clear hearts.

"May the Christmas morning make us happy to be your children, and the Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake.

Amen!"

~ Robert Louis Stevenson