

Vision Statement:

We see a Jesus-orientated church having a passion for the New 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.

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

29th January, 2023

Next Week's Roster

5th February, 2023

Preacher: **Jonathan**
Leader (am): **James**
Leader (pm): **Jonathan**
Welcome: **Lila**
Manager: **Neil**
Reader: **Andrew**
Musician: **Brunetta**
Kidz Connect: **Vacation**
Morning Tea: **Ken & Owen**
Audio Desk (am): **Ruan**
Audio Desk (pm): *********
Camera : **Lucinda**
Computer (am): **Rykhardt**
Computer (pm): *********
AV Editing: **Jonathan**

Preacher: **Jonathan**
Leader (am): **Andrew**
Leader (pm): **Jonathan**
Welcome: **Lucinda**
Manager: **Ray**
Reader: **Lucinda**
Musician: **Heather**
Kidz Connect: **Tina**
Morning Tea: **Trevor & Sandy**
Audio Desk (am): **Ruan**
Audio Desk (pm): *********
Camera : **Lucinda**
Computer (am): **Rykhardt**
Computer (pm): *********
AV Editing: **Jonathan**

Golden Grove Gazette

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

www.goldengroveuniting.org.au

Sunday, 29th January, 2023

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Preacher:: **Reverend Jonathan**

Theme: **We Preach Christ Crucified**

New Testament Reading: **1 Corinthians 1: 18-31**

Mission Statement: To draw people



to our Lord Jesus Christ
and nurture them through our church



Be Reconciled

In Australian society today there are few more important issues than *reconciliation*. This is particularly prominent around Australia Day, which tends to highlight a range of unresolved justice issues between Aboriginal Australians, and non-Aboriginal Australians.

The Bible says that, through Christ, God was reconciling all nations to Himself, not counting their sins against them (2Cor 5:19; Eph 2:13). At the same time, He was reconciling all nations to each other, breaking down dividing walls, removing hostility, and making peace, by giving all access to God the Father, making them one household of His people (Eph 2:16-19).

This means that God has accomplished everything in Jesus necessary for the full reconciliation of every Australian - Aboriginal, and non-Aboriginal.

This means that reconciliation is a gift of grace from Christ. All the impossible stuff of trying to balance up the scales of right and wrong, guilt and justice, have been done by Christ, when He took and paid for the wrong of all people on the cross. He freely gives us the gift of forgiveness and reconciliation by believing in Him and repenting of our sins. This then enables us and all people to freely give and receive those same gifts to and from one another.

Paul says, because you “*have been reconciled*” (by Christ), *therefore...* “*be reconciled*” (i.e., live as reconciled people - 2Cor 5:20). This basis of grace and reconciliation enables us to *freely* acknowledge the injustices of the past or present, to *freely* want to put them right wherever we can (Lk 19:8), and to *freely* put them right.

Peace in grace, Jonathan.

Reading the Bible Daily

Last week Jonathan encouraged us to be in the habit of daily Bible reading and prayer. Here are a few ideas to help us practically.

3 Tips to Help You Read the Bible More Regularly:

1. **Have a plan – Haphazard reading only sets you up for failure. ...**
2. **Stay prepared – If you are always prepared to spend time with God, it will be easier to carve out the time each day. ...**
3. **Join a Group – The right kind of group will provide both accountability and encouragement to keep reading. ...**

There are many free apps that can be helpful. Here are a few:



1. **Bible in One Year-** Nicky Gumbel (from Alpha) leads us through a Bible reading programme and helpful devotional thoughts. Choose from classic, express or youth versions. Can be begun anytime (no need to wait until January!) Highly recommended!



2. **Lectio 365-** This daily devotional resource helps is to pray through the Bible every day. There are short morning and afternoon reflections.



3. **NIV Bible App-** This is one of many free apps which will mean you have the whole Bible always with you on your phone. Read it on the bus, waiting for an appointment or have the relevant Scripture passage open during the sermon. Portable and accessible!

JANUARY FADES INTO FEBRUARY

- **Sunday Morning Worship: Sunday, 29th January: 10.00 am: Communion**
- **Commencement of Term One: Monday, 30th January**
- **KYB: Monday, 30th January: 10.00 am to 11.30 am**
- **Thursday Morning Prayers: Thursday, 2nd February: 8.00 am to 9.00 am**
- **Women's Fellowship: Thursday, 2nd February: 1.00 pm**
- **Youth 3:16: Friday, 3rd February: 6.30 pm to 8.00 pm**
- **Working Bee: Saturday, 4th February: 8.00 am**
- **Sunday Morning Worship: Sunday, 5th February: 10.00 am**
- **Pastoral Carers Meeting: Tuesday, 7th February: 7.00 pm (via Zoom)**
- **Church Council Retreat: Saturday, 11th February: 9.00 am to 12.00 noon**
- **Annual General Meeting: Sunday, 26th February: After Worship**
- **Mission and Wider Work Barbecue: Sunday, 26th February**

Announcing "YOUTH 3:16"

The brand-new name for the Golden Grove Church youth ministry

Based on the message of God's love in Jesus Christ for all the world in John 3:16

Meeting every Friday night during school term time, 6.30pm – 8.00pm (look out for the flyer)

Contact: Renée (0435 091 175) – James (0437 965 433)

First "Youth 3:16" for the term: "Water World" (water games – water balloons), Friday Feb 3rd, 6.30pm

Jesus – More pizza than you can throw against a barn wall - Exciting programme.

WORKKING BEE: Our happy little group of busy bees always enjoys the fun, fellowship and frivolity on a Saturday morning. However, we are desperate to reduce the average age of the group by recruiting some more volunteers. Please speak to our reigning boss, Max, if you dare, and are willing to assist.

HOLY COMMUNION: As next Sunday is Communion Sunday, would you please remember to bring your donations and place them in the appropriate containers? Thank you for your continuing generosity.