

### Contact Information

Jonathan Button can be contacted at [j.button@bigpond.com](mailto:j.button@bigpond.com)

Jonathan is available in the event of emergencies at any time, but other than that would appreciate not getting calls on Wednesdays, where possible, as this is his day off.

Church phone number: 8251 4298

Editor can be contacted at [ctwstokes@bigpond.com](mailto:ctwstokes@bigpond.com)

### Maintenance Programme

Reminder that you will find the blue envelopes on the table at the back of the church and in the hall, if you would like to contribute towards the ongoing cost of maintaining our church.

### 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.

\*\* Payments can now be made by EFTPOS on Sunday.

### Today

Leader— Kathryn (am & pm)

Preacher— Jonathan

Reader— Joy B

Welcome— Lila

Manager— Ray

Musician – Brunetta

Technical Crew— James and Ralph  
(am & pm)

Editing— Jonathan (audio)

Morning Tea— Trevor and Sandy

### Next Week

Leader— Jonathan

Preacher— Jonathan

Reader— Lucinda

Welcome— Bob

Manager— John

Musician – Brunetta

Technical Crew— Ruan, Rykhardt,  
John

Editing— Rykhardt (video)

Morning Tea— Joy and Sue

## The Weekly Word

Sunday 24th November 2024



### Golden Grove Uniting Church Mission Statement

We are a Gospel-driven, connected, generous church family, mission-minded and outwardly focused.

### Today

Preacher—Jonathan

Reader— Joy B

Theme –Genesis: Lord of the City

Reading: Genesis 10: 31-11:9

### **High Density Love**

High density living seems to be "the go" these days in our cities. I'm generally not impressed - rows of glass and cardboard boxes, eaves touching, no room to park, and hardly a tree in sight! This kind of environment is likely to increase tension between neighbours.

God's city in the new heaven and earth will not be like this. It has rivers flowing through it, and a magnificent forest of trees whose leaves heal all human trouble (Revelation 22:1-5).

God's city will be high density though; it will include those out of all the nations of the earth (Revelation 21:24-26). We will be "healed" then; no more neighbours' tensions or hurt inflicted by anyone; and in its place, closest friendships, mutual blessing and flourishing life (Isaiah 11:6-9).

Timothy Keller once considered the question, why will there be a city in the eternal new heaven and earth? - why can't everyone simply be spread out across that infinite land? He understood that the sheer "density of love" - the intimacy of God's people with Himself and all others - will require it.

*This means absolutely everything for us and our mission here and now, because the church family are a "seed community" of God's eternal city (Philippians 3:20). Through the grace of Christ, by faith and the power of the Holy Spirit, we already have God's healing love and true community to enjoy and offer to all our neighbours.*

And there won't be a tasteless "glass and cardboard box" in sight! (Revelation 21:9-21)

*Grace upon grace, Jonathan.*



### Women's Fellowship

Our last women's fellowship will be held **Thursday, 5th December**, at **The Tea Tree Gully golf course , 60 Hamilton Road, Fairview Park at 12:30 pm**. If you will be attending, can you please add your name to the list in the hall as we need to confirm numbers as soon as possible. Could you also write down if you require a lift there and you will have to be at the church no later than 12 :15 pm.

We do a Kris Kringle on the day. If you would like to be included, please bring a gift to the value of \$5.00, along with you.



### Hope Ministry Philippines Children's Fund

Due to recent developments in the Philippines, we have been advised by Luciano to temporarily halt the sending of any Sponsorship funds until further notice. We are actively working together to resolve this matter, and as a result, we do not intend to put out the *Philippine Jars* until we receive further instructions from Luciano to resume doing so.



We appreciate your understanding and cooperation during this time and will keep you updated on any progress.

Trevor & Sandy Walker

### Women's Breakfast

We will be having a Christmas Themed Women's Breakfast at **Milk and Honey** on **Saturday December 7th** at **9:00 am**.

Wear your best Christmas themed outfits and come prepared to share your funniest or most moving Christmas stories with those around you. We will also partake in a collaborative Christmas activity. Look forward to seeing you all there.



### A Message from Sally Stamp at Synod Office

Sally Stamp in the Synod Office is most grateful for the huge quantity of used stamps that have been collected by GGUC this year. Please continue to save your stamps, neatly cut off rather than torn off, over the Christmas period and into 2025, In this way we are supporting the overseas missionary work of the Uniting Church. Thank you and Christmas blessings to you all.



### Fire Drill.

Our fire drill will take place this Sunday morning. We will need you to get outside the Church as quickly as possible. Please follow the fire warden's instructions. They will do a quick count to make sure everyone is accounted for and will then lead you back into the Church.



**Reminder** that Nominations for Church Council must be lodged by **12:00 noon today**. The names of those standing for election/re-election will be published in *The Weekly Word* on **Sunday, 1 December**.



A reminder that the food donation box is out every Sunday up until Christmas to create hampers for those in need ,



### Important Dates

Youth 3:16 **Friday 29th November - Water world \*\*6:00pm\*\***

Church Council Meeting **Tuesday 26th November** 7:00pm

Advent Friend **Sunday 1st December** (Hope)

Women's Fellowship **Thursday 5th December** 12:30 pm

Women's Breakfast **Saturday 7th December** 9:00 am

Advent Friend **Sunday 8th December** (Peace)