



Prayer for the Week

Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted.
Psalm 25:16

Focus point: **PRAY FOR THE LONELY.** Continue to pray for all who are sick and grieving.

A Message from Sally Stamp at Synod Office

Please remember that used stamps are valuable in raising money for charity. Over the last two years GGUC has established a good name for its regular contributions. Therefore, please continue to save your used stamps by cutting them free from the envelopes, leaving a reasonable border around them, and then depositing them in the labelled box on the back table of the hall. Meanwhile, please see Jim if you have any questions. At present Lila holds the record for the highest number collected from her village. Thank you.



Men's Breakfast



Men's Breakfast will resume meeting at Milk and Honey Café on January 6th. Look forward to seeing you all there.



Letter from the Editor

Could you please contact me with any changes you may need to make to the roster. This way I can ensure the information in TWW is accurate. Could you also please provide me with the details of any up-coming events at least a couple of weeks prior so they can be advertised to advantage. I don't have a copy of every roster and rely on committee members to provide me with these. A reminder also that all items need to be emailed to me by 9:00 am Thursday to be in that week's newsletter. Much appreciated.



Carols on the Corner

Many thanks to all the hard workers who contributed to the "Christmas on the Corner" event on Christmas Eve. Whether it was telling friends, helping set up or packing up, the Bbq, children's activities or simply being there. It was a fabulous team effort and a great night with over 90 in attendance.

Glory to God!!



Important Dates 2025

Youth 3:16 In Recess

Jonathan Returns from Leave Sunday 18th January

Café Church returns Sunday 18th January

Church council Meeting Tuesday 20th January

Australia Day Monday 26th January

Contact Information

For Church information, ring the church number which is - 8251 4298 and someone will get back to you.

For pastoral assistance contact—Your pastoral carer (listed on the hall notice board) Or Cath, James or a Church Council member.

Church Office email: office@goldengroveuniting.org.au

Editor can be contacted at ctwstokes@bigpond.com

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.



Café Church returning 18th January 2026.



Today

Leader— James (am)

Preacher— James

Reader— Alison

Welcome— Andrew

Manager— John

Musicians – Brunetta

Technical Crew— Lucinda, Rykhardt,
(am) Ralph (pm)

Editing— Rykhardt (audio)

Morning Tea— Joy and Sue

Communion Elders—Linda & Andrew

Next Week

Leader— James (am)

Preacher— TBA

Reader— Brunetta

Welcome— Cath

Manager— Neil

Musicians— Brunetta

Technical Crew— Lucinda &
Rykhardt (am)

Editing— Lucinda (audio)

Morning Tea— Peter & Yvonne

The Weekly Word

Sunday 4th January 2026



Golden Grove Uniting Church Mission Statement

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

Today

Preacher— James

Reader— Alison

Theme – What's in a Name?

Reading: Num 6:22-27, Phil 2:5-11

You Crown the Year

New years' celebrations transcend lands and cultures. We celebrate the beginning of our year on January 1, a timing that dates back to the Ancient Roman calendar even before Christ was born. Different cultures begin their year at different times and have varied ways of celebrating, but the meaning behind the celebrations are common to all. We reflect on the year gone past, give thanks for what we have in the present, and anticipate what is to come in the next year.

Here in Australia, our new years' celebrations are very secular. However, for many cultures, the new year is a sacred day, and the Bible is no different. In fact, Jews celebrate not one, but two new years' festivals! The Passover, commemorating when God led His people out of Egypt in the book of Exodus, doubles as the start of the Jewish ecclesiastical new year. However, the civil new year is celebrated six months later at the Festival of Trumpets (Leviticus 23:23-25). The trumpets represent crowning God as King of the next year.

Our God is a God for whom times and years matter. There is a time for everything under heaven (Ecclesiastes 3:1) and the book of Leviticus sets out many annual celebrations and special years. Moreover, as David sings in Psalm 65, God gives us all we need in the proper season: "You crown the year with your bounty." As we look back on 2025 and look forward to what 2026 has in store, let's give glory to God, the King of this year and every year.

Happy new year!

James