



Focus point: It wasn't the nails that held Jesus on the cross.....it was Love.

David Mapp

Many thanks to the Gideons who pray regularly for the churches in the area. This week they are praying for us at Golden Grove Uniting Church. How good is that!

Cath would like to thank everyone for their love, prayers and kind thoughts during this worrying time for her. She understands and appreciates everyone's concern for her health but respectfully asks, however, that you refrain from contacting her so that she can concentrate on resting and becoming well. As soon as she has any news, she will put it on the Prayer Chain. Many thanks.



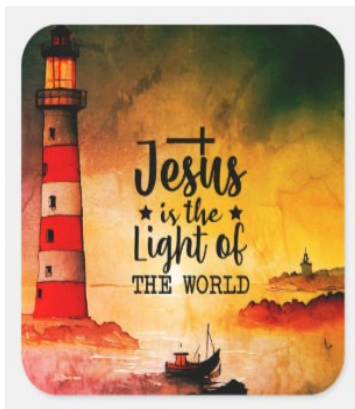
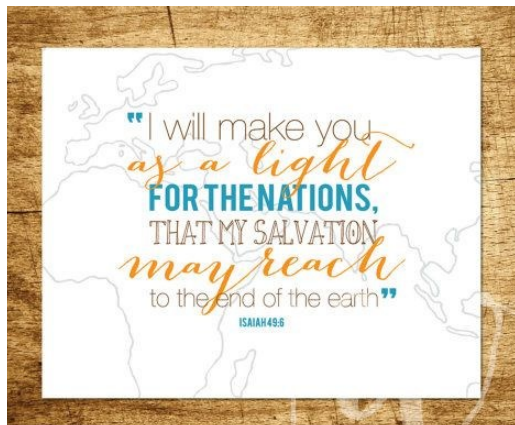
Bible Study Groups

Many Bible Study groups are now recommencing for 2026.

Women's **Thursday night** Bible study will begin again on **Thursday 29th of January at 7:00pm.**

Men's **Thursday night** Bible Study will also begin on **29th January at 6:45 pm** in the **Church Hall Lounge.**

KYB will meet again from **Monday 2nd Feb at 10:00 am.**



Books of the Bible Word Scramble



1. svrbproe
2. ervleaonit
3. smtletanaoni
4. omrnas
5. gnsesie
6. bwserhe
7. eouxsd
8. haeos
9. snaaltagi
10. ojnha
11. eudtermooy
12. rcahahezi
13. nbuesmr
14. nsppailiiph
15. seiephans
16. oieplmnh
17. eihemjra
18. eugjds
19. hobaaid
20. hrtsee

Answers in next weeks' Newsletter. (If needed!)

Important Dates 2025

Youth 3:16 back on 30th January 6:15 pm

Café Church Sunday 18th January 6:00pm

Church council Meeting Tuesday 20th January

Australia Day Monday 26th January

Women's Fellowship Thursday 5th February 1:00pm

Contact Information

Jonathan Button can be contacted at 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 Mondays and Wednesdays, where possible, as these are his days off.

Church phone number: 8251 4298

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

6:00pm



A relaxed, contemporary service held every Sunday in the Church Hall. This week's team will be:

Leader: Jonathan Technical Crew: Ralph Topic: TBA this morning

Today

Leader— Jonathan (am & pm)

Preacher— Jonathan

Reader— Ailsa

Welcome— Sue

Manager— Ray

Musicians – Brunetta

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

Editing— Rykhardt (video)

Morning Tea— Bob & Faye

Next Week

Leader— Kathryn(am) & James(pm)

Preacher— James

Reader— Andrew

Welcome— Ray

Manager— John

Musicians— Brunetta

Technical Crew— Lucinda &
Rykhardt (am)

Editing— Lucinda (audio)

Morning Tea— David & Linda

The Weekly Word

Sunday 18th January 2026



Golden Grove Uniting Church Mission Statement

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

Today

Preacher— Jonathan

Reader— Ailsa

Theme –Good News For the Clapped Out Reading: Isaiah 49: 1-7

Starting Again at the Beginning

The beginning of a new year invites reflection. We look ahead with hope, but we also pause to consider what truly matters. For the church, renewal doesn't come from better plans or greater effort - although they are important. It comes from returning to the beginning — the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The Gospel is the story we never move beyond. It is the good news that God came near in Jesus, full of grace and truth. Jesus proclaimed the Kingdom of God, welcomed the outsider, healed the sick, forgave sin, and revealed the heart of the Father. Through His death on the cross and His resurrection, He made a way for us to be restored to God and to one another.

As we step into this year, God calls us to see this Gospel again with clear eyes. Jesus did not only save us from something; He invites us into something. He sends us into our communities as witnesses of His love, carriers of His hope, and servants of His peace. The mission of Jesus continues through His people.

Starting again at the beginning means re-centering our lives on Christ. It means laying aside distractions, fears, and self-reliance, and listening again to His call: "Follow me." It means allowing the Spirit to shape how we love our neighbours, care for the vulnerable, and speak the truth of the Gospel with humility and courage.

In Golden Grove in 2026, we hold the same calling as the first disciples — to live out the Gospel where God has planted us. May this year be marked by renewed vision, deep faith, and active love. Let us start again at the beginning, fixing our eyes on Jesus, and move forward together into all that God has prepared for us.

Jonathan (It's great to be back!)