### 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 Wednesdays, where possible, as this is his day 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.

## <u>Today</u>

Leader— Rykhardt Preacher— Kathryn

,

Reader– Brunetta

Welcome-Bob

Manager-Ray

Musician – Brunetta

Technical Crew- Ruan, Lucinda,

Editing-Lucinda (video)

Morning Tea-Ken and Owen

### <u>Next Week</u>

Leader— Neil

Preacher— TBA Reader- Alison

Welcome- Andrew

Manager— John

Musician – Brunetta

Technical Crew— Ruan, Rykhardt

Editing— Rykhardt (audio)

Morning Tea— Peter and Yvonne

# The Weekly Word



Sunday 29th December 2024

Golden Grove Uniting Church Mission Statement

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

### <u>Today</u>

<u>Preacher</u>—Kathryn

<u>Reader</u>— Brunetta

<u>Theme</u> –Goodness of God

<u>Redder</u> Bioliella

Reading: Colossians 3: 12-17,

Luke 2: 41-52

### <u>Shepherds</u>

The shepherds of old still grace Christmas cards, although nativity scenes are becoming more challenging to buy. Shepherds are a recurring subject or theme throughout the Bible. This is referred to as a popular biblical 'motif'.

There are two kinds of biblical shepherds – those who care for sheep and those, divine or mortal, who care for people. Such is the honour of being a shepherd that the Old Testament frequently portrays God as a Shepherd of his people. The 23rd Psalm is a good example.

Jesus took over the shepherd metaphor and applied it to himself. The picture reaches completion in John 10 where Jesus is the Good Shepherd. He knows his sheep by name, and they follow his direction. Similarly, in the early church, Jesus was portrayed as the Great or Chief Shepherd (see Acts 20.28; 1 Peter 5.4).

When you look at the shepherds on a Christmas card, think of your relationship to the Good Shepherd. During Advent, we also remind ourselves that the Great Shepherd of the sheep is coming back, as he promised. Then it will be one flock, one Shepherd.

> Regards, Gordon



Thank you members of the congregation for your amazing support in bringing food on Communion Sundays, then over the last few months every Sunday. With your help this year, we have delivered 50 bags full of food and another 10 bags with toys. These have gone to families old and young, families affected by Domestic Violence and the Homeless in our community.

We also supplied clothes, bedding, furniture and toys during the year. Thank you for your ongoing support.



Jonathan will be on annual leave from December 28th— January 8th and then from January 28th—February 3rd 2025.



# Mission and Wider Works

Yet again, a big thank you to the members of the congregation for your amazing support in raising money for Mission and Wider Work. The money raised in 2024 went to the following:

The Philippines Sponsorship child-\$360



The Smith Family— \$304:50

The Bible College (supplying books to Library)— \$304:50

New Hope Mission Uganda— \$304:50

Thank you all once again from the Mission and Wider Work Committee





What is a cow's favourite holiday?

Moo Year's Eve!



What was Dr Frankenstein's New Year Resolution? To make new friends!



Important Dates

<u>Youth 3:16</u>

HOLIDAY BREAK