



Goondiwindi Christian Church

A Spirit-Filled, Family Church

24th December 2019

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Hi everyone, welcome to our late December / Early January 2020 newsletter.

Christmas Greetings

“Another year is almost done and just where it went is a mystery!!”

However, it is no mystery that God has been at work in and through His church and will continue to do so. The gates of hell will never prevail against the church of the Living God!! Last Sunday was “Vision Sunday” and it was a joy to hear the various reports and expectations for the next season. It is good to look out from our area of ministry responsibility in the church and see what other servants are doing. It’s then that we see the Hand of God and feel encouraged that we are not labouring alone in what, at times, may seem a hard place. We are better **together**. Loving, serving and praying **together** brings much fruit for the glory of God. Let’s be praying fervently **together** for the knowledge of His will and purpose for 2020. We know it is His will for souls to be saved. Be looking for and take every opportunity and make opportunities to share the Gospel. We have opportunities through the drought vouchers and the hampers to really make a difference this year!

We say “Thank you” from the bottom of our hearts to all who have served faithfully in whatever capacity that may be, throughout this year. It takes commitment, and self-sacrifice often times to stay the course. May God reward you for “doing everything heartily as unto the Lord”. It is our joy to serve you here in Goondiwindi and we want to say we love you all, from the youngest to the oldest. Each of you is as important as the next and necessary to the healthy functioning of the body. We are honoured to be part of what God is doing here in this region, and excited about knowing God more and more! He is oh so good!!

Can we ask you to take some rest during this break, and enjoy the Christmas season of being with family and friends in joyful fellowship? Invite the Holy spirit into each gathering and the joy of the Lord will flood your souls, and He will strengthen your hearts.

Have a wonderful Christmas celebrating the birth of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ !!

Lots of love and blessings,

Ivan and Ros

Highlighted Key Dates



Tue 24th Dec 6pm – Christmas Eve Service

7 Dec 19 – 27 Jan 20 - Youth, Home Group, Bible Study and Childrens Church are all in recess over school holiday period.

School Resumes **Tues 28th January 2020**

Wed 29th Jan 9am – Mums Connect – Focus topic: Healthy Lunchboxes = Happy Kids
All Mums welcome to join for interactive morning tea to create and take home nutritious snacks and recipe cards.

Seniors Morning Tea

Thank you very much to all who assisted in any way with the Seniors Morning Tea on Monday 2nd of December. It was a great morning with about 58 Seniors present. The College students and staff did an excellent job and the Gospel was presented in song and word. There were a few newcomers and they talked much about the wonderful time they had and how much the students had blessed them. The food was awesome once again so thank you Ladies!!

Project Boost Vouchers

Through many phone calls and conversations of how people are coping in the drought, we have been able to distribute all 10 of the project boost Foodworks vouchers (which were issued last year). This initiative has given us an opportunity to reach out, make connection and check in on farmers and their families in the Goondiwindi region. The vouchers, along with an encouraging letter, Christmas pudding and “Life in the hard times” booklet, were very well received and appreciated. This project has given people a point of contact for others who they know might be struggling. If you have anyone in mind could do with a boost, please contact Sheree on 0427 047 126 as there are still funds available to plant more seeds of hope.

Christmas Hampers

This year (a year of significantly widespread hardship) has seen a flood of generosity within the church for our annual hamper rally. A total of 21 Hampers were distributed throughout our community!! Thank you to everyone who was involved in co-ordinating this and contributing items and their time.

Ladies of the Land Packs

Various Churches within Goondiwindi were allocated approx. 250 pamper packs for the Ladies of the Land NSW campaign (started on social media). Our church was able to distribute 70 pamper packs to ladies near and far. The story behind “Ladies of the Land” can be found here <https://www.theland.com.au/story/6477976/a-gift-that-gives-women-hope/>

Church Family Christmas Lunch & concert

(Sunday 8th December) Always a fun Sunday filled with Love, Laughter and Celebrating our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. The children enlightened us with their beautifully presented Christmas Concert, congratulations and thank you to everyone involved. Tummies were filled with the delightful Christmas feast. Togetherness was present all round. God Bless you all.



PLEASE NOTE: [There is no December or January Calendar](#)

<https://www.goondiwindiaog.com/sermons>



Listen on the cloud!



Don't forget you can keep up to date with us on Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/GoondiwindiChristianChurch/>

PRAY WITH ME... I shared this at the beginning of 2019 and wanted to share again. I hope it will encourage you to share with those around you. It is copied, word for word, from a devotional app on my phone called First15. They also have a website <https://www.first15.org/>

Wherever you are, whatever you do, be blessed / be a blessing.



Sheree

December 18th 2018

PRAY WITH ME

Dear Reader,

I would love your partnership in prayer right now.

As we seek to end 2018 in a place of strength, I've been sensing a stirring to ask God's people to join with me and my team in prayer over the dream he's placed on our hearts.

God has been doing amazing things as His people are creating space to spend time alone with Him. Lives are changing, families are being reconciled, and churches are uniting in the goodness of His presence.

And these amazing stories only speak to the greater need that still exists.

Our world needs a large-scale revival of relationship-centred living. We need an awakening of God's Spirit pouring out a revelation of how good, near and worthy He truly is.

And as we near the end of this year, I think now is a perfect time to pray – to ask God to move in power and love in this beautiful season.

So with that in mind, feel free to pray in your own words, or join with my prayer below:

Father, as we near the end of this year, I first want to thank you for what you've already done. You have been so faithful. You are so good. As the lost find their way into your Church, and as families gather together to celebrate your birth, fill these spaces with your tangible presence. Make your love and nearness so real that we as your children can't help but establish communion with you as the centre of our lives.

God I'm asking for a revival of relationship-centred living. Keep your first and great commandment ever present in the minds of your people.

Empower us to love you with all we are and with all we have. And as you fill us with your love, guide us into meaningful ways that we can love our neighbours. Holy Spirit make our hearts one with you. Give us the courage to let go of desires that aren't yours, and the passion to fulfil the desires and dreams hidden within your heart.

Move in the hearts of your people we pray.

Amen