

# NEWSLETTER



*We exist to be a relevant expression of the Family of God, who love one another and our communities with the Gospel love of Jesus Christ.*



## OVERVIEW:

### Elders:

David Watts  
Geoff Pearse  
Laurie Pearse

### 10.30am Service

358 Bish's Road, Granite Flat  
P.O. Box 58, Donald VIC 3480  
[www.granitecommunitychurch.com](http://www.granitecommunitychurch.com)  
[granitecommunitychurch@gmail.com](mailto:granitecommunitychurch@gmail.com)



### Offering

#### Direct deposit details:

Granite Community Church  
BSB: 633 000  
Acc: 16 086 8402

## March Preaching

6th	- Garth Grant
13th	- Michael Croote
20th	- To be confirmed <a href="#">Jim Aitken</a>
27th	- Warwick Murphy

### Prayer Meeting via zoom 7- 7:30am on Wednesdays.

Start your day off right, in prayer!

**Zoom Log in** Meeting ID: 986 3858 3990

If you do not have internet access you can also phone in using the following phone number: **PH: 7018 2005** You will then be prompted to enter the Meeting ID.

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## March PRAYER PROMPTS

Ukraine Conflict	Youth Group	God's grace
Australian Floods	Esoteric Festival	Our Government
Those working in healthcare	Our Pastoral Search	MOPS



## Unprecedented Love for Unprecedented Times

by Rev Jonathan Stark [www.buv.com.au](http://www.buv.com.au) *Unprecedented Love Devotions*  
 “Would you like some toilet paper?” asked the young neighbour who had just pressed the doorbell. “We have enough and thought you might need some.”

A little kindness speaks volumes. Moments of unexpected love in times like COVID stay with us forever. But to be completely honest, it’s not easy to show unprecedented love. When there’s a crisis, it’s easier to stop caring for others because our own needs aren’t being met. Like U.S. man Matt Colvin, who bought 18,000 bottles of hand sanitiser from stores across the state of Tennessee, we tend towards wanting what is best for us, even if causes others to suffer. When Colvin then tried to sell the bottles at inflated prices, he experienced a huge backlash from the public and he had second thoughts. He decided to give the bottles away to a church to distribute instead. It took Colvin a while, but he got there eventually! It’s hard to love in unprecedented times.

But Jesus did. He demonstrated breathtaking love in the most hostile of times. He chose to love. He wasn’t tricked into dying, nor was he forced into it. He chose the cross. Though it would mean pain, humiliation and complete separation from God, Jesus chose the cross. There is nothing that demonstrates God’s love more powerfully than the cross. His love was unprecedented.

As Easter approaches we have an unprecedented opportunity to show unprecedented love to those around us. How was it that Jesus didn’t let all of the obstacles to the cross stop him from showing love? What kept him going? One possible answer to this question is found in Luke 9:51, where we learn that, “Jesus resolutely set his face towards Jerusalem.”

It seems that he made a decision to love and was determined to keep to going in the direction of Jerusalem where he would be crucified. Have you made a decision to turn your face towards others in this unprecedented time with unprecedented love? Yes, there are challenges. And yes, it’s hard. But let’s choose to love like Jesus. He chose to love. Talk to your family and friends about your resolution. And as we head towards Easter, let’s commit to finding unexpected ways to show unprecedented love in these unprecedented times.

## MONTHLY PRAYER LIST

### Sunday March 6th

#### **Missionaries:**

OAC Ministries  
 Phil & Carol Short (SIM Australia)

#### **Locals:**

Lila Groves  
 Alex McLachlan & Susie

### Sunday March 13th

#### **Missionaries:**

MMM Australia  
 John & Kay Rowse, Asha

#### **Locals:**

Genette Heslop  
 Shane & Bec Sullivan, Jake & Amelia

### Sunday March 20th

#### **Missionaries:**

Ewen & Elizabeth Cummings. Jemima, Ruth, Anna,  
 Jed & Keziah (Wycliffe Aust.)  
 Mal & Jenny Watts, Erin & Alicia (SIM)

#### **Locals:**

Paul Groves  
 Jackie and Craig Douglas

### Sunday March 27th

#### **Missionaries:**

Peter & Raewyn Brook, Ryan, Samuel & Eric  
 (Wycliffe Aust.),  
 Tim & Kristen Stewart, Mikayla, Joshua & Chloe  
 (Pioneers)

#### **Locals:**

Keith & Jan Adcock  
 Tim & Rachael Smyth, Archer, Sophie & Harry