

“WELCOME BACK”

The Methodist Church in Bendigo had its beginning in 1852 when the often recalled Jimmy Jeffrey preached from a tree stump at Golden Square. It was a great moment of beginning for out of that incident grew the Golden Square Methodist Church with its colorful history of service for God and mankind.

We have often repeated the history of the life and progress of the work of God in Golden Square; the first Church in 1852 a renovated store followed in 1859 by a permanent structure on the site of the present Sunday School, the land being purchased for £30. Old Minute books available carry the record of the decision made to enlarge the Schoolroom, later records tell how the day school used the building and a residence for the Schoolmaster was erected on the same site.

Soon these buildings proved too small to contain the crowds of eager worshippers and in 1870 Mr. Richard Allingham laid the foundation stone of the present noble structure in which we worship.

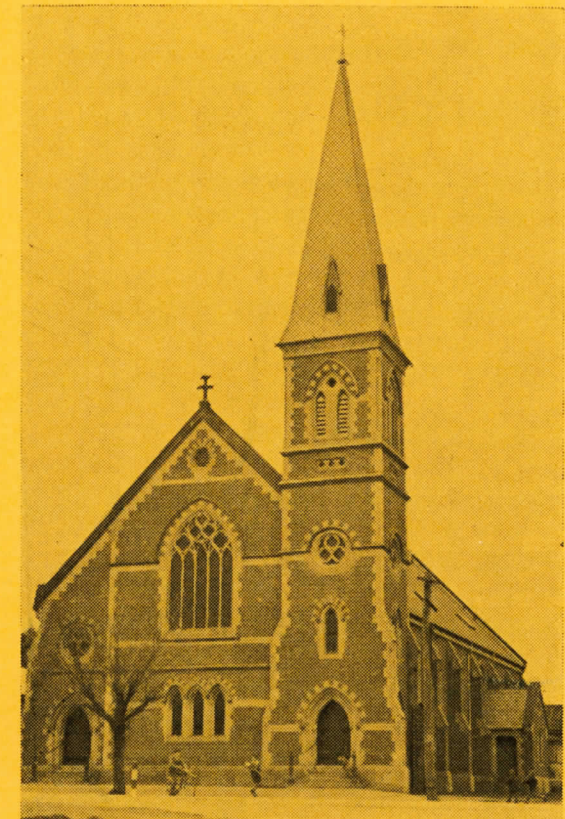
What rich memories and traditions are here; the days when the goldfield at Golden Square was booming, when the Sunday School had an enrolment of 5-700 young people and adults, when the Church was crowded to the doors by enthusiastic worshippers.

Great names and occasions spring to mind, William Blamires, A. R. Edgar, Henry Worrall, William Shaw; the local history of Methodism is richer and more colourful than the precious metal for which men toiled.

Now we who try to continue on in these rich traditions say “Welcome Back to this grand old Church”. Trustees, Church Officers, people and Minister all join in saying “Welcome Home”.

We give thanks to Almighty God who has brought us to this present time and place and humbly pray that He may guide and prosper the work continued on in His name in the days to come.

Golden Square Methodist Church



Back to Golden Square

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22nd, 1964

11a.m.—Rev. W. Bampton, L.Th.

5p.m.—Men's Tea, Speaker : Rev. W. Bampton, L.Th.

7p.m.—Rev. W. Bampton, L.Th.

8.15p.m.—“Welcome Back” Social Hour

Services today:- November 22nd., 1964

GOLDEN SQUARE 11am. Rev.W.Bampton,L.Th.

5pm. Mens' (Circuit) Basket
Tea.

7pm. Rev.W.Bampton,L.Th.

8.15pm. 'Welcome Back'
Social Hour. Informal chat and
cuppa. Plate please.

DAY of PRAYER for OVERSEAS MISSION.

SPECIMEN HILL 11am. Mr.Dredge.

7pm Golden Square

KANGAROO FLAT 11am. Rev.E.B.Gamble

7pm. Golden Square

LOCKWOOD Golden Square

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Services next Sunday:-

GOLDEN SQUARE DAY of PRAYER FOR OVERSEAS
Mission 11am. Rev.E.B.Gamble

7pm. Mr.A.W.Miles

Specimen Hill 11am. Mr.F.Kinsman

7pm. Mr.J.Little

Kangaroo Flat 11am. Mrs. Curnow

5pm. Mens' Tea

7pm. Rev.E.B.Gamble

Lockwood Sunday School Anniversary 2.30pm

Rev.E.B.Gamble

On behalf of the Church, welcome to all who join with us with worship during this exciting and eventful weekend. Our special welcome and thanks to Rev. Walter and Mrs. Bampton who have broken into their very full itinerary to lead our worship and meet old friends.

We say congratulations to the 'Back To' committee who have done such a splendid job of organisation and have enabled us to share in the celebrations. As Methodists we feel we have a tradition to uphold as we remember those early Christians who came to this community and started services of worship under extremely difficult circumstances. The foundation they laid was sound and we of this generation enter into a rich heritage. Of them we might say, "Being dead they yet speak to us of the mighty works of God".

Each preaching place has its own morning service today then this evening all come to Golden Square for a combined rally. Of course Specimen Hill congregation is included in the 'Back To' celebrations being within the area of Golden Square.

All men in the Circuit are invited to share in the Mens' Tea at 5pm.

We do hope all Envelope users will assist the committee by taking their new set of offering envelopes. Any persons not previously pledged or using envelopes now wishing to do so, will be assisted upon enquiry to Mr Jack Swatton, Mr. Frank Perrow or the Stewards.

In his book "A Century of Victorian Methodism", Rev. Dr. Sir Irving Benson quotes from an old copy of the "Spectator" the "Confession of a Digger".

"All the religion I've got about me ain't worth much, but I mind the time I came mighty nigh to joinin' the Methodists. You may laugh, boys, as much as you like, but it's a fact, I tell you, and it wasn't a parson as got hold of me neither. It was that digger chap as used to preach at Old Bendigo standin' on a tree-stump before e'er a parson came up to these diggings. Jimmy Jeffrey they called 'im. I was strollin' along one Sunday morning and I saw a crowd of chaps standin' round someone as was atalkin'. He was tellin' them the story about the Prodigal Son, and tellin' it proper, too. He'd got 'im into the far country when I came up, and he fair made you see the young feller spreein' round, and feedin' of the hogs when 'is money was all gone. 'That's me,' says I to myself, and there was more nor me a sayin' of it I could see. They stood there with the tears a-rollin' down their cheeks and they a-rollin down his'n, too, Then 'e starts the lad 'ome again, and when 'e came to the father seein' 'im a long way off, 'e stops a bit, and then 'e says, 'I 'aven't got no father myself,' 'e says, ' 'E's dead and gone years ago, but,' says 'e, 'my old mother's alive yet, God bless 'er. And I know right well, if I was comin' along the road 'ome again, and she 'appened to be standin' at the front door, or, maybe, 'angin' out the washin', she'd see me a long way off, she would. She'd cry out, "Why there's my Jimmy," and she'd run to meet me sure enough.' I don't know what it was as made me, and a lot more of the chaps, too, burst into a cackle at that-it wasn't to say a laugh, or, if it was, it had a cry in it. I goes back to our claim after Jimmy had done, and felt as miserable as a bandicoot."

NOTICES

MONDAY

7pm. Trustee Meeting Kangaroo Flat

8pm. Leaders' Meeting Kangaroo Flat.

TUESDAY

7.30pm. Golden Square Teachers' Meeting.

7.30pm. Specimen Hill Ladies' League final meeting, speaker Mr. Ashmore of the Oral School.

WEDNESDAY.

7.30pm. Golden Square Study - Fellowship at the Parsonage.

8pm Kangaroo Flat Fellowship meeting at Mr. S. Mole's, Church Street.

THURSDAY 7.30pm

Circuit Finance Committee meeting at Golden Square.

GOLDEN SQUARE

Would Envelope users please note that new sets of envelopes are available from the Stewards at the Church Door. Please collect yours today.

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE.

Names of all men and women who served in the Second World War and in the Korean Campaign are required for the Book of Remembrance. Names and details to be handed to Mr. J. Swatton.

CHURCH THANKSGIVING TEA & CHRISTMAS SOCIAL, Friday DECEMBER 4th., 6.30pm. Your invitation is enclosed. You will be welcome. Please let Mr. Swatton know numbers attending the Tea.