

THE VINES UNITING CHURCH

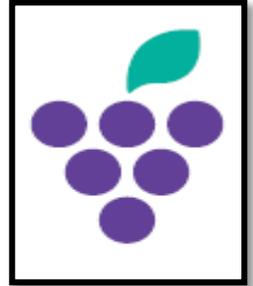
#19 The Grape: "Something to chew on."

Church in your pyjamas!

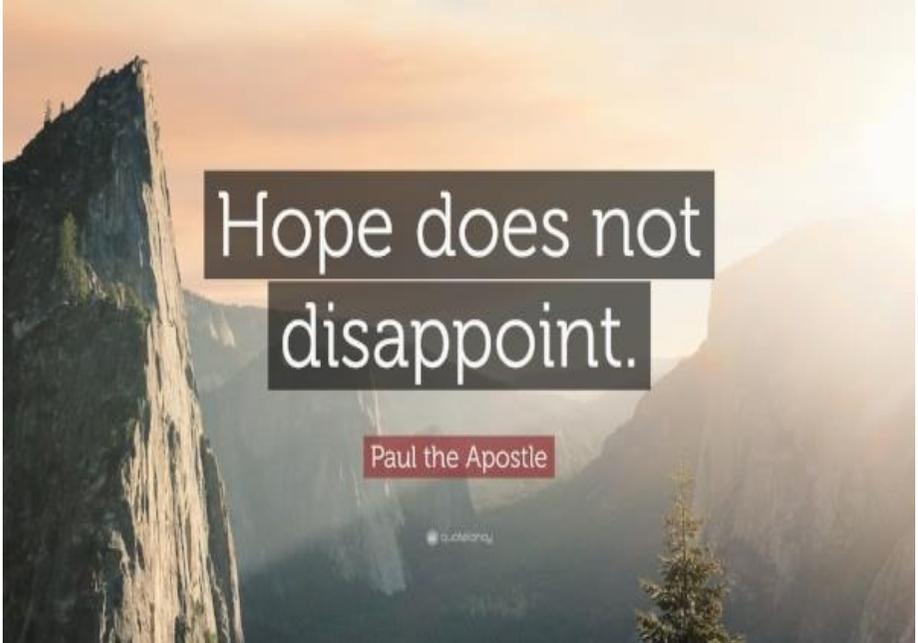
Sat 08 Aug 2020



The GRAPE: It is a solitary thing and yet even in isolation it has come from a bunch and the bunch is connected to the Vine.



ANCHOR SERIES #10 – Rom 5:5



REFLECTION: “HOPE doesn’t DISAPPOINT!”

James 5:10 - 11

“¹⁰ My friends, remember the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. Take them as examples of patient endurance under suffering. ¹¹ We call them happy because they endured. You have heard of Job's patience, and you know how the Lord provided for him in the end. For the Lord is full of mercy and compassion.”

The story of Job (Old Testament) starts off happily, then disaster strikes: his family, wealth and health vanish and out of 42 chapters he spends 39 suffering. Wow. His friends and even his wife give up on God and him. His grieving wife, who is watching her husband Job covered in boils, states: “are you still maintaining your integrity, you should curse God and die!”

Job’s hope-filled response to his wife: “Shall we accept good from God, and not trouble?” describes his faith.

This year has contained some good and lots of trouble and downright disaster for many. Our experiences of chaos are the intersection of life and faith. How do we describe this experience?

NAMING OUR EXPERIENCES DURING COVID 19

1. *What has surprised you most about the last 5 months?*
2. *Did any key insights emerge that you don’t want to forget?*
3. *Experiences are wasted if we don’t learn from them...*

So what have you learned about:

God?

Self?

Others?

Job was not being punished by God. In the same way we were not being punished by God during the Bushfires, nor are we now during this COVID 19 year of 2020. Hardship happens, suffering happens and God is present with us to give us HOPE.

Rev DJPrior

SUNDAY 9th AUG 20 - INTERIM WORSHIP:

We're back!

*This will be our first live service since the interruption of Covid 19.
Although there will be less people,
we're thankful for the chance to reconnect.*

TIME: 09.30 Service Sunday morning (45 mins ish)
Max attendance 51 people (includes Worship team)
Instrumental music only to meet Gov. / UC Synod policy.
(No singing from Band or congregation to mitigate droplets.)

Service - Recorded and LIVE STREAMED onto Vines Web page.
Here is the link which will take you to the You Tube Channel for the live
streamed service, which should commence at 9.30am Sunday morning:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCIFGTKOMMSijxnkbYAttDA>



CHAIRS: are set to the correct GOV spacing.

PEWS: can be used by couples who choose to sit together.

TABLES: for families with children, so they can do activities under parental supervision.

BOOKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR NEXT WEEK:

Tickets for the service next week, Sunday 16th August can be booked through **Humanitix** as of 3pm on Sunday 9th August until 11 am noon on Friday 14th August.

To book your online tickets, please click on this hyperlink:

<https://events.humanitix.com/the-vines-uniting-church-sunday-service>

We encourage you to enter your phone number when booking, to assist with Covid 19 tracing should it be necessary. There is no need to print out your tickets, simply book them and the Church will receive the records.

If you have no internet or **NEED HELP** with booking, please contact Colleen or Judy and they will book a ticket / tickets for you.

Please:

“Do not attend the Sunday Service if you are at all unwell.”

Should you need **TO CANCEL** your tickets, please let Colleen or Judy know by no later than **4 pm on Thurs 13th August**, to enable them to rebook the tickets, as there will only be seating for 46 people, allowing 5 spaces for new people who might attend.

Depending on the number of bookings and because of the limited number of seats, it may only be possible for people to attend once a fortnight, but of course the service will be live streamed so you'll be able to watch it at home.

The Leadership team continues to ensure that all Covid 19 Government regulations are met and ask that you be patient, as *“we're all in this together”*.

Join us for online tea and coffee after church again this Sunday

At **11.00 am** tomorrow, **Sunday, 9th August**, we will again catch up for VIRTUAL coffee and tea after Church. Visitors welcome!

ZOOM Children's Sunday Morning Chat **10.45 am** with Rev David and co.

Please refer to this week's Grapevine for more information
CHECK <https://thevinesunitingchurch.com>

Remember OUR key MESSAGE:

“Phone a Friend and Choose life”

‘Cos you can't catch the virus over the phone...

But you *can* pass on God's love!

