

THE VINES UNITING CHURCH

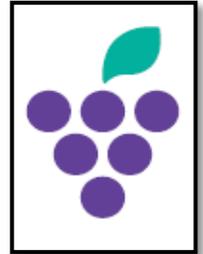
23 The Grape: "Something to chew on."

Good morning!

Saturday 5th September 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 #14 –

GOD'S LOVE ENDURES- JN 10:11-18



For your REFLECTION

When someone is called “religious” it has negative connotations suggesting that the person is more interested in “following the rules” than living with compassion or love for others. Jesus had some harsh things to say about people who were “religious”.

Ironically it seems that our default setting is to operate from the perspective that mirrors the judgemental “religious” overtones we all reject. I remember sitting with a soldier and getting really angry with him for getting into trouble. When I calmed down and asked some further questions I uncovered a number of reasons for his behaviour. That was a very uncomfortable space for us both.

The Anchor series focuses on getting us back in touch with the fundamentals of our faith we take for granted, we forget, gloss over or we feel doesn't seem to apply at this point in our lives. The quote below is an invitation to prepare our hearts for communion.

“In order to survive and grow, individuals must eat and drink regularly. That’s what we must do with the gospel of the grace of God. We must personally appropriate it, making it more and more central to everything we see, think, and feel. This is how we grow spiritually in wisdom, love, joy and peace.”

Keller, T., The Prodigal God, p 114

We all want to be loved. It is a fundamental desire for us all. God's grace (**unmerited gift of love**) is given to us all despite our brilliance or bad behaviour. Each of us is accepted and loved!

Q. *Can you recall an experience of grace (undeserved love)?*

Q. *How would you describe what “appropriating grace” looks like?*

- Is it possible to “digest” grace into our lives daily?

Q. *Are there ways to keep your hard fought faith insights alive?*

6th SEPTEMBER 20 INTERIM WORSHIP:

We're back .. wk 5!

TIME: 09.30am 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).

*Our services are Interim services, meaning that we are constantly reviewing and exploring what works best. **Your feedback is appreciated.***

Service - Recorded and LIVE STREAMED onto Vines Web page.

https://www.youtube.co/results?search_query=the+vines+uniting+church

For those of you who will be viewing from home this week, a reminder that it is COMMUNION SUNDAY, so don't forget to organise your own elements.

BOOKING ARRANGEMENTS

Tickets for the service on Sunday 13th September can be booked through **Humanitix** from 3pm on Sunday 6th, until 11 am on Friday 11th Sept. If you **NEED HELP** with booking, please contact

Colleen - H: 7220 7383 M: 0430 646 844
or Judy – H: 8322 0892 M: 0402 249 324

To book, please Google Humanitix, click on “events”, and in the box that says “search events”, type in; “The Vines Uniting Church”. The event will then appear for you to click on and book your tickets.

There's no need to print out your tickets, just book them and the Church will receive the records ready for Sunday.

Should you need **TO CANCEL** your tickets, please let Colleen or Judy know by **4 pm on Thurs 10th September**, (unless there are unexpected circumstances), to enable them to rebook the tickets.

Please do not attend the Sunday Service if you are at all unwell.

SINGING AT THE VINES



As previously stated, the Leadership team and the Worship team are constantly reviewing and exploring what works best at Sunday Services and we thank you for your feedback and patience.

This week we will have our first Communion since starting back. It will be different, but we're thankful to the Covid team for planning a safe way of sharing in communion at the Vines.

At the Leadership meeting on Friday 4th September it was agreed to recommence singing again at the Vines, from Sunday 13th September. To begin with, **this will only be 1 or two singers from the worship team** at the front of the church; with proper distancing, best practice and the safety of our congregation taken into consideration in these Covid times.

This will continue until the end of September, when the next review will be done.

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

At **11.00 am** tomorrow, **Sunday, 6th September**, we will again catch up for VIRTUAL coffee and tea after Church. Visitors welcome!

**Please note there will be
NO ZOOM Children's Sunday Morning Chat this week.
They will now be every fortnight,
on alternate weeks to Sunday School.**

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!

