



The Grapevine 4/10/2020

The Vines Uniting Church

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FAITH is like Series: #3 ... a soldier

Today we focus on 2 Timothy 2:1-7, where Timothy's mentor Paul writes to encourage him to follow Jesus and preach the gospel with the same focus and discipline as a soldier.

While a Chaplain at Kapooka (2018) I was regularly involved in character training army recruits. For every 12 weeks a soldier spent in training I would spend 40 hours with them reinforcing that while the army was focussed on combat behaviours (the instinctive responses required when confronted with life threatening events), in reality each soldier required a Combat Mindset, made up of values and principles. They needed a moral compass to live, fight and potentially die by.

When the "fog of war" descends, soldiers and Australia have to live with the consequences of their actions; we all do.

While most people will not experience a combat zone as a soldier and have to deal with the "fog of war", we will at some stage have our lives turned upside down to the point it seems we are in a conflict zone. Sadly Brad Crouch and Tyson Stengel are at this very moment enduring a horrible, Australia wide scrutiny of their decision making.

This is where Paul's comments about Faith like a soldier come in.

"be strong ... Share in the suffering like a good soldier of Christ Jesus."

Paul's emphasis for Timothy to "*share in the suffering*" strikes me as particularly relevant to our lives today, as mistakes have the capacity to destroy all we have done. When people make mistakes it is easy to lecture, condemn and smash them for their stupidity... or smash ourselves for our own stupidity; but to truly share in the suffering of another is to have compassion and empathy, connecting our love and acceptance at the point of their greatest need - just as God does for us.

Rev DJPrior

OUR MISSION:

*To be a vibrant, growing community of faith,
reaching out in God's love, bringing others to Christ.*



After a very challenging year, the **CHRISTMAS MARKET** will be an exciting opportunity for us, as a church, to grasp a vision and create an event which will be a blessing to our community. It will be an opportunity to reconnect with our mission, remind the people around us that we care and provide an opportunity for them to purchase quality home crafted Christmas gifts at a reasonable price. It will not involve as much work as the Strawberry Fair and its prime purpose is to bless the community. What money we raise is our bonus.

Some wonderful people have stepped up to be a part of this event. If you would also like to be involved, please contact the convenors of the stalls to see how you can help. Let's think creatively of ways to make this a special experience for all!

*At this stage, **Margaret Close** will again create the beautiful Gift Baskets. **Elaine and Bronwyn** will have plants for sale; **Verelle** will convene a Craft stall; **Joy, Marj and Jacquie** will have cakes, sweets etc., **Ted Van Dijk** will convene a wood craft and wooden toys stall and **Leon** will organize a sausage sizzle.*

***Bill** and his team will provide joyful Christmas music as a backdrop.*

Safe Covid 19 practices will apply. In the event of a Covid outbreak it will be cancelled and we will find ways to sell our goods in a non-contact way.

Let's think creatively of ways, to make this a special experience for all.

For any further information or suggestions please contact Leon or Marj.
(Community Outreach Team)

ZOOM Children's Sunday Morning Chat

10.45 am with Rev David and co.

If you have Grandchildren who may be interested, please email Rev David at davidprior@bigpond.com by Friday to get linked in.

HOME ALONERS

Hi everyone

Hopefully we are on the way back, to our monthly gatherings. We plan to go out for lunch on our regular first Tuesday of the month, 6th October 2020.

We will not be visiting any places of interest, however we will meet for lunch at:-

The Crown Hotel Reynella 12.15 pm for lunch at 12.30 pm

Hope to see you there.

Please let us know if you are able to attend to confirm numbers for the Hotel.

Bob Manson 8382 7242 Bob Stone 8381 4483

Regards, The Bobs.

LIVE STREAMED SERVICE

Please use the following link to access Sunday's live streamed service:

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=the+vines+unifing+church

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

This Sunday, 4th October there will be another VIRTUAL coffee and tea after Church via Zoom. Visitors welcome!

START TIME SUNDAY 4th OCTOBER.

Log in between **11:00am – 11:30am** via video conference software called Zoom. Free

Simply click on the link below and you will be automatically sent to the group chat.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5418125736> Meeting ID: 541 812 5736

Please contact Adrian Spencer if you need help.

BOOKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR SUNDAY SERVICE:

Tickets can be booked through **Humanitix** from 3pm on Sunday, until 11 am on Friday. Google **Humanitix**, click on "events", and in the box that says "search events" type in "The Vines Uniting Church". Click on the event to book your tickets. Please fill in your phone number should the need for Covid tracking ever arise.

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 **4 pm on Thursday 8th October**, (unless there are unexpected circumstances).

Next Week:

11^h October

Rev. David Prior

P19 - #4 Faith is LIKE an Athlete

2 Tim 2:1 – 7



“... my ideal day starts off with some Bible study, with some journaling, with some writing. That just reminds me that my day’s starting because God’s allowing it to, so I should give that back to him.”

- Mike Cerbus
Olympic Weightlifter Coach
& 5x USA National Medalist

Contacts at the VINES Uniting Church

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Lynn Ellison	Small Groups Coordinator	
Colleen Farmer	Administrator	0430 646 844
Leon Magrin	Mission & Outreach / Food Parcel Ministry	8322 3658
David McAvenna	Worship Team	8322 7154
Tiju Samuel	Church Treasurer	



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!’**



Please send
Newsletter articles to
Colleen Farmer
by 12 noon Wednesdays
poppy@adam.com.au