



# The Grapevine 11/10/2020

## The Vines Uniting Church

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Rev. David Prior

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### FAITH is like ... #4 an Athlete

Like the Roman soldier, Paul was familiar with the metaphor of *“faith is like an athlete”*, because the Greek Olympics had been going for 500 yrs. The Olympics were significant in ancient times with lots of events: running, boxing, spear, pentathlon, chariot racing (which Roman Emperor Nero entered in AD 67 and won, despite falling out!)



Being an athlete in ancient days required 10 months training with a designated trainer. Then, as now, being an athlete was about work ethic, attitude, and psychological resilience to overcome defeat and keep persevering.

Paul was encouraging Timothy that faith is applied in training and then on the track while gasping for breath, legs feeling like concrete... relying on their training to carry them through because *“You play as you train!”*

Due to the COVID pandemic our emotions have been stirred, forcing (inviting, making necessary) the examination of the WHY's of our lives, relationships and even faith. Some have left the building, others have been revitalised, while others are floundering, wondering what their emotions are trying to tell them. Awareness of the emotional impact of 2020 is vital, because as I say over and over again...

*“Emotions are great, they let you know things are important, but you never let them drive the bus, because they are terrible drivers and take you places you never wanted to go.”*

How many athletes have you seen lose their control and lose the game? My point is this... while we in Sth. Aust. have considered ourselves lucky in having avoided the major impact of the pandemic, we are still a part of the world. We see the suffering, we experience the limitations and restrictions; our lives have been changed. Paul would say faith is like an athlete because in the midst of hardship this is where we get our FAITH SECOND WIND.

Rev DJPrior

## **OUR MISSION:**

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

## **PLANT SALE - SUNDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER**



Elaine will be bringing a variety of plants again this week

to sell after the service.

*These include:*

Red & Orange Geraniums –

\$4 each and various Perennials @ \$3 each

It would be helpful if you would bring the correct change

if you'd like to purchase plants.



## **LIVE STREAMED SERVICE**

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

[https://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_query=the+vines+uniting+church](https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=the+vines+uniting+church)

## **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 15<sup>th</sup> October**, (unless there are unexpected circumstances).

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

**This Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> October** there will be another VIRTUAL coffee and tea after Church via Zoom. Visitors welcome!

### START TIME SUNDAY 11<sup>th</sup> 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.



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)**

*Next Week:*

*18<sup>h</sup> October*

Rev. David Prior

#5 Faith is LIKE a FARMER

2 Tim 2:1 – 7



**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 McAvena	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  
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