



# The Grapevine 27/11/2020

## The Vines Uniting Church

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Rev. David Prior

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### Advent already?

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November is Advent Sunday – Christmas is not very far away!

The Uniting Church defines Advent as:

*"A four week period prior to Christmas. It is a season of preparation in which the church recalls its hope and expectation in the coming of Christ, past, **present** and future."*

The focus for Advent Sunday is **Longing for a Saviour** and if we have that longing, it can be met in Christ **present** – present to each of us every moment of every day. Jesus tells us that “the kingdom of God is within (us)” (Lk 17:21), the implication being that the kingdom within is a now moment, a daily moment, the very Presence of Christ guiding our steps, moment by moment, day by day.

Last Sunday, Marj reminded us that “Everything you are and think and do is permeated with Oneness” (The Message - Eph. 4:6). It’s a beautiful way of putting it – we are never alone.

I trust that our Advent journey to Christmas and beyond, will be permeated with the Presence of the Oneness of our Master.

Blessings

David McAvenna

## **OUR MISSION:**

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

I will be taking leave commencing Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> October for 4 to 6 weeks.

Please forward items for the Grapevine and Grape to Chris De Caux .

**Colleen**

### **Child's Quilt**

I'm a quilter, and had planned to donate a couple of kids' I Spy quilts, for \$100 each (about 60" square) for church market. My phone number is **0427 0429 97**, in case anyone would like to purchase one, the full \$100 going to the Vines. I have several quilts to choose from.

Karen Kitto

### **Church Service 29.11.20**

This Service will be pre-recorded and available to be down-loaded on Sunday morning

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

The Vines Web Page will have all current information re services and activities.

**REV DAVID PRIOR HOLIDAYS      16 – 30 NOV**

***For Pastoral Support contact your small group leader.***

***Alternatively contact JUDY BEAMES who will coordinate a response through the Elders on the Leadership Team.***

***If that fails then remember to "Phone a Friend..."***

Last night, Tuesday 17th November, The Church Leaders met to discuss the present Covid 19 situation & it's impact for The Vines Church Community. A united decision was made.....

**TO SUSPEND ALL FACE-TO-FACE WORSHIP SERVICES, GROUP MEETINGS & ACTIVITIES AT THE VINES CHURCH, AS FROM TODAY, WEDNESDAY 18th NOVEMBER, UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.**

Another harsh decision, but the right & only one, based on the UCA Synod directive, released yesterday afternoon, Tuesday 17th November.....see pg 2. Live streaming of Sunday Worship will continue.

It is also with regret, the decision has been made **TO SUSPEND THE UPCOMING CHRISTMAS MARKET, SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY 5th DECEMBER.**

Together we are united in prayer, & the assurance of God's love & peace....& always thankful for His provisions & protection.

May you all stay well & safe.....& keep connected through The Leaders Team, Home Groups & "Phone a Friend"

We are taking all precautions & responsible actions to limit the risk of virus infection.

For any queries or concerns, please contact any of the Leaders Team.

Thank you for your prayerful support & patience,  
The Vines Church Leaders Team

- We appreciate that some congregations have already chosen to close their buildings. In keeping with the Synod's cautionary approach to advice and a commitment to keeping people safe, and in following the health advice from the government, we require all congregations within a 50 kilometre radius of the Adelaide CBD to suspend face-to-face worship for the next two Sundays (22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>)
- Also, cancel all in-person meetings and activities in your church buildings within a 50km radius of the Adelaide CBD from tomorrow 18<sup>th</sup> November up until 1<sup>st</sup> December
- Gatherings update: funerals 50 people maximum; weddings 150 maximum with mandatory registration of all guests by SA Health; and religious ceremonies 100 people maximum
- We encourage congregations to continue to provide online services and to pay particular attention to the pastoral needs of all congregational members and to contact your presbytery, Rev Sue Page or Rev Philip Gardner if you have any further questions.

***Next Meeting 6<sup>th</sup> Dec***  
***Pastor David Prior – Communion***

**Contacts at the VINES Uniting Church**

Rev. David Prior	<b>Minister/Elders' Convenor</b> Church Council Chairman	0403 991 475 davidjprior@bigpond.com
Keith Beames	Property/Home Help	0408 231 534
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:**  
***Connect with others and Choose life***  
***'Cos to Grow stronger through COVID***  
***We have to pass on God's love!***



Please send  
Newsletter articles to  
Chris DeCaux  
by 12 noon Wednesday  
[christinedecaux@aussiebb.com.au](mailto:christinedecaux@aussiebb.com.au)