



# The Grapevine

28/11/2021

## The Vines Uniting Church

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Rev. David Prior

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### **ADVENT = CHRISTMAS IS COMING!**

**Psalm 25:1-11 & 20 – 21.**

The first ADVENT has arrived, signalling that there are 4 more Sundays until the Christmas week arrives. Yeehaa... but also panic (buying & planning presents, holidays, food for lunch, etc.) Today our main reading is from Psalm 25; “an ancient, acrostic song that pleads for honour in the face of enemies, of the sins of youth being forgotten, and humility in the face of God’s way”.

***To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.***

***O my God, in you I trust;***

***do not let me be put to shame;***

***do not let my enemies exalt over me.***

***Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;***

***let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.***

Maybe an odd choice at first glance, but an ancient psalm with an urgent word. Beth Tanner writes that the psalm “is not reacting to a single happening but is more of a reflection on the events that have shaped the life of the one praying”. The psalm is not about a single moment in time or in life — but is about the totality of life lived with God.

This “total” view offers a happy point of contact with Advent.

Advent, properly celebrated, isn’t just about “this Christmas” or just about “the first Christmas.” Advent is about the church’s faith that all of life — past, present, and future — is lived in the present.<sup>1</sup>

Regards

Rev DJPrior

<sup>1</sup>Excerpts taken from <https://www.workingpreacher.org/commentaries/revised-common-lectionary/first-sunday-of-advent-3/commentary-on-psalm-251-10-9>

❖ **OUR VISION:**

*To be a vibrant, growing community of Faith.*

❖ **OUR MISSION:**

*To reach out and reflect God's Love –  
connecting others to Christ.*

**THANK YOU**

At the end of the year Lawrie Warschauer will resign from his role as an Elder at the Vines, a decision he has come to after much prayer and discernment. Lawrie has faithfully served as an Elder for over 20 years and we thank him sincerely for his passion, wisdom and leadership. You will be missed Lawrie.

As we farewell Lawrie from his role we also say a big thank you to Bev Warschauer, who is stepping down from her roles in preparing Communion and welcoming people, which she has undertaken for some 30 years, together with many other jobs along the way.

Bev and Lawrie have both blessed the Vines with outstanding service over many years and are loved and respected and we are grateful to them both.



Thank you Bev and Lawrie for all you have done, may God bless you both richly.

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – 28<sup>th</sup> November 2021**

***This Sunday there will be a Congregational Meeting, where the budget for 2021 will be presented.***

Kristen Waters has been nominated to extend her time as an Elder by another year and Rob Close has been nominated as an Elder for a one year term.

There will be an opportunity for you to vote for them at the meeting

**2022 BUDGET**

The 2022 Church Budget is to be received at the meeting of the congregation this Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2021. A copy of the Budget, together with a detailed breakdown of the Budget and comparison with the 2021 Budget and Actual January - September 2021 and the year 2020 is now available in the foyer for your information and consideration.

John Norton  
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 keep the bread tags coming, they're still needed by the Reynella South Primary School.***

***Thank you!***

### **FOOD PARCEL MINISTRY**

Thank you for your continued support of this Ministry. With Christmas Hampers and all the Joy of Christmas just around the corner, the shopping lists are now available for the Hampers.

This week we need the following items:

- ❖ Soup
- ❖ Tinned Vegetables and Fruit
- ❖ 2 Minute Noodles
- ❖ Toiletries,
- ❖ Long Life Milk, or a Cash Donation marked FOOD PARCEL MINISTRY.

Thank you again and may God Bless you.  
Leon and the Pastoral Team

### **IN MEMORIUM**



Laurel Davies, a regular attendee at the Vines for many years and a member of the Growing in Grace group, passed away peacefully on Saturday November 13<sup>th</sup>.

### **Prayer Points UC E-News**

***This week we pray for:***

- For South Australia as it re-opens its borders that it will continue to minimise the on-going impacts of COVID-19
- For those impacted by and responding to the Northern Territory's COVID-19 cluster
- For the Act2 project and the important conversations taking place across the church at this time.

### **LIVE STREAMED WORSHIP SERVICES**

Each Sunday our worship services at the Vines can be accessed live at 9:30am via our YouTube channel. Please use the following link to access our services,

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

After the livestream, each service will remain on our YouTube channel for watching later. They can be accessed using the same link.

## Next week:

Christmas is coming

*Our Children's Church....Sessions are held fortnightly, during the services at the Church*

*See below for the scheduled weeks:*

**28<sup>th</sup> November**

**12<sup>th</sup> December**

*Kristen Waters and Renjini Samuel*



### Contacts at the VINES Uniting Church

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**Please send Newsletter articles to Colleen Farmer**

by 12 noon Wednesday

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