

CHRISTMAS CAROLS

HAPPY VALLEY SHOPPING CENTRE

WEDNESDAY 22ND December 2021

4.30 – 6.00 pm

If you would like to participate in this joyful outreach event,
please let Leon Magrin know.

May God Bless you,
Leon Magrin.



THANK YOU AND CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS

Dear Vines Family,

Our heartfelt thanks to you all for your constant loving care & support..& faithfulness in prayer; sustaining us through this most difficult year.

With much to be thankful for, we hold firm to God's Steadfast Peace, Grace & Hope...with His gentle mercies & timely provisions of good medical care & rehab for Keith.

Our Christmas Blessing ★

May God's Love & Joy...Peace & Hope shine on you.... & through you all.... & bless you abundantly this Christmas & throughout 2022....every day.

Please accept this as our personal Christmas greeting for you all this season.

With our love & sincere gratitude,

Judy & Keith xx

Moderator's Christmas Message 2021

We live and wait in hope and expectation. At the moment we are waiting for Christmas.

Waiting to celebrate the birth of Jesus, the light of the world.

Some of us feel we are living in dark times, times that seem to have little to hope for. We remember those we long to be with. We think about those suffering. We think of our world and what is happening to it. And we are not even sure what we are waiting for.

The birth of Jesus offers us hope. That glimmer of light at the end of a darkened tunnel.

In the Gospel of John, Jesus says 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.'

In our waiting, we see glimpses of this light around us. We see it in the eyes of someone comforting a friend who is feeling down. We see it when someone pays forward an extra cup of coffee. We see it when we connect in new and meaningful ways with God, each other and our community.

As we can see from afar the houses decorated with twinkling Christmas lights, so can we see the glimmer of hope in the darkness.

Anyone who has experienced darkness in their life will know how relentless it can be. But it only takes one candle, a small spark, a flicker of light to bring a glimpse of hope and all the darkness in the world cannot extinguish the light of one flicker of light.

At Christmas, as we celebrate the coming of the One who brings light, may we trust in God who is Lord of the darkness and the light.

May we find hope in the baby in the manger who just might be the tiny glimpse of light we need to remind ourselves of where we are, of who we are, of where we are going, of what we may become.

May we receive a glimpse of light enough for each step, each breath, each understanding, as we find our way in the dark.

May we in turn, give the gift of light to those around us, in turn shining light into the darkness of someone else's world.

The Light shines in the darkness and the darkness cannot overcome it.

As you celebrate Christmas this year, I invite you to look at the Christmas lights on your tree, or those strung up in the front yard as a glimpse of the love and hope which can be found in darkness, a reminder that there can be beauty and hope in the midst of darkness and despair.

As Martin Luther King Junior said 'Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.'

May you see a glimpse of the love and hope of Christ in your life this Christmas, and may you in turn share that love and hope with others.

Merry Christmas!

Bronte Wilson Moderator Uniting Church in South Australia

THE VINES UNITING CHURCH - FINANCE REPORT

I advise that as at 30th November 2021 there is a **SURPLUS** of **\$17,943.78** for the eleven months of this year.

INCOME:

Offering Income:

For the period 1st January - 30th November 2021 there was a shortfall of \$22,594.21 as compared to Budget Estimates, with the average weekly offering of \$1,994.84. However, for the first 21 weeks of the new Planned Giving Program, the average weekly offering Income was \$2,020.52, an increase of \$46.42 per week (2.35%) on the first six months of this year.

Nett Rent from Manse:

Nett Rent from the Manse was \$2,783.72 less than Budget Estimates. However the average monthly rent income is \$1,148.57

Church Hire:

Church Hire Income was \$878.64 less than Budget.

Other Income;

We have received \$5,277.15 from Fund Raising, \$1,320.00 from Donations and \$238.92 from Bank Interest. An amount of \$55.68 has also been received for Photocopying & Church Directory Sales.

EXPENDITURE:

Church Site Expenses:

Expenditure is \$7,714.67 less than Budget Estimates. It is assumed that the Budget has been over-estimated.

Administration:

Expenditure is \$1,609.61 less than Budget Estimates.

Ministerial Charges:

There has been a saving of \$35,553.57 of Ministerial Stipend. However THE LEADERS MEETING (Church Council) has approved that an amount of \$20,000.00 be transferred to a **MISSION PROJECT**.

Other Expenditure:

UCA Synod Mission & Service Fund, Generate Presbytery & Redress Contribution has been \$1,625.00 more than Budget Estimates. However Church Programs expenditure and Church Refurbishment has been \$2,650.75 less than Budget Estimates

SUMMARY:

The SURPLUS as at the 30th November was **\$17,943.78**, however after deducting the amount of **\$20,000.00**, there is a **DEFICIT** of **\$2,056.22**.

John Norton, Treasurer, 13.12.2021



CHRISTMAS TO-DO-LIST

BE
~~BUY PRESENTS~~

WRAP GIFTS *SOMEONE IN A HUG*

SEND ~~GIFTS~~ *PEACE*

DONATE
~~SHOP FOR~~ *FOOD*

BE
~~SEE~~ *THE LIGHTS*

