



The VINES Uniting Church

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Rev. David Prior

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THE GRAPEVINE 30/1/2022

LUKE 4:21 - 30

Have you ever wondered why there are 4 gospels (narratives about the life and ministry of Jesus)? Each gospel was written at a different time, to different groups of people and with a different focus.

Matthew wrote to Jewish Christians, while Luke wrote to a person called Theophilus, who was a Gentile (everyone who was not a Jew). John was a spiritual gospel written to Jewish and Gentiles in Palestine. Mark was the earliest gospel written and seems to also be written to Gentile converts in Rome. So each writer had a different focus, because the audience was different, as well as the time.

Today Luke has Jesus stirring conflict around the role of the Messiah. Jesus claimed to be the fulfilment of the prophetic scripture from Isaiah "Chosen to bring the good news to the poor..." The problem was there was a disconnect, because the people Jesus was talking to (Jews from his home town) were called the "children of God". They were the chosen! When Jesus indicated his call was to work with Gentiles, "those outside the walls, those who did not belong to the chosen", then conflict boiled over.

The other gospels have a different focus on the calling of the disciples, so I am left wondering why the difference?

Luke had a particular audience in mind: the outsiders. No wonder there was tension. It got me thinking, what about us as a church community; have we shaped our message to our audience?

What would it look like if we did?

Rev DJP

❖ **OUR VISION:**

To be a vibrant, growing community of Faith.

❖ **OUR MISSION:**

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

NOTE from REV David

Let me say a big thankyou to all our preachers, worship leaders, muso's, tech team, welcomers, prayers, readers and cleaners, COVID Team and everyone else who has contributed to the provision of worship over the month of January.

It now turns out that over the last 2 years we have been doing a "dress rehearsal" for OMICRON. We seriously have a problem when over 3000 people are getting infected a day. Trying to make the right decision about opening / closing is never easy.

This year Lynn Ellison will be the Chairperson of the Leaders / Church Council, because initially I said I was only going to be the chair for a year. After 3 years I think it is important someone else chairs the meeting. So thanks Lynn.

Lynn has already been thrust into the thick of it with OMICRON and the suspected COVID case that eventually turned out to be a NEGATIVE.

So, looks like another chaotic year ahead. It is important we apply what we have learnt so far, and remember to uphold the Leaders Council who are trying to set the conditions for growing faith and keeping you all safe.

Regards
Rev David Prior

**Sunday School
Room/ Creche
Upgrade**

During the January break new floorboards were laid in the Sunday School Room and Creche, as part of church maintenance.

Thanks to the Sunday School team for their input.

Thanks also to the team: Leon, Judy and John Mudge for helping where necessary with the installation. Much time was spent at the church ensuring that it all went smoothly.

I'm sure you'll agree the new look is great, enhancing the space as a welcoming environment for those who use it.

Home Aloners

Happy New Year to all.

Hi you Home Aloners, we have decided to skip our lunch meeting for February.

With the current Covid situation we think this would be the best move.

All being well, we will plan to have our March lunch at a pub yet to be decided.

So no meeting in February.

Keep out of trouble, stay well, Regards the 3 Bobs.

THE VINES CREATIVE CONNECTION – FRIENDSHIP, FUN, ART AND CRAFT.

Enrolment Day – Thursday 10th Feb : 9:30 – 10:30am

Come and select which class you would like to do

Find out what you will need to bring

Classes Begin – Thursday 17th Feb : 9:30 – 11:30am

\$4 per morning, including morning tea

Enquiries to Verelle Fudge 0439 833 837

Next week:

PT#1 AVAILABLE TO ... OURSELVES

AVAILABILITY SERIES [based on the book from R.J.WICKS]

Feb 06 - Epiphany 5

WK 1 **UNIQUENESS**

1 COR 12:4-11

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

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

Remember OUR key MESSAGE:

Connect with others and CHOOSE LIFE

'Cos to Grow stronger through COVID

We have to pass on God's love.



Contacts at the VINES Uniting Church

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	Church Council Chairperson	0431 995 480
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	Food Parcel Ministry	8322 3658
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Please send Newsletter articles to Colleen Farmer

by 12 noon Wednesday

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