



The VINES Uniting Church

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Rev. David Prior

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THE GRAPEVINE 20/3/2022

LENT #3: IDOLS, ANXIETIES, AND LETTING GO

2000 years ago when Jesus left his disciples... Jesus did not leave them alone. The Spirit was sent to be our Advocate, the Spirit of Truth, Abiding with us, to be in you and Not leave you an orphan.

John 14:15-18 **The Promise of the Holy Spirit**

Q. How do we connect with that spirit?

Our availability to God, Others and Self can be described as a "sacred space". Prayer plays a vital part in generating and opening up these "sacred spaces." Robert Wicks

Robert is saying that our connections with God, self and others can potentially be a sacred space; a special connection, a time when something significant can happen. So rather than an inconvenience, a frustration or at best a distraction, our relationships with others have the potential to bring change that supports, gives life and is significant.

Prayer links the inner life of the HS within our lives with our relationships. The discipline of prayer then is a significant enabler of this "sacred space" as it works to change us to become more receptive to God, self and others. Prayer helps us address our - Agenda, Anger, Resentment, Fear, Selfishness etc. Prayer puts the focus back onto Trusting God for our future, rather than becoming obsessed with what we can control, through focussing on materialism and attempting to be landlords of our own being.

"We must let go. We can't have our feet in both worlds."¹

The invitation we have through prayer is profound, particularly as we begin to appreciate the work God is doing inside us. This in turn changes our encounters with others to be something to be valued and savoured, rather than quickly disposed of. When we discover the sense of sacred, it pervades all our lives.

Rev DJPrior

- ❖ **OUR VISION:**
To be a vibrant, growing community of Faith.
- ❖ **OUR MISSION:**
*To reach out and reflect God's Love –
connecting others to Christ.*

THANKS

A big thankyou to Trevor, Marj, Colin and Rob for picking up the preaching and H.C, while I have been off experiencing Life with COVID. I am doing well... and I am planning to see you Sunday, God willing.

Peace, David Prior

GROUPS & DATES for LENTEN STUDIES:

THURSDAY 4-5PM

LEADER: Rev DJPrior

WHERE: The Vines UC



DATES:

THEMES:

REV DJP leading face to face at Vines Church

Wk #2	17 March	THEIR PAIN, OUR FEARS
Wk #3	24 March	IDOLS, ANXIETIES & LETTING GO
Wk #4	31 March	EXPERIENCING THE LORD
Wk #5	07 April	IN THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD

NOTE: The Studies will be emailed as an attachment for your devotional reading.

Fiona Nockels is also holding a Lenten Study group for women in her home on Wednesdays at 7.30 pm.

Sincere thanks to John Mudge and Leon Magrin for the many hours they have spent at the Church in recent weeks moving cupboards and drawers, amongst other things, in preparation for the dishwasher which is expected to arrive in a week or so. It's been a huge task and John and Leon have worked hard for the benefit of the Church and for all of us.

A date for your diaries:

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

A Congregational meeting will be held after the service on Sunday 24th April. You are all welcome to attend.



FOOD PARCEL MINISTRY

Thank you for your continued support for this ministry.

This week we need the following items:

- Cereal,
- Tea/Coffee
- Spreads/Jam
- Tinned Vegetables
- Tinned Fruit
- Toiletries.

Or a donation marked "Food Parcel Ministry"

Again, we thank you and may God bless you

Leon and the Pastoral Team

Next week:

LENTEN STUDIES

Wk #4 27 March EXPERIENCING THE LORD

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
Colleen Farmer	Administrator	0430 646 844
Leon Magrin	Mission & Outreach /	
	Food Parcel Ministry	8322 3658
David McAvenna	Worship Team	8322 7154
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Please send Newsletter articles to Colleen Farmer

by 12 noon Wednesday

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