



The VINES Uniting Church

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EASTER: Remember the LOVE

Over Easter we will do a fair bit of remembering, joining almost 2000 years of faithful celebrations, naming Jesus as God's LOVE in the world.

I must admit I do find it ironic that as we talk about love, our world continues to be immersed in conflict, competition, hate and war. I remain gobsmacked that as human beings we seem to have learnt nothing. Our remembering is selective. How did we ever have WW2 after WW1? How can Putin justify destroying his own people?

Maybe the Easter event defines how we human beings do business?

Jesus spoke against the religious view of his day that suggested God was selective in who he loved. Jesus came to show us that God loves us all. The invitation Jesus gave us all was to

"give up our pretences of being better than others, recognise that we all fall short and accept the Love of God so that our lives may be changed that bring hope and life."

Again, I have to say, ironically, in response to this good news that Jesus shared he was... *Killed*.

If you are thinking, "Wow Dave, that's rather a pessimistic start to RESURRECTION SUNDAY." Well maybe it is, but isn't that just where we need God's love the most? When we are feeling our pessimistic worst, or immersed in the "complexity and ambiguities of life", those liminal spaces... as we wait.

My prayer for you this Easter is that your remembering will focus on a time of love, acceptance. By remembering the life-giving love of Jesus we find hope to continue to trust. **"He is risen indeed!"**

Rev DJPrior

THE GRAPEVINE 17/4/2022

❖ **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

It was with regret at the Leaders' meeting on Wednesday 6th April, that Judy Beames resignation from Leadership was accepted. Judy will be missed by the team and we thank her sincerely for many years of faithful service as an Elder and Leader at the Vines. Judy has also resigned from the Pastoral Team.

I'm sure there are many people, if not most, in the congregation who have been touched by Judy's faithful hand and kind deeds as she served God at the Vines. We have indeed been blessed by Judy, and Keith also, as he served as the Property Team Convenor and part of the Home Help team for many years.

Please continue to keep Judy and Keith in your prayers as they go through this next season, a liminal space, in their lives. May God bless them both richly.



We acknowledge the peaceful passing of Jack Pitcher and Jack Blumberg in recent days, both faithful servants at the Vines in past years.

How is life at the Vines?

Leaders are keen to hear feedback from members of the congregation at the Congregational meeting on Sunday 24th April.

If you have anything you would like raised at the meeting, please email Colleen no later than Wednesday 20th April to allow for a considered response to be given at the meeting.

COVID 19

No doubt you have heard that masks will no longer need to be worn after Friday April 14th, except in some circumstances.

However, because this has only been said in a news conference and there are no updated SA regulations as yet, mask wearing will continue to be needed at the Vines this weekend and until we have been advised otherwise.

“FRIDAY FRIENDS” is a new initiative to offer people in our community an opportunity for Coffee, Conversation and Company here at the church. This is open to all. However, for this to be successful, we need our church people to see this as a ministry and to come and bring a friend or neighbour, or to simply offer friendship to those who are alone. A voluntary gold coin donation will help with costs.

The first one will be **Friday April 22nd , 10am-11.30 am**. After that it will be once a month. Please speak to Marj if you have any questions.

Could you please let Marj know if you would like to be involved. That will help to give us an idea of numbers.



Reaching out in God's Love

FOOD PARCEL MINISTRY

Thank you and may God bless you for your continuing support for this Ministry. With Autumn and the cooler weather upon us, this week we need the following items:

- Soup
- Pasta Sauce
- Pasta
- Tinned Vegetables
- Tinned Fruit
- Toiletries.
- Or a donation marked “Food Parcel Ministry”

Thank you again,
Leon and the Pastoral Team



Next week:

Apr 24th Easter 2 - Acts 5:12-32

The Spirit: Disruptive Witness

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
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Please send Newsletter articles to Colleen Farmer

by 12 noon Wednesday

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