



# The VINES Uniting Church

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THE GRAPEVINE 15/5/2022

## **Reaching Out #4 “Church: God’s vehicle for Good News”**

Paul and Barnabas commence their first missionary journey, being vehicles of Good News to the world. Exploring this as a metaphor means that not only is a vehicle a means by which we reach our destination, but it reflects the nature of what we are transporting. Applying to ourselves and the church.

***“The church is meant to be a vehicle, a movement, not merely a building...”***

We know that the nature of vehicles is constantly changing, we don’t see too many horses and carts around. With change being such a constant in life, it is easy to see how the Church and Christians can choose to become islands, isolated refuges from the world; which means that the Church can inadvertently become the destination.

***“Culture is changing faster than ever before... What used to work, doesn’t. Not anymore. The challenge is to know what’s stopped working and what hasn’t...”*** Carey Nieuwhof, “9 Things that Worked in the Church A Decade Ago, That Don’t Today.”

In the face of all the things that have changed, are there things that haven’t changed? What if in the midst of a pandemic of loneliness and of disconnection, our compassion, our practical expressions of love can still make a difference?

Which brings me to the point of asking a question that builds on all of the prayer and faith development we have done this year:

**Q What does being a vehicle of GOOD NEWS look like?**

Lots of room for others, invitation only, All aboard?

Who we are, how we love, how we care, shapes not only our destination but the nature of our JOURNEY and the very destination itself.

Peace

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.*

### **PRAYER CHAIN REQUESTS**

Please contact Kirstyn Spencer 0490 663 372

or email her at: [spencers2012@tpg.com.au](mailto:spencers2012@tpg.com.au)

if you have a Prayer Chain request that you would  
like sent to the Prayer Chain.



### **5 Wk BIBLE STUDY - *Starting tomorrow***

#### **“REACHING OUT INTO THE COMMUNITY”**

**DAY & VENUE:** THURSDAY 4 – 5pm @ The Vines UC

**DATES:** Commences 12 May until 09 JUN

**LEADER:** Rev DJPrior

**AIM:** *Use the preceding week's sermon to reflect upon scripture, content and consider how it applies to our lives.*

Wk #1 12 May - Acts 13:15-44 *God's promises can be trusted*

Wk #2 19 May - Acts 13:44-55 *The church a vehicle for Good News*

Wk #3 26 May - Acts 14:8 – 18 *God's Good News bursts cultural moulds*

Wk #4 02 June - Acts 16:16-34 *Being shaken to the core by the Good News*

Wk #5 09 June - Acts 2:1-21 *THE DAY of Pentecost – HS in the world*

Please email or phone me to let me know if you are coming.

**Rev DJP:** Email: [davidjprior@bigpond.com](mailto:davidjprior@bigpond.com) Mobile: 0403 991 475

## NAME TAGS

Name tags will be checked off at the Vines once again, rather than marking an attendance list on Sunday mornings, commencing next week, Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> May.

The Pastoral Team like to have an idea of attendance to enable them to follow up and provide pastoral care if needed, when people are away for consecutive weeks.

Please wear your name tags and place them in the basket just inside the front door as you leave. Please let Colleen know if you need a new one if yours has been misplaced or is looking a little worn.



**The Leprosy  
Mission**

It's collection time for

**Leprosy Mission Money Boxes**

Money bags will be available in the foyer

**Sunday 24th April**

Please return monies to Elaine

by Sunday 22nd May

*Thank you*

## **FOOD PARCEL MINISTRY**

Thank you and may God bless you for your continuing support for this Ministry. With the cold weather now here, this week we need:

Rice

Sugar

Tinned Baked Beans

Tinned Spaghetti

Or a donation marked "Food Parcel Ministry"

Pasta Sauce

Pasta

Tinned Fruit

Toiletries

Thank you again,

*Leon and the Pastoral Team*

**Reaching out in God's Love**

**Next week:**

May 22<sup>nd</sup> Easter 6 - Acts 14:8 – 18

***God's Good News bursts cultural moulds.***

**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.

**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**

Rev. David Prior	<b>Minister/Elders' Convenor</b>	0403 991 475
Lynn Ellison	Small Groups Coordinator	
Colleen Farmer	Administrator	0430 646 844
Leon Magrin	Acting Church Council Chairperson	
	Mission & Outreach /	
	Food Parcel Ministry	8322 3658
David McAvenna	Worship Team	8322 7154
Neil Satterley	Church Treasurer	0404 028 827

**Please send Newsletter articles to Colleen Farmer**

by 12 noon Wednesday

[poppy@adam.com.au](mailto:poppy@adam.com.au)