



The VINES Uniting Church

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THE GRAPEVINE 8/5/2022

Reaching Out Series: #3 “God’s Promises CAN be Trusted!”

Over many years, we have heard messages focusing on God as Father...and for some people this is not a comfortable image... rarely have we been invited to reflect on a feminine side of God. God is neither male no female....and we are told early in the scriptures that God made both man and woman in his own image.

Throughout the Scriptures, God compares himself, multiple times to a mother, in both the Old and New Testaments. He speaks to the Israelites of being “the Rock that bore you...the God who gave you birth.” (Deut 32:18). In Hosea 11:3,4, he takes on the motherly role of teaching, cuddling and nourishing; “it was I who taught Ephraim to walk; I took them up by their arms—and I bent down to feed them!” In Matthew 23:37 God says, “How often I would have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings” There are many more such beautiful images of a compassionate, loving, caring God.

It seems to me that God is as much “Mother”, as “Father”, and the qualities which we so value in a Mother come straight from the heart of God.

As we celebrate Mother’s Day and recognize the incredible influence mothers have on their children, we understand that no matter how much a mother loves her child, it is but a very dim reflection of the love and care God has for us.

God has promised us unconditional, accepting and transforming love which converts the ordinary into the extraordinary, achieving through us, the outcomes God wants for his kingdom. There is nothing in all creation which can separate us from God’s love as revealed in Jesus. We are not alone on our journey of life God’s promises CAN be trusted!

Marj Dredge

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

MOTHERS' DAY 2022

This morning we welcome
GRACE NOTES
 To our service,
 A Special Celebration of
 Motherhood



5 Wk BIBLE STUDY

“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 27 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 Mobile: 0403 991 475

THANK YOU

Sincere thanks to all who helped with the **Mothers' Day Market** in any way on Saturday, 30th April.

A little over #1,000.00 was raised, a good effort considering the inclement weather on the day.

Marj Dredge

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

Pasta Sauce

Pasta

Tinned Fruit

Toiletries.

Or a donation marked "Food Parcel Ministry"

Thank you again,

Leon and the Pastoral Team

Reaching out in God's Love

Next week:

May 15 Easter 5 Acts 13:44-55

The church a vehicle for Good News

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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Please send Newsletter articles to Colleen Farmer

by 12 noon Wednesday

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