



The VINES Uniting Church

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THE GRAPESVINE 13/11/2022

HERSTORY #2 MARY and MARTHA (Lk 10:38 – 43)

The HERSTORY series will unpack the witness and legacy that key women have had in the Bible. Today we look at Mary and Martha. The sisters are mentioned a number of times in the gospels, with Jesus often staying with them and their brother Lazarus. Despite the cultural restraints about how men and women were to relate, Martha confidently engaged with Jesus.

³⁹ She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. ⁴⁰ But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked,

"Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!"⁴¹ "Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, ⁴² but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."

This is not a gender-based story; otherwise it would have been about Martha and Malcolm. What this narrative is about is a human encounter with Jesus and others. In her frustration Martha tries to get "Mary in trouble", hoping her guilt and blame would get a result. Jesus doesn't buy into it. Rather Jesus says to Martha

"you are worried and upset about many things."

Transference is a term used to describe what happens when we are angry, grieving, disturbed about one thing, and transfer that anger onto an unrelated individual or event. I wonder how many people are doing this since COVID?

While distraction is a good strategy, and helps us to keep going, the reality is that if we do not sit at the foot of the master, if we do not do a Mary: stop, listen and reflect, we will make decisions based on unresolved grief and loss, compounding our dramas.

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.*

AGM

The AGM will be held on Sunday 27th November. The 2023 budget will be presented at this meeting by the Treasurer, Neil Satterley.

The election of Leaders/Elders will also be a part of the meeting. Nomination forms for Leaders/Elders are on the table in the foyer of the church. If you would like to nominate someone, please fill in a form and return it to Rev. DJP or Colleen by no later than 11 am on Sunday, 13th November.

UPCOMING ELECTION of ELDERS

Putting the pieces together

One way to describe our gifts and skills is to say each of us is a piece of the jig saw. Each of us is a particular shape, consisting of skills, knowledge, passion and time and we are all called to make up the puzzle that is God's mission in the world.

Elders have a spiritual and practical leadership role. Your life experience, faith and time in the church means you know what a thriving church looks like. When the Leadership Team (Church Council / Elders) meets monthly we explore, decide, pray, reflect on God's call on the life of The Vines Uniting Church. The Vines continues to require people to step forward, not back, so that we may continue to meet God's call on our lives as a community.

You maybe the very piece that is needed to make an ongoing difference.

Have a chat with Rev DJP or Colleen for more information about being an Elder.



CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

We are again supplying Christmas Hampers to needy families and local schools this year. To do this we need your help with donations of food. The collection boxes will be in the foyer from Sunday 20th November until Sunday 11th December. It would be greatly appreciated if you could provide food from the suggestions lists on the table in the church foyer, or a cash donation marked "***Christmas Hampers***".

Thank you and May God Bless you.

FOOD PARCEL MINISTRY

Thank you and may God bless you for your continued support for this ministry. Where has the time gone? We are already preparing for Christmas Hampers. This week we are in need of the following items.

Cereal

- Soup
- Pasta/Pasta Sauce
- 2 Minute Noodles
- Tea
- Toiletries or a Cash Donation marked "Food Parcel Ministry".
- Cereal
- Tinned Fish
- Tinned Fruit
- Tinned Vegetables

Thank you again.

Leon and the Pastoral Team.

Next week:

20th November

#3 Sarah: Genesis 17:15-22

Rev. DJP and Pam Ambagtsheer

Take time to phone a Friend

or meet with others and

CHOOSE LIFE

Share God's love.



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.

Contacts at the VINES Uniting Church

Rev. David Prior	Minister	0403 991 475
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