



The VINES Uniting Church

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THE GRAPEVINE 6/11/2022

Love Of God, The Mother.

Have you ever given any thought to the “other” side of God? For many of us, we grew up with a strong masculine image of God. God was “FATHER”-almost to be feared. For some people, women especially, this image actually turned them away from God, because they experienced men in their lives who were anything but godly.

In Genesis 1:26,27 we read “Then God said, **let us make humankind in our own image, according to our likeness** and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air, over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth”. So God created humankind in his image, **in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.**”

We are all created in the image of God! We all have the potential to be powerful reflections of the God who *“so loved the world that he gave his only son so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.”* John 3:16

This speaks to me of a God who loves, deeply and completely, His creation, and will spare nothing for their sake. The “other” of God, therefore, is surely “M-other”! Unconditionally accepting, sacrificially loving, singularly committed to each of His children

Jesus longed for the people of Jerusalem, like a mother hen longs to gather her chicks under her wings. (Luke 13:34)

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.*

UPDATE:

The structure of Church Council / Elders = LEADERS MEETING

During 2019 the structure at The Vines was to have a separate Church Council (meeting quarterly) and monthly Elders' meetings.

In 2020 this changed to a monthly combined Elders' and Church Council Meeting called the Leaders' meeting. During COVID (20 – 21) this allowed for quick delegation and decision making. The team worked exceptionally hard, as did the many sub committees: Worship, Online, Covid, Pastoral Care etc. For me this structure remains a model for how to deal with chaotic change effectively.

Throughout 2022 we have continued with the combined monthly meetings, specific Task Groups and a monthly Pastoral Care team meeting to oversee congregational care.

Looking to 2023, the monthly Leaders' meeting will continue. The additional Task Groups will continue as we traverse our ways through uncertain times. These Task Groups will assist the Leaders' Meeting and The Vines congregation to address issues around God's call on our future, finances, how to maximize the resource that is the manse, all of which will help us grow our lives together and beyond the walls.

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.

NEW STOVE AND RANGE-HOOD IN CHURCH KITCHEN.

A bequest to the Vines Church from Winifred Boyle, a past member, had a tangible outcome and has allowed us to generate some further options to engage with the community. The kitchen has now been upgraded with a new larger stove and range hood thanks to the generous bequest.

FOOD PARCEL MINISTRY

Thank you and may God bless you for your continued support for this ministry.

This week we are in need of the following items:

- UHT Milk
- Soup
- Pasta Sauce
- 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:

13th November

Reverend D J Prior, Jacqui Vanstone and Pam Ambagtsheer

#2 Mary & Martha Luke 10: 38-42

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 McAvena	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