Our Common Life

Blackall Range Uniting Churches

Maleny | Montville | Palmwoods

Sepember 8 2019

We extend a sincere welcome to everyone. If you are visiting with us, please let us get to know you after the service. Morning tea is served in the Hall.

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Services Today

Montville	8.15am	Rev Ron Potter **HC**
Maleny	9.45am	Rev Graham Dempster **HC**
Palmwoods	10.00am	Rev Ron Potter **HC**

Readings (Pentecost 23)

Jeremiah 18:1-11 Psalm 139:1-6,13-18,

Philemon 1-21, Luke 14:25-33

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Services Next Week September 15

Montville	8.15am	Rev Bruce Johnson
Maleny	9.45am	Rev Bruce Johnson
Palmwoods	10.00am	Mr Peter Uhlmann

Readings (Pentecost 24)

Jeremiah 4:11-12,22-28, Psalm 14

1 Timothy 1:12-17, Luke 15:1-10

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The Week Ahead

Open Daily: Reflection Gallery Montville (see over)

Tuesday September 10th

7.00am Prayers at Moyra's 5494 2661
9am-3pm Church Office open 5429 6995

Wednesday September 11th

8.30am Christian Meditation 5435 8152

Thursday September 12th

9am-3pm Church Office open 5429 6995

Friday September 13th

1.30pm Know Your Bible (KYB) 5494 2486

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Uniting in Christ | acting with love | living with hope| witnessing in faith | working for justice

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Life From A Different Perspective

Luke 14:25-33

There is a big difference between life as it is and life as God wants it to be. Life-as-it-is is a mixture of good and bad, truth and falsehood, love and indifference, hope and despair, but life as God wants it to be, in other words, life in the Kingdom of God, is pure goodness, truth, love and trust. The whole thrust of Jesus' message was to stop being content with life-as-it-is and to live life as God wants it to be lived.

This, however, calls for absolute commitment: "None of you can be my disciple unless you give up everything you have." (Luke 14:33) Nothing, not even the most precious of family ties, can be allowed to come between us and the life God wants us to live. (Luke 14:26-27). We might get carried along by gusts of enthusiasm for Jesus and his message but that is not enough.

It is to a different way of life that we are being called. It is to a life where Christ sets the standards, where love reigns; where neither power nor pleasure, money nor possessions control us. It is a life with priorities different from many of the people around us, yet it is not entirely foreign for God who calls us into life-as-God-wants-it-to-be is also active in this divided, conflicted life although constantly being buffeted by the opposing powers. It is then for us to partner God in this conflict, to show that it is possible, with God's enabling Spirit, to live life-as-it-should-be amidst life-as-it-is.

Only then do we have the basis and the resources to be able to serve life-as-it-is as we are meant to do. If we have no values greater than those of the family, we have no grounds or resources to help family life be the love-filled community that God wants it to be. If we have no values greater than those of the society within which we live, we have nothing to contribute for the betterment of society. It is in the light of God's disclosure of life as God wants it to be lived that we can discern what is really good, true, loving and enduring in everyday life.

- What is the difference between your experience of life as it is and life as God wants it to be?
- What part of Luke 14:25-33 suggests that gusts of enthusiasm for Jesus are not enough for the living of a Christian life?
- What needs to change if family life today is to become the family life that God wants it to be?
- Where do values in our society differ from the values of God's kingdom?

Rev Ron Potter **Piula Publications**

MEN'S GROUP

Our next gathering is at **lunchtime** (from noon) on **Thursday 12th September at the Amphitheatre** when John Bock will give us a demonstration of Camp Oven Cooking. Hence, there is no need to bring any food as we will be dining on John's expertly cooked provisions. Come along for lunch and to socialise in good company. All men are welcome, so spread the word.

THE GIFT OF A BOOKMARK

Would you like to donate a bookmark(s) of your choice to be given to our Indian girls? The group soon to be visiting North India will personally deliver the bookmarks. There are collection boxes in Maleny and Montville churches.

Opportunity ends Sunday **15th September**.

Some suggestions: Australian places, animals, birds, plants, Blackall Range places, something cute or with a "meaningful message" that would appeal to girls approximately 5 to 15 years old.

Any enquiries to 5494 2238, Barbara (on behalf of Maleny Ladies Friendship Group)

LADIES FRIENDSHIP

- Our Ladies Friendship Group will be meeting at **9.30am on Thursday 19th September**. Jing has kindly offered to demonstrate cooking yummy spring rolls etc. for further information ring Jan 0418 115 933 or Annie 0438 123 306
- For the **October** Ladies Friendship morning, we will be doing a craft activity using old Christmas and Birthday Cards. Could you please bring some old cards for us to use and drop them into the shoebox in the hall? Thank you in anticipation.

LINDY CHAMBERLAIN-CREIGHTON EVENT

As an outreach initiative, we have secured Lindy Chamberlain for a speaking event at 2pm on Sun Oct 6th . All are welcome - spread the word to friends & family ! Volunteers are also sought to assist the organisers with baking for tea beforehand, and seating setup / parking marshalling on the day – contact either Annie (0438123306) or Jan (0418115933)

There is no charge for tickets (other than a small ticketing fee) however bookings are essential via https://www.trybooking.com/BEXTQ

REFLECTION GALLERY

The display of paintings by indigenous artist, Jasmine Davies, are now in place in the Montville Church, and you are invited to call in any day between 10 and 3 to view them. Twelve pieces present themes such as The Ten Commandments, The Death of Christ, Jonah and the Whale together with Blessing of Family (No matter how big or small, how close or how far away, we will always be there for each other), Sweet Yams (Don't forget to share) and One Mob (We are all God's children). Take time to let the paintings speak. Let God speak through the paintings.

GROWING IN FAITH AND LOVE.

Thank you to those who have offered topics for me to consider as subjects for sermons. Some are more challenging than I could tackle in a sermon, so I have settled on some themes that I hope will help a number of people.

Here is a schedule of topics I will try to address.

Montville

15 September - Does God care about our suffering?
22 September - God of the living and the dead.
6 October - What's the relationship between worship and service?

Maleny

15 September - Does God care about our suffering?
29 September - God of the living and the dead.
6 October - What's the relationship between worship and service?
20 October - Is there wisdom in the Wisdom Literature?

Palmwoods

22 September - Does God care about our suffering?
13 October - God of the living and the dead.
27 October - What is the relationship between worship and service?

As I work through the other suggestions I have received, I will try my best to touch on as many issues as possible within the themes I have named above

WALK ON COUNTRY - The Queensland Synod will host a series of Walk on Country events on North Stradbroke Island during Oct. This experience represents a fantastic opportunity to build relationships with First People communities and provide a doorway into developing and introducing Indigenous theology. The first event will run **7–8 Oct**, the **second will run 20–21 Oct**, with a maximum of 20 attendees for each event. The total cost for each event is $575 per person, significantly reduced compared to other visitations throughout Queensland. To register or for more information, contact Natalie Lewis or Erin Mawhinney, Project Officer via email. natalie.lewis@ucaqld.com.au

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OFFERINGS can be Direct Debited through the ANZ Bank, BSB 014-507 A/c 3762 29735.

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Ministry Contacts:

Minister	Rev Bruce Johnson 0407 180 864 b_hjohnson@me.com
Church Office:	Jing Wang 5429 6995
Hours:	Tuesdays/Thursdays 9 am to 3 pm
Email:	admin@ourcommonlife.org.au
Palmwoods	Pastor Kay Nixon kaynxn43@gmail.com 0412539020 Siale Lolohea 0436 463 538
BRUC Chair:	Peter Callaghan 0458 263 322
Internet:	http://www.ourcommonlife.org.au/
Notice Sheet:	Contributions requested before 10am Weds: admin@ourcommonlife.org.au

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