Our Common Life

Blackall Range Uniting Churches

Maleny | Montville | Palmwoods

Uniting in Christ | Acting with love | Living with hope | Witnessing in faith | Working for justice

November 24 2019

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

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 and Readings

Montville	8.15am	Rev Liena Hoffman
Maleny	9.45am	Rev Liena Hoffman
Palmwoods	10.00am	Paster Kay Nixon
	1.00pm	Tongan Service

Jeremiah 23:1-6, Luke 1:68-79

Colossians 1:11-20, Luke 23:33-43

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Services Next Week and Readings December 1

Montville	8.15am	Rev Liena Hoffman
Maleny	9.45am	Rev Liena Hoffman **HC**
Palmwoods	10.00am	Paster Kay Nixon
	1.00pm	Tongan Service

Isaiah 2:1-5, Psalms 122

Romans 13:11-14, Matthew 24:36-44

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The Week Ahead

Open Daily: Reflection Gallery Montville (see over)

Tuesday November 26th

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

Wednesday November 27th

8.30am Christian Meditation 5435 8152

Thursday November 28th

9am-3pm Church Office open 5429 6995
10am Book Clubs

Friday November 29th

1.30pm Know Your Bible (KYB) 5494 2486

Saturday November 30th

8am-10am Working Bees – Maleny

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Blackall Range Uniting Churches acknowledge the Jinibara and Kabi Kabi / Gubbi Gubbi peoples who are the traditional owners of this land.

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Two Realities

Luke 23:33-34

There are two worlds – two different realms, two different value systems, two different realities, two different ways of looking at life. Call them A and B, if you like. A puts great value on service, humility, relationship, compassion and trust. B values above all else power, wealth, fame, and self-will. It's not hard to guess which one Jesus belonged to.

Some people, at his crucifixion, saw it as outrageous nonsense that he should be called the Christ or Messiah because, to their way of thinking, a king stood at the top of the tree as far as power, wealth, fame and wilfulness is concerned. The Messiah, they thought, would respond to any threats like those Jesus was facing with overwhelming power, smashing his opponents and scattering his enemies.

Jesus did nothing like that. On the contrary, he epitomised the values of God's A reality. His kingdom was not of human production; it was of God (John 18:36). If we have been baptized, we have been claimed for that kingdom. If we have responded to his call and placed our faith in him as Saviour and Lord, we have been introduced to reality A. Jesus came to call people to live in the A form of reality, and he opened the way for all to do that. So, we are constantly confronted with a choice: in which reality do we live?

There is a particular temptation for Christians to be aware of – treating God from the point of view of the B reality. Instead of seeing God, first and foremost, as love, we then see God as power. Condemnation drowns out forgiveness, blame takes the place of trust. It leads people to fight wars in the name of God and looks with contempt on people of other religions. Christ calls us, not to make him part of our B reality, but for us to be, thankfully and joyfully, part of his A reality.

- Share any experiences you have had of living in two cultures or speaking two different languages.
- According to Luke 23:33-43, who, at his crucifixion, saw it as outrageous nonsense that Jesus should be called the Christ?
- What do you think of this approach, that we think in terms of Realty A and Reality B? Does this help understand the biblical concept of the kingdom of God?
- Reality A is God-centred; Reality B is self-centred. What happens when we treat God as part of the B Reality?

Rev Ron Potter **Piula Publications**

TODAY - INDUCTION SERVICE
Rev Liena Hoffman
This afternoon at **3 pm** at Maleny Uniting Church.
Everyone is welcome to join in celebrating the appointment of Liena as our new Minister.
Maleny congregation could you please bring a plate to share for afternoon tea. *Thank You*

LOOKING AT BOOK CLUBS FOR MALENY U.C. IN 2020
Calling all interested ladies to join us for morning tea **on Thursday 28th Nov - 10am** at Nancy & Malcolm's home 80 Tallowwood St, Maleny. Morning tea provided. RSVP to Nancy on 0409 586 601 by 24/11/2019.
If you wish to come early you can have a wander in the Bakers garden.

WORKING BEE - MALENY

The last Saturday (**30thNov**) of the month has arrived. A working bee is planned between **8am - 10am**. Jobs are mowing, edges at Church and Manse, and, a tidy up. See you there.

UNITING CHURCH NAME BADGES
An order could be placed before Christmas if there is enough interest.
Please write your details on the sheet at the back of Maleny Church.
Alternatively, please phone Barbara on 5494 2238 with your request.

MEN'S GROUP – EARLY NOTICE
Our next outing is for croquet, at **8.30 a.m. on Monday 2nd Dec.** Keep the date free - we want a good roll-up. More details next week.

REFLECTION GALLERY
You and your friends are invited to visit the Reflection Gallery in the Montville Uniting Church any day between 10 and 3 where Rev. Ron Potter presents his personal testimony in a collection of paintings exhibited under the theme of Spirit, Life and Wonder. If visiting groups want to make sure that it is open outside those hours contact Ron on 0407631314.

DAY OF PRAYER FOR BUSHFIRES
On Sunday 1 December, the Queensland Synod will join with the NSW/ACT Synod in holding a day of prayer for the bushfires.
On what is the first day of Advent, this will be a special day to acknowledge the efforts of all our emergency services, local authorities, volunteers and community members who continue to play a vital part in fighting the state-wide bushfires.
Congregations can mark this day in their Sunday services by using the Moderator's prayer (available in next week's Uniting News) and considering taking up an offering for the Bushfire Relief Appeal.
Rev David Baker
Moderator, Queensland Synod

JOURNEYS
I am on a journey of receive and release. I am needing to release the familiar and comfortable sharing of a pot of tea with old friends; yet also having to receive the opportunity of sharing a pot with new friends and reconnecting with former friends. It is a time to let go and to catch. Also a time to reflect on Christ's own journey of release and receive: heaven to earth, earth, earth to heaven, heaven and heaven to earth? This is Advent! - Shalom Liena

OFFERINGS RECEIVED FOR 10 MONTHS TO 31ST OCT 2019

	Budget	Actual	%	*2018*
Maleny	67,808	68,073	100%	*61,960*
Montville	21,500	21,308	99%	*23,047*
Palmwoods	14,885	5,884	40%	*13,402*
	104,192	95,265	91%	*98,409*

AVERAGE ATTENDANCES FOR 10 MONTHS TO 31ST OCT 2019

	Adults	Children	Total	*2018*
Maleny	60	3	63	*63*
Montville	17	0	17	*18*
Palmwoods	14	2	16	*21*
Tongan	20	5	25	*23*
	111	10	121	*125*

PRAYER & MEDITATION
'SOIL & SOUL' – (Palmwoods Community Garden) on Friday mornings at 7:45 – 8:15am. All welcome.
Guided Gardening at 7am each Saturday morning (weather permitting). Will be 8am when weather cools down.

PRAYERS
Part of Our Common Life is to pray for one another, in joy and in support. Please let Dorothy or Rev Liena if you would like your name to be listed for prayer in Our Common Life.
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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 Liena Hoffman 0490 421 874
hoffman.caritas@gmail.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 Wed: admin@ourcommonlife.org.au

Maleny Uniting Church,
Montville Uniting Church,
Palmwoods Uniting Church