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

February 9 2020+

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.

>>

>>

Services Today and Readings

Montville	8.15am	Rev Liena Hoffman **HC**
Maleny	9.45am	Rev Bruce Johnson
Palmwoods	10.00am	Rev Liena Hoffman **HC**

Isaiah 58:1-9a(9b-12), Psalms 112:1-9 (10),
1 Corinthians 2:1-12(13-16), Matthew 5:13-20

>>

Services Next Week and Readings February 16

Montville	8.15am	Rev Liena Hoffman
Maleny	9.45am	Rev Liena Hoffman
Palmwoods	10.00am	Mr Peter Uhlmann
	1.00pm	Tongan Service

Deuteronomy 30:15-20, Psalms 119:1-8,
1 Corinthians 3:1-9, Matthew 5:21-37

>>

The Week Ahead

Open Daily: Reflection Gallery Montville (see over)

Tuesday February 11th
7.00am Prayers at Moyra's 5494 2661

Wednesday February 12th
8.30am Christian Meditation 5435 8152

Thursday February 13th
9am-3pm Church Office open 5429 6995

Friday February 14th
9.00am Christmas Tree Festival feedback
1.30pm Know Your Bible (KYB) 5494 2486

>>

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

>>

Christ Within

1 Corinthians 2:1-12 (13-16), Matthew 5:13-20

The spirit of Christ is within me. What a difference this realization makes! If it is not obvious that Christ is present in my life it is because my self-centredness has got in the way. However, when I realize that the Spirit of Christ dwells within me, living the Christian life becomes not just a matter of my believing in or trying to follow Christ, it is allowing the spirit of Christ within me to have free expression through my personality.

Spiritual entities do not remain separate and isolated; they merge or coinhabit. In that way Christ abides in me and I am constantly being called to abide in him. Paul could say in writing to the Christians in Corinth, "We have the mind of Christ" (1 Corinthians 2:16). The motivation to live the life of love to God and neighbour is there, deep within me, but do I give that spirit of Christ the opportunity to lead?

The Spirit of Christ may also be spoken of as the Spirit or Power of God and it is by that Spirit that the Gospel is proclaimed and people come to believe, not by the power of rational argument, not by the use of lofty words of human wisdom, but by the power of God (1 Corinthians 2: 1-12). The light of God shines through the Christ-presence within us, but if we, through our self-centredness, smother the light so that it no longer shines out into the world we have hindered the work of the Spirit, and like salt that has lost its salty taste we are useless in the service of God (Matthew 5:13-20). It is not our light, but the light of the Christ who is within us that must shine forth.

- What is the difference between living by faith in Christ and living by the Spirit of Christ is within us?
- "Spiritual entities do not remain separate and isolated; they can merge or coinhabit." Does this help you understand the idea of God as Trinity?
- Give examples of human self-centredness suppressing or getting in the way of the Christ within?
- How can the church be the light of the world?

Rev Ron Potter **Piula Publications**

GOD IS LIGHT (1 JOHN 1:5)

"We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, ***God from God, Light from Light,*** *true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made"* (Nicene Creed).

We stumble over words and images as we try to voice the unfathomable mystery that Jesus Christ is truly God. It is complex. It is challenging. But it is true. And that is why we use images and expressions, different images and different expressions, to formulate this truth: In Jesus Christ of Nazareth we meet God. In the baby of Bethlehem we are dealing with God, the Almighty, the Holy. When we stand before Jesus Christ we stand before God. When we look at Jesus Christ we look at the heart of God.

One of the essential images used by the prophets, the authors of the New Testament, the early church and by us is: God is Light. In Christ's Light, through Christ's Light, we see THE LIGHT - God Himself. Because Christ is *God from God, Light from Light*.

Light is a positive image. And the Light came into the dark world, and the darkness could not extinguish the Light. It signifies hope, joy, love. It promises transformation: life in this dark world can be brighter. Better.

Profoundly the prophets foretold that Israel, the people of the covenant will be the light to the world that will draw nations and kings to God. Jesus, Himself the Light, Himself God, taught: "You are the light of this world." Incomprehensible. Yet true. In Jesus Christ we are indeed the light of the world. Shalom Liena

TODAY - PALMWOODS UC LUNCH

Palmwoods Uniting is having a gathering for lunch on **Sunday 9th Feb** after church at Chamber Island.
All are invited. We will meet there around **12.30**. There are BBQ facilities. BYO food and drink, chairs or mat, sunscreen and insect repellent.

YOUNG FAMILIES 4:30 PM GROUP 16th February

The young families group will have their first meeting on **16 February at 4:30** at Bob & June Eather's place. 33 Mary Cairncross Avenue. Maleny Qld 4552. Contact Bob: 0427 286101

MALENY LADIES FRIENDSHIP GROUP – 9.30am Thursday 20 Feb 2020

All ladies are welcome to attend Start the year well with a cuppa & chat and a few surprises.
Thanks to those who have taken responsibility for " a month". There are still gaps waiting for volunteers. Thanks in anticipation. Nancy 0409 586 601

MBINED SERVICE SUNDAY 23RD FEBRUARY

Combined Service with all three churches. It will be held at Maleny on **Sunday 23rd Feb** to launch the Lenten Bible study.

MONTVILLE

Lenten Study commences **4.15 pm Wednesday, 26 February**, in the church hall.
World Day of Prayer Service in our church at **9.30, Friday, 6 March.** Reflection Gallery displays paintings by Rev. Geraldine Wheeler, theme: Women of the Bible. Each day from 10 till 3.

Maleny prayer ministry update

1. **Prayer list**: We have our list of pray-ers up and running. Thanks to those who have responded and I would love to hear from any others who would like to join in this important ministry - see me after church or contact me as per below.
2. **Prayer requests**: Please forward to me by email or phone as per below. If the request involves a third party, please ensure that the person involved has agreed to any supplied details being shared.
3. **Corporate prayer** before the **9.45** service: I will be in the prayer room at 9am every Sunday and would love to have you join me.0407 542 142

Helen Uhlmann helen_uhlmann@hotmail.com

LENTEN STUDY

A new study guide for Lent, called "Pauses for Lent", is now available for $5 a copy. It provides a different message for each of the forty days of Lent and can be used on a daily basis, and with your Connect Groups on, say, a weekly basis.

CONNECT GROUPS The new Lenten study is a great reason for the Connect Groups in recess to get together. If you are from the Maleny Church and would like to be in a Connect Group, let Stuart or Jan Craig know and they will assist. They are looking to create some new groups. For those new to the Church, a Connect Group is the name we give to a small group that meets periodically for Christian discussion. The Group may or may not have a leader, and also forms an important part of pastoral care activities in the Church.
COMBINED CONGREGATION SERVICE AT MALENY CHURCH ON 23 FEBRUARY 2020+ at 09:45. The Lenten study will be introduced during this combined service of all three the centres.

MID-WEEK SERVICES AT MONTVILLE There will be a Church service at Montville Church on Wednesdays at 4:15pm for those who are unable to make the Sunday service due to work commitments or those who just want to come along. The services will start on Ash Wednesday, 26 February 2020+, and run weekly during Lent.

>>

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

>>

Ministry Contacts:

Minister Rev Liena Hoffman 0490 421 874
minister@ourcommonlife.org.au

Church Office: Jing Wang 5429 6995
Hours: Thursdays 9 am to 3 pm
Email: admin@ourcommonlife.org.au

Palmwoods Pastor Kay Nixon
kaynxn43@gmail.com
0412 539 020
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