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

Palm Sunday 2020+

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

We are continuing to publish our weekly Notices.
Please stay connected with us.

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Today: Services, Prayers and Readings

Join us for Holy Communion this Palm Sunday. Catch up on our E-Service under E-Broadcasts on the BRUC Web-page: www.ourcommonlife.org.au.

This week's services will also be available in hardcopy and will be sent to you via e-mail, post or dropped at your frontdoor.

Isaiah 50:4-9a, Psalm 118:1-2,19-29, Mark 11 1-11

Philippians 2:5-11, Matthew 20:29- 21:11

Reflections @ 3 will be via ZOOM. Details will be advised. So step out and join us in new ways of connecting and reflecting.

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Good Friday 10th April

Easter Day 12th April

There will be E – Services on Good Friday and Easter Sunday

Next Sunday: Prayers and Readings

Acts 10:34-43 or Jeremiah 31:1-6, Psalm 118:1-2,14-24

Colossians 3:1-4 or Acts 10:34-43, John 20:1-10,Matthew 28:1-10

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The Week Ahead

Wednesday Meditation has been cancelled due to public safety regulations.

Thursday April 9th
9am-12pm Church Office open 5429 6995

The Tenebrae Service is cancelled.

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Gratitude

Twice this week whilst meeting two of the regular walkers *en route*, each one of them mentioned how much we have to be grateful for. One commented we are fortunate that we have so much space and are able to keep safe distancing and that we have good governance - authorities that are showing leadership and support, financial and otherwise to anxious and troubled persons and households. This is indeed true, particularly if one were to compare it to my home country Zimbabwe or South Africa. In Zimbabwe good governance is questionable and there is no financial support; whilst in South Africa it is physically impossible to keep safe physical distances in townships where hundreds of thousands of persons live less than a meter apart from one another and households have to share common public ablution facilities. The second person also commented on the space and the beauty of our surroundings. Again, very true, compared to persons having to stay at home in cities and apartment blocks. Personally, I am blessed to know that ancient mammals such as platypus and pre-historic water dragons are playing in a pool 500m away from my front door. Yes, it has been proven time and time again that counting our blessings helps us through difficult times. As the old song encourages:

Count your blessings, name them one by one;
Count your blessings, see what God hath done;
Count your blessings, name them one by one,
And it will surprise you what the Lord hath done.

Are you ever burdened with a load of care?
Does the cross seem heavy you are called to bear?
Count your many blessings, every doubt will fly,
And you will be singing as the days go by.

When you look at others with their lands and gold,
Think that Christ has promised you His wealth untold.
Count your many blessings, money cannot buy
Your reward in heaven, nor your Lord on high.

So amid the conflict, whether great or small,
Do not be discouraged, God is over all;
Count your many blessings, angels will attend,
Help and comfort give you to your journey's end.

Gratitude is however, much more than counting our blessings. It is recognising our humanity, our own individuality, our own uniqueness and then realising the wondrous miracle: God - immortal, invisible, inaccessible became flesh, became finite, became human. It is to call out together with John (1 John 1 vs 1-4): " That which was from the beginning, which we have *heard*, which we have *seen with our eyes*, which we have *looked at* and our *hands have touched* – this we proclaim concerning the Word of Life. … We write this to make our joy complete."

Or, as stated by Diana Butler Bass (2018) "Gratitude is not about stuff. Gratitude is the emotional response to the surprise of our very existence, to sensing that inner light and realising the astonishing sacred, social, and scientific events that brought each of us into being. We cry out like the psalmist, "I am fearfully and wonderfully made!" (Ps 139 vs 14).

Indeed, we are blessed. Shalom Liena

Surfing the BRUC Web

We remind you to get surf-fit. To acquire the habit of surfing our web-page (www.ourcommonlife.org.au) and to use the resources that are there.

Remember our Cs

Memorise our Corona-Cs, there are now 6.
Calm – be calm.
Cautious – be cautious.
Common sense – use your common sense.
Care – take care of yourselves and others.
Commit – commit the COvid-19 pandemic to prayer.
Candle – Light the COVID-19 prayer-candle at 7pm (19:00) in your window every night as a symbol of hope.

Reflections @ 3 on ZOOM

Our reflections at 3 will continue, but in ZOOM format. More details will follow.

Rev Des Williams

We are sad to advise that retired minister Rev Des Williams passed away on the 2 April 2020. Our hearts and prayers go out to his wife Bev, siblings-in-law Robyn & Murray Robertson and families in this time of loss and anxiety. May God embrace them with His grace.

REFLECTION GALLERY

Although the doors of the Montville Church are now closed due to the current pandemic, the Reflection Gallery still offers you the opportunity to look at and reflect on some paintings. Simply put facebook.com/UCMontville into your computer's search engine. Take time to read the accompanying text and let God speak through both word and image. Ron Potter

OFFERING ONLINE BANKING

Due to health advice about avoid to using cash. Blackall Range Churches recommend to our church members stop handling cash altogether, and use online banking instead. Our banking is with ANZ Beerwah. Account name: Blackall Range Uniting Church, BSB No. 014-507, Account No. 3762 29735.

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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
minister@ourcommonlife.org.au
(Friday is her off day)

Church Office: Jing Wang 5429 6995
Hours: Thursday 9 am to 12 noon
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

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