

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

May 3 2020+ WELCOME TO WORSHIP

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



Services: Service, Prayers and ReadingsCatch up on our E-Services under E-Broadcasts on the BRUC Web-page: www.ourcommonlife.org.au

This Sunday 3rd May we celebrate Holy Communion and we are reading the much loved story of the Emmaus journey: Prayers and Readings

Luke 22:14-23; 24:13-35; Acts 2:42-47, Psalm 23 1 Peter 2:19-25, John 10:1-10

In response to requests that a precis of each Sunday's message also appear in the respective weekly notice a sketch of the message will appear alongside, together with Rev Ron Potter's message, which also follows the RCL readings.

>>>>>>> Next Sunday 10th May Prayers and Readings

The Week Ahead

Wednesday Meditation has been cancelled due to public safety regulations.

Wednesday E-Cuppa Conversations. Catch up on our E- Cuppa Conversations, where Liena chats to the journey of faith of various congregant members on the BRUC Web-page: www.ourcommonlife.org.au

Thursday May 7th

9am-3pm Church Office open 5429 6995

Reframing of Liminal Spaces: Breaking of the bread

Texts: Luke 22 vs 14-23; Luke 24: 13-35 (key texts Luke 24: 30- 35)

Memories are definitive. They define our identity - the way we think, speak, and do. Last week we reflected on *what* we need to remember, and *what* we need to forget. Sometimes, particularly after life-changing experiences, crises, we need help in *how* to remember. Professionals call this "re-framing".

Liminal Spaces are spaces between two worlds, an interim world between the former and pending future world. Liminal spaces are uncomfortable and difficult - things are uncertain. We have no control. Times of anxiety. Richard Rohr encourages us to embrace liminal spaces as they are opportunities to reflect, reconsider and **reframe**.

COVID-19 is a life-changing experience and we are now in a liminal space, between the former and the unknown future. We long for things to go back to normal, but they are unlikely to return to the former world – "as things were". Our personal, our professional lives have changed. So too has our congregational-life, our way of being church. It is a time of anxiety of uncertainty.

The breaking of the bread is a re-framing symbol. The Emmaus travelers were in a liminal space. They were followers of Jesus. Now the Easter events had changed their lives. The former world of following Jesus was no longer possible – Jesus had been crucified and His body was missing. They did not know what the future looked like. But it was in the breaking of the bread that they recognised Jesus. Remembered Jesus' words at the Passover, only a week earlier, and what he had taught them (Luke 9:18 ff).

Holy Communion is a remembrance meal. It is also a reframing meal. May we in this liminal space of COVID-19 crisis be strengthened by the reframing of broken-bread. Shalom Liena

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

Doorway to LIFE

John 10:1-10

The experience of isolation forced upon us by the battle against the covid19 virus reminds us that our lives get their meaning and value from the relationships in which we live. Relationships vary in intensity. We use terms like deep and shallow, rich and empty, close and distant, vital and dead to describe this variation in intensity, and it is the quality of our relationships that makes life worth living.

From the biblical point of view, all life is viewed in relationship with God. The natural world is seen in an on-going relationship with its Creator. Human life varies in its quality depending upon its relationship with God. Life in the kingdom of God is life lived in the truest, deepest, richest, closest and most vital relationship with God. It is called eternal life.

At the heart of the Christian message is the understanding that Jesus Christ is the doorway through which we enter into this fullness of life. Jesus used the image of a sheepfold gateway to express this. In John 10, he warned against pseudo-messiahs offering their ways to freedom and fulfillment. He was referring to those would-be messiahs who stirred up campaigns against the Romans, but for us this refers to the tantalizing offer of abundant life through such things as success, acquisition of money and goods, popularity or through the pursuit of pleasure and happiness.

Beyond all emphasis on mindfulness, meditation, yoga or self-fulfillment strategies, Christ stands as the doorway to life at its ultimate best. Beyond all human efforts at securing a better life, we have the living Christ to lead us into abundant life. Let's live it!

- Which relationships do you value most highly, and why?
- How do you understand God to be related to the natural world?
- How would you describe your relationship with
- What words would you use to describe abundant life?

Rev Ron Potter

Piula Publications

HOME VISITS

Please will persons who are open to home visits contact Liena. Liena is aware some persons would be open to a home visit within the safety parameters, but does not know who. So kindly contact Liena and let her know and she will call on you.



REMEMBER OUR C'S

Memorise our Corona-Cs, there are now 9!.

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

Connect – remember to connect with one another. **Communicate** – talk to someone.

Cuppa Conversations - follow our Cuppa Conversations on-line, or have one of your own.

IT IS TIME FOR A PASTORAL CARE REVIEW.

So, do you have concerns or issues that we can help with, or need someone to talk to, or would you like extra prayer? For any of these matters, please ring Dorothy 5494 2486 so that she can initiate help in some form. God's love is surrounding you and we wish to reinforce His care. Dorothy.

PRAY FOR ZIMBABWE

COVID-19 could not have come at a worse time for Zimbabwe, exacerbating already incredibly difficult conditions. Zimbabwe's inflation rate soared more than 500 percent in February, the unemployment rate is at 90%, medicines are scarce and over half of the population is food insecure.

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 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

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: 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 Peter Callaghan 0458 263 322

Internet: http://www.ourcommonlife.org.au Notice Sheet: Contributions requested before 10 am Wed. admin@ ourcommonlife.org.au

Maleny Uniting Church,



BRUC Chair:

Montville Uniting Church, Palmwoods Uniting Church