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 17 2020+

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

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

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

This Sunday 17th May
Acts 17:16-31, Psalm 66:8-20
1 Peter 3:13-22, John14:15-21

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Thursday 21 May: Ascension Day
1 Peter 3:18-22; Acts 1:1-11; Psalm 47 & 93;
Ephesians 1:15-23; Luke 24:44-53

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Next Sunday 24th May
Prayers and Readings
Acts 1:6-14, Psalm 68:1-10,32-35
1 Peter 4:12-14,5:6-11 John17:1-11

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The Week Ahead

Wednesday Meditation has been cancelled due to public safety regulations and you will be kept updated on developments.

Wednesday May 20th – Cuppa Conversation
Join us for our Cuppa Conversation on www.ourcommonlife.org.au under Cuppa Conversations

Thursday May 21th Ascension Day
There will be an E-Ascension Day Message
9am-3pm Church Office open 5429 6995

We are seekers

Focus texts: Acts 17:27 & 1 Peter 3:15

Seekers: Humans are seekers. We seek meaning of life, purpose of living. We seek the Divine, the Other (Acts 17:27; Ecclesiastes 23:10-11; Proverbs8:17). Modern persons are also seeking, particularly now, when world views and normal securities & perspectives have been shaken, even turned upside down.

Church's Mission: Is to give account of our faith. To be witnesses of what we have received – grace. Definitive of our faith is the Easter story – the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ. The ascension and reign of Christ. We confess a living God. We live with the gift of a living hope.

Our missional is not confrontational or judgmental. It is to be ready and able to give account of our faith –a t all times to each and every one asking! To live what we are: God's people; God's elect; a holy nation; a royal priesthood; recipients of the gifts of grace, faith, love and hope. To give account with gentleness and respect, with consideration and reverence.

Parakletos: We are not alone. We need not fear. Go has given us the gift of the *para-kletos*, the One who calls alongside us, with us. The Holy Spirit, the Advocate, the Counsellor. The Holy Spirit will teach you and guide you – that is the promise, the truth.

The church has been tasked with the message of Easter, even though few may respond, we remain accountable to give witness, to be evidence of God's mercy and grace. The church does not possess salvation; but we carry the message of salvation and are ourselves the object of salvation. This is our mission, our calling to each and every one seeking.

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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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Our Unseen Friend

John 14:15-21

You have a job to be done, but you don't have the skills or the time to do it yourself. What do you do? If possible, you get someone who is skilled and available to do it for you. For example, if summonsed to court, you get a lawyer to speak for you. Well, think of this. God needed human assistance in restoring the world to its intended state of goodness, integrity, right relationships, peace and justice, so asked Jesus to accomplish it.

Or, to put it differently, God called on his Son to release people from the alienation and rebellion that prevented them from being the people God wanted them to be. It was not an easy task for to do this he had to come into inevitable collision with entrenched power structures and puffed up egos that human sinfulness had created. However, he gathered a following. In particular, he gathered a group of disciples with whom he shared his message.

Before he was killed, he called on them to continue the task that he had begun. He knew that this was beyond their capabilities, but assured them that they would not be left to do it all on their own. As he had been God's agent in drawing people into the kingdom of God, so the Holy Spirit would continue this work in and through them.

The Spirit would, for all of Christ's disciples, be the friend to assist them in their living, their understanding and in the great mission entrusted to them. So, for us, called to be part of this divine enterprise, we are given a counsellor, advocate, comforter, assistant or friend to help us. (The Greek word parakletos used in John 14:16 can be translated in all of these ways) oly Spirit ios

- When have you called on a friend to help you with some task?
- God's Spirit is within us. How is this made apparent?
- In your mind, what does the idea of the Holy Spirit being our powerful friend imply?
- What does John 14:23 say about God as the Holy Trinity?

Rev Ron Potter ***Piula Publications***

PASTORAL CARE

Our hearts and prayers go out to the family and friends of Joan Cummings from Flaxton, a long standing member of Montville congregation who passed away on Monday the 18th May. Also to those who have been in hospital the past few weeks and others who are undergoing medical tests and procedures.

If anyone hasconcerns 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.

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.

Memorise our Corona-Cs, there are now 10!.
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.
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.

VIDEO SERVICES AND RESOURCES

The Synod office continues to produce online services and resources to support the church.

Moderator services

- Sunday 17 May is available to download (https://ucaqld.com.au/coronavirus/)from the website
- Sunday 21 June: a whole-of-church anniversary service
- ➢ Ongoing services for the third Sunday of the month

All services and resources will be available online at ucaqld.com.au/uniting

RELAXATION OF COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS

After due consideration of all the issues and in the light of the relaxation of covid-19 restrictions, Council will be sending out a plan for the return 'usual Church activities' during the week.

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OFFERINGS Kindly remember to continue to give make your weekly/monthly offerings. They 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
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	Siale Lolohea 0436 463 538
BRUC Chair:	Peter Callaghan 0458 263 322
Internet:	http://www.ourcommonlife.org.au
Notice Sheet:	Contributions requested before 10 am Wed. admin@ ourcommonlife.org.au

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