

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

Augst 2 2020+ WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Our Common Life is our weekly Notices
Please stay connected with us.



Services: Service, Prayers and Readings

Prayer meeting at Maleny at 9:00am at the church

Catch up on our E-Services under E-Broadcasts on the BRUC Web-page: www.ourcommonlife.org.au

This Sunday August (Holy Communion) Prayers and Readings

Genesis 32:22-31; Psalm 17:1-7,15 Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:13-21 >>>>>>>>>>>>>>

Next Sunday 9thAugust Prayers and Readings

Genesis 37:1-4,12-28; Psalm 105:1-6;16-22,45b Romans 10:5-15; Matthew 14:22-33

The Week Ahead

Wednesday Meditation at 8:30 am is now running again subject to the public safety regulations.

Monday August 3rd

4pm Pastoral Care Meeting (Maleny UC)

Tuesday August 4th

9am-3pm Church Office open 5429 6995

Wednesday August 5th - Cuppa Conversation

Join us for our Cuppa Conversation on

www.ourcommonlife.org.au under Cuppa Conversations 8.30am Christian Meditation 5435 8152 (Maleny UC)

Thursday August 6th

9am-3pm Church Office open 5429 6995

Friday August 7th

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.

Holy Communion / Eucharist

"I am the bread of life.

A few thoughts on the *Holy Communion*, or the *Eucharist*. *Holy Communion* focusses on the fact that the practice is *holy*, meaning that it is different, is separate, is special. Whilst *communion* endorses our communion with Christ, the Father and the Holy Spirit and with each other (see John 6, 14 & 15). *Eucharist* comes from the composite Greek word *eu-charis*; '*eu*' meaning – good, beautiful; and '*charis*' meaning grace, gift. *Eucharist* is usually translated with 'thanksgiving' or 'gracious gift'. The *Eucharist* then is a beautiful gift of grace, of *thanksgiving*.

The liturgy of the Holy Communion is important – liturgical time cannot be rushed. Liturgical time transcends natural time, transcends the present – a liturgical moment is when heavenly time and earthly time meet (Noordmans)– a moment of comm-union, of holy communion, of a sacred beautiful gift.

Liturgical time flows, and the liturgy of the Holy Communion flows like a river over our modern lives that seek purpose and use in everything we do. Liturgical time transcends and breaks through the ordinary. Like small creeks flow together to form a large river, the different parts of the liturgy (the invitation, the preparation, the prayer, the institution, the breaking of the bread, the sharing of the bread, the taking and consumption of the bread, the thanksgiving) flow together to form a powerful sacred river that flows through our ordinary lives, renewing and transforming (Wepener).

The ritual of *Holy Communion* is indeed a *eucharist* – a beautiful gift of grace to be shared together, in union, and for which we give thanks to the Holy Trinity.

BRUC AGM AND NOMINATION FORM

Please diarise the **30**th **August**, the date of our AGM, which will be held after another combined service at Maleny. Please also get your nominations in for Church Council members by **Thursday 13**th **August**. Please pray, pray, pray. For

these matters.

Compassion

Matthew 14:13-21

When Jesus heard that Herod Antipas, the ruler of that part of the country, thought he might be John the Baptist raised from the dead, he left Herod's territory by boat, but a large crowd, pursuing him on foot, gathered at the spot where he landed asking for healing. With deep compassion, he responded to their requests. As the day wore on the disciples suggested to Jesus that he send the crowd, which numbered more than five thousand, back to their homes in time for the evening meal.

Jesus said that it was not necessary for them to be sent away. "You feed them," he said. "We only have five loaves and two fish," they replied. "Bring them here to me," he said, and ordered the people to sit down on the grass. He took the meagre rations that the disciples brought to him, prayed, blessed and broke them into pieces which he gave back to the disciples for distribution to the crowd, and everyone was fed.

They all had enough with plenty to spare. Other gospel writers vary it a little. Note the theme of compassion that flows through the story. It was out of deep compassion that Jesus healed. The disciples show compassion in their concern lest the people go hungry, but their compassion is not enough. Jesus asks them to give up what they had. When they hand it over to him, it becomes more than enough. Compassion on its own is never enough. It takes sacrifice, inconvenience, for it to become effective, and whatever we hand over to Christ, insignificant though it might seem to be, is multiplied many times over in his hands.

- Think of some examples where you have experienced compassion at work.
- What is the difference between deep and shallow compassion?
- What is meant by compassion fatigue? Is it right that we have various depths of compassion?
- What experience have you had of seemingly insignificant things being handed over to Christ being multiplied beyond expectation?

Rev Ron Potter

Piula Publicat

REFLECTION GALLERY

The Cross is central to our Gospel. The new display in the Montville Church by Laura McDade, entitled Cross Closeups, presents photographic images featuring the cross. Open each day 10 till 3. A place for quiet prayer and reflection.

PASTORAL CARE

Pastoral Care Meeting is to be held on **Monday 3rd August at 4 p.m.** at Maleny church. Looking forward to hearing what everyone has to report on the last 6 months.

MONTHLY PRAYER

Loving God, as we move into a new world of relating and sharing life, give us forbearance with one another; may your Spirit also empower us to give practical support to those who have lost much over the past few months, and face an uncertain future.

Moderator Rev David Baker



Synod news

35th Synod in Session

Given the current climate of change, the need to be agile and in the spirit of giving everyone a little more time to do things, the Business Committee of the 35th Synod has agreed to extending due dates for registration and reports. The final decision on the program and duration of the 35th Synod will be advised soon.

7 August: Registrations opens

21 August: Reports and proposals on reports due

9 September: Registrations close followed by

orientation and training sessions 24 September: Questions submitted 24 September: General proposals due 25 September: Nominations close

For more information, visit the <u>website</u>. If you have any concerns at all, please contact <u>synodinsession@ucagld.com.au</u>

Ministry Contacts:

Minister: Rev Liena Hoffman 0490 421 874

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Church Office: Jing Wang 5429 6995
Hours: Thursday 9 am to 12 noon
Email: admin@ourcommonlife.org.au

Palmwoods Pastor Kay Nixon

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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



Maleny Uniting Church, Montville Uniting Church, Palmwoods Uniting Church