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

August 9 2020+

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

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

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Services: Service, Prayers and Readings

Montville: 8:15 am
Maleny: 9:45 am
Palmwoods In the garden: 2 pm

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 9th August
Prayers and Readings
Genesis 37:1-4,12-28; Psalm 105:1-6;16-22,45b
Romans 10:5-15; Matthew 14:22-33

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Next Sunday 16th August
Prayers and Readings
Genesis 45:1-5; Psalm 133
Romans 11:1-2a,29-32; Matthew 15(10-20) 21-28

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The Week Ahead

Tuesday August 11th
9am-3pm Church Office open 5429 6995

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

Cuppa Conversation Join us for our Cuppa Conversation on www.ourcommonlife.org.au under Cuppa Conversations

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

Friday August 15th
1.30pm Know Your Bible (KYB) 5494 2486

Faith

Matthew 14 vs 31
"How little faith you have! Why did you doubt?'

Faith is not a commodity that comes in small, medium or large portions. Faith is a life in relationship to God. And doubt is not the opposite of faith – doubt is part of faith. Faith is in the words of Eugene Peterson "*A Long obedience in the same direction*". It is amidst the doubts – the trials, the suffering, the hesitance, the disbelief – to turn towards God, to live towards God. To always move in God's direction.
A couple of prayers for faith and about faith

Prayer of St Francis of Assisi

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace
Where there is hatred, let me sow love
Where there is injury, pardon
Where there is doubt, faith
Where there is despair, hope
Where there is darkness, light
And where there is sadness, joy
O Divine Master, grant that I may
Not so much seek to be consoled as to console
To be understood, as to understand
To be loved, as to love
For it is in giving that we receive
And it's in pardoning that we are pardoned
And it's in dying that we are born to Eternal Life
Amen

Prayer of Thomas à Kempis

For Trust in You
O Lord my God,
do not be far from me.
My God, have regard to help me.
I have many thoughts and great fears afflicting my soul.
How will I pass through unhurt?
How will I break them to pieces?
This is my hope, my one only consolation,
to flee to you in every tribulation,
to trust in you,
to call on you from my inmost heart,
and to wait patiently for your consolation.

Source of this version: Freely modified from *Prayers of the Middle Ages,* edited by J. Manning Potts, 1954.

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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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The Possible Impossibility

Matthew 14:22-33

It's impossible! It's ridiculous! I can't go on! It's beyond me! I'm sinking into a heap! Does anything of that resonate with you? Then you will have feelings for Peter. In the dark, early hours of the morning the disciples were making heavy going of rowing their boat across the wind-swept, turbulent sea when they recognized Jesus coming toward them across the water.

No, he reassured them, it really was he, they had no need to be afraid. Yes, he told Peter, it's OK for you to come meet me, so Peter leapt out of the boat and went across the water, but he hadn't gone far before he realized what he had done. People can't walk on water. It's impossible. And he couldn't. He began to sink. "Save me!" he cried, and Jesus took him by the hand rebuking him for his lack of faith.

Faith overcomes fear, but if fear takes over faith goes out the window. With faith the impossible becomes possible. They clambered back into the boat and the crew resumed their rowing, but now it was different. The wind abated and the waves subsided and they sensed the presence of the very Lord of Creation. The Creator is present in the Christ as Christ is present in the Creator. To place our faith in Jesus Christ is to entrust ourselves to the God of creation.

Faith moves mountains, but faith in God as embodied by Jesus transforms the mountains from being threatening, foreboding obstacles to being the heights from which we see the vista of God's remade world. When people say that the way outlined in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew chapters 5-7) is impossible, Jesus meets us with, "You of little faith, why do you doubt?"

- Have you ever found yourself in an apparently impossible situation?
- How did you come through it?
- Can you think of occasions when faith in a doctor or some other person brought you through an apparently hopeless situation?
- Is it realistic to think that we can live perfectly the way of Jesus given the sort of world that we live in?

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.

LADIES FRIENDSHIP GROUP

Thursday 20th August 2020 9.30-11.30am

Come one come all for a morning of fun & inspiration led by Jing and her friend. They will encourage us to learn simple Tai Chi movements to incorporate into our daily schedules.

Attendees will be invited to reminisce about sport and / or exercise in our past or present lives.

NOMINATIONS FOR CHURCH COUNCIL

Please remember to have your nominations for church council submitted to the church office by **12 noon Thursday 13th August**.

SAFE MINISTRY WITH CHILDREN: PRACTICING SHARED GUARDIANSHIP

We want every person to be safe and to feel safe and respected as they participate in Uniting Church activities and events. Our shared guardianship extends to all vulnerable persons in our communities and congregations. It's never too early to sow the seeds of personal safety.

This new course provides strategies on how to apply our shared guardianship role in ways that prevent sexual abuse or exploitation occurring. This course includes a number of activities suitable for use by children.

To enrol in this online course via Moodle, contact your presbytery or email safeministrywithchildren@ucaqld.com.au.

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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

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 10 am Wed. admin@ ourcommonlife.org.au

Maleny Uniting Church,
Montville Uniting Church,
Palmwoods Uniting Church