

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

September 6 2020+ WELCOME TO WORSHIP

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

Services: Service, Prayers and Readings



Montville: 5pm Faith Conversations Maleny: 9:45 am Holy Communion Palmwoods: 10 am Family Service

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 6thSeptember Prayers and Readings

RCL: Exodus 12:1-14; Psalm 149 Romans 13:8-14; Matthew 18:15-20

Next Sunday 13thSeptember Prayers and Readings

RCL: Exodus 14:19-31; Psalm 114 or Exodus 15:1b-11,20-21 Romans 14:1-12; Matthew 18:21-35

>>>>>> The Week Ahead

Tuesday September 8th

9am-12pm Church Office open 5429 6995

Wednesday Meditation at 9:00 am is now running subject to the public safety regulations.

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

Thursday September 10th

9am-12pm Church Office open 5429 6995

Friday September 11th

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.

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Harvest Festival

We are celebrating *Harvest Festival* during September as we rejoice in the gathering of harvest, the enjoyment of nature and commemoration of our own stewardship. We also join other Christians in celebrating the season of creation during September (see https://seasonofcreation.com/).

September 6: Forest Sunday

Genesis 2:4b-25; Psalm 96, Revelation 22:1-5;

God's creation in Genesis 2 is *relational*. There is a relation between:

- God and humankind, an intimate, close relationship: God breathed life into man and communicates with them, walking and talking to them (Gen 2 vs 7).
- Human and fellow human. We read that God especially created a companion for mankind, one like him, underlining the significant reality that we are relational beings – created to live in relation to one another (Gen vs 20b-23).
- Humankind and creatures every living creature, livestock beasts of the fields, the birds of the air. Humankind had to name them, (Gen 2 vs 19-20).
- Humankind and nature, especially the garden. This was the space, the environment God created and in which he placed humankind. Humankind was to live in relation to the garden. Humankind had the freedom to move around and live in the garden, and notably we read that God created trees for the enjoyment and provision of food for human beings (Gen 2 vs 9). But humankind also had a responsibility to work the garden and take care of it Gen 2 vs 15).

The wellbeing of creation has from the very start been a *theological* issue. Long before it became a political or economic issue. When we confess: We believe in God the Father, the creator of heaven and earth, we confess that we are created in relation to God and in relation to the heaven and the earth – to enjoy; and also to work it and care for it. There is, and has been since creation, an undeniable symbiosis between human beings and trees, a positive reciprocal symbiosis!

Conflict Resolution

Romans 13:8-14; Matthew 18:15-20

Conflict. Publishers love it. It sells books, makes for interesting broadcasts, heightens dramatic effect, increases loyalty, underlies much sport and competitive activity, can be creative and lead to new understandings and ideas. We are not all the same, and it is in the bumping up against one another that we mature and widen our outlook.

But it can be destructive. Our picture of heaven is of a realm without conflict, a form of existence where, under God, everyone integrates harmoniously together. Conflict can breed suspicion, hatred, violence. It is often synonymous with war. It tears families, communities, nations apart. It damages the effectiveness of a team or the profits of a company. So conflict-resolution becomes an important concern in all areas of social activity – families, sporting teams, political parties, companies, organizations, and in the church.

According to Matthew, Jesus gave his strategy for conflict resolution: (1) face up to the issue and seek to resolve it with the other party one-to-one as soon as possible, (2) seek the help of a third, independent party or group, (3) if these steps haven't been successful, involve the whole membership in making a decision, (4) finally, if every attempt at reconciliation has failed, accept the situation and both go your separate ways. At least that's my attempt at putting Matthew 18:15-20 into today's context.

Through it all, the Spirit is saying, "Owe no one anything, except to love one another." (Romans 13:8). Love of one's opponent or enemy (in the sense of respect, concern, readiness to help) is basic to Christ's teaching (Matthew 5:43-48).

- Give some instances where conflict makes for an interesting story or news item, increases team loyalty or widens one's outlook.
- Why is conflict resolution important?
- What happens if we do not follow step (1) above?
- What relevance do verses 18 to 20 in Matthew 18 have to verses 15-17?

Rev Ron Potter

Piula Publications

REFLECTION GALLERY

The gallery in the Montville Uniting Church now displays a series of photographs by Rev. Graham Warne illustrating the song by Julie Perrin, *For You Deep Stillness of the Silent Inland*, a song that draws on the Australian Inland for its images in its prayer for peace. With extra cleaning and the usual distancing requirement, the church remains open daily from 10 till 3. Please feel free to visit and to tell others about it.

>>>>>>>>>>>> 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.

CAMPAIGN AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (DV)

Nancy and Liena attended the Combined Service Clubs of Maleny and the Blackall Range Domestic and Family Violence Focus Group this past Wednesday. Let us join the conversation!!

HARVEST FESTIVAL: GATHERING OF THE HARVEST 4 OCTOBER 2020

On this day we want to bring our personal harvest – garden produce (flowers, veges, fruit); preservatives (jams, curried beans); needlework (knitted, crocheted, sewn); crafts (woodwork, painting. photography). So please start gathering.

FUTURE SHOCK

On the wrong train gathering speed, out of control., I can't find the brake!

I want to get off: we're going to crash. But what can I do? I'd get hurt if I jumped.

There's a bend up ahead with a high-level bridge. Oh, please! Someone, help! Do something! Quick!

But faster and faster we're speeding along. I'll tight shut my eyes and think of my youth.

Now we're over the bridge and still running along. A miracle happened, and still we go on.

But how long can it last? And where are we going? This crazy express still hurtles along.

... Rev Ron Potter Piula Pulications

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Ministry Contacts:

Minister: Rev Liena Hoffman 0490 421 874

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Friday off-day.

Church Office: Jing Wang 07 5429 6995

Hours: Tuesday/Thursday 9 am to 12 noon Email: admin@ourcommonlife.org.au

Palmwoods Pastor Kay Nixon

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Notice Sheet: Contributions requested before 10 am

Wed. admin@ ourcommonlife.org.au



BRUC Chair:

Blackall Range Uniting Church Maleny Uniting Church, Montville Uniting Church, Palmwoods Uniting Church