

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

October 4 2020+ WELCOME TO WORSHIP

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

Services: Service, Prayers and Readings



Montville: 4:30 pm Faith Conversations Maleny: 9:45 am Holy Communion Palmwoods: 10:00 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 4thOctober Prayers and Readings

RCL: Exodus 20:1-4,7-9,12-20; Psalm 19 Philippians 3:4b-14; Matthew 21:33-46

Next Sunday 11th October Prayers and Readings

RCL: Exodus 32:1-14; Psalm 106:1-6,19-23; Philippians 4:1-9; Matthew 22:1-14

The Week Ahead

Tuesday October 6th

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 October 8th

9am-12pm Church Office open 5429 6995

Friday October 9th

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 Thanksgiving Festival Deuteronomy 26

From entry into the promised land God called upon his covenant people to make 3 declarations (vs 18-19):

1 That the land is a gift from God (vs 1-3)

The land and harvest are gifts from God. God is faithful and fulfilled his promises, particularly his covenantal promises.

- 2. The Aramean creed (vs 5-11). This creed defines who the people of God are and who God is. "My father was 'a wandering Aramean: we remain sojourners, pilgrims in this world. God is the compassionate God of the covenant who hears our cries, sees our misery; the might Lord who delivers us, and the faithful God who leads and gives.
- 3. Faithfully setting aside a tithing for the landless, the alien, the fatherless and widows (vs 13-15). What we receive we need to share specifically, as a ritual, mindful and with reverence.

Our relationship with God is defined: It is a covenantal relationship, a reciprocal relationship. The harvest, the good things God gives us needs to be acknowledged (thanksgiving) and celebrated -with others:

"And you and the Levites and the aliens among you shall rejoice in all the good things the Lord your God has given to you and your household." (vs 11) Shalom Liena

We Thank You for All Your Benefits

Lord God, heavenly Father,
we thank you for all your benefits.
You have given us body and life
and have graciously sustained us to this day.
Do not take your blessing from us.
Preserve us from greed,
that we may serve you only,
love you and abide in you
and not defile ourselves by idolatrous love
of wealth or goods,
but hope and trust only in your grace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

one true God, now and forever. (Source: Veit Dietrich,

d. 1549, Trinity 15 https://acollectionofprayers.com/)

The Impossible Reality

Philippians 3:4b-14, Matthew 21:33-46.

From the alpha male in the pack fighting off his rivals to nations trying to gain the upper hand in cyberspace or outer space, and in hundreds of instances in politics, business, international affairs, even in schools, homes and small groups every day, the struggle is on. People use superior power to dominate - physical, intellectual, political, financial, military, moral and religious power.

So, it is not surprising that, for many, the mention of the word God suggests superior power. After all, we refer to God as the Almighty, don't we? Then, that has led, at times, for the Church to claim the right to control governments and all sections of national and community life. That idea has been successfully challenged by democratic and humanistic developments in history so that, by and large, the Church no longer makes that claim.

Amidst all the power contests going on in the world, we point to Jesus as the hope of the world - Jesus, crucified by religious and political powers of his day, rejected as God's active agent for world renewal, and treated, by many, as irrelevant in everyday life. We dare to say, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone."

In his resurrection, God abolished the power-grab approach. Power is, in itself, not enough to renew the world; it has to be under the influence of love. Yes, God is powerful, Almighty, but, more importantly, God is love. Paul could say that all that he had gained as an adherent of his religion he counted as rubbish compared with that which he gained through Christ, and so may we say that all that we might attain by the exercise of superior power we consider to be garbage compared with the excellence of knowing the gracious love of God and to live a life inspired by God.

- Give some examples of how people use power to control or dominate others.
- How has the church tried to control political and community life?
- If not by the exercise of power, how can the church bring God's influence to bear on politics and community life?
- Give examples of love accomplishing more than power could.
- To live?

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.

LADIES FRIENDSHIP

Ladies Friendship Group on Thursday, 15th October 9.30 am to 11.30 am at Maleny church hall.

" It wouldn't hurt " to learn a few simple first aid tips and techniques. Being on the spot in an emergency may save a

Faye Gledhill will share

some important and worthwhile information from her years of experience in First Aid. Come along to enjoy another interesting and friendly morning. All Contact Marnie 54999394. welcome.

SYNOD NEWS

35th Synod

You are invited to contribute to a virtual choir for the Moderator's induction and 35th Synod worship. Individual and small groups recordings welcome. For more information and rehearsal track links, email music35thsynod@gmail.com. Submissions are due Monday 5th October 2020.



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.

Ministry Contacts:

Minister: Rev Liena Hoffman 0490 421 874

minister@ourcommonlife.org.au

Friday off-day.

Church Office: Jing Wang 07 5429 6995

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

Community

Pastor Kay Nixon **Pastor**

kaynxn43@gmail.com 0412 539020

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Siale Lolohea 0436 463 538

Community

Internet:

BRUC Chair: Bruce Johnson 0407 180 864 http://www.ourcommonlife.org.au



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