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

November 29 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

9:45 am Combined Service at Maleny

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 29th November
RCL: Isaiah 64:1-9; Psalm 80:1-7,17-19;
1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37

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Next Sunday 6th December:
Maleny 9:54 Coral Communion Service
Palmwoods 10:00 Family Service
Montville 4:30pm Faith Conversations
Prayers and Readings
RCL: - Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13;
2 Peter 3:8-15a ; Mark 1:1-8

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The Week Ahead

Tuesday December 1st
9am-12pm Church Office open 5429 6995

Wednesday Meditation at 8:30 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 December 3rd
9am-12pm Church Office open 5429 6995

Friday December 4th
1.30pm Know Your Bible (KYB) 5494 2486

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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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1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Delores sits amid her sorrows and will not be comforted. Even when friends try to convince her that things are going to get better, she shrugs her shoulders and sighs, “I hope so.” Nadine, on the other hand, rises above her sorrows and confidently looks forward with eager expectation in hope of better days ahead. Hope can mean resignation or it can mean eager anticipation. Too many Christians grumble their way through life’s sorrows and wickedness in a spirit of resignation while Christ invites us to live in joyful expectation of what lies ahead.

Together with faith and love; joyful, expectant hope arises within us as we accept the reality of Christ’s victory over sin. Many people can’t get beyond the crime and corruption, the cruelty and oppression, the greed and the selfishness, the hatred and contempt that mar community life everywhere. They don’t see a new world order of peace, justice, freedom, honesty and goodness that is coming. With a sigh, they say, “It’s only a dream. We are only human. I’d like to think it were so, but I fear nothing is ever going to change.”

Christ’s life, death and resurrection dares to affirm, in the face of all this negativity, that the world has changed. Sin has been defeated. All talk about the awaited day of our Lord Jesus Christ is a confident assertion that Christ’s salvation is real for any community that dares to accept it and that Christ’s way is ultimately the only way.

- Think of different ways in which the word hope can be used either with doubt or with assurance.
- What things depress you about the world we live in?
- What signs do you see for a better world emerging?
- Are you able to see the imagery connected with the Second Coming of Christ as assertions about Christ’s salvation being real for any community that dares to accept it and that Christ’s way is ultimately that only way?

Rev Ron Potter ***Piula Publications***

"The Life-Light blazed out of the darkness; The darkness couldn't put it out."

John 1 The Messenger

During Advent we especially reflect on the coming of God: how He kept on coming to his people as we learn in the Old Testament, how God came to us through Jesus Christ's birth, and again through his teaching and ministry of the coming of the kingdom; we remember how God came and continues to come to us through the gift of the Holy Spirit; and Advent is also about expectantly and actively looking forward to Jesus again.

John does not speak of Jesus' coming into this world by way of angels or a manger; but by why of the Word, the Light, Truth and Grace, and Love coming. He speaks of Light coming into a world of darkness that did not recognise the Light. John tells of a camel-wearing clothed prophet pointing towards the Life-Light coming and encouraging everyone to turn from their world of darkness towards the Life-Light and to accept the Life-Light and to walk in the Light so that we will no long stumble in the darkness.

Advent is an odd time for me. I sway between the joy of celebrating the coming of Christ, the hype that comes with carol concerts and the business and expectation of family gatherings. Yet, on the other hand I am acutely aware of the darkness in the world – the suffering and anguish; the sin of violence and corruption and self-indulgence. So I feel both joy and sadness.

Thomas Merton helps me understand these feelings. He speaks of a spiritual dualism. It is about us feeling two seemingly contrasting emotions at the same time: praise and longing; peace and disquiet; joy and sadness.

It is quite right to feel both joy and sadness during Advent. We feel sadness because the coming of the Light shines on the darkness, highlighting and identifying what is wrong and what needs to be reborn. Our joy, however, is greater and eternal, for t*he Life-Light blazed out of the darkness; and the darkness couldn't put it out.* Amazing! Wonderful! Glory to God! Shalom Liena

CORAL COMMUNION SERVICE 6 DECEMBER 9:45 @ MALENY

Next Sunday we will be celebrating a special coral communion service. Come join in the celebration, bring your voices and friends!

WORKING BEES

Monday, 7 December at **7.30 am on** there will be a Working Bee to work on levelling a grassed pathway around to the back of the church grounds.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS DONATIONS

A donation box has been setup in the Church Foyer. Donations are needed this year for Christmas lights to decorate the outside of the Church. Please donate if you can.

CHRISTMAS CAROLS AND SERVICES

Diarise these dates:

11 Fri 6pm Maleny Christmas Carol Concert

13 Sun 5pm Palmwoods Carols in the Garden

16 Wed 5pm - 7pm Montville Carols on the Green

20 Sun 7pm Maleny Baptist Church Carols on the grass at Baptist Church

22 Tues 7pm Witta Carols @ Lutheran Church

24 Thurs 7pm Maleny Uniting Church Stories and Songs: Journey from Bethlehem to Jerusalem

25 Friday Christmas Day Services:

7:30am	Montville
8:00am	Maleny
9:00am	Palmwoods

SPECIAL PRAYERS

There are a number of persons in our communities that are grieving and recovering from serious health issues. Let us hold them before the Lord.

PASTORAL CARE MEETING

Liena would like to hold a meeting every 2 months so as to be more focused in our care. We would like all our careers to attend so would you let me know the day that is suitable for you. Proposed time is 3.30pm on Monday, Wednesday or Thursday, first week of the months February, April, June, August, October, December 2021.

Thank you all those who have been ringing and contacting each other. However, it would be good to have more of you sharing on the care team. Please consider this prayerfully and join us. **Dorothy**

MEN'S GROUP BBQ

Frequently asked question: "When is the next BBQ?" Answer: "**Thursday 10th Dec** from midday at Baroon Pocket Dam." B.Y.O. food and drink. All men are welcome, so feel free to invite your friends and neighbours.

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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 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	Pastor Kay Nixon kaynxn43@gmail.com 0412 539020
Tongan	Siale Lolohea 0476 306 815
Community BRUC Chair:	Bruce Johnson 0407 180 864
Internet:	http://www.ourcommonlife.org.au

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