



# 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

7<sup>th</sup> January 2021

### WELCOME TO WORSHIP

#### Services

Maleny 9:45 Holy Communion Service

Palmwoods 10:00 Family Service

Montville 4:30pm Faith Conversations

#### RCL Prayers and Readings

Malachi 3:1-4; Psalm 84 or Psalm 24:7-10;

Hebrews 2:14-18; Luke 2:22-40



\*\*\*\*\*LECTIONARY THEMES\*\*\*\*\*

## February 7

### Doing and Being

Luke 2:22-40, Mark 1:29-39,

Richard Rohr, echoing Carl Jung, points out that the first half of life is, predominantly, a time of doing while the latter part of life is generally focused on being. This is backed up by contemporary psychologists who identify two different modes of mind. It does not mean that older people stop doing, nor does it mean that younger people give no thought to what life means. It is where the emphasis is most frequently placed.

Simeon and Anna were elderly people whose focus was on living with God. Their mode of mind was *being* rather than *doing*. But out of the experience of being close to God they gave voice to the insight given them in identifying the baby Jesus as the long-expected Messiah.

Doing and being – the Gospel needs both. The Church needs both. If we were all preoccupied with doing things in the church as part of our Christian service, we would lose the very thing that we are trying to promote. If we were all absorbed in our enjoyment of being the beloved children of God, the world would not hear the Word that God wants it to hear. Doing things in the service of Christ and living in the presence of Christ: it's not an either-or choice, it's both-and, even if the balance sometimes swings one way or the other.

Mark 1:35 shows that Jesus refused to have his life taken over by doing. In taking himself off to pray he showed the importance of giving time to being – understanding who he is, why he is doing what he does, and where his direction comes from.

❖ What do you understand by life focused on being in contrast to life focused on doing?

Catch up on our E-Services under E-Broadcasts on the BRUC Web-page: [www.ourcommonlife.org.au](http://www.ourcommonlife.org.au)

#### Next Sunday 14 February 2021:

Montville: Holy Communion

Maleny: 9:45 am Worship Service

Palmwoods: 3:30pm Reflections in the garden

#### Prayers and Readings

RCL: Isaiah 40:21-31 - Psalm 147:1-11, 20c -

1 Corinthians 9:16-23 - Mark 1:29-39

The topic for discussion at

#### Montville's Faith Conversation

today, Sunday 7 Feb at 4.30pm is

"The Gospel in a Multicultural Society",

led by **Rev. Ron Potter**.

All welcome!

#### Prayer

Prayer is sitting in the silence,  
until it silences us;  
Choosing gratitude,  
until we are grateful;  
and praising God  
until we ourselves are an act of praise.

Ricahrd Rohr

- ❖ Try spelling this out in relation to a mother. When is her life predominantly taken up with doing, and when is it focused on being?
- ❖ “If we were all preoccupied with doing things in the church as part of our Christian service, we would lose the very thing that we are trying to promote,” What is it that we would lose?
- ❖ Who we are shows itself in what we do. Does what we do always show who we really are?

**Rev Ron Potter**

**Piula Publications**

## Barn Raising at Palmwoods

Supplied by Kay Nixon

What a thrill to see our new shelter up at Palmwoods Community Garden. It was almost like a scene from the musical “Seven Brides for Seven Brothers”. Thanks to donations from local businesses and individuals we were able to purchase a locally made shelter which can allow us to have more certainty when planning events such as ‘Reflection in the Garden’, ‘Growing Together’ and various workshops.

It is such a joy to see the church and community working together in this space. New connections are being formed. Lives are being touched. Healing is happening in this God-given space.

Our most recent Reflection in the Garden was called ‘Sacred Land’ and attracted 24 people including children and teenagers. Half were associated with church and half from the community.

As Liena spoke last Sunday of the need to be welcoming and to say “Come”, I wondered if our church had a welcome mat at the door or a gate. I hope that in our acceptance of others we have a welcome mat.

It led me to think too of the metaphor of a shelter. A place of refuge. No walls, no door and open to all. Isaiah 32: 2 “Each will be like a refuge from the wind and a shelter from the storm, Like streams of water in a dry country, Like the shade of a huge rock in a parched land.”

But not only do our buildings need to be welcoming, but our actions, our words, even our ceremonies need to be inclusive. It is not watering down the gospel but making it accessible to all in a way that is relevant and understandable.

When I invite people to Reflection in the Garden I might say to them something along the lines of: “Come and refresh your soul” however, you might find other ways of expressing your invitation. We can look forward in hope to the challenging but exciting opportunities that lie ahead.



Newly erected barn at Soil & Soul, Palmwoods Community Garden

**Cuppa craft** will be run on **Tuesdays from 9:30-12 noon at Maleny**. Persons are welcome to pop in anytime



for as long as they wish - 3 minutes or 30 minutes or 150 minutes. Welcome to simply come to enjoy a cuppa and a chat, or to bring along a craft too. We will begin by having it every **first Tuesday of the month**, but hope it may develop into a fortnightly cuppa. So book **Tuesday the 2 March 2021**, and pop in for cuppa!!!!

### **Cuppa after worship service: TAFE COVID Safe for Dining In Course**

And if you want a cuppa after a worship service PLEASE do the TAFE course or encourage someone to do it! It is an on-line simple course, which should take no more than 30 minute to complete. Persons who serve the tea need to have done the course.

Once completed please let us know ie let Jing at the office know and Peter Callaghan, our COVID-Protector!

Here is the link to the COVID Safe for Dining In course: <https://tafeqld.edu.au/covid-safe>



## The Week Ahead

**Tuesday** – Church Office open Ph. 5429 6995

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

**Wednesday** – Cuppa Conversation Season 2 will be back in February 2021. Meanwhile enjoy some episodes from Season 1: [www.ourcommonlife.org.au](http://www.ourcommonlife.org.au) under Cuppa Conversations

**Thursday** – Church Office open Ph. 5429 6995

**Friday** – Know Your Bible (KYB) 5494 2486 1.30pm

## Synod News

Online worship services

### Online worship services

Here is a list of Queensland Uniting Church congregations who are [live streaming](#). For suggested changes or corrections to this list, please email the [Mission Engagement Team](#).

### Agency and service provider news Lent begins in two weeks!

If your congregation is looking for some original studies to use, UnitingWorld have released a new set called “How to be a good global neighbour”.

It explores why neighbourliness is central to our identity in Christ, whether we’re called to generosity or justice, and why vulnerability is so central to our relationships.

Beenleigh Region Uniting Church who piloted the studies last year said, “We appreciated exploring what being created in the image of God really means for those who call themselves Christians and what a world fully reconciled with God would look like.”

Visit [UnitingWorld’s Lent Event](#) to find out more, download or order your copies online.

**LADIES FRIENDSHIP.** All ladies welcome.

**9.30 to 11.30 at Maleny UC on 18 th Feb.**

Let’s start by sharing something about a children’s book. Could be a nostalgic one of your own. Could be a modern one currently in use.

Please continue to give your ideas for what activities you would like in 2021.

Thanks to the ladies who are volunteering to ensure our group continues successfully. With your help we will share the responsibilities of running the monthly programmes.

## The Churches Hall Occupied by next week:

### Maleny:

Pilates: Monday 9:15-10:15 am; 5:45-6:45pm

Tuesday 8:00-9:00 am

Friday 9:15-10:15 am

Meditation Group: Wednesday Start 8:30 am

Dancing Group: Thursday 9:30-10:30 am

**Montville:** Reflection Gallery – Every Day

**Palmwoods:** Pse contact Kay

## Ministry Contacts:

**Minister:** Rev Liena Hoffman 0490 421 874  
[minister@ourcommonlife.org.au](mailto: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](mailto:admin@ourcommonlife.org.au)

**Community Pastor** Pastor Kay Nixon  
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**Tongan** Siale Lolohea 0476 306 815

**Community BRUC Chair:** Bruce Johnson 0407 180 864  
**Internet:** <http://www.ourcommonlife.org.au>



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

**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.

**Blackall Range Uniting Churches acknowledge the Jinibara and Kabi Kabi / Gubbi Gubbi peoples who are the traditional owners of this land.**