



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

14th February 2021

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Prayers

9:00am at Maleny

Services

Montville 8:15 Holy Communion Service

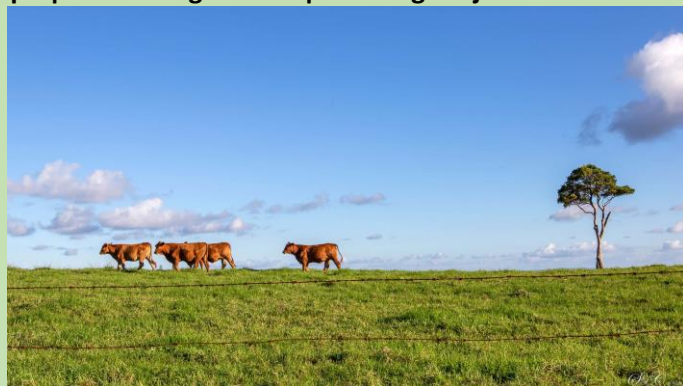
Maleny 9:45 Worship Service

Palmwoods 3:30pm Reflections in Garden

RCL Year B Readings Transfiguration Sunday

2 Kings 2:1-12; Psalm 50:1-5 -

2 Corinthians 4:3-6; - Mark 9:2-9



LECTIONARY THEMES

February 14

How to Represent God's Presence?

Mark 9:2-9

The Transfiguration

How does the story go? The teacher says to the boy, "What are you drawing?" The boy responds, "God." "But nobody knows what God looks like," says the teacher. "They will when I finish!" the boy replies.

From the beginning of human history, people have been trying to draw God's picture. They have taken the sun, moon or stars as representations of the divine. They have treated images carved out of stone or painted on a flat surface as representations of divinity. Michelangelo portrayed God as an old man with a beard.

In the Hebrew tradition, the presence of God was represented by light – dazzling, blinding light – and by cloud. They said that the Lord went ahead of the travelling Israelites as a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire at night. The story of the Transfiguration is an account of God's presence shining through Jesus, God's beloved Son.

However else divinity may be represented, it is as personality that God becomes most real to us; in particular, the personality of Jesus. Yes, light and cloud might be fitting images to represent the presence of God, but it is through the person of Jesus that God is most fully and powerfully represented. And strange to say, it is not the picture of Jesus sitting on a throne surrounded by a host of angels; it is Jesus on the cross, giving all out of love that predominates. If you want to know what God is like, look at Jesus.

❖ What makes light a suitable image by which to represent the presence of God?

Catch up on our E-Services under E-Broadcasts on the BRUC Web-page: www.ourcommonlife.org.au

Lent

Lent, which starts on **Ash Wednesday, 17th February** is a tradition of contemplation, of reflecting on the *via dolorosa* - the Way of Passion/Suffering. In terms of the Sermon on the Mount it is a time of giving, prayer, and fasting. It is a time of sacrifice, self-denial and spiritual growth. It is a particular opportunity to get know God more, especially through the revelation of Jesus on His Way of Suffering to Golgotha. May Lent 2021 truly be a time of self-denial and growth for each one of us.

Shalom Liena

Next Sunday 21 February 2021:

Montville 8:15: Worship Service

Maleny: 9:45 am Worship Service

Palmwoods: 10:00 Holy Communion Service

RCL Year B Readings 1st Sunday in Lent

Gen 9:8-17; Ps 25:1-10;

1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15

Prayer

May God give you
more and more
grace and peace"

1 Peter 1:2

- ❖ Look up Exodus 3:1-4; Exodus 13:20-22 and Psalm 27:1 as places where the presence of God is represented by light.
- ❖ What characteristics of God does the image of cloud represent?
- ❖ Can we, through Christ in us, represent God's presence to other people?

Rev Ron Potter

Piula Publications

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 under Cuppa Conversations

Thursday – Church Office open Ph. 5429 6995

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

Events this week:

Church Council Meeting
Monday 15th Feb at 9:00am
at Palmwoods UC

Pastoral Carers Meeting
Wednesday February 17th 2021
At 4pm at Maleny UC
All welcome!

LADIES FRIENDSHIP.

All ladies welcome.

Thursday 18th Feb from 9.30 to 11.30
at Maleny UC

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.

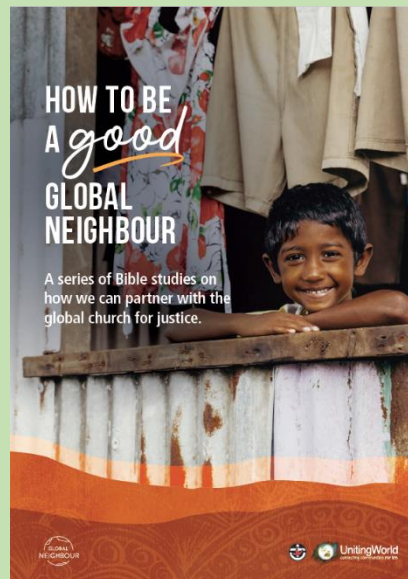
Coming Events

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!!!!

LENT Bible Study



We have ordered a number of **Uniting World's Lent 2021 Bible Study Booklets**. Please contact the church office (Peter or Liena) to get a copy

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.

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

Synod News

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](#).

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

Our Common Life is our weekly notices.

Please stay connected with us

We say *Our Common Life* is our way of staying connected to one another - yet the past week, save from a few messages regarding meetings no one has picked up a pen to share something - a thought, a prayer, a memory, a moment of thanksgiving, a cause for lament, a photo.

Remember too to remain connected via our FB pages. Post a photo, share a video.

This is your space - use it. Claim it!!
Let us truly stay connected!

“Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.”

Proverbs 22:6

The message this morning is about our baptismal vow and commitment, our calling to care for and educate children. A few words from **Martin Luther** which, although written in 1524, seem apt for today:

When I was a lad they had this maxim in the schools: *Non minus est negligere scholarem quam corrumpere virginem*, — It is just as bad to neglect a pupil as to corrupt a virgin. This was said in order to frighten schoolmasters, for there was then no more grievous sin known than corrupting a virgin. But, dear Lord God, how small a sin is corrupting virgins or wives (which being a bodily and known sin may be atoned for) compared with the sin by which precious souls are neglected and corrupted (which is neither regarded nor known as sin and is never atoned for).

O woe unto the world forever and ever!

Children are daily born and grow up among us, and there is, alas! no one to care for or to direct them; we let them go on as they will.

It is highly necessary, therefore, that we take up this matter in all seriousness and without loss of time, not only for the sake of the young, but in order to [preserve](#) both our [spiritual](#) and our temporal [estate](#). If we miss this opportunity, we may perhaps find our [hands](#) tied later on when we would gladly attend to it, and may be compelled in [vain](#) to [suffer](#), in addition to the loss, the pangs of remorse forever. For [God](#) is generously offering us His help, He stretches forth His [hand](#) and gives us all things needful for this [work](#).

(Extract from the *Open Letter to all City Councils in Germany*).

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

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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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.